

# The Southland queen. Vol. V, No. 5 September 1899

Beeville, Texas: The Jennie Atchley Company, September 1899

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# THE SOUTHLAND QUEEN.

Published Monthly.

Devoted to the Exchange of Thoughts on Apiculture.

\$1.00 Yearly

Vol. V.

BEEVILLE, TEXAS, SEPTEMBER, 1899.

No. 5.

The Proceedings of The Meeting of The Central Texas Bee-Keepers' Convention, Held at Milano, Texas, on July 20 and 21, 1899.

(CONTINUED.)

Pres. Jones arose to criticise the above. He liked the super. Thought that slotted separators that give free communication straight through from one row of sections to the other row did not cause better filled sections. Believed it was caused by something else and would like to find out. Thinks full sheets of foundation. to come within & inch of the section, would be it. Prefers free communication separators. Said that there was nothing nicer than a solid section of honey with the comb sealed all over solid to all sides of the section, and the cappings of the outside row of cells all around a fraction beyond the surface of the comb. "This is greatly in favor of the Hyde-Scholl separator, as the upright slot allows the bees to extend the cappings around the outside edge of the comb just a fraction, which gives it the finest appearance."

Said the Hyde-Scholl separator allowed the bees to pass all around the edges of the sections, which is the cause of the better filling.

The only objection he mentioned was that the wood separators were hard to clean of bee-glue. Otherwise he endorses the use of this separator, and suggested improvements on it if necessary.

Mr. O. P. Hyde arose and said that he was glad that Mr. Jones tried to criticise it and thanked him for making a better speech than himself. He told Pres. Jones that if he objected to the Hyde-Scholl wood separator he should use the Hyde-Scholl tin ones and he would not have trouble with bee-glue.

Pres. Jones did not mean the Hyde-Scholl wood separators, only as all wood separators are hard to clean of bee glue. Likes the tin ones and prefers their use if there is no difference or objection to the use of tin in supers.

E. J. Atchley spoke most favorably on the Hyde-Scholl separators, as the best before the beekeeping world now, and thinks it will be years before any improvement can be made on them. Ad-

vises beginners to start with it and that also everybody use some and give the young inventors fullest recognition. Also thought onethird more honey could be obtained by their use.

G. F. Davidson—"I do not use separators, but if I should, will adopt Messrs. Hyde and Scholl's. The C. T. Bee-keepers' Association ought to be proud of the inventive genius shown by these two young men."

H. H. Hyde thanked them all for their kind words and said they were greatly ap ciated. Expected to make provements on them if necessary at any time. Advised the tin ones as the best.

The production of comb and extracted honey in the same hive to take advantage of short and fast flows; by H. H. Hyde:—

"Mr. President: Ladies and gentlemen:—I have a method with which some of you are perhaps already familiar. For illustration: Fifty colonies are put into winter quarters the fall before with plenty of honey in two hive bodies. During the main honey flow 30 are run for comb honey, and 20 for extracted. See that all have prolific queens, plenty of room and honey—no queen excluders. Just before fast flow put most capped brood in lower story, take upper story to hives run for extracted

honey and replace these with comb honey supers on the 30 colonies. Prevent swarming by cutting out cells. After flow take off section supers and replace with the extracting supers."

On "The hive I use" Louis Scholl read a well prepared article, and it was requested to have it inserted in regular order in this report.

"THE HIVE I USE."

"Mr. President: Ladies gentlemen:-Finding that I am on the program with the subject, "The hive I use," I will endeavor to tell something on this subject although I have never had occasion to arise before a convention such as the Central Texas Bee-Keepers' now before me. Well, to proceed with the hive I use, I will first give a description and the measurements of the same and then the reasons why such a hive was adopted. For several reasons I prefer the Danzenbaker bottom board and cover. These are of the ten-frame size. The hive itself is composed of a series of shallow cases, the same as the standard 53 inch ten-frame supers manufactured by the A. I. Root Co., of Medina, Ohio. These cases are 16 x 20 inches outside and only 53 inches deep, without tin rabbets. Each case holds ten shallow frames. standard Langstroth size, but only 53 inches deep and of the Hoffman self-spacing style. These shallow cases are used as brood chambers as well as for supers when producing extracted honey. The section supers for comb honey are of the same size and depth and take the tall sections, plain slats and free communication separators. It is generally known as the "Ideal" super arrangement, Two of these shallow frame supers are used for a brood chamber. which makes it a depth of 111 inches. Twenty frames in both cases have a comb surface nearly equal to twelve Langstroth frames. This provides a large brood nest, and from experience I find it not too large, not for my locality at least."

"Now, I will give the reason why I prefer this hive and shallow frames. When producing surplus honey in supers above the brood frames, especially when producing comb honey in section supers. I have had trouble on account of the bees filling the deep Langstroth frames with the honey that ought to go in the sections during a slow flow, especially along the top edge of the comb above the brood, and after this honey is once sealed bees are quite loath to store surplus honey above such sealed stores, causing them to loaf and hang about all over the hive. Besides, the queen was also crowded out, as the bees filled the cells from which the young bees had just hatched with honey. Now, my question was, how to get that honey out of those frames into the sections above. This, of course, could be done by inverting the brood chamber, frames and all, but it caused both trouble and labor. Besides, I am not a reversible frame advocate. It can be accomplished to a great extent, though, by using a divisible brood chamber hive, by reversing or exchanging the upper case with the lower one, which puts the key in the center of the brood nest, from where it is then removed by the bees and carried up above the brood into the section super. By removing this honey the bees also provide more breeding room for their queen. I think these are some good advantages we have over hives with very deep frames, such as the Dadant-Quinby and also those Draper barns, so much spoken of in the northern bee journals. These barns are of the same depth and measurements as my hive and I can not see why they compare them with barns, as I do not find them so. Their advocates claim larger colonies of bees and better results for their large combs, and object to a division through the center of the brood nest and prefer to have their bees brooding queens' eggs, larvæ and pupa-bees than sticks and empty space. But why and for what reasons does Mr. Danzenbaker have his combs built out solid all around to the frame and then gouge a big hole right through such combs with a butcher-knife to provide a passageway for the bees? Now, I like an opening or passage-way for the bees to go through from one comb to another, but I surely prefer those long ones, lined with wooden sticks, to those ugly holes right through the combs."

