

Bulbs & Bulblets

Official Croft Lily Growers News Items

Croft And His Lily "Made" This Area

History of the Croft Lily, and the man whose name its bears, have been the greatest factor in bringing a thriving and ever-increasing business to this area.

Through the Croft Lily Growers Association, and effort of H. T. James, its secretary, the following facts and data concerning Sydney Croft's achievement have been gathered.

Sydney N. Croft was born near Devonshire, England, Jan. 7, 1877. Came to the United States when three years of age with his parents, who settled near Grays Harbor, Wash.

Served as master of the Ma-

sonic lodge at Langlois, Ore. He was twice elected mayor of the city of Bandon.

In 1925, Mrs. O. C. Shindler of Bandon, gave Sydney Croft his first Easter lily bulbs, which he accepted rather reluctantly and with considerable misgivings. Mrs. Shindler had obtained her bulbs from a neighbor who had obtained the bulbs from Stead Houghton, who was in the employ of the United States Department of Agriculture. (As to just where Mr. Houghton obtained the bulbs will in all probability forever remain a mystery).

After planting these Easter lily bulbs, Mr. Croft observed that some of them had better stems, greener leaves and nicer blooms. These he carefully preserved and after considerable experimental

and research work resulted in the introduction of the world-famous Croft Easter Lily.

Being unable to sell any of his bulbs locally, Mr. Croft advertised to try to find a buyer. Finally a florist offered him \$20 for his crop of commercials (four apple boxes), which Mr. Croft readily accepted.

After the great Bandon fire, in which Mr. and Mrs. Croft lost most of their worldly possessions, they came to Harbor, hoping that here they would be able to rebuild their lives and fortunes from the ashes of destruction of the past. But after a short sojourn to this community a cruel fate intervened. Mr. and Mrs. Croft both were taken seriously ill, forced to sacrifice their planting of Easter lilies for a mere pittance and move to Selma, Wash., where they lived in a trailer. Shortly afterwards, on Oct. 25, 1941, Sydney Croft passed away.

No more fitting tribute could be paid to his memory than was expressed in the immortal words of John Greenleaf Whittier:

*Give fools their gold and knaves their power,
Let Fortune's bubbles rise and fall;
Who sows a seed or trains a flower
Or plants a tree—is more than all.*

Mrs. Ray Streubing To Survey Markets

Mrs. Ray Streubing left last week, as official representative for the Croft Lily Growers Association, on a tour of the lily markets in the east, to make a survey of the present Easter lily performances and investigate the future market.

There have been some complaints from eastern growers on the "bud count" and quality in general of lily bulbs. Mrs. Streubing, while visiting the lily market centers, will ascertain the performance of this year's bulbs in greenhouses in order to determine as nearly as possible the conditions of the bulbs shipped from this area.

Mrs. Streubing plans on returning about May 1. Her report to the Croft Lily Growers Association will have a direct bearing what may be expected of the fall market. Her itinerary includes St. Paul, Minneapolis, Chicago, St. Louis, as well as other lily marketing centers.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Smith Now Grandparents

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Z. Smith are sitting on top of the world with their heads in the clouds these days, as they have received word of the birth of their first grandchild, Carrie Louise, who weighed seven pounds, six ounces, to their son and daughter-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Robert F. Smith at Alameda, Calif., April 14. Robert is an aviation radio mate first class, and is stationed in the Bay area, until his discharge, in June, after which he will move his family to Harbor.

Weather Report

Weather for Brookings the past week, was:

	Max.	Min.	Prec.
April 8	55	44	.24
April 9	50	42	.61
April 10	57	44	.01
April 11	58	42
April 12	55	47
April 13	63	44
April 14	59	48
Total for week86

Local News Items

Pete Lesmeister, Brookings real estate broker, announces two sales of the past week. The 14-acre property of Anton Amund-

son, near the MacPherson auto court, was sold to Mr. and Mrs. Henry J. Weigel, of Portland, and Dr. E. F. Duvall sold a 2-acre tract, near the Winchuck bridge, E. J. Woodburn, of Portland.

Bill and Bud Stotenburg, and Edwin Matson, have prettied up the front of Bill's home with a white-painted picket fence about the front yard.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Baumgartner of Klamath Falls spent a few days this week visiting his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Nick Baumgartner on Easy Street.

The birthday club gave a party last Thursday evening, honoring the birthdays of Violet Cleveland

and Margarethe Tisdale.

Mrs. George Pedigo of Indianapolis, Ind., and Mrs. Frank Fall of Detroit, Mich., are guests of Mr. and Mrs. I. N. King. plan to return next week.

Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Rodd made a business trip to Grants Pass, Tuesday. They were accompanied by Mrs. C. P. Watts Mrs. Lydia Davey.

Bert R. Willis and son, Claude of Canton, Okla., are visiting brother, E. E. Willis. They will here two weeks.

Easter services have been announced by most of the churches of the area. See the church column elsewhere in this paper.

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BEAUTIFUL SATIN SLIPS

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THE PERFECT EASTER GIFT

Childrens Sweaters **\$2.95 to \$3.49**
Long and Short Sleeves.

New—in lovely pastel shades—

Moore's Variety

— A N D —

APPAREL SHOP

BROOKINGS

OREGON

Pine Cone Theatre

Friday-Saturday, April 19 and 20—



Sunday-Monday, April 21 and 22—

Matinee — Sunday at 2:00 p. m.

LOVE—AS YOU'VE DREAMED THAT LOVE MIGHT BE!



Wednesday-Thursday, April 24 and 25—

"Ladies In Retirement"

Starring Ida Lupino and Louis Haywood
Plus a Cartoon