

*At Your Service Madam* *with hints, fashions and shoppy gossip!*

By M. PRISCILLA HAZEN

THE EASTER numbers of the fashionable magazines are redolent with svelte women, smooth clothes, the social idea, snooty, snazzy, smart. We, unfantastic people who breathe the fresh strong winds from the Bay of Fundy watch the creme de la creme of the world churn and curdle, curdle and churn, into exotic green cheeses of the consistency of moonlight. Their mad moments amuse us with glass hats, flower-adorned walking shoes, cellophane bridal dresses, a watch inserted in a hand-stitched glove, blue-powdered hair. Easter extravaganza! But their more sober moments we have taken seriously. The shops throughout the city have succumbed to the influence of costumes, which make goddesses and the empresses of old look like chambermaids, from the play "Margot" now running in Paris; jade jewellery and mandarin motifs from the Chinese Art Exhibition in London; swagger hats and sport suits from English tailors; bolero jackets that might have belonged to a Spanish toreador; the uniform of a Dutch burgoemeister transformed by feminine artistry.



IN Manchester, Robertson and Allison's, the disembodied spirit of this Easter parade is waiting for you to give it human form. Even the purses, gloves and the stockings have caught the feeling of Easter joy! It has caused them to burst, not into song, but into glowing colors. Although you are not superstitious you will be wise to respect the old saw, that ill-luck will follow those, who wear nothing new on Easter Day. So tuck one of those patent leather bags beneath your arm in the newest of shades, luggage tan; buckle a matching belt around you; whisk up a pair of those shammy gloves of the same shade and "you'll be the finest lady. . ."

But you must not forget stockings, which are as important to grown-ups at this time of year as to small girls at Christmas—copperlite, moon dusk, tea dance, Hindustan are the new colors, they come in at M.R.A.s Hosiery Department. The enchantment of the very names make you shiver for the days when it was considered fast to show anything but a black or white shod ankle.

In those days, which thanks be are only a memory, they used to give each other colored eggs on Easter morning. Now that we have become so sophisticated we sniff at such ideas and let the rabbit lay eggs in the children's hats while we make a miniature Christmas out of Easter by giving small gifts to the people we like.

THE Ross Drug Store in King Street is a treasure chest of gift suggestions. Like an exploring pirate I descended upon it to find loot more precious than jewelled goblets and gold chains—for health and beauty are more valuable than wealth, especially health and beauty provided for us with the exquisite delicacy of Elizabeth Arden. There was a compact beauty box done in pastels of blue and pink, with

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jars and bottles containing Elizabeth Arden's creams and lotions, that I did not hesitate a moment in purchasing for that very charming friend of mine, who speaks of her "boudoir." And in a mood of self-indulgence I bought a duplicate for myself. Since then my bedroom has become a "boudoir," too, and oh, the velvety smoothness of your skin when it is cared for by Elizabeth Arden!

THE female population of barbarian Britain must have had a time of it, poor dears, with no means to improve the ravages of nature! Practically the only things they had in common with us were buns, which they ate in honor of their goddess of the spring, Eostre. They enjoyed them so much that when Christianity spread through England the buns were converted from paganism by being marked with a cross. Seen in this light our hot cross buns look slightly hypocritical. . .

You can see yourself in a different light if you purchase one of the new mirrors at Marcus' for they come in blue, green or gold glass. In them you are reflected with a faerie world of colored dreams—a world of the deep green seas, of the intense golden sunlight, of starlit midnight skies. Hang a bit of the ocean upon the walls of your room! Then there is a mirror of natural glass in an antique ivory frame with a convex surface which enlarges its range of vision. . . it is difficult to describe, you will have to see it for yourself at Marcus'. And while you are there ask to see the lamps with the indirect lighting, a godsend to your eyesight and so much more efficient than twiddly common lamplight. At Marcus'.

IT WAS after the episode of the hot cross buns that the king and queen of Northumbria quarrelled about the day of eating them. King Oswy's religious training had been different from his wife's so he found himself celebrating Easter while she was holding the Lenten fast. This would never do so a great church council was held in that fourth century Anno Domini which fixed the date of Easter for the whole country just as we have it fixed today. . .

Now, although we don't have to choose our particular Sunday for Easter we have to choose a great many other things to observe it in the correct way. Perfume is one of these. If you are inclined to be slightly depressed by the solemnity of Sunday, sprinkle a drop of the intriguing My Sin, or Scandal behind the lobe of each ear. If you want to carry a breath of spring with you in the Easter parade use Richard Hudnut's toilet waters, white lilac, lily of the valley or violet sec. You can pick them all from the flower garden of scents—the Bu-T-Bar at Wassons. And the prices have been lowered for Easter. You can even have a Charles of the Ritz Beauty Box for a song. A number of people have been asking about the latest shades of Cutex finger nail polish, rust and mauve; they are now in, at Wassons. And do you know that you can get Cutex lipstick to match your finger nail polish?

WOULD that we were able to say it to you all with flowers from Walter Pedersen's in Charlotte Street, but nevertheless we wish you very sincerely A HAPPY EASTER!

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