

JEAN ELIOT'S WEEKLY CHRONICLE OF CAPITAL SOCIETY

Society Exodus Makes City Dull Over Week-end

SUSAN Dearest— Washington is a deserted village. It always is over Labor Day week-end, and more than ever this year when for the first time Saturday all-day closing has been general except in the Government departments. Everybody who is off on a vacation stays over Labor Day, and of course everybody who isn't, tries to make the most of the extra long week-end. To go somewhere and do something, so the stay-at-homes are comparatively few, and a most restful Sabbath calm descends upon the city. From now on, however, people are going to be coming home rather than going away—except the President, of course. He seems to be actually getting off next Wednesday—though there have been so many false alarms on that subject in the last month that no one will feel quite sure of it until his train has actually pulled out of Union Station. It will carry Mrs. Wilson as well as the President of course, and Admiral Grayson—his doctor and his wife are two whom the President never leaves behind. Though it is only fair to say that there seems to be a genuine affection between Admiral Grayson and the President. It is not simply a case of doctor and patient. Grayson's functions sometimes as aide—and is "Admiral Grayson," and sometimes as physician, when like physicians the world over, he becomes merely "Doctor." But in either capacity the President treats him like the son he never had, and Grayson's attitude toward his chief is one of affectionate deference and respect that is almost filial. I believe it is quite settled that Mr. Tumulty goes along and Gilbert Chase, the secretary stenographer who accompanied President Wilson on both of his European jaunts.

Only Few Others To Leave the City

But with one or two notable exceptions—like the President and Mrs. Wilson, and Miss Wilson, who left against her Thursday after a few days at home, and scarcely will return before the first of October; and the Secretary of State and Mrs. Lansing who are getting off early next week to Boston first, where Mr. Lansing will address the meeting of the Bar Association, and then to Henderson Harbor, where the Secretary of State can demonstrate his answer to the old gag, "Which would you rather do or go fishing?"—the tide of travel is turning toward Washington this week. And the outlook is for a very busy winter and a very gay one—in a natural post-war reaction, and with the business and gaiety incidental to entertaining a procession of royalties and nobilities domestic and foreign who have signified their intention of making calls of ceremony on Uncle Sam during the coming winter. Of the royalties, apparently the Belgians are to be the first—and I, for one, am rather glad of it—glad that these two outstanding heroic figures of the great war are coming before the dear American public gets fed up with distinguished visitors, or loses the fine edge of its democratic enthusiasm for royalties.

Prince De Crocy Was The First to Arrive

The quite unheralded arrival of Prince Reginald de Crocy last Thursday served warning that the procession was about to begin. For while he came ostensibly to assume his duties as the first secretary to the Belgian legation here, it would per-



MISS MILDRED RALPH, Daughter of Major and Mrs. C. E. Ralph, a popular addition to the army set.



MISS FAY DOYEN, Daughter of the late Major General Doyen of the Marine Corps. She officiated at the christening of the destroyer named for her father.



MRS. KING SWOPE, Wife of the first soldier of the great war to be sent to Congress and the first Republican ever sent from his district.

Fancies, Fads, And Foibles of Capital Society

watching his marines shoot, and had the pleasure of seeing them walk off with all the honors on that particular day anyhow. Then he went up to Narragansett to join Mrs. Barnett, who has been there for the past week visiting Mrs. Irving Chase at her villa, "Miramar"—and having all sorts of parties given for her. Raymond Baker has gone up to Lenox to join Mrs. Baker and to play host with her at a very exclusive little costume dance they gave last night—"just a small affair you know, not over two hundred cards out for it"—which is apparently their idea of a small affair. He is also planning to give Baker's house hunting, was tolerably successful last week. He found several houses that would do at a pinch, and while they have not yet decided which one to take, he seems to feel reasonably sure that they will have a roof over their heads next winter. Meanwhile, he and Mrs. Baker are going off into the Adirondacks in the middle of September, when he will be having his leave, so "he should worry!"

