

COLOR FADS OF MAY

The Pleasurable Task of Getting Used to Novelties

WEEK OF EASTER A BUSY ONE

Some of the Groups of Hats and Bonnets at a Fashionable Church Wedding—Easter Breakfast

The week following Easter is a week of getting used to things. The novelties have ceased to be surprises, but they are not yet familiar.



THE HAT AS SHE IS WORN.

change in headgear and to daffodil lunches and tulip breakfasts to get acquainted with your friends over again in their new gowns.

Most of the fashions are ruffled. This is especially noticeable in hats. I remember seeing something very striking in cornflower recently.

If anybody were to ask me what is the color fad of the season I think I should say black and green, and if the combination is to be made in millinery the black must be lace and the green must be young leaves, bright and shining from April rain.

There were some pretty groups of hats, by the way, at an Easter wedding in Trinity church this noon. It's almost worth marrying for to stand among such tall white lilies, stainless and stately on their green stems, but my business is rather to tell you of a little clover capote than to extol the florist for having coddled his flowers in cotton wool up to the last moment so successfully.

The capote was small and round and woven of rough creamy brown straw. It had certain loops and ends of brown ribbons, but what lent it beauty was a heavy headed bunch of the dear common, mowing field clovers fastened at one side and seemingly a bait for the bee.

There was a girl who cried when the bride said: "I will." This seemed an infringement on the prerogatives of mothers, but she had to get down on the scrap of a lace handkerchief was a very smart one of coarse pale green straw with a very narrow "chimney pot" crown tied about with two bands of black watered ribbon, very narrow and knotted in front in small bows. Contrary to the usual custom this flowery spring—there were small black ostrich feathers whisking and curling on the queer picturesque brim.

Then there was a young married woman who was wicked enough to try to attract the bride's attention as she came up the aisle afterward on her husband's arm, relieved that the ordeal was over, but still more than a little bit frightened. This contemner of the solemnities had a hat formed entirely of soft, big-petaled gray poppies with yellowish middles; a frill of white lace edged the brim, and this had floating strings of gray watered ribbon, to the ends of which were sewn poppies, quite in the most fashionable and crushable fashion.

There was a tulip hat in dull reds and green straw, with the fish-tailed and deep red flowers on it, offering perpetual challenge. Under the wide brim was a deep scarf of black lace, that seemed somehow to prevent coquetish apologies for the bold beauty of the flowers above.

The church fashed and sparkled with jet. One bonnet in every three had a jet net crown. In front of me, I remember, was one whose crown was perfectly square. In front of it was a double bow of ribbon, black on one side, vivid green on the other, and this was all there was to it, save and except the dazzling and blinding glare of the black stones.

The bridesmaids have a certain claim to recognition for the fantastic prettiness of their wide-brimmed Leghorn hats with trimmings of dangling butternut stems. Their ruffled and bonneted skirts were of yellow bengaline, and they wore Louis XV. coats of yellow and white brocade. The bride wore a princely dress of the white brocade satin and point lace that is customary and uninteresting.

A bright Easter breakfast was given yesterday noon. It was a tulip breakfast, this season's festivity being devoted almost exclusively to the glorification of that daffodil. It is a circumstance

of the brilliancy of color we have at last issued permission to our eyes to confess that they enjoy that dancing red and deep yellow and pinky white tulips that were tied up in long, stiff-stalked bunches with red ribbons and laid beside each plate, there to shed warmth and glow.

The most successful toilet en evidence was, perhaps, that of the hostess, who lived up to her tulips in a pretty pinky white woolen, with narrow stripes of crimson. A broad band of deep yellow velvet edged the skirt, and a narrower one draped the hips and was finished with a cord and tassels. Short full upper sleeves were edged with a band of the same velvet, while the under ones to the wrist were quite tight fitting.

A gown of pale amber-colored bengaline harmonized with the flowers all-around as perfectly. The skirt had a ruffling at the foot of amber shot with green. Panels of open work black silk embroidery fell half way down either side, and the bodice was of black ombre with guilpe of the pale tinted bengaline. A bias scarf rippling from green to amber was gathered about the waist and tied in front with one large crimson tulip in the knot. In the back the scarf formed two loops, which fell over the skirt. The sleeves had full silk tops with lace cuffs to the elbows.

The breakfast wasn't served until half an hour past the time, because one woman was late—of course without good reason. But everybody except the hostess forgave her within six minutes after her arrival, because nearly everybody saw the possibility of carrying away half a dozen new ideas from her soft but vividly green cashmere gown. The plain gored skirt had a wide band of black velvet about the bottom beaded and, also, footed with an edge of jet passementerie. The lower line of jet fell over a green silk ruche box plaited, raveled into fringe and set under the velvet band. The bodice was made in quite a short-waisted fashion, the tendency this spring being to revert almost if not quite to the empire styles. Bands of jetted velvet made a broad triple belt and the sleeves were quite peculiar, the cashmere tops being turned back as the elbows in flaring cuffs reaching half way to the shoulders, while close velvet cuffs covered the lower arms.

