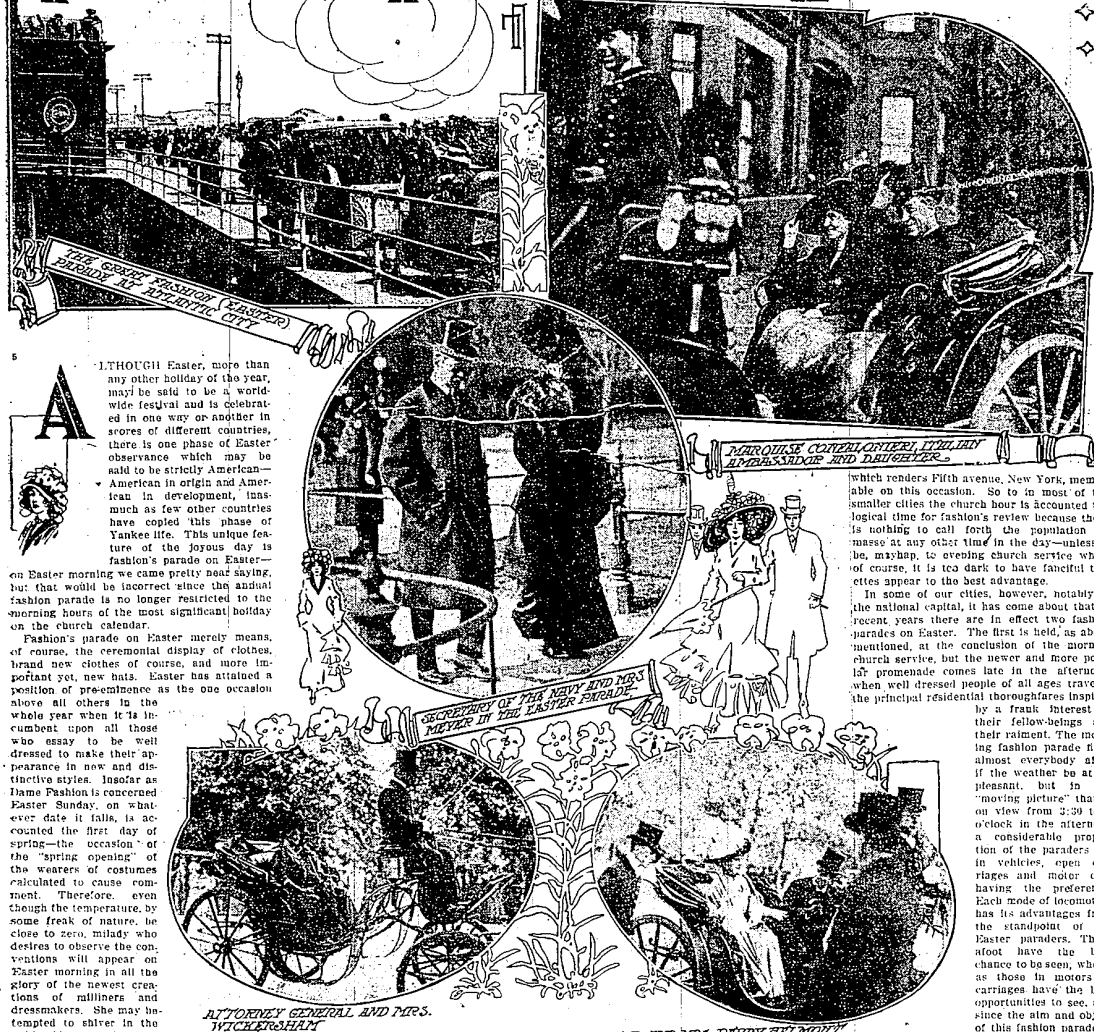


FASHION'S PARADE ON EASTER



ALTHOUGH Easter, more than any other holiday of the year, may be said to be a worldwide festival and is celebrated in one way or another in scores of different countries, there is one phase of Easter observance which may be said to be strictly American—American origin and American in development, inasmuch as few other countries have copied this phase of Yankee life. This unique feature of the festive day is fashion's parade on Easter—on Easter morning we came pretty near saying, but that would be incorrect since the annual fashion parade is no longer restricted to the morning hours of the most significant holiday on the church calendar.

Fashion's parade on Easter merely means, of course, the ceremonial display of clothes, brand new clothes of course, and more important yet, new hats. Easter has attained a position of pre-eminence as the one occasion above all others when it is incumbent upon all those who wear hats to be well dressed to make their appearance in new and distinctive styles. Insofar as Dame Fashion is concerned Easter Sunday, according to the new mandate it was not to be considered "good form" for a woman to appear on Easter resplendent in fresh additions to her wardrobe. She might display her new treasures—for, of course, she would not—clothes to a woman if she could not show them—on the Sunday preceding Easter or on the Sunday following Easter or at any other time, but the custom was to be devoted to turning Easter into a grand affair for marketing the newest products of the dressmakers, the bootmakers and the milliners.