Two Senators And the H. C. L.

Speaking of house hunting—you heard the story of Senator Dial of North Carolina trying to rent the White House, didn't you? He saw a house advertised and a telephone number given, and told his stenographer to get the number for him. Whatever she asked for, he got Main 1199, which is one of the White House phones. And they threw several fits when Senator Dial asked them if they had a house to rent to him. Why ever was that at the other end of the wire had a sense of humor and responded rather gurglingly that he thought they might be needing a new tenant after a while, but not just yet. Answers to several other questions struck the Senator as rather evasive, so he asked them who in thunder they were anyhow. And when he heard that it was the White House—he was the one who threw fits.

haps be nearer the truth to say that he came as special attaché to prepare the way for his sovereign. For the Belgian prince of Crocy are of the royal house of Belgium—and are not likely to serve as ordinary secretaries of legation.

And by the way the Belgian princely house of Crocy and the German ducal house of Troy, into which Nancy Leishman married in the fall of 1918, are two very distinct branches of undoubtedly the same family, but one would have to go back to the dark ages almost before finding the trunk of the original family tree whence they both sprang. Prince Reginald, of Crocy, who has just arrived has been over here several times before, the last as recently as 1918, after the world war was well under way. And there have been several members of his house who have made their homes in America—at least three princes of his house have been in business over here—Leopold who was connected with a New York real estate firm, Alfred who was a member of the faculty of a musical college right here in Washington, and Henry, who ventured into business in the West.

Whereas Nancy Leishman's duke—Karl by name—was "duiman" of Bavaria, and had been lieutenant in the Kaiser's Garde du Corps—the imperial bodyguard at Potsdam—from which he resigned on announcing his engagement since members of it were not allowed to marry without their master's consent—and that was pretty generally understood that that consent would be withheld. He naturally rejoined the colors when his country went to war, however, and was serving at the front when his son and heir was born to the former Nancy Leishman, at his home in Dusseldorf, about a year after their marriage in the fall of 1914. Since then I do not know what may have happened to them. It may please the believer in omens to note that he was the thirteenth duke, and probably the last.

Narrowly Escaped Edith Cavell's Fate

Prince Reginald, of Crocy, on the other hand was associated with Edith Cavell, and narrowly escaped sharing her fate. In fact he would have shared it had he not been warned and made a hasty exit from the country. His sister was arrested by the Germans and tried for having assisted some of her wounded countrymen to escape into Holland, and sentenced to ten years imprisonment. She was actually confined for more than three years in a German prison, and was not released until after the armistice was signed, when she was in a terribly weakened and emaciated condition.

According to present plans, King Albert and Queen Elizabeth will sail about the 22d of September, and should be here early in October. By that time the President and Mrs. Wilson should be at home to receive their guests, who it is understood will stay at the White House while in Washington, and will be in America about a month.

Cardinal May Visit Northwest First

Even more imminent is the visit of Cardinal Mercier, Belgian hiero priest, who was to have started from Brussels for Paris today, and to sail on Tuesday on the transport Agamemnon. He is to be accompanied by Monsignor de Wachter, his auxiliary bishop, and Prof. De Wolf, and is to make the trip from Brussels to Paris in United States automobiles. It is my understanding that the prelate, who will be over here about two months altogether, and will, of course, receive the warmest sort of welcome from the whole country, which was thrilled by his splendid courage, comes, as General Foch is to say, specifically as the guest of the Roman Catholic church—and that Mercier, at least, will go out into the northwest before he comes here.

Meanwhile it is announced that Baron E. de Cartier de Marchienne, minister of Belgium to this country, has sailed for the United States with his bride, who was Mrs. Hamilton Carey of New York today, and to sail should be in Washington by about September 10. Baron de Cartier has been abroad for about five months, having, when he left, scarcely expected to be gone as many weeks. It was to have been merely a flying trip in order to be with King Albert when President Wilson made his visit to Belgium. But that was deferred and deferred, until it was several months after the date originally set before the President got there—just before he returned finally to the United States.

