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## **The Nebraska bee-keeper. Vol 5, No. 7 July, 1894**

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# THE NEBRASKA BEE-KEEPER

YORK, NEB.

JULY, 1894.





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# THE NEBRASKA BEE-KEEPER.

Vol. 5,

JULY, 1894.

No. 7.

## Three Banded Bees.

BY THEODORE BENDER.

**W**E have been watching the habits of many of the so-called three-banded or Italian bees, and notice that there is a great difference in the temper. The majority of them are gentle, but often-times we find them cross, with the same disposition that hybreds have, and upon careful examination it will be noticed that these cross ones are more or less unevenly marked, and of late, we have been discarding all such hybreds.

These same bees, when filled with honey, all show three yellow bands, which is considered as the test of purity by many, but we think it is a long way from being a satisfactory test. Some of them will stand upon the alighting-board with the same restlessness and upon opening the hive they do not hang firm to their combs; when the combs are first lifted out of the hive they run and stampede and before the operator is through with the colony there will be one or more of them follow him from hive to hive or linger about the apiary until they sting someone.

We find a little of the same trait with the five banded bees, that show from

three to five bands, the gentlest of all, being those that are the most evenly marked. The evenly marked, three banded, are gentle, that is those that are bred from mothers which produce three banded workers, but we have seen queens that produced three banded workers that were bred from five banded stock, and a good many of them produced bees that are far from being gentle. We believe that queens that are sold as "tested" should be two months old unless they are evenly marked, this will give time to find out the temper of the bees, etc. Many queens are sent out by breeders as "tested" and produce only hybreds, they being shipped as soon as the first bees hatched, then the purchaser wonders why his Italians are cross and otherwise not what they should be, probably not as good or no better than the queen he removed. He tests them on glass, they show three yellow bands, which is about the only test that is taught in the bee journals and books; therefore the only one he knows and quits buying Italians.

Up to date there has not been much honey, but basswood was never fuller than now and we may have a good crop yet.

*Canton, Ohio, July 2.*



## Delayed Notes From Maple Apiary.

BY MRS. A. L. HALLENBECK.

**S**UMMER is with us once more! Again the song of the bird and the hum of the bee, laden with its sweet burden, may be heard. The hills, valleys and plains have exchanged their soiled white garments, which winter left them, for the soft, restful robes of green. Everything speaks of life! The first faint streaks of morning light, that arouses the workers in the hive and makes them hurry forth to the fields, awaken life; the warm, noonday sun makes the pulses of each growing thing to throb with new life, and when, after the long day, so full of living, moving things, has drawn to a close, the sleepy twitter of the birdlings and the contented hum at the hive, tells of the same life.

The bee keeper must be alive now or his whole seasons' labor will be in vain. What kind of a farmer would he be, that would plant his fields and neglect to care for them, or what kind of a cook would the woman be, who would prepare everything for the dinner, and then neglect to cook it? So we must watch now with the greatest care that nothing be neglected. If honey is coming in, room must be furnished or we will not get it.

The swarming problem must receive strict attention, whether we divide our bees or let them swarm naturally; no matter what devices we may use to prevent or hold swarming in check, now is the time it must be attended to. Hives for the swarms to be placed in when they come must be ready, or make trouble and delay. Then when the sections are filled with honey, it must be taken off and carefully secured from robbers, dust and moths, if we would have it in marketable shape. I saw in the market the other day some samples of California honey, and while

the honey itself was no richer than we have here at home, the California producer understood how to put it up in marketable shape. It was not left on the hive until travel stained and the sections smeared with bee glue, that is apt to leave a stain even if well scraped off. And so while we may have plenty to do to care for our bees, it will pay us to look well to these little things that fill so large a place in securing success, and be alive, alive to learn all we can and take advantage of all we know in this our favorite work.

*Millard, Neb.*

## Scientific Queen Rearing Again.

BY CHAS. WHITE.

Bro. Tyrell, I arise on a point of order, you are off your question; you started out on nature's way of queen rearing, (see NEBRASKA BEE-KEEPER, Vol. 5, No. 4,) and in two months you have come out more scientifically than any of us. What ail's you anyway?

You talk of the swarming impulse. Say, Bro. Tyrell, will your bees get the swarming fever just when you wish, without any of your care or aid? If so, let me know, I want some of them as it takes lots of care to make the ones I have work up to the boom of swarming, especially as dry as it has been the last two seasons. The work it takes I term artificially and I will admit that it would be nearer nature's way if I had taken a spray pump and sprinkled the syrup on the weeds and plants so the bees could have gathered it, but you—now Bro. Tyrell, I don't like like nature's ways when working with bees.

