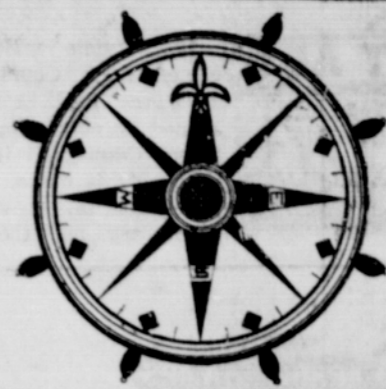


Brookings-Harbor Pilot



Nowhere A Finer Climate - Nowhere A Finer Community

SECTION TWO - Page One

Thursday, December 8, 1955

pipe dreams

You, Too, Can Grow Easter Lilies



joey murphy

I met a lot of new people Saturday night at the Beta dance. I guess they aren't new, either, but I just hadn't run into them before. Guys like Ben Jewell, Radford, Larry Hill and others. They had a very nice crowd at the festivities but somebody got to the ham before I realized it was there.

Wickes Shaw, of Gold Beach Newspaper fame, ran a little item two weeks ago referring to Brookings "as a little town 36 miles south." I know she threw that in because she couldn't think of anything else to say, and possibly wanted to dig up some re-action. Naturally we won't let such a dig go unmentioned, although we don't like to let on there is another paper—or any other city in the county.

Incidentally, they tell me that Gold Beach is so far out in the brush that they have to have T-V piped into that area. Can You Imagine?

President Ike is still being secretive about his plans for the coming campaign. But here in our own balliwick we have a politician, Mayor Brimm, who doesn't beat around the bush. He comes right out and tells the whole community that he's not running again.

That basketball game Friday night was a corker for three quarters anyway. A few missed lay-ups and the locals could have handed Eureka a licking. And what some bruisers. Man, they were like the Redwoods. It sure was nice watching the game in the new gym. Lot of room, and light. Much different atmosphere than last year. Coach Guthrie was singing the blues before the game, but it looks like he has got a bunch of fighters anyway.

GYM IS FLOODED
According to an exchange, a recent rain in Langlois flooded the gymnasium. The water came in through the main door and the girls' shower room, covering the gym floor with mud. The mess was cleaned up before any serious damage was done.

HARBOR COMMUNITY CLUB MET FRIDAY
The Christmas meeting of the Harbor Community Club was held Friday afternoon at the home of Mrs. E. E. Hanscom, Sr. with Erma Rice, Jessie Judkins, Mae Simpson and Mabel Thompson as the hostesses. After the business meeting, a gift exchange and visiting was enjoyed by the group. There were twenty members present for the meeting, which was presided over by the president, Ruby Harvey. The January meeting will be held at Mrs. Harvey's home, the last Friday of the month.

Help Fight TB
1955 CHRISTMAS GREETINGS 1955
Buy Christmas Seals

YOU'LL FIND IT IN THE WANT ADS

One of our principal crops is being overlooked so far as home gardening is concerned. Almost everyone, when they think of Croft Lily bulbs, associate them with some method of commercial forcing, not realizing that this can be well done in almost every home. Not only that, the impression is that they are not adaptable to outdoor growth. Blunt contradictions are that they can not only be successfully brought to bloom, on time, in the ordinary home but they also thrive, without undue coddling, even into Canada. At the U.S. Department of Agriculture Experiment Station, Beltsville, Maryland, Croft Lilies have been



grown out-of-doors for several years and the temperatures there have gone well below zero without hurting the bulbs.

Let us begin with a description of how you may grow your own blooms, for Easter, right in your own home.

About 180 days before Easter (if you want an Easter blooming plant) select a good firm bulb, fully six inches in circumference. Take a string and wrap it, loosely, at the bulb's greatest diameter. This length will be a guide to the diameter of the porous clay pot in which the bulb is to be grown in. Into the bottom of this pot, for good drainage, place an inch or so of pebbles or broken pot. Prepare a mixture of about three-quarters of rich garden mould and a quarter of peat moss or well rotted sawdust. Into this, mix thoroughly a level teaspoon of any garden fertilizer and a tablespoon of steamed bone meal. The accuracy of this mixture is not precise but should bring about the happiest results.

Put some of the mixture in the bottom of the pot, on top of the drainage bed. Now, spread out the roots of the bulb and set it on top of the soil, filling in with the mixture so the tip of the bulb will be a couple of inches below the surface of the soil. You may now bang the pot on some fairly firm surface to help settle the soil and exclude the air. DO NOT press the soil from the top or you may injure the bulb. Other than natural dampness of the potting soil, no water should be added.

Now, set the pot in a cool, well shaded or dark place until the plant shows a couple of inches above the soil, then bring it out into the full light (not sun) keep well watered and not too warm. During its growing period a modicum of plant food may be given every three or four weeks. Never let the soil get entirely dry. Remember the plant must pump water clear up to the buds and bloom, which are furthest from the roots and also that water evaporates through the pores of the pot—the plant also breathes through these pores. A little water in a saucer, under the pot, helps the irrigation process and setting the pot outdoors during the mild, warm rain bathes the leaves and makes healthier growth possible.