New Chateleine For The Belgian Legation

Washington is naturally greatly interested in the arrival of a new chateleine for the Belgian legation, which is likely by the time she arrives to be an embassy. The raising of the legation to the grade of an embassy is awaiting the action of the House of Representatives. Belgium has already announced her desire to make the change and is merely awaiting the pleasure of the United States. The bill has passed the Senate and is now before the House committee. Probably most people think that it is a matter which rests with the Senate since only the Senate has to approve the President's diplomatic nominations. But apparently the decision as to what grade of diplomat shall represent the United States in any given country is a matter to be settled by Congressional enactment in which both Houses are concerned. There is no reason to suppose that the House has any idea of objecting, but its slowness in consenting is rather embarrassing both to Baron de Cartier de Marchienne and to Brand Whitlock, neither of them knowing the question where they are when the question remains undecided. Brand Whitlock, when he came to Washington recently, was here for several

days sub rosa—the State Department professing to have no knowledge of his whereabouts—(though he had been seen in the Willard and had been making his report to the department)—simply that he might be saved the embarrassment of answering questions as to whether he was going to be the United States ambassador to Italy—when Thomas Nelson Page had not yet resigned—and to Brussels, when Congress had not as yet directed that the President should name an ambassador to Belgium.

New At Briarcliff On the Hudson

He and Mrs. Whitlock are now at Briarcliff on the Hudson, where they are likely to remain in grateful seclusion for the present; but it's dollars to doughnuts that they will emerge and be very much in evidence when King Albert and Queen Elizabeth get here. In fact, that was probably one of their reasons for coming just at present.

As for the Prince of Wales, I was told a week ago that he himself had said to Americans who have had the pleasure of meeting him in Canada that at the rate he was progressing he was hardly likely to get to the United States before November—and that he was now confirmed by a report that the State Department is figuring that he will probably be here about the second week in November.

One Washington girl, Gertrude Virginia Drain, who is visiting in St. John's and who attended some of the festivities incident to the young prince's arrival there, writes of going to the garden party given in his honor, that the prince was perfectly sweet, and insisted on shaking hands with everybody; and after playing two dances the band left, and the prince was hurried on to get things else, though he seemed to enjoy the dancing. "It doesn't seem to be much fun this being a prince!" and will, of course, receive the warmest sort of welcome from the whole country, which was thrilled by his splendid courage, comes, as General Foch is to say, specifically as the guest of the Roman Catholic church—and that Mercier, at least, will go out into the northwest before he comes here.

Among Notables Who Are Still Abroad

Of our own national notables who are still "over there" scarcely a steamer docks that does not bring some of them over. Pershing is sailing today—or tomorrow, I'm not sure which—on the Leviathan—making his last trip as a transport, with pretty nearly all of the First Division, A. E. F., on board. Hoover, with Mrs. Hoover and one of their sons, who recently joined him in Europe, is sailing on Tuesday. Justice Brandeis, who has been in Palestine—and had, I believe, one of his daughters with him—primarily in the interest of the Zionist movement—sailed a day or two ago.

Colonel House is also said to be about to sail. It was originally announced he would come over on the same steamer with Viscount Grey, the new British ambassador, but Lord Grey has deferred his departure a little, and will not now get away until after the middle of the month, and it is doubtful whether Colonel House will wish to wait so long. If he does he will be one of the Americans who will gather at the board when John W. Davis, American ambassador to Paris, is present at the dinner.

Walter I. McCoy of the District Supreme Court; while the Britishers will include Premier Lloyd George, Foreign Secretary Balfour, Earl Curzon, Keston, and a majority of the British cabinet ministers and other British notabilities. Frank L. Polk, under-secretary of state, will go from Paris to be present at the dinner. Since Lord Grey is a widower, it is to be a stag dinner.