Well, as I am a shallow frame advocate any way, after studying the many advantages which they possess over the deep Langstroth I was tempted to try some hives with shallow frames of the same depth all through the hive. I have used and am still using supers with shallow frames on all of my Langstroth frame hives, and there is where I learned of their advantages, especially when runming for extracted honey. As this hive is mostly handled in sections or stories, the full supers are easily removed by smoking the bees thoroughly when raising the cover, thus forcing them down and out of the full super, when it is then taken off practically free from bees, and there is not much brushing to be done. Then, too, they are more convenient to handle, as they are not so heavy as the full depth su-The shallow frames are easier to uncap, as one draw of the knife uncaps one whole side of the comb, while it takes longer to uncap the deeper frames; besides, they are awkward to handle and there is more danger of combs breaking out. Besides, I prefer shallow frames for dividing, uniting, transferring, queen-rearing and most other things in the apiary. There is not much use handling the frames individually, except in a few instances, such as when looking for the queen, or cells, or when looking for larva for queen-rearing, &c. Otherwise the hive is handled by sections and all that is necessary when examining colonies in early spring, looking for queen cells later on, or when examining for honey during the honey season and such things, is to tilt the upper case back, when one can get a full view of the brood nest. If there are queen cells present they will generally be found on the bottom edges of the upper frames. Then, too, if the queen needs more room during the breeding season. one of the shallow cases is added without the bad result of too much room, as is mostly the case when giving full depth stories. The same is true when giving weaker colonies more room for honey. Besides, the section supers being of the same depth and size, all are interchangeable, and we are not bothered with hive bodies and supers of different depths."

"The section super for comb honey that I use in connection with this hive is that known as the "ideal." It takes thirty-five one-pound sections, 35 x 5 x 11 inches, plain, which are supported on plain slats, five sections in a row on each slat, to take up the full inside length of the super. The Hyde-Scholl No. 2 separators are used between the rows of sections, and also one on each side, next to the wall of the super, and all are wedged up tight by a follower-board and super-springs in the super. This arrangement I prefer mainly for the free communication offered throughout the whole super. It is the same as the "ideal" super just previously described by Mr. O. P. Hyde. My mode of manipulation for honey corresponds nearly to the methods applied by Mr. H. H. Hyde and just described by him, or what is known as the barber plan of producing both comb and extracted honey in the same hive at one and the same time, which plan I myself conceived several years ago. I am well aware that there are many who prefer the standard Langstroth frame, but it will be understood that as I produce both comb and extracted honey in the same hive and at the same time that accounts for my preference to all interchangeable supers. Some may think that I have made a radical change, but I think I have not, as all these are standard tenframe shallow supers and could be used on regular ten-frame hives if found unsatisfactory, which they have not done."

G. F. Davidson said Mr. Scholl's hive and management for comb and extracted honey were all right and did not find it necessary to criticise.

(TO BE CONTINUED.)

On or about August 15, F. L. Aten, of Round Rock, happened to a serious accident by the explosion of a lamp and was badly burned. The following tells how he is doing at this date:

The Jennie Atchley Co., Beeville, Texas.

Dear Friends:—I received the imported queen all right, and Mr. Davidson introduced her and she has been laying several days. I am not able to get up yet, but will be in a few days. My burns were deeper than I at first thought, and being over the muscles of my legs they will have to entirely heal before I can walk. It is very dry here, but looks very much like rain this morning. Frank L. Aten,

Round Rock, Texas, Sept. 2, 1899.



E. A. LUNDY AND FAMILY.

### E. A. Lundy.

Dear Friend:—Having promised some time ago to send you a sketch of our bee life I will now try to fulfill my promise. I have been very busy and have been putting it off from time to time, but I will endeavor to give you a short sketch of how we first started keeping bees. Our first bees was a swarm that was given to my

wife. My wife was born in the township of Carden, Ont., and when she was three years of age her mother died, leaving four children—three girls and one boy—and a short time afterwards her brother died. The girls were then put out in different places, and Mr. Samuel Hall, then of McBridge, who took my wife to raise, kept bees. My wife was then nearly six years old. She used to watch

the bees during swarming time when Mr. Hall was away. she was nine years old she hived her first swarm of bees. The folks were all away and a big swarm came out and she did not like to see it go away, so she got two chairs and put some boxes on them to put the hive on, as it was too heavy for her to hold. Bees were then kept in the old fashioned box hives and they used to shake the bees off the limb into the hive and turn it upside down on a board. She got them in all right without either veil or mits and didn't get a sting, and when the folks came home the bees were working away as hard as they could. The folks could hardly believe she could have hived them, as they were all so afraid of them and never thought of going near them without a veil. She used to often hive a swarm after that until she grew up, and then she did all the hiving when Mr. Hall was away, and when we were married he gave her a swarm.

As for myself, when I was a boy my father kept a few colonies, so one day when a swarm came out I thought I would try to hive it. The wind was blowing very hard, so they could not light and it made them very cross. One stung me on the eye and it was four hours before I knew any thing, so my parents were afraid they would