The hat that went with this simple and yet uncommon costume was not a hat at all, but a thick wreath of small roundish green leaves tied in the back with long loops of watered green ribbons.

Another very queer daisy in the drawer is a fish cut out of wood and painted white. No label states, unfortunately, precisely how it is employed, although it is certain that it is a counterfeiter intended to attract some big fishes.

Big salmon could swallow prey of such a size, and it may be designed as bait for them. Think, however, adds the Washington Star, of the disgust which would be felt by any sealy creature at finding that he had taken in a wooden fish one foot long!

THEY SMOKE AND STUDY. These seem to be the reasons why Germans know so many things. Victor Jacquemont, a very highly cultivated Frenchman, wrote as follows: "Being astonished at the prodigious variety and extent of the knowledge possessed by the Germans, I begged one of my friends, Saxon by birth, and one of the foremost geologists in Europe, to tell me how his countrymen managed to know so many things. Here is his answer, nearly in his own words: 'A German (except myself, who am the idiest of men) gets up early summer and winter at about five o'clock. He works four hours before breakfast, sometimes smoking all the time, which does not interfere with his application. His breakfast lasts half an hour, and he remains afterward another half hour, talking with his wife and playing with his children. He returns to his work for six hours, smokes an hour after dinner, playing again with the children; and before he goes to bed he works four hours more. He begins again every day and never goes out. This is how it comes to pass that Oersted, the greatest natural philosopher in Germany, is at the same time the greatest physician; this is how Kant, the metaphysician, was one of the most learned astronomers in Europe; and how Goethe, the first and most fertile author in Germany in almost all kinds of literature, is an excellent botanist, mineralogist and natural philosopher.'

A New Ology. Phenology is the term proposed for a study of the periods of blooming in flowers. In some parts of the world flowers appear with tolerable regularity—so much so that floral calendars have been based on the fact, and various flowers have been dedicated to saints and church festival days because of blooming at special fixed times. The snowdrop, for instance, is known in Catholic countries as "Purification flower," from its blooming on the fourth of February, the festival of the Purification. Our St. John's wort is so named from its first flowers opening on St. John's day; and so of other flowers. In our climate, however, phenology will not have much show as a science, except as it may show the unreliability of these times of flowering. There is, at times, a month of difference between one season and another, and sometimes a flower that blooms the earliest of all one year will be far behind others in another year.

Animals Avoid Draughts. Said a prominent physician to a reporter for the Philadelphia Press: "It is a singular thing that animals as a rule are much more observant of the ordinary rules of health than human beings are. One half of the serious colds and many of the fatal fevers originate through the exposure of the body to a direct draught of air from a window to a door or between doors or windows. It is one of the most common things to see overheat persons on a warm day with coat and waistcoat off enjoying what to them seems to be an agreeable breeze between two open windows. A day later they feel badly, have taken cold and they can't tell where. A dog will lie for hours on a porch, in the room, or hallway, but the very moment open doors or windows allow a current of air to touch him, he jumps up and changes his lounging place. You can't force a dog to lie in the draught; he knows the risk and invariably avoids it."

His Ear is Acute. A writer in Truth says that William Steiway, the great piano-maker, when cornering any one of the numerous applicants who are constantly before him for positions, has a crucial question which he applies to them all. He will examine a man's qualifications, look into his antecedents, and balance him personally with a few careful questions, and then he asks the applicant if he is married. There is some secret about the answer which Mr. Steiway alone knows. If a man answers in a certain fashion, the great piano millionaire concludes that the applicant is happily married, but if there is a certain intonation of the voice or a hesitation which indicates a separation or a lack of domestic tranquility, the applicant's doom is sealed. Marriage is an institution imposed by Mr. Steiway in every way. An unmarried man has a very small chance with him.

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ALASKANS USE DECOYS. They Carry Wood to Repressed Pup Seals, Ducks, and Green Large Fish.

Shut up in a drawer in the National museum where no one has the privilege of seeing them is a curious collection of decoys. Perhaps the funniest among them is a pup seal about a foot and a half long, quite artistically carved out of wood. Its little paws are folded across its chest, and it is intended to float on its back upon the water, just as the animal it represents does in real life. However, it is not meant as a decoy for mother seals, as may be imagined, but as a seal for tying a fish line to. Fishes, recognizing the innocence of pup seals in general, are not likely to suspect that one would dangle a hook and line to catch them.

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