



### Flowers for Easter

► LILIES on thousands of altars, vying with the wax of the candles for whiteness, again proclaim Easter as the day of victory of life over death. They have sprung from dry-looking, seeming-dead bulbs buried in the earth. Whoever plants a bulb, whether he is a Christian believer or not, is engaged in a rite of faith: he "expects the resurrection, and the life to come."

For all their stately waxen beauty, however, the long-throated white lilies are really usurpers in their present primacy as Easter flowers. They are not natural to the season. If you planted any of their bulbs outdoors last fall, they will not be coming up into bloom now along with your jonquils and hyacinths; you will not see their flowers until midsummer. Only by forcing them in greenhouses are florists able to deliver Easter lilies in bloom at Eastertide.

It would really be more in keeping with the traditions of the Easter feast if we should bedeck our churches with the multi-hued early spring flowers that are to be found in bloom in the woods and fields and in our own gardens. That is what our forefathers did, in simpler times before the coming of florists, and commercial greenhouses. Sometimes they were even unselfconscious enough to make wreaths of fresh flowers and wear them in their own hair.

There is a wealth of early wildflowers that could very appropriately be used for a more natural Easter observance of this kind: violets, hepaticas, spring-beauties, trout-lilies, geraniums, anemones; on trees and shrubs, flowering dogwood, redbud, hawthorn, crabapple—the list might be extended indefinitely. Blossoming time for these various spring species spreads

out over a month or more; but the migrations of the movable feast of Easter, from late March to late April, will always be bracketed by a goodly number of dates on the natural floral calendar. Also, some species that are too late for Easter in the North will be in bloom at just the right time in the South.

There are a few flowers that will have an especial appeal, at least to children and other persons with still-undulled imagination. There is the beautiful amethystine chalice of that prairie anemone that poetic French pioneers named for Easter itself: the pasque flower. It blossoms for the earliest dates of the feast.

For Easter's later occurrences there are several kinds of trillium, the flower that has everything in threes—even its leaves. Appreciative artists have wrought it into ecclesiastical symbols of the Trinity.

Finally (and particularly for children) is that eloquent little preacher who somehow never gets invited into a church: Jack-in-the-pulpit.

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#### METEOROLOGY

### Highest Winds in World Encountered Over Tokio

► FLYING over Tokio at 30,000 feet or more B-29 Superfortress pilots sometimes encounter winds of 175 to 200 miles an hour, reports Col. Cordes Tiemann, Chief of Special Studies, Army Air Forces Weather Division. A normal wind in winter over Japan at an altitude of 30,000 feet is about 100 miles an hour, he stated.

Weather conditions in Japan are changeable, Col. Tiemann declared, speaking as the guest of Watson Davis, director of Science Service, on the CBS program "Adventures in Science." In summer the weather may be as foggy as the Newfoundland Coast, and winter weather in Japan is often like that in our own Chicago.

With weather stations dotted all over the Pacific and on all land areas surrounding the Pacific, the Army Air Forces Weather Division predicts weather in an area of 16 million square miles, equal to five times the area of the United States. These weather stations pass their reports along to a weather central where the information is pooled and a complete over-all weather forecast made.

Weathermen of the AAF work closely with commanding officers of combat groups throughout the Pacific, supplying

them with the forecasts, upon which are based decisions to carry out aerial and invasion operations against the enemy, Col. Tiemann revealed.

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#### GENERAL SCIENCE

### Cresson Gold Medals Go to Admiral and Engineer

► ELLIOTT Cresson Gold medals have been awarded for 1945 by the Franklin Institute to Rear Admiral Stanford Caldwell Hooper, USN retired, for his accomplishments in radio for the U. S. Navy, and to Prof. Lewis F. Moody of Princeton University for the leading part taken by him in the design and development of hydraulic turbines and pumps. The presentation will be made on April 18, at the annual Franklin Institute medal day ceremonies.

Cresson medals have been awarded since 1848, with Madame Curie, Rudolf Diesel, Nikola Tesla, Tinius Olsen and Roger Adams among the recipients.

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### RESISTANCE BOXES FOR MANY USES

Those small, inexpensive Resistance Boxes, shown above in a Kelvin Bridge network, are suitable for commercial-power frequency, a-c as well as d-c. They are made in seven sizes; three 2-dial boxes having total resistance of 99,990 and 9900 ohms resp; two 3-dial boxes of 999 and 9990 ohms resp; two 4-dial boxes of 9999 and 999.9 ohms resp. Prices range from \$21.00 to \$35.00.

The Standard Resistor used is our Reichsanstalt type, made in 3 values; 0.1 ohm at \$50.00, 0.01 ohm at \$55.00 and 0.001 ohm at \$120.00.

The Galvanometer employed is our No. 2420 Enclosed Lamp and Scale, popular for measurements of moderately high sensitivity. Its price is \$40.00.

All these instruments are described in our Publication "Modern Precision", Vol. 4, No. 1.