kill me and my father sold them. I never had any thing more to do with bees until after I was married. I and some friends were going by a bee-yard one day and the bees took after me. Of course I ran when they took after me and I took off my coat and threw it and also my hat away and I kept on running until I got to a barn and went in. About half an hour afterwards I went back after my coat and hat and there were about half a dozen bees stinging away at them and my friend had to get them for me. I told my wife when she had the swarm given to her that she would have to tend them for they would run me off the place. but they were very gentle, so I got acquainted with them and they with me. Finally I got the beefever bad and I soon became anxious for more bees. The next fall I had three colonies, but I did not understand wintering bees, so I lost all but one swarm, and they were very weak. I sent to A. I. Root, Medina, Ohio, for more and they did well. He was very kind in sending me a book telling me how to manage them and we thank him very much for his good advice. From that time I kept on increasing and sometimes losing so that at times I was almost discouraged. I was greatly troubled with robbers when I put them out in the spring. One spring I had seven colonies robbed out in about two hours. It was a bee-tree in the woods that did the mischief; but I am not troubled so much now. Since I take my bees out of the cellar in the evening they get their fly out and in the morning are settled down and ready to fight. I think the best time to take them out is in the evening or at night. I took my bees out last spring at all times of the day and all times of the night to find out which was the best time to take them out and I found the night to be the best time. Those I took out at night did not rob. They took their flight early in the morning and the robbers did not bother them. I think when bees have been in the cellar all winter they have a different smell from what they have when they are wintered out doors, and when they are out all night that smell leaves the hives and the bees do not rush out like they do when they are taken out in the day time. I do not put many out at a time and I put them all over the yard. I have my hives all numbered and the stands the same so as to be sure to get them on the same stand as they were the fall before. know it makes a difference if they are not put on the same stand, as the Italians will go back to the old stand if they are changed, at least mine do. The Texas bees are the stuff. They seem to get more honey than the others and we take honey from them to build up the others. I am bound to have all Texas bees as fast as I can get them. I saw J. Stickwood, who got bees of you this spring, and he says they are the best bees he ever had. He took forty pounds of honey from them this year and his other bees are doing nothing.

You wanted to know the names of our family. Well, here are all of our names: My name is Edwin Arlingford Lundy, my wife's name is Elizabeth Ann, the oldest girl is Adella Violla, the little boy William Samuel Arlingford and the baby Manetta Adeline. Adella is twelve years old, Willie is nine and Nettie is two. You said you supposed I was very proud of my family. Well, I am proud of them.

E. A. LUNDY. Pine Orchard, Ont., Can., Aug. 5, 1899.

The following is taken from "The Beeville Picayune" concerning the South Texas Bee-keepers' Association held here at our place on August 16 & 17, and it is all we will possibly have room for this month, but in next issue we expect to begin the regular proceedings:—

### SOUTH TEXAS BEE-KEEPERS

### Beeville Meeting the Largest Ever Held in the State.

Paper Read Before the Association by E. J. Atchley on "Southwest Texas as a Profitable Field for Apiculture" Contains Much Valuable Information.

The fifth annual meeting of the South Texas Bee-keepers' Ass'n is now an event of the past, and another interesting chapter in the history of apiculture in Texas has been closed. The meeting was one of the largest assemblies of the kind ever held in the state and was productive of a great amount of good. At this meeting it was clearly demonstrated that bee raising and the production and exportation of honey has become a well established and important industry in Texas, and that south and southwest Texas is the great field in which this industry is to be developed on a big scale.

Delegates to the convention began arriving Tuesday morning. They came by rail and in private conveyances. By 9 o'clock Wednesday morning, the 16th inst., some fifty of them had assembled at the Atchley apiaries, two miles north of Beeville, and were soon after deeply engrossed in the work of the occasion. The meeting was opened with prayer by Rev. T. C.

Thetford. E. J. Atchley presided and G. W. Huffstedler acted as secretary. Regular order of business was taken up and occupied the time of the convention until noon Thursday when the convention adjourned. The following officers were elected for the ensuing year: President, M. M. Faust, of Floresville; vice president, E. J. Atchley, of Beeville; secretary, G. W. Huffstedler, of Beeville. Floresville was selected as the next place of meeting and the time set for the middle of August, 1900.

After adjournment the delegates were photographed in a group by Photographer Powel, of Beeville. A large number of them went down to the coast that evening and remained for several days enjoying the pleasure usual on such a trip.

Many interesting talks on the various phases of bee raising and apiculture were made and several papers containing much valuable information were read. Among the latter was the following from the pen of Mr. E. J. Atchley, one of the best known apiarists in the United States. The subject assigned to Mr. Atchley was, "Southwest Texas as a Profitable Field for Apiculture."

"Ladies and gentlemen of the South Texas Bee-keepers' Association: The duty of addressing you on the subject of southwest Texas as a profitable field for apiculture has been assigned to me and while I am thoroughly familiar with the country, which is tributary to the Pacific coast, from ElPaso to Galveston, I can not help but feel my lack of ability to do so important a subject justice. I feel that it would have been better for me and for you could the subject have been handled by a more competent person. However I shall do my best in making plain the facts as they really exist."

"Twenty-five years' experience in Texas, and a good portion of that time spent in southwest Texas, has enabled me to clearly demonstrate, to my own mind at least, that southwest Texas, when properly peopled with the little industrious insects and the right class of apiarists, will be one of the best honey producing sections of the United States, if not of the world."

"Unlike many other great bee raising sections, California for instance, southwest Texas does not have to depend upon weeds or annuals for her honey supply, for here we have a country thickly covered with a hardy growth of trees and shrubbery, such as the mesquite, catsclaw, weesatche, waheeah, black and white chapparral, anaqua and many others which bloom and flourish in the spring

time whether the season be wet or dry. And if the apiarists are up to their business as they should be, they can always reap a harvest of honey in the early spring, and then if it rains they have an even chance with the countries that have to depend solely on their annuals to get another harvest in the summer."

"I am fully convinced that if people who understand apiculture would locate and establish their apiaries near any of our southwest Texas mountains and rivers they would find that such enterprises would pay better than any thing else requiring the same amount of capital and labor."

"There are many places in Texas that give bountiful crops of honey, but I find that none of them furnish honey that will compare with that produced in this section. The honey gathered here is very rich and of the finest flavor and is becoming so well known among the honey customers of the world that the demand is far in excess of the supply. I could to-day sell fifty cars of southwest Texas honey f. o. b. the cars at Beeville for a fancy price."

"This section is the natural home of the honey bee. Our winters are very mild as a rule, and some winters our bees gather their supply of food almost every day. Thus they do not have to draw on the supply stored away the previous summer as they do in most lo-

calities."

### A Wounded Bird.

Dear Mr. Editor:—Please allow me space in your valuable journal for this, my last reply to "Crawford's Theory."

