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JULY 1891.



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VOL. 1.

UNIONVILLE, MO., JULY, 1891.

NO. 5.

Communications.

UNITING SWARMS.

MR. EDITOR:-With your permit I will try and tell how I have managed my bees for several years to prevent increase and to get sections finished after the first swarm has left them. I take a second swarm from another hive as soon as I can get it and proceed to where the first swarm is out, and smoke them just enough to start them in good, then I dump down the swarm that I have in front of hive and they will follow right in and in a day or two will go to work in sections. By this method I keep my bees from increasing more than I want them, and keep my sections well worked up, and also have good strong colonies. I think this method is better than hunting out queen cells, and less trouble, as I never have a colony worked this way that came out or wanted to swarm any more that year. I would like to have others try it and report how it worked for them.

This is the poorest year here I have seen so far; the bees appear to be in good condition but have

not made any surplus honey as yet, and have done but very little swarming. White clover is coming out nicely and am in hopes to get a fair return, but the honey crop cannot be large here this year as it is getting too late in the season.

If this does not find its way to the waste basket may try my hand again. Yours,

W. S. Bellows.

Ladora, June 23, 1891.

ARTIFICIAL PASTURAGE FOR BEES.

The subject of Artificial Pasturage for Bees has been before the people for several years and still there is yet something to learn. I want to give the readers of the BEE-KEEPER my views on the subject.

I have been experimenting with mustard, buckwheat, clover and turnips. I find turnips at the head in North Texas; buckwheat next. It is unanimously agreed that to get bees strong, early, is the most essential of early spring work, I find that nothing is ahead of turnips. I would sow in August or September on some good ground that would raise good cotton, if I had many bees, I would sow two or

three acres, they will bloom from the 25th of March until April 15th or 20th. Your seed will be ripe by May 15th; cut them off, plant the ground in cotton; you will very likely make a good crop of cotton. The beauty of the turnips is, turnips and salad for the family, fall, winter and spring, and not one family in Texas but what likes them. My turnips were good and sweet all winter and until they began to run up for seed. The bees were so thick it was like going into a swarm to go in the patch of tur-Bees will soon fill their hives nips. with young brood, if they have any old honey when turnips bloom.

Now about buckwheat. I raised some buckwheat last year and that I sowed this year the 12th of April, and cut the 12th of June and saved 19 bushels per acre. I will sow the same land the last of the coming August, which I can gather before frost, (two crops from the same ground.) If we can get \$1.00 per bushel it would be a paying crop, as it furnishes honey until twelve o'clock of each day and continues in bloom about three weeks.

Mr. Editor, as you requested all to say something about their bees, condition, etc., will say I have 61 stands at the present writing, 11 of which are young swarms. I keep my bees from swarming as much as possible. I have taken 340 pounds of honey, will take a big lot off in a few days; I think I will get 2500 pounds this season. It is selling at 10 and 12 cents.

Success to THE BEE-KEEPER. Elmont, Texas. J. F. TEEL.

SHADE FOR BEE HIVES.

BY M. H. DEWITT.

We should provide a shade for our bees of some kind. Most beekeepers shade their hives with a wide board, or some plant grape vines or something useful for fruit. Mr. A. I. Root, I believe, plants a grape vine on the sunny side of his hives and trains them on a trellis. making them both useful for shade and fruit. I intend this season to locate my apiary in a sarvice orchard, as the sarvices will be useful for both fruit and shade. I think we should provide a shade of some kind during the hot summer months for our bees.

HOW TO FORM NUCLEUS COLONIES.

To form nucleus colonies we must prepare as many hives as we have queen cells and stock with bees. We can take the bees from any hive in the apiary, or from different hives; go to any good, strong colony and lift out two or three frames of brood with adhearing bees and put them in the hive prepared for them. and so continue until the hives are all stocked with bees. First, be sure you have not taken any of the old queens with the frames of brood, or they will destroy the queen cell you give them. I always hunt up the queen and set the frame I find her on to one side, and by that way I am sure not to take the queen along with the frames of brood to my new hive. Having your hives all stocked with bees, you are now to give each one a queen cell. I think it is best to form these nucleus colo-