The new plan was all very well in theory, but the persons who suggested it evidently did not figure on the persistence with which the daughters of the republic can cling to a cherished prerogative. The American women simply declined to abandon their Easter fashion parade and consequently the season's surprises in new fashions to a capital Easter observance as are the Easter lilies and the Easter eggs. The credit for the preservation of the traditions of the Easter fashion parade is given to the women because it is the members of the fair sex who both as spectators and participants are the most numerous and most enthusiastic supporters of the function. At the same time it would be idle to insinuate that many of the opposite sex have not succumbed to the influence of the Easter dress parade. Among the male contingent there is a brave representation of spring overcoats and spring suits, that make their appearance for the first time, but the one pre-eminent touch which proclaims the occasion is the array of new collars and ties. Some men there may be, who, because of prejudice or pocketbook, will not indulge themselves in the new concepts of the tailors on Easter, but there are none who need forego the indispensable of a novelty in neckwear.

As has been said, fashion's parade on Easter marches up and down the entire land. There are some famous Easter fashion parades in the United States, notably the one on Fifth avenue from New York, and the one on the Boardwalk at Atlantic City, but there is scarce a city or town or village from Maine to California or from Michigan to Texas that does not enjoy its own Easter parade—particularly if the community is not so small that there are no church services to get as an incentive to draw forth the birds of plumage. And just here, it may be noted in wonder, that such is the perfection of our modern system of fashion distribution that it affords proof that her feminine residents are little behind New York and even Paris in the main essentials of the "new styles."

While on this phase of the subject it may be remarked that very few of the fashionable paraders in the Easter throngs realize how far-reaching have been the preparations for this

display and how far back in point of time, of glory. Missy may not even realize that the milliners who "did" her hat have been working literally night and day for a fortnight before Easter and that the delivery boy who distributed the "confusions" of lace and ribbons had precious little sleep on Easter eve. But the trail of preparation goes yet farther back. It extends as far as fascinating Paris, where all the styles originate and where the ammunition for the Easter broadside was a matter of concern to hundreds of designers and seamstresses and bonnet makers and flower workers in the days when you and I were busy with Christmas preparations. There is usually at least three or four months between the in-

ception of a costume idea in Paris and the realization of the "dream" in America and consequently American dressmakers and milliners were paying hundreds of dollars for advance information regarding the Easter styles and furtive peeps at the new Easter hats are the prospective wearers in America had commenced to bother their heads on the subject. The traditional hour for the Easter fashion parade is after 11 morning church service and this time continues the accepted interval in most communities. It is, for instance, in the interim from twelve to one o'clock that one sees the impressive procession of gorgeously-gowned women and correctly-attired men

which renders Fifth avenue, New York, memorable on this occasion. So in most of the smaller cities the church hour is accounted the logical time for fashion's review because there is nothing to call forth the population en masse at any other time in the day—unless it be, perhaps, to evening church service when, of course, it is too dark to have fanciful toilettes appear to the best advantage.

In some of our cities, however, notably in the national capital, it has come about that in recent years there are in effect two fashion parades on Easter. The first is held, as above mentioned, at the conclusion of the morning church service, but the newer and more popular promenade comes late in the afternoon, when well dressed people of all ages traverse the principal residential thoroughfares inspired by fraternal interest in their fellow-beings and their raiment. The morning fashion parade finds almost everybody aloft if the weather be at all pleasant, but in the "moving picture" that is in view from 3:30 to 5 o'clock in the afternoon a considerable proportion of the paraders are in vehicles, open carriages and motor cars having the preference. Each mode of locomotion has its advantages from the standpoint of the Easter paraders. Those aloft have the best chance to be seen, whereas those in motors or carriages have the best opportunities to see, and since the aim and object of this fashion parade is that its devotees may see and be seen it will be realized that it is virtually a standoff between those who walk and those who ride.

In point of numbers participating, easily the greatest Easter fashion parade in America is that which takes place on this eventful day on the Boardwalk at Atlantic City. People flock from all sections of the country to the New Jersey resort. They come, many of them will tell you, because Atlantic City is supposed to have a mild and equable spring climate, but the real reason in most instances is a realization that the "natural study" of mannikins is met and divine here may be found a greater assemblage of representatives of the human race than at any other Easter mecca on this side of the Atlantic. There are sometimes as many as 100,000 people in the Easter parade at Atlantic City and they devote themselves to marching and countermarching on that five-mile elevated esplanade because there is little else to do at Atlantic City at Easter when it is, of course, too cool for sea bathing.