When I fire I like to see the feathers fly, but I did not in the least intend to cripple the bird. simply answered Mr. Crawford's argument. He seems to think I abuse him. Abuse is no argument. I am willing to leave it to any man of sense to say whether I have used one word of abuse in regard to the matter. He also says that I did so to obtain some degree of notoriety. Just think He considers my remarks perfectly absurd and out of place. He also says that I had better rub up a little and learn the first letter of the alphabet in southern apiculture, &c. How's that for abuse? If Brother Crawford knew me personally he would not have written as he has. Now, I wish to say right here that all theories of confining the queen in a hive by means of queen excluding zine whether on two frames or all the frames is the old theory brought out eighteen or twenty years ago by Mr. D. A. Jones, of Canada.

I understand your theory very well, Mr. Crawford. I am always open to conviction and I would like very much, Brother Crawford, to have explained to me, some sweet day in the near future, in what manner bee natures differ in Ohio, Florida, Texas or Cuba. I for one do not see but what honeybees gather honey just the same in Florida as they do in Ohio.

Now, Friend Crawford, suppose you make a hive in which the frames will go the other way, that is, go crossways of the hive instead of lengthways. You could put in say twelve frames. Make a queen excluding zinc large enough to cover all the brood frames except the two first frames next to the entrance and put in another queen excluding zine extending from the top of the frames down to the bottom of the hive just back of the two first frames. You then have the queen confined to ten frames instead of two, the results of which would be better than the way you speak of, but this too is no good and is simply the Jones method described in another form. Just take a fool's advice once. Brother Crawford, and let all such methods alone. Don't try to invent a new hive and a new system of management. You remember that the bee-keepers of California were in hopes of establishing, at the State University at Berkeley, an experiment apiary, but the professor ruined his reputation as a practical bee-keeper by trying to invent a new hive. Take warning, brother, and do not ruin your 'rep' as a bee-keeper. Is it any wonder that you, Brother Crawford, living in the state of Texas, as you do, are able to go into the dark ages, unlock and bring out old theories into new light. Undoubtedly some of twelve jurymen will say that you have made a golden discovery of the present age. Just hark for a moment and hear this from your own state. On page 104 of THE SOUTHLAND QUEEN, August, '99, Mr. E. J. Atchley said that the state of Texas, your state, remember, Brother Crawford, is the best in the world, but bee-keeping is undeveloped, and that the people had to be educated and taught how to keep bees in better ways. I think, myself, that is right, from some of the writings I have read from that point. On the same page Mr. G. F. Davidson said that he had traveled a good deal over Texas and found bee-keeping undeveloped and bee-keepers uneducated, but no practical bee-keepers. Now, how does your article cope with these statements from beekeepers in your own state, Mr. Crawford. Please do not think me unkindly or unfriendly, for I am not.

What a powerful queen that golden Italian of Brother Crawford's is. If he would just get out some new theory of grafting that queen to a good hen what a hen he would have for egg facilities. Well, Mr. Crawford, I can take the best queen that can be produced and over-work her in one season so that she will be worthless. My hives are ten framed standard, and I find them large enough for the best of queens.

Mr. L. L. Langstroth told me once that the honey-board was a good thing, and that he always used one, but of course Crawford knows best.

C. E. WOODWARD, Hawk's Park, Florida.

Friend Woodward:-In the first place, you have Mr. Crawford in the wrong state, as he lives in Louisiana. However, that does not matter, as the climate and conditions are about the same. are almost compelled to have some theories to go along with practice we are sure it is for the general good of all to have theory and practice both ventilated through our journals. With a reply from Friend Crawford, if he desires to make one, we are willing to drop the discussion between friends Crawford and Woodward. We are sure that both mean well, and we trust that no bad feelings exist in this matter at all. "We be brethren," you know. Of course all general rules for bees hold good in all countries, but different management is necessary in different localities. ED.

If you want a good bee paper see "A Liberal Offer" on another page of this journal.

### BEE TALK.

(By H. H. Hyde.)

The subject of large or small hives has gone the rounds of the different bee journals with the contest in favor of large hives. Now, not because it is popular, but because I earnestly believe in it, I can be recorded in favor of the large hives. Large hives help prevent swarming and give us large colonies with good queens, which if the flow comes will give us the honey. Now where the winters are cold and the seasons short perhaps in large hives colonies consume too much honey in winter if the seasons are too short for bees to build up and have the hives full of bees when the flow comes, but here such is not the case, hence I favor large hives and queens that will fill them. And now this brings me to the subject of bees. Well. it is my honest opinion that there is more difference in bees than anything else, so much in color, temper, breeding, honey gathering, &c. A man will ask: "Why is it some of my hives are full while others are not?" I think other things being equal the answer would be: Those that have no surplus have poor queens or queens whose bees are poor rustlers or honey gatherers. Very likely some one will say: "But what race do you prefer?"

This is a hard question and lies between three banded Italians, five bands, and Holylands with me, but principally between the five bands and Holylands; of these two I hardly know which, perhaps in their purity Holylands, but to cross these two races produces a bee that for me can't be beat. I have not vet determined whether a first or second cross is best, but this I know, colonies of this cross have given us the best results for honey this year, which is a very poor one. About 1 crop is my estimate. One hive of the above cross will soon have 72 white sections, another has produced 40 lbs. of extracted, and will soon have 48 sections. It is my aim, as a queen breeder and honey producer, to breed each pure race for honey and other good qualities and then cross them and if my experiments count for anything will get a bee unequaled for honey, &c. This question of bees brings to mind something singular that I noticed the other day. On opening a Holyland nucleus and lifting out a frame what do I behold but a frame according tomy careful estimate containing at least a half teacup full of royal jelly, each cell having its supply. Mr. Root mentions having seen a teaspoon full in a comb, but this beats that. As I wished to start a lot of cells that day I was plentifully supplied with jelly.

