

# Complete Social Victory Over Capital Scored By Officers From Visiting British Cruiser York

Day of Gayety Begins With "At Home" on Warship,  
Lasts Through Dinner Hour and Ends in Blaze  
of Glory at Embassy Dance.

By Hope Ridings Miller,

The Post Society Editor.

The British took Washington yesterday. After a seige of several days, H. M. S. York chalked up a complete social victory as its officers stood stanchly by their guns for a constant round of feting. Beginning with their own "at home" aboard the cruiser in the afternoon, continuing to hold the spotlight through the dinner hour, and ending up with a dance at the British Embassy last night, their social program left no free time on their hands. But they seemed to like the arrangement.

In their trimly turned out uniforms, set off with yards of braid, gold buttons and wing collars, they proved their prowess as hosts yesterday afternoon when several hundred, naval notables, official celebrities and debutantes climbed the York gang-plank to sample their hospitality. White-capped tars clicked their heels and saluted as each guest came aboard and filed onto the quarter-deck, where the party took place. A shrill whistle split the air as naval officers came on deck, and a bugle sounded as each admiral approached or departed. Vice Admiral Sidney J. Meyrick, flanked by members of his personal staff, greeted the guests, chatted briefly with the "lesser lights" among them and then clicked to attention again as the whistle



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sounded or the bugle blew.

The canopied quarter-deck was rigged up for the occasion with red and white bunting and small Japanese lanterns arranged in a center row overhead and around the sides. At one end the vice admiral's band played a series of lively airs. Opposite them, and above the crowd, two of the cruiser's six 8-inch guns pointed their noses straight ahead. Centering the quarter-deck, a line of tables was arranged in horse-shoe design, and there guests were served their choice drinks and hors d'ouevres . . . while officers buzzed about . . . bowed and smiled . . . and answered a barrage of questions. Yes, they liked Washington, found it "amazingly interesting." They would be loathe to leave on Saturday, even though they would be heading for "a quiet two months in Bermuda."

## Many Notables Glimpsed in Crowd

The British Ambassador and Lady Lindsay were among the earlier arrivals, and they remained for almost two hours. In fact, the entire embassy staff seemed to be on hand during the entire party. Also mingling in the crowd were several wives of the York officers. Mrs. Meyrick was there, and so were Mrs. A. C. Luce, who wore a handsome green wool suit with a dashing felt hat turned up on the side and trimmed with a feather, and Mrs. B. I. Robertshaw in a brown ensemble.

Holding a little naval court of her own was Mrs. Claude A. Swanson, whose black suit and sable neckpiece was set off with a snappy black straw turban. Today she will be hostess to wives of the York officers, taking them for a sail down the Potomac in the "Sequoia." Seen chatting with Mrs. Swanson were the Chief of Naval Operations and Mrs. William D. Leahy, the latter in a stunning black ensemble.

The Commandant of the Navy Yard and Mrs. George Pettingill were there; also the Commandant of the Marine Corps and Mrs. Thomas Holcomb, Rear Admiral and Mrs. Mark Bristol, Brig. Gen. and Mrs. Dion Williams, the Naval Attache of the Italian Embassy, who was turned out in full uniform and was accompanied by his wife, Donna Bianca Cugia. Also, resplendent in gold-braided glory was the Japanese Naval Attache, who arrived with his wife, Mme. Kengo Kobayashi and Commander Kanzo Mura.

Among others, I saw there were Mrs. Emmet Gudger, Mrs. Tyner Dugdale, Mrs. Geoffrey Parsons, the Commercial Counselor of the Canadian Legation and Mrs. Merchant Mahoney and her daughter, Miss Anne Mahoney, Mrs. Joseph Cecil and her daughter, Miss Caroline Cecil, Mrs. Emmet Gudger, Mrs. Herbert Seymour Howard, and Commander Hamilton Bryan.

Climaxing the round of social events for the day, the dance at the British Embassy got under way at 10 o'clock. Daffodils and forsythia from the Embassy gardens decorated the ballroom, where around 250 guests danced the waltzes of Sidney's orchestra until midnight, when supper was served at small tables.

