

Rare Lily of the Nile Grows in Our City

It took a dozen years and a lot of tender loving care, but a mammoth Lily of the Nile now blooms in Garden City.

The nursemaid was a gentleman gardener named Otto Broge, 32972 Marquette, who spent his working years with a seed company and now in retirement grows all kinds of flowers from glad-oli to orchids.

But his prize is the chocolate-brown, rather evil-smelling Lily of the Nile, which grows prolifically along the banks of antiquity's famous river, but is quite a trick to raise in Michigan.

"The bulb originally was sent from Jerusalem," explained Broge. "A friend of mine gave it to me, because he didn't have much luck getting it to grow."

What Broge did was plant the bulb each spring in warm earth, and wait until a shoot like a palm tree pushed up to a height of three feet.

When that growth faded,

Borge would dig up the bulb and let it rest a while—like a couple of months.

Then he'd plant it indoors and wait hopefully for a bloom. It was twelve years before one came.

But for the last three years, the plant has been bearing an amazing blossom, about this season. The blossom tops a tall spike and measures more than a foot across.

And the bulb itself now weighs about 15 pounds.

His enthusiasm over the blooms is matched by that of a neighbor, Mrs. Bernard Mathes. Mrs. Mathes is quick to tell how Broge loves to give away his flowers.

"You should see his place on Mother's Day," she said. "Every child in the neighborhood is around for a present for his mom."

"But he'll never take money for them. He says if God has given him the ability to grow things, he'll use it to make people happy."



OTTO BROGE shows his giant lily.

Under Sunny Skies, Easter Paraders Were Out in Style



LIGHT AND BRIGHT was the order of the day for Easter paraders. Most churches in the area held several services to accommodate the Easter crowds.



MINISTERS shook hundreds of hands at the close of services. Parishioners had the best weather in years for enjoying the wearing of Easter finery.



THE YOUNGER GENERATION also spruced up in Sunday best and went to church. Some had to hustle to get to services on time.

Three-County Group Formed In Dimes Drive

The first tri-county National Foundation — March of Dimes Women's Advisory Council was formed Tuesday, March 28, when representatives from Wayne, Oakland and Macomb County volunteers met at the Ponchartraine Hotel for a luncheon meeting.

Acting chairman for the luncheon was Mrs. W. Earl Givens, of Bloomfield Hills. Charter membership in the Council was accepted at the meeting, and nominations were accepted for officers to head the council.

Key speaker was Dr. Tommy Evans, Wayne State University School of Medicine, chairman of the Department of Gynecology and Obstetrics. Dr. Evans reported on the method and progress of clinical studies and research being made under a National Foundation grant at the University of Michigan to isolate virus traceable to birth defects.

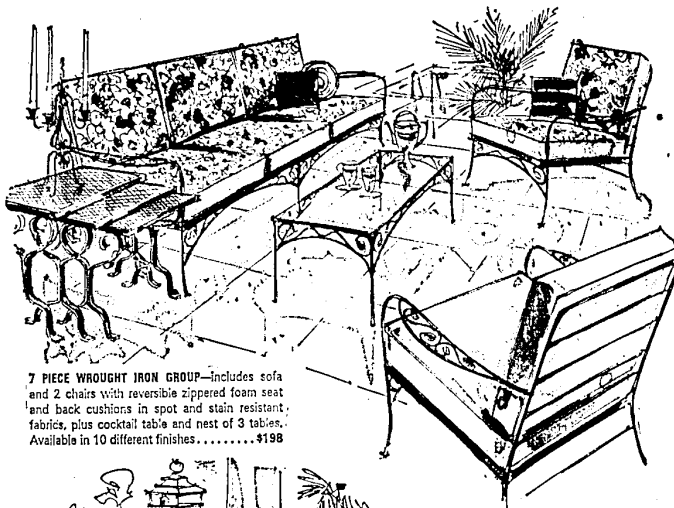
Red Cross First Aid Class Begins April 18

A standard first aid class will be taught at the American Red Cross Northwest Service Office, 31228 Five Mile, Livonia, beginning Tuesday, April 18, from 7 to 9 p.m. There is no charge. For more information regarding the class, call Red Cross, 422-2787.

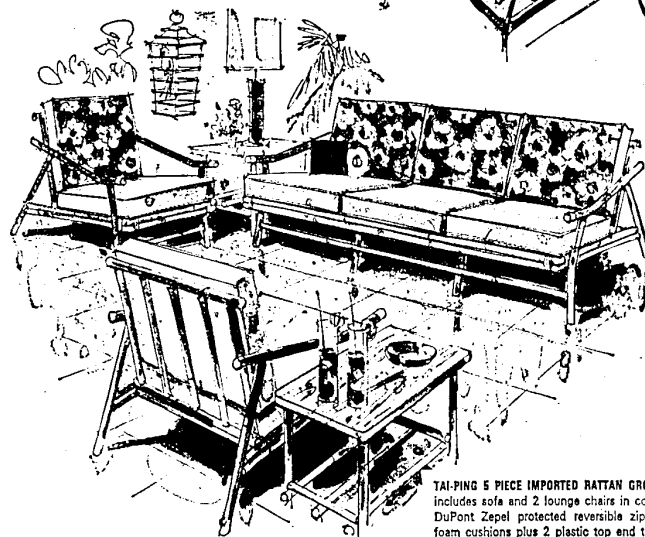
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