While I am at it I will tell the readers of The Queen how I now secure queen cells. I prepare my bees as per Pridgen's latest plan, which is as follows: About 10 A. M. go to a good colony known to be good cell builders, having fed them some for a few days previously if no honey is coming in, then shake the bees from the hive into a set of combs containing honey, no unsealed brood, but no objections to a little sealed brood and a comb containing water. Set this hive over a bottom board with deep entrance, using wire cloth or perforated tins to keep them in and give ventilation. At 5 or 6 o'clock give them two batches of cells, 36 in all, prepared as follows: Take and cut drone comb leaving one whole cell to each piece, next place these cells on a stick from 1 to 3 of an inch apart. Use melted wax in fastening them to the stick. Now put a little royal jelly in each cell and transfer larvæ from the breeder into these cells. I have had better success with drone cells than any others. After letting the cells remain 24 to 36 hours (don't wait too long) remove them, giving one batch each to the colonies over an excluder, having placed a frame of unsealed brood there 24 hours before, and cell starters are returned to the hive they came from. These cells have been built

and no hives were made queenless. The preparation of the colonies or cell starters, are according to Mr. Pridgen, to whom I owe my success more than anyone else. The arrangement of the drone cells I believe is principally my own. This allows the use of the Pridgen nursery, which I have changed and call Pridgen's improved nursery, which, in place of the holes and plugs, is this: I have a tin slide on one side. This allows me to catch the queens easier and is simpler. I use a flat cell stick as already given, & by & inch, and the tin divisions are square ended. the 10th day I place the nursery over the cells, and on the 12th I catch the queens, some of which hatch on the 13th. These cells can be cut down and used several times, perhaps a dozen times, as bees like them better than new ones. I would like for The Editor to try this plan, if he has not already done so, and report on it.

Hutto, Texas, August 28, 1899.

Honey has been a failure in my locality this season, caused by extreme cold weather last winter, and then an unfavorable spring. Then we had forest fires all over this section, and all together it has been a bad year for bees.

A. DUNCAN, Homerville, Ga., Sept. 9, '99.

### A Big Honey Eater.

THE QUEEN is very prolific this month, Aug., 1899. Many good things under her covers. Your reply, by foot-note, to Mr. Danielsen, pertaining to "chunk" honey, is all right. Some of the big bee fellows have said that comb honey is inferior to extracted, that comb itself is tasteless, etc. I really pity the man who said that, for one of his most enjoyable senses is out of fix. I am a great honey eater, consuming more than 200 pounds of comb honey each year. The comb gives the honey a delicate bouquet, which of course is absent in the extracted article. I always eat honey alone after meals, often a pound at a sitting, but never swallow the wax. While I have never seen honey put up as you say you put up this "chunk" honey, yet I know it is good. I am going to put up some a la Atchley. I will take the chances of being called a glucose fiend. Why, Mr. Danielsen himself says that extracted honey looks, and is, better than your botchey stuff. God help him. He, too, has lost his taste for good things, if he ever had any. I wish I could come over to fair Texas and attend that bee meeting at your place on the 16th and 17th inst. What a good time I would have eating honey and other good things with the Atchleys. Then that trip to The Gulf. Oh my! Why am I deprived of getting there? Well, you will all have a good time if I stay here. H. M. JAMESON,

Corona, Cal., Aug. 15, 1899.

Friend J.:—Surely, it is a good thing that you live in a good honey country, and one that can afford you 200 lbs. to eat each year. You have a good big sack for honey. Well, the writer comes pretty close to you, not counting the nice chunks and finger licks during the season. See foot-note to E. T. Flanagan, in regard to chunk honey, in this issue. Yes, we sure had a good time at convention. Thanks for kind words.

### Chunk Honey vs. Sections.

In the August number of THE QUEEN, on page 98, in your comment on the communication of D. Danielsen, you proclaim yourself a convert to "chunk honey," after 15 years' use of section honey. Will you please tell me how you get it out of the can, when you come to use it, in a neater and cleaner shape than a clean wellfilled section, and will you really oblige me by telling me what you do with that same "chunk honey" when it candies hard and firm, I really want to know. Some years ago, before I moved two car loads of bees to southwest Texas, I run short of comb honey and went to

St. Louis to replenish my stock. Calling on one of the largest commission men I asked if they had any good comb honey and was told that they had a fine stock on hand. I looked at it and found it in the very shape you describe-in 60 pound cans with large screw tops the full width of the top-and filled with as nice honey as I ever saw in the comb. I asked the price and was told that it was 6 cents per pound. As I was selling large quantities then at 15 cents per pound, I thought I had a bonanza, but when I examined it closely I found it candied solid. could not sell a pound of such honey to my customers, and I declined to buy, though the commission man offered me the honey at five cents per pound if I would take the entire lot off his hands. Now that lot of honey would have been snapped up at 121 cents per pound if it had been in the form of section honey. As it was, I saw some of it there after over a year had elapsed. It came from southwest Texas, and was a No. 1 article, but it would not sell at 1 its real value. Why? Because it was honey," and candied.

You also intimate that you can not ship or handle section honey without breakage and loss. I have received quite a number of shipments of comb honey in sections from my apiaries in Uvalde County in the last three years, and the per centage of loss was not one section in one hundred, and in the last few shipments by freight of over 1200 miles not one section was injured. So I know section honey can be made in Texas and shipped for a great distance in perfect order. Chunk honey may do for Texas, and it is no doubt a little more convenient to ship in that form, but when candied it is in my opinion an injury to our business, as honey producers, to put it on the market.

