

Men, Odd Creatures, Present Shopping Problems to Women

BY GENENE MITCHELL.

When the male of your week-ends proceeds in trotting you past jewelry store windows and perfume counters and slyly asking you what you might want as a stocking-filler on the 25th, that's a subtle suggestion he expects a gaily wrapped nonentity from you. From this day forth, it's your problem what it's to be for your big heap of masculinity.

They Never Say.

Gone is the man who, when you

ask him what he wants, whispers endearingly into your ear, "You." And we women can rightly assert that men are veritable gold-diggers after our ghastly pecuniary experience of the Mortar Board Ball. Learning from preceding events, it is not best to ask them what their little hearts desire, but plow into the problem with minds free of obligation.

When the male is past the teddy-bear and electric train stage, possibilities for gift purchasing decrease markedly. And

so our question... what? "What?" covers a multitude of brain-teasers and our weary minds must search for the answer to "What is good enough for him?" Men have a peculiar trait of being very particular, not only in their dress but also in their accessories. Anything we might touch upon must be of the highest quality and yet match our allowances.

Next of the "What?" series is "What don't they have?" At the conclusion of a meticulous survey I found men have more of everything than they possibly can use. Inquiring of a typical college fellow how many shirts he owned, he answered that he had the paltry sum of fifty, and followed down the line with thirty tie

clasps, forty-two pairs of socks, one-hundred-eighty ties, thirty-four glamor poses of former pin-mates, and eight combination cigarette lighters and cases.

"What size" always provides one of the woman shopper's major difficulties. Most men can't be distinguished from their shoulder pads, and that leaves we women with little or nothing from which to judge. Perhaps a fitting suggestion for all prospective receivers would be to leave their measurements posted in the Union on the bulletin board.

Just Try to Find It.

If you've been close enough to examine the shade of your subject's eyes, your "What color?"

situation is solved. If not, you find men's favorite selections run from pink to pink and blue. Since men's furnishings are featuring only bleak purples and oranges this season, we women must gnash our teeth over the hue of our gift.

Usually, if you break the bank with a special donation, the last you see of your expenditure is when you fold the tissue paper over it and gently tuck it into the box. This might be the result of men's odd taste, but the least they can do is sleep in it. If you have the luck to give them something they're quite taken with, they admire it on themselves immensely and forget all about your new creation of a dress out of Harper's.

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