

# WORK for the WOMANLY BRAIN and HAND

## The Festive Touch of the Easter Table



AN INDIVIDUAL NEST

MORE and more we are giving appropriate touches for special occasions. The plan that need not entail expense nor occupy a great deal of time in the following is always acceptable. Surely holidays, when there is a special effort to gather the members of the family around the festive board, should be made red-letter days in the decorative idea as well as in the genial spirit that characterizes a feast.

Suggestions are here offered that will appeal to children and to adults. The effectiveness is undeniable, the means so simple and the decorative end easy.

There's a centerpiece that shows a

paper strip into the slender part of the flower. Over this is another pointed strip of green paper cut to represent the calyx. Lines are painted on the petals to hint of veins, and a large bow of ribbon tied at the top. Asparagus fern trails down over the petals. From each petal white ribbon runs out to the places. Under the focal ball are grouped little ducks or chicks, quite content with the novel application.

The same pattern, made more slender at the top and cut from white crepe paper, will give an Easter lily. Any flower that hints of spring can be suggested. The whole piece can be easily fitted over the dome of a lampshade or



DUCKS ON A MIRROR POND



### For the Gardener

THERE are just a few of us who have an undying affection for the old-fashioned flowers.

There is something so appealing and lovable about these fragrant blossoms which bloomed in our grandmother's garden.

Rich with association through the long years, they have won their way into our hearts to remain cherished there.

If you have enough ground to devote to the culture of these quaint old-time

favorites, consider yourself lucky indeed.

Mark out the beds the desired size and border them with some pretty little foliage plant.

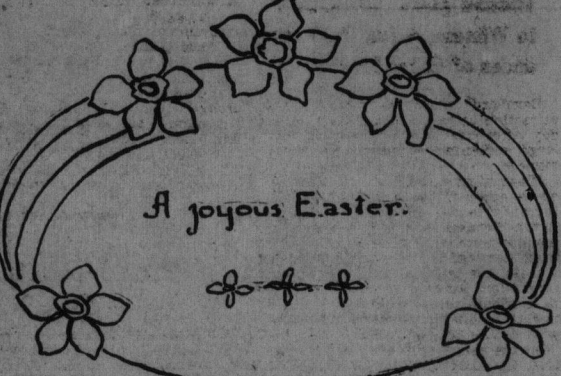
Now close your eyes and see that lovely old garden of grandmother's—a riot of color and delicate odors.

There were beds of roses, phlox, pansies, nasturtium, asters, candytuft, mignonette, sweet peas, poppies, balsam, stock, foxglove, ageratum, Canterbury-bells and dahlias.

Far back against the wall stood the tall sentinel-like hollyhocks, and on the other side were the good-natured sunflowers, smiling down upon their smaller sisters in genial affection.

Over in one corner was a bed of gladiol and "blue flags," and bordering several beds was the dainty, lacelike sweet alyssum.

Over the wall clambered honeysuckle and trumpet vines. Near the center of the garden was an old tree stump,



A Joyous Easter.

large, flat wicker basket filled with grass on a bed of moss or cotton. The mother hen is placed in the center and the little chicks around in natural positions. At one end of the basket the handle is wound with ribbon, and at the other end a high bunch of wheat and poppies (from the millinery box, if you will) is attached. White ribbons radiate from the basket to each plate. On the sides are the place cards, that are timely souvenirs to be treasured by the diners.

The focal ball is most effective and costs next to nothing. Any flower can be used, the one corresponding with the fresh flowers used on the table being a sensible choice.

The tulip here shown is nothing more than yellow paper cut in long petals and pinned at the top to narrow the



suspended from the fixture above the table. Flowers, either in paper or natural form, can be tied to each ribbon. Place cards in flower shape can be drawn or colored to echo the note

sounded in the centerpiece. Exclamations of delight will follow the view of the simple center decoration that suggests a clear pond with ambitious ducks. This is nothing more

than a round mirror similar to the one used under fern dishes or cut-glass pieces. Leaves or asparagus ferns are twined around the margin of the miniature lake, and the ducks (at 10 cents each) are placed on the surface of the mirror. The result is before you.