E. T. FLANAGAN, Belleville, Ill., Sept. 1, 1899.

Friend Flanagan:-We would not make a claim for chunk honey that we could get it out of a can cleaner and nicer than a section, but just as clean and as nice. We have always been able, so far, to sell all the ckunk honey we could get before it candied, but we have often kept some for our own use just to let it candy. There is nothing inside or out of a fancy candy show case that is as inviting to the eve and appetite of a lover of sweets as a nice slice of candied white chunk comb honey. It is nicer to our minds eye than either a jelly fruit cake or hokey pokey ice cream, and can be held in the hand and eaten like a ginger cake, without bleeding and dripping all over a person. Pray tell us where the great difference lies between liquid and candied honey, any way. That chunk comb honey you saw in St. Louis was simply out of its place, as St. Louis is no place for such honey yet, and it was a very foolish idea in the party shipping it there. People have to be educated to a thing before they take it very much, and our Texas chunk honey is not much known or sought for beyond the Indian Territory. At first, it went slow in Texas, and it is fast crawling towards St. Louis, and the large markets, but before it can possibly go there we will have to produce over 100 car loads more than Texas is now producing before our home demand for nice chunk honey is supplied. Now we are not down on section honey, but really we love to see it produced in countries where it pays to raise it, but it certainly does not pay in Texas to produce section honey; the same you will find out very soon if you keep bees in southwest Texas much longer. Our plea for chunk honey, first, is that it is more inviting to the consumer and in one sense sweeter and richer. Just think of a beautiful slice of white tender comb honey on the table, surrounded by the sparkling liquid honey, and the hot biscuits fogging right by it, (stop Brother Flanagan, and if you have no handkerchief take your hand, as we know your mouth is watering) just as nice and as sweet a morsel as ever went before a king, and a delicate dish that will invite the most tender appetites. On the other hand we will say that the nice white section may be just as good, but has got to be cut out and made a piece of chunk honey first, and laid on a plate before eating, or else the thing is bleeding and dripping all over the section box and is a regular sticky mess, and when cut out of the box and laid on a dish it lacks that sparkling limpid juice to float in, and when judged right is far behind the beautiful chunk honey so many are just now turning up their noses at. We think that ere long you will find chunk honey selling right along side of sections in St, Louis. You speak of the good arrival of your section honey. This we know is true in your case, but if you read the bee papers you will notice often the complaints of commission men and others of the bad condition of section honey by being broken in transit. Our experience has been that sooner or later enough section honey is broken and lost to bring it down to the price of chunk honey. Then we can produce at least one third more chunk comb than section honey. Then, Brother Flanagan, it is all a notion about section honey being better and nicer than chunk honey, as it is not, and if properly cared for, and taken to market as it ought to be, the two are identically the same with people that are unprejudiced. Then again when we lose a can of chunk comb honey by carelessness in the R. R. companies hands, they pull out the cash and pay for it, but on the other hand, our Texas Rail Roads and Express companies will not ship section honey except at owners' risk. In conclusion we will say that just as soon as our honey eating people any where and every where are taught that a slice of candied chunk honey is one of the nicest and best, and we might add, is the healthiest thing in the world, then you will have to keep your chunk honey till it candies to get the top price for it. the schooling that has the most to do with selling a nice article of any kind. ED.

### Can't Supply the Home Market.

Now, as the flows for this season are past, and while there was an abundance of white clover and the bees worked exceedingly diligent, but a partial crop has been secured. However, we may have a fall flow, but usually I prefer the bees to store up an abundance for winter stores, at least when I don't

secure sufficient outside combs when returning queens by my method, which is the case this season. However, all the surplus honey we get this season is from the colonies that were hived back per our method, which will average 24 completed sections with the fence separators, and I am willing to show the honey with any produced on the continent, as for quality, beauty and free from propolis. Also the sections being cleaned on my new improved belt cleaner, they scarcely can be detected as ever having been placed on a hive from any outward appearance, and all I have to say is that this honey is simply perfection, and it is impossible for me to supply the home demand for it, while considerable other honey right here is not sought after at three cents less per section, being in the bee way sections, and the sections are scraped by the usual method and look untidy, therefore one need not tell me that cleanliness and beauty have nothing to do in the sale of section honey. Yes, friend Atchley, Hildreth, of New York, and E. R. Root, of Medina, predicted some two years ago that the time was near when section honey must be put upon the market in a clean and tidy condition in order to secure the top price and sell quickly.

Now, Mr. Editor, I would like to make a little report in regard to the Cyprian queens that I got from Mrs. Atchley. They surely are the most prolific of any queens that I have ever known, but did not carry out the swarm principle, like the Atchleys did, as reported in the July issue of THE QUEEN. Although the Cyprian bees are good honey gatherers and work early and late, and while very prolific, they seem to have rather a non-swarming disposition. However, the season in this locality has been very poor to demonstrate the different traits as we had desired. They are very vigilant, will protect their home and are possessed of great vigor, and besides they are very beautiful while young and up to middle life, when their color begins to change to a dark hue similar to the russet or leather colored Italians, while their abdomen is quite a little more sloping to the tip than the general Italians.

Well, friend Atchley, in the July Queen, in the editorial department, you, in speaking of the almost unbearable things, concluded by saying that the hardest to endure is to carry a big watermelon twenty miles, then cut it and find it green. Well, that would be pretty hard to endure, but I want to say that it is not to be

compared to what we, up north, have to endure. Why, just think of you fellows down there having your big luscious watermelons, so rich and inviting, and causing us the worst cases of water-brash whenever you mention them. So please don't say any more about watermelons unless you send us up one; not a green one though.

J. A. GOLDEN, Reinersville, O., July 25, 1899.

Brother Golden:—We quite agree with you that section honey ought to be put on the market only clean and attractive. The same will hold good on any other kind of honey also. Mr. Root, Hildreth and others ought to have made their predictions years ago, as it is rather too late now, as the article itself is bringing about the reform, but producers can yet help the matter.

# Sixteen Pounds a Day From Spanish Needle.

Bees are doing well. They are in better shape for a fall flow (which promises) of honey, have more bees and brood than we ever knew them to have at this time of year. We have had rain every week, which has kept much of the clover in continuous bloom. Sweet clover has done well. In about a week or ten days we will see Spanish needle honey rolling in. Have seen some colonies carry in 16 lbs. in a day. Jno. Nebel & Son,

High Hill, Mo., Aug. 14, 1899.

### M. M. Baldridge in Texas.

Mrs. Atchley:—I am stopping near this place (in McLennan Co.) for a few weeks. I got here Aug. 29th. Wish you would send me a late copy of your Journal on receipt of this. I may wish to order something in your line. Bees have done very well here this season, I think, considering the way they are managed. I own land near here in Limestone County. It is good for cotton and other crops. I may visit the coast counties before I return to Illinois, and study the rice industry, but I don't know yet whether I will be able to visit Bee County or not. I am informed that the coast counties near you are good ones for live stock. Beef will pay well for years to come.

I have a fine crop of honey in Illinois, mostly from sweet clover. Honey, in general, is below an average crop this year according to my advices. Choice section honey was 15 cents wholesale and 20 cents retail, in Chicago and St. Louis, the last week in August. I was in both cities.

M. M. BALDRIDGE, Riesel, Texas, Sept. 7th, 1899.

Friend Baldridge:—We had no idea of hearing from you in Texas. When you come Beevilleward by all means make us a call, and we assure you that our doors are open to you.