## Officers Feted at Several Dinners Before Dance

Preceding the dance there were several dinners for officers of the York and a few fortunate residential Washingtonians. The Naval Attache and Mrs. F. C. Bradley entertained in their apartment at 2101 Connecticut avenue.

Others in the company were the British Ambassador, Sir Ronald Lindsay; Capt. H. E. Morse, Chief of Staff of the H. M. S. York; Flag Lieut. J. S. H. Lawrence; Mrs. W. S. Mann, daughter of the South African Minister and Mrs. Ralph William Close, and the Commercial Secretary of the British Embassy and Mrs. Leander McCormick-Goodhart.

The Air Attache of the British Embassy, Group Captain G. C. Pirie and Mrs. Pirie also had dinner guests in their home on Highland place. In the party were four officers of the York—Commander A. A. Murray, Lieut. A. A. Wood, Midshipman A. H.-St. G. Gore-Langton, and Paymaster Midshipman R. H. P. Browne, also Squadron Leader A. F. Britton who is not connected with the York, and Mrs. Britton, Miss Edith Beardall, Miss Leta Pugh, and Miss Nancy Brereton.

With the exception of one guest, Mrs. Harold Hinton, the list for the dinner given by the Assistant Naval Attache of the British Embassy and Mrs. F. J. A. Coleby was an all-York affair. In the company were Lieut. Comdr. and Mrs. B. I. Robertshaw, Lieut. Comdr. and Mrs. A. Cecil Luce, Paymaster Commander R. H. Pearce, Commander G. D. Beiben, and Engineer Commander H. F. du M. Hunt.

Fourteen guests attended the dinner given by the Honorary Attache of the British Embassy and Mrs. Harold H. Sims, who entertained in their Wardman Park apartment. Those present included Lieut. Comdr. C. G. W. Donald, Maj. L. Mercer, Sergt. Comdr. D. H. Kernahan, and Paymaster Commander G. A. Youle—all of the York staff.

Also in the party were Lady Maxmuller, of London; the Third Secretary of the British Embassy and Mrs. H. A. C. Rumbold, Mrs. C. Malshew Dick, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Joyce, Miss Margot Garrett, Miss Phyllis Thompson, and Benjamin Plunkett, Attache of the British Embassy.



Post Staff Photo.

Harris & Ewing.

## Mr. Sklarevski Gives Concert

Music lovers assembled last evening at the home of Mrs. Richard W. Deaver on Brandywine street for a concert by Alexander Sklarevski, followed by a reception.

Wearing a frock of white chiffon and a corsage of orchids, Mrs. Deaver received the guests in her drawing room. Assisting were Mrs. Robert Moran, Mme. Tamara Dmitrieff and Miss Willa Semple. About 50 persons heard Mr. Sklarevski's program, which was given under the aegis of the Dmitrieff-Gnochoeff studios.

Serving on the committee for the concert were Miss Rose d'Amore, Mme. Dmitrieff, Mrs. Gustav Emery, Miss Tatiana Gnochoeff and Miss Mildred Shackelford. Patronsess for the event, in addition to Mrs. Deaver, were Mrs. Roger P. Hollingsworth, Mrs. Jasper A. Lyon, Mrs. Arthur T. Lyon, Mrs. Robert Moran, Princess Leonid Curusoff, Mrs. Raymond S. Patton, Mrs. Earl R. Templeton, Mrs. Ross Thompson and Mrs. Ralph Wolfe.

## Betty Vandenberg And Husband Plan

## About The

With Dudley.

FROM THE ADMIRAL to the "snotties," or midshipmen, the personnel of H. M. S. York has done as much as a treaty expert to further "hands across the sea" Washington is going to seem a wfully unglamorous when these friendly officers depart tomorrow.

Lots of ladies in heels much too high for scurrying up ladders were escorted over the ship yesterday and learned all about semaphores, compasses, mine-sweepers, and airplane catapults. In a small gallery below decks is a picture of the King and Queen. The Queen christened the ship when she was Duchess of York. She presented her with a gold tankard which is now framed on the wall. The city of York memorized the occasion with a silver loving cup and plate, which is also in a glass case.



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