out the queen cells, as the bees will by this time become aware of their queenless condition, and I think will more readily accept queen The next thing you will cells. want to know how to insert queen I will now give you my plan cells. of inserting them. I used to practice the plan of cutting a hole in the comb and fitting the cell in place: but of late I usually place the cell between two combs as near the center of the cluster as I can. unless it is a very strong nucleus or old colony, and the weather very warm and likely to remain so, then I am not so particular about putting the cell down in the cluster, but I just put it between the tops of the frames. Having queenless colonies into which you now propose to insert these cells, you approach a hive and remove the cover. With the smoker in the right hand put a few whiffs of smoke over the bees, while you proceed slowly with the other hand to lift up the enamelled sheet or quilt. When rolled about half way back, space the two ends of the two central combs not covered by the quilt, as far apart as you can conveniently. Having done this, place a cell between the fore finger and the middle finger, and insert it point downward between the two frames which have been spread a little at Push the cell down as the ends. near the center of the cluster as you can reach with the two fingers. Hold it in position; then with the other hand draw together the two ends which has been spread until best, as my ten frame hives have

nies the day before I intend to cut both ends hold the cell suspended; be careful not to crowd together to hard, otherwise you will crush the cell. Roll back the enamel sheet, put on the cover, and the operation is completed, and without the mutilation of the combs. There is one other way of giving a cell, and that is laving it on top of the brood nest between the frames. With nuclei. however, this would not do as well. and I should therefore recommend inserting cells in these as I first described. With strong colonies it does not matter so much either way.

Sunny Side, Garrett Co., Maryland.

[Bro. DeWitt, we make shade boards by taking two pieces 3 in. square by three feet long and cut common lath two feet long and nail to these pieces, making a board two by three feet. The cost of material is five cents per board. The hives should face east; the board should project on the east and west ends and on the south side of hive. These boards are light to handle, cheap, and we prefer them to vines. -ED.]

EIGHT VS. TEN FRAME HIVES FOR THE SOUTH.

Mrs. A.—I would like to ask you one question:

Which, in your experience, do you think is best for us Texas beekeepers, the eight or ten frame hive for comb honey? I mean to take one season with another.

I have both eight and ten frame hives in my yard now and for the season, I am satisfied the ten is finished up to date two crates, or 56 one lb. sections, while my eight frame hives have finished only two crates, or 48 one lb. sections. I would like for you to bring out a discussion on that subject in your department. J. D. GIVENS.

Lisbon, Texas.

[Bro. G.: Mrs. A.- has promised us to write on the above subject for our next issue. We would like to hear from some others who write from experience in the south.—ED.]

CRAZES.

New strains and new fangled notions in reference to bees seems to be the order of the day. Mention a way in which bees may be improved, and it will not be long before you will find somebody, advertising something, which they claim possesses wonderful merits.

There seems to be a disposition in the direction of a craze for bees that will winter. If memory serves us correctly, it was not many years ago that a certain gentleman in the states, advertised that he had wonderful hardy bees for sale that would winter in or out doors, in good or bad hives, under any and all circumstances. The following winter proved conclusively however, that such was not the case, and that a person to be convinced, had only to gaze upon his empty hives in the spring. Now we fancy there is a disposition on the part of some one, to make a boom for a season or two with a special kind of bee, and by the time the public learn that this new bee is a hollow mockery, they can jump off that have a superior race of bees and if

hobby onto a different one. We would suggest that, as a public safeguard and a guarantee of good faith that anyone having bees, which they claim to be superior to all others in any respect, should send a colony or two to Prof. Cook or some of the leading apiculturalists of the N. A. B. K. Association, appoint a committee to test their qualities, and if they are superior in the various points claimed, that they be either awarded a diploma and the right to charge so much a colonv, for a certain number of colonies. These to be distributed at the various convenient points throughout North America for breeding purposes, or that the party receive suitable government recompense. and give them to reliable queen breeders at special rates. The breeder in turn, to sell the queens at a price that will be within the reach of every bee keeper. Now, friends, we do not mean to say, that he who has succeeded in securing such a race should not be paid; far from it. Our experience in the breeding of bees, leads us to the firm conviction that bees cannot be bred properly and carefully, unless they are located in issolated localities. We have spent a great deal of money and time, in trying to raise superior races of bees, and he who can secure a fixed race in one. two or three years is deserving of a high position in bee-keeping circles, and will accomplish what our most experienced bee-keepers have failed in. We shall be pleased to hear from any bee-keeper who claims to

after correspondence we fancy there is something extra good about them we shall be pleased to purchase a colony or two and give a good price for them. We have known colonies of bees to winter in splendid condition for a great many years in the same hive, and a novice might have thought that they had some especially good qualities in this respect, but he would have been mistaken.