30000000000000000

About where, in an old box hive, also in a frame hive, will I find the queen? What makes the bees come out, fly around in the air like they were going to swarm and then go back into the hive? Do the bees kill the drones before they swarm? Why do the green flies stay around the hives and go into them when the bees will let them.

T. MERRIMAN,

Chico, Texas.

Friend M .: - You will usually find the queen on the empty combs in the brood nest at her work depositing eggs if your bees are working well. The queen has no particular comb or place of the hive to stay, except that she is usually found laying eggs in the combs prepared for her by the bees. The bees that come out, fly around and go back are the young bees taking their first flights, and is what we term a play, or the young bees fixing themselves for the fields. Bees do not often kill their drones before they swarm. However, they may do so, and start drones again before they swarm, caused by a sudden stop in the honey flow. Flies love to alight on the hives in the warm sunshine, and also flies are fond of sweets, and will hang around when they smell honey. Then again if colonies have any disease that kills the brood the flies will gather there.

Friends:-I received the Cyprian queen you sent me; a beautiful queen she was. I never saw a finer one. I introduced her successfully. As they are strangers in my section, will you please tell me something of their nature, and the best way of handling them? I have "Lanstroth on the honey bee" and he holds them to be very cross. Are they as watchful about bee moth as the Italians? All I have are Italians and I generally handle them without smoke or protection. I have a Carniolan, but don't use very much smoke in handling her bees. My bees are very gentle and beautiful. I bought my start of queens from J. B. Case, of Port Orange, Fla. He called them golden Italians. They have not made much honey this season. This has been the dryest season since '81. We have had scarcely any rain since April 1st. Please tell me about our Cyprian bees in your Journal, and accept thanks.

H. E. Coffey, Forest City, N. C.

Friend C.:—I am glad your nice Cyprian queen arrived all right. I mail you our latest catalogue describing the Cyprian bees more fully than could well be done here. However, I will add that the true unmixed Cyprians are no more vicious than the commonalty of bees, and can be handled almost as easy as Italians if proper care be taken not to get them excited. We handled so-called Cyprians a

long time, and we did not think they were pure, and to satisfy ourselves, we sent direct to Cypress for our queens. We have just received a fresh importation this summer, and they came in good shape except one queen which was dead on arrival. I suppose that we have the only true and pure imported Cyprian bees there are in the United States, and they are fine bees indeed.

The colony of bees I bought of you last spring is doing all right. I have not taken any honey from them yet. The brood chamber is full, but the bees will not enter the super, and I am told that it is because I have no foundation starters in the super frames. Please let me know if I must put in starters to get the bees started. I don't think the bees have swarmed this year.

G. A. REYDER, Galveston, Texas.

Friend R .: The reason your bees do not start in the supers is because there is not sufficient honey for the bees to get to force, or warrant their entering the upper chamber. Of course it would be a help for you to place foundation starters in your frames or sections, but the bees will certainly enter without them when your colonies are strong enough and honey coming in sufficient to induce them to do so. This has been a very poor season for honey in nearly all parts of this country, and if your bees fill their brood chambers sufficient for ample winter and early spring without being fed, they will be doing well considering the season.

About a year since I received a Holyland queen from you. From a knowledge of bees, I believe she is pure mated, as the bees are very much lighter than Italians and are all of a color. I do not find the bees cross, as stated in your catalogue, but find them much more gentle than some hybrids that I have, and as easily handled as the best Italians. Long after the swarming time I found a small swarm on a limb and examined their hive and found about 25 queen cells. I destroyed a lot of them, but enough was left to produce about a half-dozen little swarms. What I wish to know is whether it is customary for Holylands to make such a mistake after the season is over. Are they any worse than other bees to swarm? If not I prefer them to the Italians. Where can I get information with regard to this particular strain of bees? I often think that bees are influenced in their temper by the climate. Do you know of any apiaries for sale on this coast? WM. CASWELL, Sacramento, California.

Friend C .: - I am truly glad to learn that your Holyland queen turned out to be a good one and so gentle. When that record was made in our catalogue we had not tested the Holylands as we ought. We find them the best cell builders of any bees extant. They protect their hives well, and when it comes down to prolific queens, strong colonies and honey gathering, we will take them in preference to all others. We have some pure Holylands that are just as gentle and as easily handled as any bees we ever had, and some few colonies that are very cross. We do not think they will swarm out of season as much as some other bees. worst objection we have to them is that they are the easiest and quick-

est bees we ever saw to take laving workers, but for honey gathering this need not be considered, as you will seldom have a colony queenless. When the Holylands are used for queen rearing it is a trouble and a worry indeed to keep them from taking laying workers, as we have known the workers to began laying within 24 hours after their queen was taken out. I do not know where you could get more information regarding Holyland bees than we can give you. I do not know of any apiaries for sale along the Pacific coast in your state. Will some of our readers in that territory give Mr. Caswell that information.

I had a third swarm come out one afternoon and I hived them. They kept on coming out of the hive for two days and each time they came out I hived them, but on the morning of the third day they came out and pulled for taller timber. I had an idea that they had too many queens and that they could not be contented to remain together, and when one queen started all went together. Am I right about it? J. S. Eddins, M. D.,

Ingram, Texas, August 8, 1899.

Friend E.:—Your swarm was just bent on going to the woods, and likely had a home selected and wanted to go to it. I do not think the queens had any thing to do with their absconding. If you had given this swarm a frame of unsealed brood with some honey, likely you would not have lost them. We have had bees that

wanted to go away and at one time we found them cleaning out a tree. We cut the tree, and they showed no further signs of leaving.

I am having very poor luck with my bees, and I would like to ask a favor of you. I have had five swarms. I had a swarm come out the day before vesterday. They settled on a large strawberry plant and I put them in a new hive. I am sure the hive was all right, but they stayed only one day and night and came out again yesterday. I put them in the hive again, all going in all right, but in about ten seconds they all came out and went away. To-day I had another swarm come out and settle on the ground, and in about three minutes they all went into the hive next to the one they came out of. I had three other swarms do the same thing. If you can explain this matter to me I will do as much for you some time and be ever so much obliged.