We surely have nothing to quarrel over, since you come out and say you are a scientific queen breeder and use artificial means to produce fine queens; all the difference between us is our methods, while you prefer Alley's method I prefer Doolittle's method. I



offered in my former article to leave it to my customers to speak for my queens, now I will go a little farther and make you this proposition: I will send the address of six of my customers that live in six different states, or more, if you wish for testimony of my queens, and you to do the same by yours, no testimony to be taken closer than fifty miles of our apiaries. The addresses to be sent to the Editor of the N. B. K., and he to make the requests, and the replies to go to E. Whitcomb, President of the State Bee-Keepers Association, to be read at the next meeting at the State Fair '94. It would be interesting to others if not to us. Should you prefer, these testimonies can be published in the N. B. K. just as they are received, no selections to be made.

Now, Bro. Tyrell, you have a sure thing if the bar queens are as poor as you say they are, and if there is any other test of bees or queens, name it and I am with you, for I contend the method I follow beats any of nature's ways and is up to the best scientific methods and as long as you claim to be a scientific queen breeder, what is left for you?

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#### Getting The Most Surplus Honey.

BY JOS. E. POND.

*From American Bee Journal.*

**H**OW can we get the most surplus in a given season? The query is simple, and easily answered, if one takes into consideration the fact that answers must not be applied locally, but generally. Localities vary in their conditions as do seasons, and we must apply our information to the location and the climate in which we keep our bees.

Generally speaking, however, the rule is strict, that we must have forager bees, and plenty of them, at and during

the nectar-yielding season. To determine this, we must know the flora of our locality; for knowing this, we shall know how to get ready for our honey crop.

We will start, then, with the fact that it is practically 21 days from the egg to the bee emerging from the cell. Early in the season we must give these young bees 15 days or so, ere they become foragers; but during this time they are not idle, by any means; they do the nursing and the home-work until they become able to forage advantageously.

With the above factors, and the added factor, that if the queen "is any good," brood-rearing is constantly going forward, the problem is easily solved, theoretically. Experience will teach us the rest, and if we follow her teachings as we ought, we shall have no trouble in getting our honey crop, if there is any nectar to gather.

To sum up, the rule is this: Know where there is nectar to be gathered, and have your foragers, and plenty of them, to go for it. To be sure, it requires common-sense, diligence and knowledge, to bring about the required result. But so it does to be successful in any pursuit in life; and be sure of one thing, don't ask "A," who lives in "Alaska," when nectar is ready to be gathered in his locality, and apply the answer to your own surroundings; but study your own field in those respects, and work your own bees in accordance with the knowledge thus gained. Thus shall your hives be stored with honey, and your bees wax fat and vigorous.

—North Attleborro, Mass.

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#### A Large Honey Flow.

J. B. Case, of Port Orange, Florida, under date of July 11th, writes: "We have had a good honey season here; six tons from fifty colonies, and our last flow may run three weeks yet; the best I know of in the State. It has been very wet weather the past three weeks or we might have done better."



## Stimulative Feeding of Bees.

BY C. E. MEAD.

*From American Bee Journal.*

I have tried for the past three seasons, and it has been a positive loss. It excites the bees, and they fly out in our changeable weather, and get chilled and never get back. I fed in 1892 some extra strong colonies that I feared were short of stores, and I could not unpack them as the season was cold. Smaller colonies with plenty of honey beat them badly.

In 1893 I fed to prevent starving, as we had cold, rainy northeast winds from May 10th to July 4th. My bees were no stronger July 4th than May 10th, with no field bees, and not more than two pounds of honey to the hive. They did not increase in weight until July 16th, as all of the old bees were caught in rains and killed.

This year I fed two colonies that I felt a little uneasy about, and as we have had changeable weather since, they are weaker in bees and honey than they were when I fed them. The colonies that were not fed, and are strong in honey, are the best. I have only unpacked a few of my bees so as to clip the queen's wings;  $\frac{1}{2}$  have queen-cells started, and some are capped over. Four nuclei are even stronger than the full colonies were last year. My experience runs thus:

Have from 30 to 40 pounds of honey in the hives on Sept. 30th; if not, feed. Give full-sized entrance, no upward ventilation; pack them as warmly as you can on the summer stands, contract the entrance in April so as to make them uncomfortably warm, and do not feed them unless to prevent starvation. Let them alone till you put on the surplus receptacles.