Meanwhile there was a little flurry of interest last Monday night when it was known that the McAdoo's were in town and at the White House. It was

the first time they had been there since they left Washington about the first of the year—but then, during most of that time the White House has been empty, and there was no reason for any one's coming. But the hope that the President's popular son-in-law and daughter were going to make any considerable visit and stir things up a bit was quickly dissipated. They departed Wednesday morning, and it was evident that Dr. McAdoo had simply come down to give the President his advice, and the benefit of his knowledge in dealing with the threatened railway strike. It was the director general of railways called into consultation, that was all.

However, the President and Mrs. Wilson took advantage of their being here, and of the return at the same time for a few days of Miss Margaret Wilson, to have one of his beloved "family" dinner parties at the White House, the family on this occasion including Dr. Grayson, who has been the White House guest since his recent return from a week at Saratoga, during the beginning of the meet there, and a week with Mrs. Grayson and their good babies who are spending the summer in Connecticut.

In Good Company At Saratoga

Coming as he does of hard riding Virginia stock, it is perfectly understandable that Admiral Grayson would want to be at Saratoga for at least part of the race meet. And he was in good Administration company up there, spending most of his time with Mr. and Mrs. Bernard Baruch and the McAdoo's. But in spite of the horses, which seem to have been entirely satisfactory, and the company, which one certainly would not regard as unsatisfactory, the comment of those that saw him up there is that he did not seem to be particularly happy. From returning travelers one hears comment on Baruch's good looks, and the good manners and mixing qualities being unimpaired; on Mrs. McAdoo's very good clothes, and on Admiral Grayson's air of supreme boredom. It must have been the same air that Washington has often observed in Dr. Grayson when functioning as an aide he has been of the Presidential party at the meet.

Wednesday night the President and Mrs. Wilson went to the Belasco accompanied by Miss Wilson, Admiral Grayson, and John Randolph Bollinger. It was the first time that the President had been to any theater but Keith's since his return from France. So far as the Belasco is concerned it is an unsatisfactory one. It must have been the same air that Washington has often observed in Dr. Grayson when functioning as an aide he has been of the Presidential party at the meet.

Thursday morning the President moved down to Union Station with his daughter to see her off for New York, where she will probably be for some little time—and once more he and Mrs. Wilson were alone in the White House with only Dr. Grayson.

Delay Has Knocked Plans Enslaw

The fact that the President's trip has been so delayed has knocked all sorts of other plans into a cocked hat. For instance, that grand review of the Pacific fleet, in which he was to have played a leading part is going to have to get along without him. There seemed to be an idea that it would wait indefinitely, and that any time the Presidential party got out to San Francisco, the review would be staged. But the Navy Department has decided otherwise. It had set the review for September 3, and it is going to have the review September 3. It's a pity the President and Mrs. Wilson can't be there—but the Secretary of the Navy and Mrs. Daniels will be on hand—they are even now headed back from their recent triumphant visit to Honolulu—and will do their best to understand him. As for all the functions that were to have been given for the Chief Executive and First Lady in connection with the review of the fleet, they can be given for the Danielses in connection with the fleet review, or they can be held in gold storage until the President and Mrs. Wilson arrive on the speaking trip and be given for

in fact, even though everybody in Washington seems just now to be marking time, and today the National Labor Day begins on us, as already suggested, rather a deserted village, yet the tide of travel is turning this way. Ever so many of the leaders of the official world are announcing their impending return. Many of the Congressional and Senatorial set are joining their families over Labor Day and expect to bring them back on their return. Assistant Secretary of State William E. Phillips is to return next week, which makes it possible for Secretary Lansing to get away, as already noted. It's a good thing, too, for Mr. Lansing certainly needs a vacation, after eight months' hard ago, and was a great favorite in Paris and wrestling since his return with an accumulation of things that

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