For the individual piece there are countless hints.

On the serving plate can be placed a paper mache nest, with its filling of grass, wheat or paper straw. The duck, or chicken, can be hiding any little Easter gift that may be in order; the little card with an appropriate verse or wish is just as fully appreciated. Surround the plate with green leaves, amylax or fern. Give the springlike touch for which Easter in its resurrection hues stands.

No table decoration is complete without the place cards. There are some



THE PAPER TULIP ABOVE THE TABLE

whose unsightly state of decay was completely hidden by wistaria.

Here and there an arch of climbing roses spanned the walk.

"Ragged robins" raised their lovely blue eyes to the sky and drank in the warmth and rain; gold-colored marigolds fed upon the bright sunlight. Of course there were lilies, pure and white, with the jeweled dewdrops sparkling in each cup; flame-colored lilies and tiger lilies.

The iris and bleeding-heart must not be forgotten; grandmother loved these dearly.

Over the gateposts graceful morning-glories entwined their loving tendrils. Take a deep breath and thoroughly enjoy the refined scent of the lavender. The lilies closest always profited most by these flowers.

In each corner were clumps of shrubbery in early spring the lilacs presented their wealth of beauty and fragrance to the newly awakened world. Do you remember how their delicate odor permeated the house and garden after a shower? How lovely they looked, caressed by the sun, with the raindrops still sparkling on their leaves!

The syringa bushes appeared like a huge bouquet when the wealth of blossoms burst forth in May. The Japan quince, spirea and altheas all had their welcome place in the garden.

Think of this garden as almost a necessity. Nothing is so much admired as a "mosey" of old-fashioned posies.

There is an atmosphere of calm peacefulness ever hovering about a garden of this variety—a certain protected seclusion from the outside world. The sweetest memories ever known are associated with grandmother's garden.

If sentiment still exists to any extent—and I believe it does—foster and nurture its growth among the flowers most loved.

The modern woman finds little time to devote to gardening; more attention would be given to the culture of flowers if she realized what an unending source of pleasure it is. Ask our English sisters, or watch grandmother as a young maiden, wearing a large sunhat beneath her chin. Armed with a pair of scissors and a trowel, she tenderly coaxed each plant to flaunt its hidden treasure in the face of the sun. Not a flower could refuse her.

There is something inexpressibly sweet and lovable about an old-fashioned garden. Have one and prove this statement for yourself!

Through the open door.

A drowsy army of flowers—gray bell-trope.

And white sweet clover and shy mignonette—in and about chorus leads to the pervading sympathy of peace.

room calmly announce that "supper is not served." Afterward invite them for refreshments in the proper manner.

Have the table decorated with colored ribbons and for a centerpiece have a doll dressed as a jester surmounting a bank of spring flowers.

From the chandelier suspend a number of bells by delicately tinted ribbons.

Serve several April Fool dishes: cakes stuffed with cotton, candy flavored with pepper and any other original joke along this line you happen to know.

After this serve light refreshments of sandwiches, olives, salad of any variety, iced molded into a jester's cap and decorated with a bell and ribbon, cake and coffee.

For the cleverest story told a prize should be awarded. When the package is opened it should contain nothing. The real prize will be found in a mysterious manner later on.

April Fool day permits great scope for originality, olives, salad of any variety, iced molded into a jester's cap and decorated with a bell and ribbon, cake and coffee.

Lovers of fun welcome this day for open arms, for no "good fellow" would take offense at any joke at his expense upon the first of April.

## APPROPRIATE GIFTS at EASTERTIDE



SOMEHOW we do not fully realize that "winter is past" until the Easter tide, with its attendant joys, returns to remind us of the fact.