—Chicago, Ill., May 26.

Sixty days more before the State

Fair and the annual meeting of our State Bee Keepers' Convention. Are you getting ready for both? Our exhibit should be better than ever before. We can't afford to go backward in the least. We are making better goods than ever before, and we are also learning how to put our honey up in more attractive shape and style. Our bees are being bred a little nicer each year. Then why should we not make a better exhibit each year? Then in connection will be held the most instructive bee convention ever held in the state. A program is being fitted up which will bring out the *practical* side of the various questions, by men who practice what they teach, and the plain everyday workings of the apiary will be discussed so that the beginner may learn the best methods, without very much trouble or expense. Try to attend these meetings.

If our bees store us any surplus honey this year, it necessarily must be done within the next seventy days. The early season being dry over the greater portion of the state there is a general shortage for this season; but with the rains of June and first part of July, vegetation has made a wonderful growth and present indications are for a bountiful honey harvest during August as heartsease, our main honey plant is everywhere abundant. From all appearances, nothing except a long continued drouth will cut it short, and if a good crop is secured



it will show better than ever before the wisdom of caring well for the bees when nothing is coming in.

#### Who Shall Produce The Honey?

At an Institute meeting not long since, a gentleman seemingly well read, contended that the bees should all be kept and the honey produced by a specialist in that line, stating that the trouble of caring for bees was greater than the average or common farmer could and would take to secure the little honey needed by the family, and that the farmer could raise corn and pork and buy honey better than to produce it.

This class of men are much larger than many at first imagine. They are to be found in every neighborhood. Some have come to this conclusion from sheer laziness, being too indolent to do more than is absolutely necessary to eke out a bare living, never having upon their tables more than the commonest bill of fare.

Another class of these men are those who must be doing a big business. Their teams must be in the field plowing corn at six o'clock in the morning, dragging and shoving all the day long, to raise 15ct. corn, to feed to pigs to produce 4ct. pork, to be used as a staple article of diet the year through.

These are some of the "far sighted" farmers. They can see a scurvy pig, a scrawny team and a drowsy hired man, much farther than they can the little honey bee, and then too, the neighbors can see 80 acres of fine corn much better than so many hives of bees. He is doing a big business, but overlooking a saving greater than his entire crop, oftentimes.

Now we do not advocate or think that all men should engage in bee culture. All will not like the business; neither are all gratified if they did like

it. Neither can all farmers make a success raising corn. Some do not know how, others will never learn.

Bee keeping has its drawbacks as any other business. We have poor seasons to contend with, so does the corn and wheat raiser; a swarm of bees goes to the woods, and a thief steals a horse; a swarm of bees die of foul brood, and cholera empties the hog yard; a queen dies, leaving the hive to become depopulated, and the cow dies just when she is at her best. The bee keeper has no more trouble and losses to contend with than do men in other avocations, and the bees never go out on a strike.

Whenever I hear a man talking in the manner before indicated at the beginning of this article, I ask his family if I can, how much honey they have to use on their table during the year, and almost the universal reply is "none," and "never as a regular article of diet." Now the same class of men would be the same in regard to butter or cheese, fruit or vegetables; they would never be seen on the family table unless they are raised on the place.

So far as the markets are concerned, we would be glad to see the production of honey all in the hands of specialists, then you would never see such musses as are now sometimes put on the market, but all would be put up in nice attractive shape and bring a good price too. We well know that in this case, the masses would never taste honey, even as a luxury. We would like to see every family raise their own honey and learn to eat it as a staple article of food.

We do not expect to live long enough to see all men producers, but if those living on farms and commodious town lots, should all produce and use in their families, from three to five pounds of honey each week, one half the doctors of this land would be compelled to go to producing something besides bills or starve to death. A more healthful



food is not produced.

A more intelligent class of children, with healthy bodies and clearer brains would grow up, who would do their own thinking, and third-rate politicians and one-horse lawyers would find that "their occupation was gone," and either work or starvation be their lot.

As food, honey sweetens the temper and less quarrels and less police.

Without joking, we say, that the honey-eaters are among our best citizens, refined, educated.

We say, every one fitted by habits and disposition, should keep bees.

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### A Killing Hot Wave.

BY MRS. ATCHLEY.