We recollect going to a place to purchase bees, which were in old box hives. The gentleman refused to sell one colony, on account of its superiority to all others. He expatiated on the number of years that colony had stood and said that it cast from one to three swarms every year, and that the swarms had issued sooner than others, and that it never was without honey, that the bees were good honey gatherers and in fact were everything that could be desired, and he put more value on that hive than he did on half a dozen others in the vard. He did not realize that the very claims he was making for that one hive of bees did more harm than good, for the swarm of bees that issued from that colony every year proved to winter no better, or gather more honey than ordinary bees. From his own statement there appeared to be nothing to recommend them beyond the good points of the one hive which he would not sell. We afterwards had the satisfaction of transferring that colony to a movable comb hive, for the gentleman in question and the secret was not hard to dis-

cover. The peculiar way in which the comb was built in the hive, enabled the bees to form a cluster in the center, and move out in any direction to get stores, and thus surrounded on every side and over head with combs filled with wellripened honey, they had everything necessary to success.

Such a condition of things could not fail to give the best results. We believe Mr. Corneil, of Lindsay. has adopted similar plan, with some of his colonies, and he considers it a step in the right direction. We have frequently had colonies do wonders, but never dreamed that because a colony had given good results one season or two, that we had secured a new race of bees, and that they would duplicate themselves in this respect for all time to come.

Now don't imagine, friends that we think bees cannot be improved; on the contrary, we are positive they can, but there is a way to go about it different from that usually adopted, if we wish to make a permanent success of it.—*Canadian Bee Journal*.

HONEY DEW FOR WINTERING

BY JAMES HEDDON.

MR. QUIGLEY:—I learn that there is much honey-dew being gathered at present in your state, and what has heretofore been written concerning it as a winter food for bees. There is no doubt but that many of your readers are solicitious concerning the welfare of their bee stock for the coming winter.

My experience, observation and

reading, relative to honey-dew and dew to subsist on the following wintering bees, compels me to repudiate an idea, at one time quite prevalent, that honey-dew, cider, and such stores are potent causes of winter losses. Many of your readers are aware that I imagine I know the cause of bee diarrhœa, the one great cause of our winter losses, and that it results from the consumption of pollen, eaten as bee-bread, or in the form of floating pollen in the honey. I wish I was as sure of many other problems connected with our pursuit as I am of the foregoing.

One fall in my home apiary, numbering about 150 colonies, gathered a large quantity of cider; in fact from examination, it seemed as the most of their stores were of apple juice, yet the bees all wintered exceptionally well. A few years ago there was a great gathering of honey-dew throughout this part of the state. My friend, Dr. Southard, of Kalamazoo, who had at the time something over a hundred colonies. found that his bees must depend mainly upon honey-dew for their winter supplies unless he emptied the hives and fed them other stores. The Dr. is a very able physician and consequently somewhat of a chemist, and not being able to understand just why his bees could not winter successfully upon dark colored, pungent honey-dew, as was supposed by many bee-keepers who had been eager to express their opinions, not based upon any real proof. He went to work with the extractor and fed up five colonies so they had nothing but clear honey- are about the same as yours.

winter. The result was, they wintered perfectly, showing no more signs of the old destructive malady than other colonies whose combs contained no honey-dew whatever. I think we may safely conclude that we have no reason whatever to fear any disastrous results from wintering our bees on stores from honey-dew. I know of no one who has reported to the contrary, who has given the matter even one fair and comprehensive test. All on that side of the question, so far as I know, have written wholly from supposition based upon imagination.

Dowagiac, Mich., June 30, 1891.

REPORTS.

BRO. QUIGLEY:-I fear it is too late for me to report the condition of my bees this month. Things look discouraging here. My seventy colonies are strong and in good condition but are gathering no honey. Thousands of acres are white with clover but it does not seem to yield much honey, and my bees, seemingly, "live from hand to mouth." It can not be that the pasture is overstocked, for others are down with the same complaint. Can anyone give a reason for the failure of white clover to yield honey? I would like to know if anyone is using queen restrictors, and if they are an improvement? I am, and will report for next issue. E. R. GARRETT.

Appleton City, Missouri.

Bro. Garrett, all reports sent in In

our own locality there has been but who imported Carniolan bees. He little clover honey stored, although there has been plenty of bloom. We know of no cause for failure of clover to secrete nector. Let us have reports of queen restrictors; would like to hear from Bro. G. H. Ashworth, and others.-ED.1

WHO IMPORTED THE FIRST CARNIOLANS.