The Atlantic City parade of fashion starts in the morning, though it is not timed to accord with church services, for the simple reason that only a small proportion of the Easter visitors to Atlantic City take time to attend divine worship on this day of days. Fastened they spend their time on the great wooden highway—walking or riding in those odd and lazy wheeled chairs pushed by porters or propelled by tricycles. At Atlantic City also there is another fashion parade in the afternoon, though to be strictly accurate we should not say "another." In reality it is a continuation of the same grand march of the gaudy dressers. How any of them manage to get such a mastery, for the crowd on the Boardwalk never suffers any diminution from mid-morn to dusk, and indeed this spectacular continuous performance even goes on after the electric bulbs are aglow and Easter promenade in other cities have long since sought their own firelides.

Dr. Pierce's Pleasant Pellets regulate and invigorate stomach, liver and bowels. Suffered, try gastric. Easy to take as candy.

Some men haven't sense enough to stop borrowing when they strike oil.

Breaking Up.

"The rain was coming down in sheets."

"I noticed it was in the bed of the streets."

Boy Had Noticed Things.

The dear little office-boy had been detected in a lie. It was not one of the ordinary preparatives for the everyday world, and, moreover, "to make the crime more grievous, he had persisted in adhering to his original mendacious statement."

"Do you know, my lad," asked a grizzled clerk, in a kindly fashion, "what becomes of young lads who trifle with the truth?"

"Aye," was the assured reply: "the boss often sends them out as travelers when they grow up!"

Chilly.

A certain member of a Boston club, habitually evinces such a rigid demeanor that many of his acquaintances have facetiously averred that "it gives one a cold to shake hands with him."

One evening a group at the club were discussing the disposition of the said member, when a newcomer ventured this:

"Why, gentlemen, I understand that it is the custom in this club when the chap attends a dinner here to ice the claret in order that it may be at the same temperature as the dining room."—Harper's Magazine.

hope of saving the man's life. For two weeks the patient was unconscious, his breathing was feeble and he had to be artificially fed. Then by degrees consciousness returned. His speech and eyesight were badly affected, but both improved gradually. Today, apart from some what dimmed eyesight and general weakness, he is well on the road to recovery, but retains one conspicuous defect, he cannot read or write. He can distinguish letters, but is unable to connect them into words. The part of the brain he has lost, it appears, is the sense of memory of what he learned in his youth.

Party Feeling.

The Excited Splinter—Oh, Ethel, we're going to have such a time at the party. The new couple's coming, and he's color blind!

Ethel—Well, dear, what difference does that make?

The Excited Splinter—Why, he thinks all the hollyberries are mistletoe.—London Sketch.

The Risen Christ's Easter Message

The message of Easter is identical with the truth that each Lord's day proclaims to men the resurrection of Jesus Christ. The central thought of the apostle's ministry was the resurrection of their Lord and Saviour. It has been the dominant theme of every gospel message. The risen Christ's first communication was sent to his discouraged disciples that they might rejoice because he was risen from the dead.

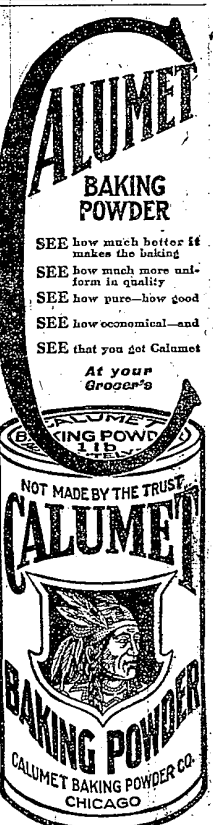
"Does Easter find you discouraged? Have you made a bad investment of your life and labor? Are you disturbed as to the future? Has death terror for you? Then let us rejoice, for Christ has won a victory for us. Let us give thanks because he is risen. His resurrection contains the promise of our endless life. It is also prophetic of the Christian's resurrection when Jesus shall come again. The hope of eternal life should inspire us with a dynamic force by which we can, through the presence and power of our risen Lord, rise above the difficulties, discouragements and defeats of this present age. His resurrection has solved our problem, removed our hindrances that have filled us with despair, and turned our apparent defeats into glorious triumph. The gospel of the resurrection proclaims a victory of regeneration over degeneration, of construction over destruction, of life over death, that Christ secured for every creature that will believe on him as their risen Saviour!"

"To the disciple that denied him early on Easter morn Christ sent a message that recalled Peter to his service. Have you been following Christ at all?" Has your life been marked by sin? Have you denied your Lord? If so, Easter has a message for you. Repent, return to your Lord and then you will rejoice that he is risen and he will restore unto you the joy of your salvation."

The last message that the Master gave to his disciples was delivered near Bethany, while they were still in sight of the capital city of

Man With Only Half a Brain

There is a man with only half a brain in the convalescent home of the Sabbatberg sanitarium at Stockholm, Sweden. His name is Blomquist, and he is a young soldier who was hit by a stray bullet at the front during practice last summer. The bullet went through the left temple and passed out again through the right side of the skull. It was a bad case, but the surgeons, finding that no motor centers of the brain were injured, proceeded to operate although they had little



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