*From Gleanings.*

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Now I have something sad to report to you. We have lost nearly all of our nuclei, and came very near losing our lives. It turned so hot last Monday, (July 2nd,) about 11 o'clock, that water came very near the boiling-point in the shade. Our bees were cooked, just as if the hives had been on fire. All the strong colonies were uninjured; but the largest part of our nuclei were badly damaged or killed outright. Shade made no difference. The more the wind blew, the hotter it was. The thermometer registered 114° in the coolest place about the house. Chairs and all the furniture, and, in fact, everything, would burn to touch it. From noon until midnight we had to keep the hose running, spraying the house, beds and furniture, and constantly giving water to the children and family, to keep them suffocation. There was no place to seek refuge from the heat. We did not know the extent of damage to our bees till all out-yards had been visited. The bees were burned, and as brittle as could be; the honey boiled, and the combs melted. The wax and honey, with the bees, were on the bottom-

boards. This, I know, seems fishy; but it is all true. See this clipping from the *Beeville Bee*:

"Monday was, perhaps, the hottest day Texas has experienced—at least for several decades, and Beeville was, without a doubt, the hottest place in Texas that day. In many places in different parts of the State the thermometer went up to and a little above 100; but in Beville, about three o'clock, it registered from 110 to 115. Old settlers say it beat anything they ever experienced in their lives. The wind was from the southwest in the morning, but gradually varied to the north, and by noon it was blowing directly from that point of the compass. The intensity of the heat began to increase very rapidly then, and between three and four o'clock it seemed as if the whole sphere would ignite from spontaneous combustion. Water in the shade would almost blister one's hand, and everything touched seemed as though it had been near a furnace. The gentle zephyrs were apparently turned into flames from that region where they say the inhabitants are never troubled with the laborious task of shoveling snow. Faces were blistered, and it appeared as though the green foliage of the trees would be badly scorched to its autumn color. It was after midnight before the atmosphere cooled enough to be more than barely preceptible. By morning, however, the wind was coming from the southeast; and while Tuesday was pretty warm, it was nothing to compare with Monday, which everybody agrees in saying was the hottest day in their experience."

We shall try to use our full colonies to start up our nuclei again as soon as possible. We have about 100 untested queens left, out of the whole of three large yards, that we hope to keep our customers supplied with till we get

*Continued on page 112.*



↔The \* Nebraska \* Bee-Keeper↔

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THE NORTH AMERICAN BEE-KEEPERS' ASSOCIATION.

*The Quarter Centennial Meeting* of this Society will be held at St. Joseph, Mo., Oct. 16th, 17th, and 18th, 1894.

It is the first convention of the Society beyond the western bank of the Mississippi, and large delegations from the great West will be present. We hope the East, North and South will gather with them.

FRANK BENTON, Sec.

U. S. Department of Agriculture.

Washington, D. C.

ST. JOSEPH, Mo., July 4th, 1894.

Pub. *Nebraska Bee-Keeper*.

Please say that the North American

Bee-Keepers' Association will hold its next meeting in St. Joseph, Mo., on Oct. 16-18. I would be very glad if those who expect to attend would send me a card at once, as this will aid me greatly in getting reduced rates from the R. R. Co's.

We hope to make this a large and very interesting meeting, and I am depending on the bee keepers of your state to help us out greatly in this.

Fraternally,

EMERSON T. ABBOTT, Pres.

The bee keepers of Nebraska should avail themselves of the opportunity of attending the next session of the North American Bee-Keepers' Association, as it will be held so close to us that the expenses cannot be very heavy and the instruction will amply repay all outlay. Let us make this one of our holidays this season and go to St. Joseph in one or more "car load lots." We are not dead, only dozing a little this dry year, so stir up and let us know who will go and see if we cannot have a car of our own from Lincoln. We will publish rates as soon as we get them.

The Nemaha Co. Bee-Keepers' Association have elected B. Fredenburg as President instead of A. C. Leaper. The Association has woke up and gone to work anew. At the last meeting they decided to make a County display at the State Fair this fall. Mr. Fredenburg was appointed as superintendent to take charge of the display and Allsbaugh, Dovel and Gilbert as a committee to gather up the display of honey, bees and other things, or in other words, to do the work to make a good display. Look out for old Nemaha Co. this fall, she is going to show the balance of the counties something that they never saw.

See to it that every one who has bees invests 50cts for our paper one year.