BY C. J. ROBINSON.

In the A. B. K. for July is an article written by Henry Alley, who makes statements that the records show are not facts. He says: "Not since the advent of the Italians has there been such an excitement in the bee kingdom as the Golden Carniolans have created." I am not a little amused at reading Mr. Alley's statements. I was interested in the first successful importation of Italians--their advent in September, 1859, and I was conversant with the excitement then, and ever since, in the bee kingdom. Mr. Alley had not appeared on the scene of the bee kingdom so early as the advent of Italians into America. There was, indeed, excitement caused by the importation and dissimination of Italian bees However. I fail to learn of any excitement created by reason of Mr. Alley's advertisement, and gossips about Golden Yellow Carniolans. He is, so far as I know, the only person, save his friend Pratt, who advertise and boom Yellow Carniolans, while hundreds are still advertising the Italians

Another of his statements in said article is that he was the Adam

says: "In the year 1880 I ordered and received the first Carniolan bees imported into this country." Thus he states positively that he, H. Alley, imported Carniolans into this country prior to any other importation of said bees.

Let us investigate by examining the record and thus prove whether or not Mr. H. Alley is reliable. In a paper read before the Michigan State Bee-keepers Convention by A. J. King, under the title: "What I know about Carniolans." Editor mentioned, I quote verbatum from page 307, Bee-Keeper, May, 1884: "Our first importation of these bees was made in the Autumn of 1876. since which time we have made several importations both for our own apiary and for customers." June, in 1881, one year later than Mr. Alley claims to have imported Carniolan bees, the record shows his advertisements which read thus: "Queens and Bees, 1861, 20 years experience, 1881. Italian, Cyprian, Holy Land and Hungarian Queens for sale." Would he have omitted or failed to name Carniolans? And what about the Hungarian bees? Has there been any excitement ever created in the bee kingdom by any advent of the so-called Hungarian bees?

I am constrained to thus notice Mr. Alley's article because I feel it a duty to correct wrong statements put forth to deceive the laity. The article refered to is aimed at persons as much so as the two articles in the MISSOURI BEE-KEEPER of June. wrote one of the articles. The editor of the A. B. K. acuses both writers and the editor of being personal. The A. B. K. follows the example and seems to monopolize the personal by his editorial attack on the MISSOURI BEE-KEEPER.



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E. F. QUIGLEY, Editor.

Subscribe for THE MISSOURI BEE-KEEPER.

SUBSCRIPTIONS are coming in quite freely now.

THE Intermountain Horticulturist has been changed to a quarterly.

MISSING COPIES .- Should you fail to get the BEE-KEEPER by the 15th, notify us and we will mail you another.

POSTAGE STAMPS.-In sending us stamps please wrap them so they will not stick together, it will save us much trouble and loss.

DR. TINKER'S HONEY BOARD.-We made a few after the doctor's plan and think they will have less brace combs built on the under side than others.

HONEY BOARDS.—There has been considerable discussion on this subject in regard to which is best, one or two rows of perforations in the zinc. One row of holes in each strip is enough for passage ways, but this is not all to be considered. Bees want to store honey as near think of it! What a task it would the brood nest as possible. less the surplus cases are cut off swarming time.

from the main hive the better; two rows are certainly better than one, and we prefer them made as Dr. Tinker makes them.

HILLS SMOKER.—This is one of the best smokers we ever used. We think apiarists make no mistake when buying the Hill. The sale on this smoker with us is ahead of any other.

EVERYBODY BUSY.-Friends, you must make allowances for this issue of the BEE-KEEPER. We are very busy as well as all our correspondents. We promise you a better journal in the future.

PROSPECTS POOR.—From reports sent in so far, the season for white honey is about over and no surplus yet. Very little clover honey is being gathered in our own county. Reports from the south are more favorable.

ORDERS.—We have been behind on our queen orders all through June. There has been rainy weather and a good many queens were lost on their wedding flight. We are getting on nicely now and will soon have queens to go by return mail. We have also enlarged our apiary.

OUR SOUTHERN DEPARTMENT.-Owing to the rush of business, Mrs. Jennie Atchley could not get out copy for her department this month. She will be ready for our next issue. We understand Mrs. A. has about 200 colonies. Just The be to look after these during

Subscribe for THE MISSOURI BEE KEEPER. Only 50 cents per year.