The whole lily family is accustomed to growing their best where it is cool and damp, so in growing them in your home, an important DON'T is letting

them get too warm. In general, too much heat will make any plant become "leggy." This especially applies to indoor grown lilies which will do quite well if you have a cool, light place where the temperature doesn't vary much from 60 degrees. This will assure you of growing a neatly balanced, symmetrical plant topped by gorgeous crown of blooms.

After your plant has completed its cycle indoors, you can lay it on its side, in some convenient corner, and let the bulb go into dormancy to be knocked out and planted out of doors in the Spring, probably growing and blooming again in the late

Fall.

Growing the bulbs out of doors should be in more common practice. Just because we have it in our minds that Easter Lilies flourish only at Easter, we have been denying ourselves a garden beauty that is a most definite MUST. And it is a much easier job than growing them indoors.

As stated at the beginning, Croft Easters are successfully grown, without extra effort, when the bulbs go away below zero. When grown in the garden, the bulbs ought to be set where the water neither stands nor drips off eaves—a semi-shaded spot is, of course, best. No special preparation of the soil is necessary unless one calls ordinary garden practice "special" and adds thereto a dose of bone meal and occasional feeding and watering when the plants start to show signs of going into the lily business. And they can be planted any time the ground isn't frozen—even can be held down cellar until Spring, if such is wanted, but should be planted out of doors before their sprout is much over an inch long. This also holds true for the Easter you may have bloomed indoors, and put into dormancy.

Now, about digging them. No need to do that for a couple of years, when you should find a whopping bulb whose stem is just thick with offspring. Grab the parent bulb firmly, give the stem a slight twist and pull and it should pop loose from the depths of the bulb. You can now strip off the bulbets, which can be planted back—not too deep, of course—and you're in the Croft Lily business. Some of the larger ones may bloom the first year but probably most of them will not until the second. Anyhow, they are good swapping stock. Plant back your parent bulb, preferably in a new location.

A good rule to stick close to with any bulb outdoors is to plant it to a depth of about three times its greatest diameter.

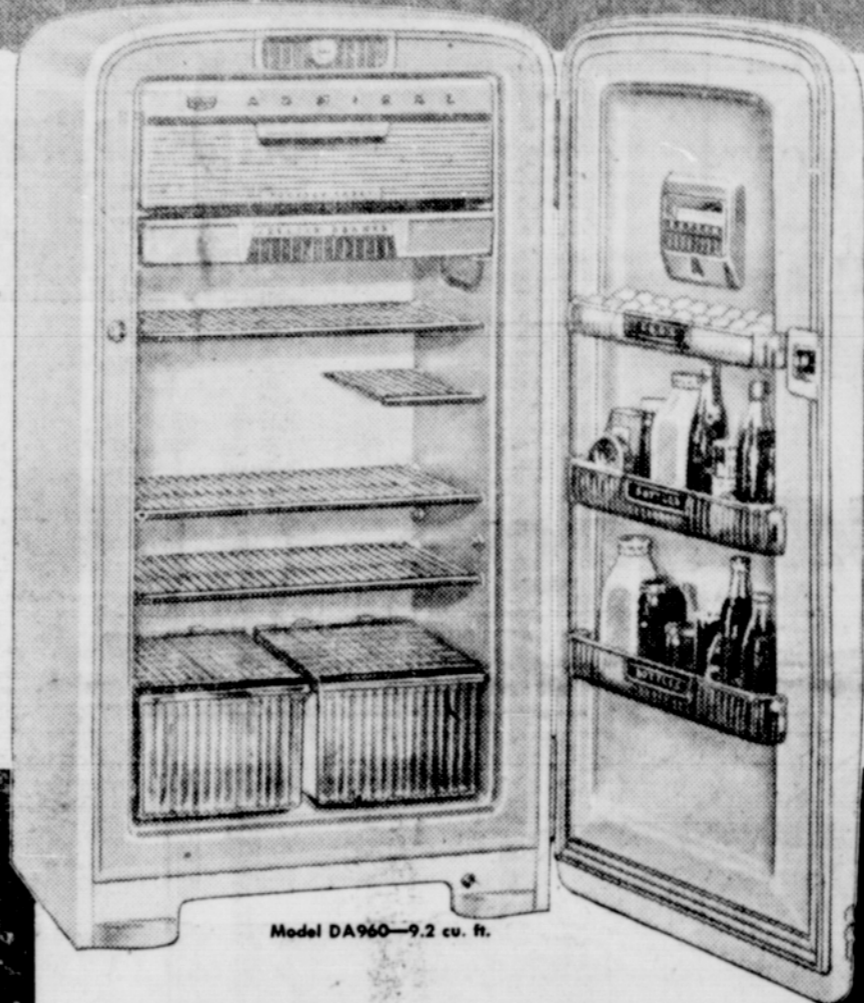
Anyway, we feel sure that you will get a great deal of pleasure out of this beautiful plant. Those who work in them the year around never cease to regard them with less than a reverential feelings. Growers in the Brookings area, for many years, continue their efforts to produce unblemished this strain of hybrid lilies. They are proud of their products, known and grown by florists and gardeners all over Northern America.

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