The Chadron, (Neb.) people seem to be going backward into a state of semi-barbarism. The days have passed here in Nebraska, when it is necessary to ride 100 miles, using whip and spur, to make heroes for Ned Buntline's cheap literature, or to escape the Indian, who is after scalps, and consequently it is cruelty which should be punished, to ride horses until they drop dead, to give the Chadron fraternity notoriety of a doubtful character. Surely, Geo. T. Angel, might find material here for cases for conviction under the laws against cruelty to animals.

The meetings of the York Co., Bee Keepers' Association are increasing in interest and attendance. A meeting each month, with 30 to 60 present; what is the matter with other counties in the state organizing? It was up-hill work at first, and for two years we could hardly get enough to say "meeting."

The Annual Report from the Ag. Ex. Station of the University of Minnesota for 1893 reaches us, and is an interesting work. About 70 pages are devoted to Entomology, and is especially instructive. Grasses, fruits, grains, etc., each have an appropriate share, and it is interesting to know what our neighbors are doing. Glad to get such works.

We never before saw a paper that admitted that Texas was loaded, but that Kansas and Nebraska were the only places where the hot winds ever did any damage, but we always suspected that it was only their breath from Texas.

There can be no class of people on earth so ready to say "don't

know" as the bee keeper, and the longer we live, like the dutchman, "the more we find somethings out." We didn't know it all before.

Have you got a Premium List of the State Fair yet? If not, send to Robt. W. Furnas, Brownville, for one. Study its pages and get something ready for the fair.

A jolly class of people to visit with, are the members at a bee Convention. They eat honey and keep sweet.

Don't you miss the next State Convention of bee keepers. Remember the time and place; at Lincoln, State Fair week.

Vol. 1, No. 1, of *Our Illustrated Press* of New York, is just received. As its name indicates it is illustrations instead of so much printing. Well, that is right, pictures can be read by all whether they know letters or not. Success to you.

There is no office higher than that of youth, for there is nothing on earth so precious as the mind, soul and character of the child. No office should be regarded with greater respect. The first minds in the community should be encouraged to assume it.—CHANNING.

#### A Killing Hot Wave.

*Continued from page 110.*

more raised. If the next day had been as hot, I do not think we should have any bees left; and probably stock and people would have died, as people who did not have water facilities to hold the temperature down had their faces blistered.

—Beeville, Texas, July 9.

## Hither and Yon, Continued.

BY W. E. S.

AT 9 o'clock, on the morning of the 19th of last April, I found myself in the city of Memphis, a stranger in a strange place indeed was I, and with only two hours for sight-seeing before I must leave, I endeavored to make the most of my opportunity and see all I could.

Being in the southern part of the city, I took one of the electric cars running on Main Street as the best and most speedy means of transportation; after going about a mile through coal, lumber and railroad yards, we came to the great cotton ware-houses which cover several blocks of ground. These buildings are low, being only about twenty feet high, with a flat roof and having no windows, light coming in through an opening or alley which runs through the center, while the exterior is entirely coated with iron plating to prevent fire. Passing on we came to the mammoth wholesale houses and storage rooms, then to the retail business portion of the city, which does not differ much from other large cities, yet it seemed as if there was scarcely room for one more; the street itself is very wide, paved and kept clean, and for nearly a half-mile it was simply a moving mass of humanity. After passing the business portion we rode for about ten miles through the residence portion, which aside from the fine buildings is a veritable flower garden and orchard, and early in the season as it was, these

gardens and yards were filled with flowers all in blossom. Returning on the same car we saw several of the old land-marks of the city and passed many notable places, among these the oldest church, the United States Custom House, the open canal, etc., and found ourself back to our starting point, having rode about fifteen miles for 10cts. and seeing more in general than we could have done in all day on foot. Right here I will say that from personal observations there is a great difference as to the load some of these Memphis darkies will take, for instance, we saw one have on seven or eight bales of cotton and drawn by one mule, (this being the average team with them) and as a bale of cotton weighs 500 lbs. it seemed to us as if it was enough; another had two chickens tied on to his trucks; another had baled hay, piled so high up above the trucks that it had to be tied in order to keep it on. Memphis itself, is built on the bluffs, which at this point of the Mississippi are about 100 feet high, and the entire city is by this means well drained. It is kept clean, and ever since the scourge of yellow fever a few years ago, no filth of any kind is allowed to accumulate. Speaking of the Custom House; it is a mammoth, white stone building, situated on the highest ground overlooking the city and the river for miles above and below; the ground in front of it gradually slopes down until the wharf is reached where it is level



and only a few feet above the waters-edge.