HONEY DEW is being gathered all around us. We have not noticed any in our own hives yet. Probably Italians do not gather it so much as black bees do.

THICK top bar frames to be a success should have comb foundation guides instead of wood, as crooked combs will cause bur combs between them.

LITTLE SWARMING.---We have had but little swarming in our apiary, less than 25 per cent. Probably the reason is we have re-queened with young queens early. We are well pleased with this method of preventing swarming.

\$5,000 DAMAGES.—Bro. Alley notifies us that he has placed our June BEE-KEEPER in a lawyers hands to collect above damages. Keep cool, Bro. A., you had better put in your time in caring for those wonderful queens.

Golden Honey Queens.-Many letters come to us asking about this strain of bees. They are a combination of the best honey gathering strains bred in this country, from breeders who have been working from seven to twenty years in breeding up a strain of honey gatherers.

ADVANCED BEE CULTURE.---Its Methods and Management, by W. Z. Hutchinson, Flint, Michigan, is on our desk. It contains 96 pages, and is nicely printed with many illustrations. It begins with the care

whole ground until the honey is off the hive: clearly and conclusively touching upon all important points. Bro. H. has boiled down the three year's discussion in the review, giving us a valuable work for future reference. Price 50 cents. For sale at this office.

BEE ESCAPES.—The Porter has worked very well for us. Bro. Dibbun thinks it will clog up by bees in trying to get back in the supers. In taking off extracting cases one was left in honey house without being covered, and was forgotten until one rainy day when the bees were swarming in the house, we soon found when they were working. We put a porter escape and board upside down on this case and watched for half an hour, and but one bee ever got back. At night there was not a single bee in the case. They tried hard to get back. It will take about a dozen bees crowding against the springs to clog them up. We have taken off a few supers; the escapes were put on in the evening and all bees were out next morning and not a single cap over the cells was broken.

YELLOW CARNIOLANS.-The American Bee-Keeper says: "We have concluded that the Carniolan bee may be either gray or may show yellow markings and still be pure." Bro. Falconer, we believe A. J. Cook and L. Stachelhauser claims them to be a variation of the Black or German bee. The yellow Carniolan as sold in this country were of bees in winter and goes over the crossed with Italians. For proof

of this refer to Am. Api., page 112, for 1890. As to the yellow bees in Carniola, we are not prepared to say.

LATER: The American Bee-Keeper comes to hand with more concerning Carniolan bees, the originators of Yellow Carniolan bees fails to tell that his vellow bees are the result of two matings to Italian drones. Will say to our readers, we have no Carniolans for sale, although at the commencing of this season we had twenty-five colonies. We once had a Carniolan queen from "One Prominent" breeder, bought for a tested queen, that over half of the bees were vellow banded and they could beat any colony of hybrids I ever saw boiling out of their hive and stinging.

SELLING HONEY.-Many bee-keepers are looking to the time when they will have some surplus honey to sell. Many bee-keepers, especially beginners, sell their honey too soon, that is, before it is ripe, thus damaging their home market. Some bee-keepers, as soon as a few sections are sealed, rush them off to market. Honey, if removed from the hive as soon as sealed, should be stored in a warm room for some time before being put on the market. If the crop is large it should be packed in nice, clean shipping crates and glassed. Put only one kind in a case. Put a fair average next to the glass and have all the sections scraped clean. Large quantities of honey-dew is being gathered this season; be careful not to sell this for anything else. Although it may look nice when seal-

ed up in the comb. Work for a reputation for your goods and you will not want a trade mark or lack for customers.

THE American Bee-Keeper accuses us of being personal in our last issue, and they follow they same example in their next. We have no personal feeling against the breeders of these yellow bees. but there are many new beginners who want to get the best bees and are liable to be mislead. Let them know just what they are getting and they cannot blame the journals who are trying to instruct beginners. We have been through the mill and know what it is to pay out our hard earned cash for something that only brought disappointment. The evidence is getting stronger on our side all the time. We have repeatedly shown that Yellow Carniolans had Italian blood in them and furnished the proof of it, but the writers carefully avoided it. Some bee journals are either afraid of these boomers or don't want to lose their advertising patronage. We have given facts in this matter, if it pinches some one we can not help it. They have tried to scare us by threats of prosecution. We are working for the greatest good to the greatest number.