I. F. McGregor, Abrams, Wis.

Friend M .: - Yours is another plain case where the only remedy would have been a frame of unsealed brood to hold your bees all right. I wish I could speak loud enough, or with force enough, that all the papers of the land would warn every body to hive swarms on combs of unsealed brood, and not one swarm in 50 will abscond when so treated. This is my honest opinion. Why can't the bee-keeping public tell every new beginner to use frames of unsealed brood to hive swarms on, and prevent so much loss.

### THE SOUTHLAND QUEEN.

PUBLISHED MONTHLY.

E. J. ATCHLEY, - - Editor and Business M'g'r.
.. ASSISTED BY..

WILLIE, CHARLIE AND AMANDA ATCHLEY.

MRS. JENNIE ATCHLEY, Editress and Manager of School for Beginners.

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THE JENNIE ATCHLEY COMPANY, Beeville, Bee Co., Texas.

Entered at the Post Office at Beeville, Texas, for transmission through the mails at second class rates.

BEEVILLE, TEXAS, SEPT., 1899.

During the last few days we have had refreshing showers, and broom weeds are beginning to bloom profusely. We trust that the bees will gather enough honey for ample winter supplies at least. Bees are having to be fed all over south Texas on account of dry weather. Inquiries for a low grade of honey, for feeding, are coming in from all sides. If any of our near readers have any extracted honey to offer let us know.

With 32 pages again this month we are still a way behind and have no room in this issue to begin the South Texas Bee-keepers' Association's report. As we have now received the balance of the copy for the Central Texas and will try to get it, as well as the most of the South Texas in next issue, we will likely call the October number our convention number.

Ye editor has been assigned a twenty minutes' talk upon the subject of bees and truck growing, together with fruit as a combination, to be delivered at the San Antonio Fair, before the Business Men's Club, Oct. 31st, and if any of our readers have a word to say that would likely help us out let us have it soon, as we would like toget up the lecture as complete as possible, and a word from those interested would go a long way in making it interesting.

We notice, with the last shipment of extractors we received from the Leahy Manufacturing Co., that they have a new stay rod, which seems to be a great improvement over the buck saw rods formerly used, as the screws on the old saw rods often gave way, and would not hold. We are sure the new rods furnished by the Leahy Mfg. Co. are superior. The new rods can be adjusted by a kind of leverage, and have no threads to wear out or get out of fix.

We have just to-day, Sept. 14th, received a second lot of imported Carniolan queens in perfect order; not a single dead bee in any of the cages. This gives us a nice little apiary of all imported Carniolan queens. We also have nice yards each, of imported Italians, Cyprians and Holylands. We are now preparing a fine lot of tested queens for late fall and early spring orders. If you want as fine queens as ever occupied a hive, try some of our new strains.

Again we ask that if any of our readers and friends desire to make an exhibit of bees or bee supplies at the San Antonio Fair they will please let us know soon, that we may speak for free space for you. October 30 & 31st have been allotted to bee-keepers, or as agricultural days, and as bees are a branch of agriculture, we will use

those days to meet as bee-keepers. Bring along your papers and read upon any subject pertaining to apiculture. Please let us know who will be there.

We are contemplating a move nearer the railroads, and have bought a location in Beeville for our factory, which we will in the next three months rebuild anew, much larger, and put in more machinery. This is the first season since we started that orders have kept right along after the honey season had closed. And we must now build larger, secure more room. and arrange to take care of all the trade. We will not move the machinery till the last thing, and when the new factory building is completed we will rush the machinery right in and no orders will be delayed but a few days at most.

Willie has returned home from the west, where he has been selling and shipping honey for the past two months. He sold out his apiary at Derby while there, and has no more bees at that place. He says that in and around Derby, on the Frio River, is an ideal location for bees. He is well pleased with the returns from his apiary while there. He speaks very highly of the people in that section of the country. He says that Mr. Bennett (the man who owns the land he had his apiary on) and family are one of the best and most accommodating families he ever met. He also sold our bees that were near Cotulla while there.

COULD NOT MISS THE WINE.

After the convention drew to a close we sat up until about three o'clock, then boarded the train, in company with Judge Terral, for his residence, arriving there at about half past three in the morning. We then took a quiet nap, awoke at about 5 o'clock, partook of some good sweet wine, ate breakfast and followed the Judge to the orchard and vineyard, where he gathered us a basket of fine grapes and fruits of different kinds. We then hastily made ready for the south bound train, which arrived at half past nine, but as we were about to take hold of our grip the Judge slipped a bottle of fine sweet wine into it for the folks at home. We then pulled out for the depot in a buggy and reached there in time to get our ticket ready. We boarded the train for Beeville, arriving there at 6 o'clock the same evening. We soon made our way home and after telling all the folks howdy we hit the office and the typewriter heavy till about 10 that night, even if we had sat up the greater part of the night before.

### Fifty Per Cent. Loss, And No Surplus.

Kind Friends:—As I have not sent in any report for 1899, will now do so. I lost 50 per cent. of my bees in February last by the continued cold weather and spring dwindling. I have built them up again to 25 colonies. April and May were good for building up bees. June, July and August, were too dry. Had to feed them to keep them from starving. September flow is from buckwheat and golden rod, which is in bloom now. think they will get enough for winter stores. We will get no surplus again this year. We have had two bad years in this section. THE QUEEN comes to see me every month without fail. A very welcome visitor is THE SOUTH-LAND QUEEN. Long may she live is the wish of F. McBRIDE, McGuffey, Ohio, September 11th, 1899.

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Our market has dropped off some on bees-wax.

Some new trade in Comb Honey. We quote our market as follows:—

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Florida White, per  $\mathfrak{b}$ ......7 to  $7\frac{1}{4}$  cts.

"Light Amber, .....6 to  $6\frac{1}{2}$  "

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Address,

# Miss Leah Atchley, Beeville, Texas.

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Holy —-vour- Golden Land choice. Italian

E. R. Jones, Milano, Texas.

### Please mention "The Queen."

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Special Fall Offer. Large, yellow, 3 banded Italian queens. Tested, 80 cts. Untested, 60-cts. Satisfaction guaranteed.

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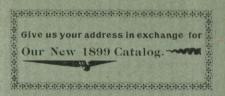
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