#### WEST OF MEMPHIS.

At 11 o'clock we were started for Kansas City, our next stopping point, going over the Kansas City and Birmingham R. R., one of the main lines of the south and south-east. In leaving Memphis, the train went up grade for about half-a-mile to reach the entrance of the bridge, which has no approach at the east end, the bluff being perpendicular. The train in going into the bridge, (I say into, from the fact that the bridge is very wide and from 50 to 60 feet above the car tracks,) goes very slow, and is perhaps ten minutes in crossing. The view afforded the passengers was a grand sight, being more than a hundred feet above the water; the steamboats on the river looked very small, while cotton bales and loaded wagons seemed like toys. There are no bluffs on the west side of the river and the approach at the end of the bridge is several miles long; this approach is built of stone and piling, while the bridge itself is entirely of steel, resting on four stone abutments; some of the steel braces are two feet wide and fifty feet long with a flange at each edge.

For about fifty or sixty miles the land is flat and sometimes overflows occur; the land is covered with timber and many saw-mills are located in this region, while many little towns are found along the railroad. Fruit, cotton and corn are the main crops that are

raised; at this time the orchards were in bloom and corn just being planted. It may be well to state the manner of planting corn in this particular section of country. The ground is plowed with two horses and walking plow, the same as here in the north, then it is harrowed until the surface is fine and level, some of these fields which we saw while there, having two and three hundred acres were level as a floor with not a stick or stone on them; the ground is marked out three feet or more each way with a small plow and one horse; the corn is then dropped by hand and covered with the plow and one horse, and I was told that the same plow was all they used in cultivating the crop.

At Jonesboro, Ark., the land becomes broken and stony, a little higher than the bottom lands east, yet not so hilly as to interfere with farming and fruit growing. At Hoxie, Ark., the land is a little higher in altitude and right at the town it is very level, and many fine farms and orchards are to be seen. Northern people are settling in this section of Arkansas and are making quite a specialty of fruit. Timber is as yet very abundant thus affording building material at a very low cost. In the towns the churches and school-houses could be found, and as to the negroes, I did not see half as many, in proportion to their population, as I did east of the Mississippi river.

#### ALONG SPRING RIVER.

At Black Rock, Ark., we crossed a very swift river about three or four hundred feet in width and the water clear enough to see the fish, of which this river is noted for, in large quantities. We were now in foot-hills of the Ozark mountains, and the train followed or wound itself in and around these mountain boulders in the attempt to follow the river valley, thus affording us an excellent view of the river and the picturesque scenery of the valley. The valley in places is miles in width but in others it is only the width of the river; sometimes the curves around the bend in the river were so short that by looking back we could see the interior of the third and fourth cars, with the water on one side and the mountains on the other. Many fine towns are all along this valley, while some of the best farms and orchards found anywhere are found here.

The river itself is one of, if not the largest natural water-powers to be found; the river bed is of such a formation that the water passes over a continuous series of falls varying from a few inches to several feet deep the entire length of the river. These water-falls are so perfect that they look like regular masonry dams built by a skillful architect, but they are the result of nature's great architect; some of them are only a few yards apart and no-where did we see a whole mile without a series of falls in it. The river is not effected by outside elements; rains do not increase the

size of it, drouth does not diminish it, neither does the cold weather freeze it. The water is a little warm and remains the same temperature, varying but little through the winter; it is said that in the coldest weather large numbers of deer and other wild game may here be found, as they come here to get warmer shelter. Previous to this time we had heard much regarding the mammoth spring which was the source of the river and were anxious to visit the place. The ascent up the mountains was so gradual and so many things to see that we did not notice how fast we were nearing the point of interest until the conductor called out "Mammoth Springs." On getting out at the depot we saw before us the mammoth springs. They are surrounded by the mountains with the town and springs in the center of what seems more in shape like a great wash-bowl than anything else we could think of. The springs are in the center of a bottomless lake covering about eighty acres, and where the water boils up out of the earth the lake's surface is four or five feet higher than at the edge. The volume of water coming from the springs is so large that it forms the river which is said to be 300 feet in width as it leaves the lake.

Leaving here for Thayer, Mo., which is only a little above the springs, we began to notice a difference; the timber not quite as abundant, and the soil a little more stony, but orchards seemed to be



simply "in it" they looked so fine. At this place the large engines are put on to make the run to Springfield, the top of the Ozark mountains; these engines seem to be as large as two of the engines found on the level roads here in the west.

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