HOUSE APIARIES.—Bro. E. R. Root is experimenting with house apiaries. We shall be glad to hear of it being a success. We remember one built at Bloomfield, Iowa, our old home, that cost about \$300.00. The man there lost \$100 worth of bees by transfering them into it

and did not keep the balance of ler says in Gleanings, he would bees in it one season. This was quite a loss, as the house was not suitable for any other purpose. If a house apiary is a success by the use of bee escapes, it would be convenient for out apiaries.

QUEEN CAGES are receiving considerable attention lately. The day of a cage that requires two cents for postage, is past. We are using two styles of cages, the Modified Benton, $3\frac{1}{2}z1\frac{1}{4}x\frac{5}{8}$, and the Dixie Model, $1\frac{5}{8}x2\frac{1}{2}x\frac{3}{4}$; both mail for one cent. Our choice now is the Dixie. It has one hole 13 inches, while the Benton has three one inch holes.

WHERE DO YOU LIVE?-If our customers in ordering queens will tell us if they do not live near the post office, we will notify them ahead before shipping their queens. We cannot always ship as soon as expected owing to change of weather, and by so doing you will save yourselves much trouble. We aim to keep queens on our desk ready for shipment all the time but cannot always do so. By July 15th we will have one hundred young queens over the orders booked now.

Yellow Bees are receiving considerable attention. Probably because they are being boomed so much lately. W. J. Ellison writes to the Review as follows: "I have several colonies of five banded bees and if they don't do better another season they will have to take the next seat lower. I like their beautiful color and their queens take better every time than dark ones."

prefer nice looking bees if they did not gather quite so much honey. Sell your bees for just what they are and your customers will be satisfied. It is the booming of a thing to sell it, regardless of its value, that causes complaint.

NICE SECTIONS—We received a shipment of very nice sections from the Chicago Bee-Keeper's Supply Co., Topeka, Kansas, lately. Thev were of good color and well made. See their adv. in another column.

ARE you going to the fair? We shall be pleased to send every beekeeper who intends making a display at the fair this fall, a lot of sample copies of the MISSOURI BEE-We want you to help us KEEPER. extend our circulation. Special prices will be made to you.

HAVE a price or something to your advertisement, so that people may order what goods they want and not have to write for a catalogue during the busy season. Bro. Hutchinson, of the Review, we believe, first called attention to this. Every body should order their goods before the busy time, but they do not do it.

To ITALIANIZE. A County Bee-Keepers Association desires to know how to Italianize their hundred or more colonies. Not knowing how they are located, it would be hard to give any instructions that would fit their case. We should buy a tested queen and commence to rear queens at once, to -Bro. Ellison, we believe Dr. Mil- replace the old black queens. Three

days before your cells will hatch, kill the old queen in each colony; in two days more give each one a cell. "How to raise the cells?" see June MISSOURI BEE-KEEPER. Below we give some notes from Gleanings by G. M. Doolittle, relating to the same subject:

A correspondent writes: "I have five colonies of bees—three blacks and two Italians. Would it be well to give the Italians a card of drone comb and put drone-traps on the blacks when the young Italian queens are mating? or is there a better way?"

If the correspondent is desirous of having his queens purely mated, of course he must kill or control all drones from the undesirable colonies. The drones can be controlled by the traps; but in this case you must buy the traps, keep them on the colonies, and furnish the honey necessary to rear and feed the drones, all of which is an expense which would better be avoided. If you think you must raise the drones, and do not wish to buy traps, you can put a piece of perforated metal at the entrance of the "black hives," keeping it there till four o'clock, then remove and let the drones out; and while out replace and keep the most of them out for evening destruction. This would be about the only way with box hives, unless the trap was used. But for frame hives, much the best way would be to remove all the drone comb, or nearly so, from the black colonies, and replace it with worker comb, and thus you will save all the trouble and cost of pro-

ducing the drones, and you will rear fifty workers to every square inch, in place of thirty-two drones. these workers storing honey for you in place of eating it. In any event, you could not be sure of having your queens purely mated unless there were no black or hybred bees in the woods or any apiary for a distance of four or five miles from you in every direction, which is a state of affairs which does not usually exist in most parts of our country. But for honey production I doubt whether it would pay you to be too careful to have all of your queens purely mated, for a first cross (or what is more truly hybrids than the general mixture which are called hybrids) gives nearly if not quite as good results in honey as do pure bees of any race. If you were to send south for Italian queens for the three black colonies, and Italianize the blacks before any drones were reared in these hives, you would then have things about as you want them, and that, too, about as cheaply as by any plan 1 know In the above our corresponof. dent should find something to help him out of his dilemma, it seems to me.