Then we observe, with senses keen to the awakening of nature, that "the southern slopes are tinged with tender green"; that the birds, after their long sojourn in the southland, are again filling the air with their cheerful bursts of song.

In the woodlands the early spring flowers are casting their sweet fragrance to the wanton breeze. The earth, gradually garbing herself with radiant splendor, opens her storehouse of treasures and scatters the priceless gifts with generous impartiality.

At this season we delight in giving appropriate gifts of flowers, books or candy, grown, written or made especially for Easter giving.

Half the pleasure afforded to the

recipient of a gift is the manner in which it is given.

Such small matters as the tying up of the package, or the brief note accompanying it, sometimes mean more than we can possibly realize.

It is the thoughtfulness back of the gift which really counts, and not the intrinsic value. The simplest trifle becomes a priceless treasure, to be cherished until the end of time, when love and sincere friendship accompany it.

Flowers are always most acceptable. Every one loves them and they are the living children of spring.

One of the first blossoms to brave the

chilly winds left by departing winter is the tulip.

A large pot of these flowers with their varied coloring makes a pretty gift. They live several weeks and are not much affected by the change of temperature when removed from the florist's shop.

One of the special beauties of the Easter season is the azalea. This flower-laden tree resembles a huge bouquet and is sure to dispense pleasure wherever it goes.

The unattractive flower pot should be covered with crepe paper. This may be had in any tint or shade to match the flower—yellow or red for tulips, pink or white for azaleas, and white for lilies-of-the-valley.

White and yellow are the colors associated with Easter. Boxes containing gifts should be tied with ribbons of these colors.

Books written by nature poets, attractive bookmarks, prayer or hymn books, pretty trivets fashioned of ribbon, all are in good taste for the Easter gift.

The suggestion given here shows the gift box decorated with a large bow of yellow ribbon. Nestling among its loops and sprays of asparagus fern is a tiny yellow duckling.

Suspended from its neck is the note of Easter greeting.

There are extracts from many poems which are suitable for this season and which may be written upon a card to accompany the gift. Here are a few:

When daisies pied, and violets blue,  
And lady-smocks all silver white,  
Do point the meadows with delight,  
Spring hangs her infant blossoms on the  
Rock's in the cradle of the western breeze,  
Sweet is the air with budding lawn, and  
The valley stretching for miles be-  
low.

Is white with blossoming cherry trees, as  
if just covered with lightest snow.

Original poetry is always appreciated, so write a little stanza yourself. Your friends will forever bless you for your consideration.

### An April Fool Party

ALL Fools' day, in ancient times, was an annual event enjoyed to the fullest extent by the reigning lord and his court. The court jester had supreme power to rule from sunrise to sunrise.

The fool's bauble was the emblem of power and he ruled alike prince and peasant. At the same time, he and his motley crew afforded much amusement to the pleasure-loving court.

During the day all kinds of pranks and tricks were indulged in, and the night was spent in feasting and dancing.

Every one donned fancy costumes and masks, that they might have greater freedom in "making merry."

If you desire to give an April Fool party, write your invitations upon cards shaped like a fool's cap and decorated with sketches of a court jester. Each guest should be requested to relate the most "fool" experience he ever had.

Have the house entirely darkened when it comes time for the guests to arrive, and when they start to depart after having repeatedly rung the bell, open the door and invite them to enter.

Spend the evening telling jokes, playing clever tricks with cards or working out puzzles.

When it is time to serve refreshments sound a dinner gong and when the guests assemble in the dining



COVER WITH CREPE PAPER

THE DECORATED BOX

DO NOT FORGET THE NOTE

TULIPS ARE ATTRACTIVE

### Cleaning Silk

GREASE stains may be removed with French chalk, magnesia or ether.

Use breadcrumbs to clean white broadcloth.

To remove grease stains from black silk rub vigorously with a piece of brown paper.

Silk never should be brushed. Remove the loose dust with a piece of velvet.