WINTER PACKING-CASES FOR SUNSHADES.

Some of our friends are asking if the outside or winter packing case for hives will not answer for sunshades, and not interfere with the ordinary manipulation. Yes, they will answer well, and can be put together in half a minute, and the hives set into them, the rays of the sun are kept off, while the bees are are allowed to pass in and out the entrance with as much freedom as if no outside case were there. Some are wanting them for two and three story hives, but we would not advise such an outside case. Merely covering the brood chamber is all that is necessary, and the second and third stories or supers for honey may be set on top, and manipulated with as much comfort as if there was no outside case there. This prevents the bees from clustering out in hot weather; they go to the fields and gather instead. This will make a considerable difference in the vield of honey, perhaps enough to pay the cost of the case. On extremely hot days during the honey flow, if the bees have no such protection, they will cluster out, and lose perhaps half a day's work. Now if a colony will carry in ten pounds of honey in one day, and they only work half the time, it is easily seen that five pounds is lost. It is evident, then, that some protection is necessary, and the cases answer a double purpose-of protection from cold with packing, and protection from heat without packing, leaving an air space around the hive.-The Canadian Bee Journal.

SELF HIVERS.

The first swarm issued through my self hiver on June 1 and hived themselves in good shape. Since then more than a dozen swarms have hived themselves without a single failure. We have the hiver on some eighty hives at the Mill

Creek apiary, and they are working very satisfactorily. The apiary there is entirely unattended except such attention as I can give them by visiting it every three or four days. So far every thing is working nicely and anticipate no trouble. The self-hived swarms are usually rather small, as the new hive must of course be near the old one, and many bees will return to the parent stock. By my system of management I easily overcome this difficulty and secure fine large swarms, I consider it a grand success. Now don't all write to me for full particulars, as I have no time to write long personal letters. My time is so taken up with caring for two apiaries without help, besides trying a number of interesting experiments, queen raising, gardening, etc., that I have no time to answer such letters. In due time I will give a full discription of my hiver and plan of managing, as well as this season's experience, in these notes. I have no hivers for sale.

There ought to be considerable honey gathered during the first half of this month. After that we usually have from four to six weeks when there is little to be had. We should study the season, and make our calculations according to the prospects, as nearly as we can. If the chances are that the flow of white honey will soon end. it is better not to put on too many empty sections, but rather reduce the number and try and have all finished up. Better remove the cases

in them, and give to those needing When the early honey flow them. stops, it is better to remove all the cases from the hives, which can be easily done by means of the bee escape. No matter how bad the bees may be inclined to rob, it can all be removed without them getting a drop—exciting them and making them cross. Another thing, if your bee spaces are faulty, as some of mine are, there will be plenty of brace comb built between cases, or cases and honey boards, and hives. When these are broken apart, as they must be, it will start the honey to running, and in the old way we would drip it all over the apiary, causing the bees to become so furious that we would be compelled to stop that kind of work by 10 o'clock a. m. Now we just slip the escapes in place, at our convenience, and if we break a lot of bur comb. and start the honey to leaking, it makes no difference, as the bees belonging to the hive will clean it all up, and when we come to carry the cases in they are nice and dry. This is another long mark for the bee escape. — Western Plowman.

We are glad to hear of Bro. D's. success with the self hiver. Our experiment this season cost us about \$20, but we saved considerable expense to our customers. We shall we glad to have Bro. D. tell how his hiver is made. When it is a success there will be a large demand for them. Bee-keepers owe Bro. Dibbern a vote of thanks for the interest he has taken in bee escapes, etc., without any intention of patenting.

BUILDING WORKER COMBS.

In a movable frame hive of the ordinary size the bees will usually build the first five or six frames full of workercomb but the remaining frames will be filled with a great portion of drone comb which is not profitable ro desirable in the brood chamber, as a very small patch is sufficient in each colony in a large apiary. If we have a nine-framel hive and if for any reason we take out one frame and let the bees build it again they are almost always sure to build the entire comb drone To prevent this we must cells. either give full sheets of comb foundation or reduce the size of the hive down to five or six combs with a division board; when they build a comb take it away and give it to some other hive, filling up with The extra frames empty frames. may be put in an upper story on top of a full colony until enough of them are built to fill up the hive. when they can be returned to the hive that built them. Good combs are very essential and to have them built just to one's liking does not come by chance, but by dilligent persistent effort on the part of the apiarist. Then there care is important, as a good comb is of more value than it is usually counted by the average bee-keeper.—Bee-Keeper's Guide.

[Bro. Hill, this is just the way we get our combs built, from starters, and if possible we use a second swarm to build it. The expense of full sheets of foundation is quite an item. When you want a quantity of new combs built the above has been very satisfactory to us.—Ep.]

CLOSED END FRAMES.-We notice home but had no faith in it, but A. I. Root is intending to drop the closed end frames from his list. We had no faith in them when used with a follower and wedge. We have never seen one of these frames that was made accurate enough. This style should have a thumbscrew, as Mr. Heddon's new hive We prefer the closed end has. frame to a Hoffman every time. We use them standing on a strip of tin on bottom of hive. We would like to ask some of the hanging frame people how they prevent the bees from building comb between end bars and end of hive? We have to take frames out each spring and trim up our frames and hives. When our hives get full of bees, they always fasten the frames in this way, until they are almost immovable

LITTLE LATE.—We are behind hind this month, owing to being crowded with work. Now that the rush is about over our correspondents will have more time. Let all lend a hand and make the MISSOURI BEE-KEEPER more interesting. Nearly every one has a way of his own; tell us about it, you may help a brother bee-keeper. Look at our most successful apiarists: they keep no secrets from their brother beekeepers.

MORE ABOUT BEE ESCAPES.—A neighbor of ours, Mr. F. F. Comstock, came in one day this week after a smoker, to remove some surplus honey. Porter escape and board and told and accept her. him how to use it. He took it

used it as we directed. The next morning he came up and told us that there was not a single bee in the super.

We are sending out, this month, an extra number of copies of the MISSOURI BEE-KEEPER. We should be glad to have every one receiving a sample copy to become a regular subscriber. We want to make some improvements on the BEE-KEEPER that we may get out more promptly. If you don't care to pay now. send in your name, you can pay us later.

SEASONABLE HINTS.

BY ED. E. SMITH.

Clover bloom is nearly over.

Look out for robbers and keep the entrance of your hives almost closed so that only a few bees can pass at a time.

The ground in front of the hives should be kept perfectly free from grass and weeds, as the bees are some times tired and heavily loaded and drop down before they reach the alighting board.

A piece of glass is a good thing to scrape the propolis off of the sections and frames.

To introduce a queen to a colony that has a virgin. queen, first take out the virgin queen, then take out a frame with the bees on it, let the new queen out on the comb and watch her; if the bees are inclined to fight her, put a few drops of hon-We gave him a ev on her. the bees will lick it off

To keep bees out of the watering

trough, rub a little grease of any kind on top and on the inside of the trough as low down as it is usually filled with water. Then give them a trough of their own with some nice clean water and a hand full of salt in it. Make a float for them to light on by taking a long strip of wood and wrap it all over with burlap. Another good way is to take a keg, bore a hole near the bottom, put in a faucet, take a soft pine board about two feet long and with a hatchet hack it all over on one side to make it as rough as possible. Set the keg on a block or box about eighteen inches high. Now place one end of the board just beneath the faucet and the other end in a very small trough. Fill up the keg and turn the faucet so it will drop just to suit.

I am glad to see that your journal is improving. I see you have made it longer. I don't care about having it any longer but a great deal wider and thicker. Long live the BEE-KEEPER.

Carpenter, Illinois.

BEE KEEPING FOR PROFIT.

Dr. Tinker's New Hand Book. It gives his new system of management of bees complete, telling how to get the largest yield of comb and extracted honey and make the industry of bee keeping a profitable one. The work should be in the hands of every progressive apiarist. It is well illustrated. Price, post paid, 25 cents. For sale at this office.

KIND WORDS.

Friend Q. The queen bee arrived safely. She is very fine.

E. R. GARRETT. Appleton City, Mo., July 3, '91.

The two queens I ordered came all right. Am well pleased with them. GEO. PRADEN. Los Angels, Cal., June 18, '91.

SPECIAL NOTICE.

Latest Benton Queen Cages, 10 by mail, 30c. 50 by mail, \$1.10. Dixie Model, 10 by mail, 35c. 50 by mail, \$1.25. Sample by mail 5c.

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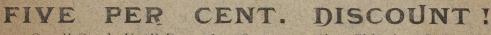
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