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Higginsville, Mo.: Leahy Manufacturing Company, Dec., 1902

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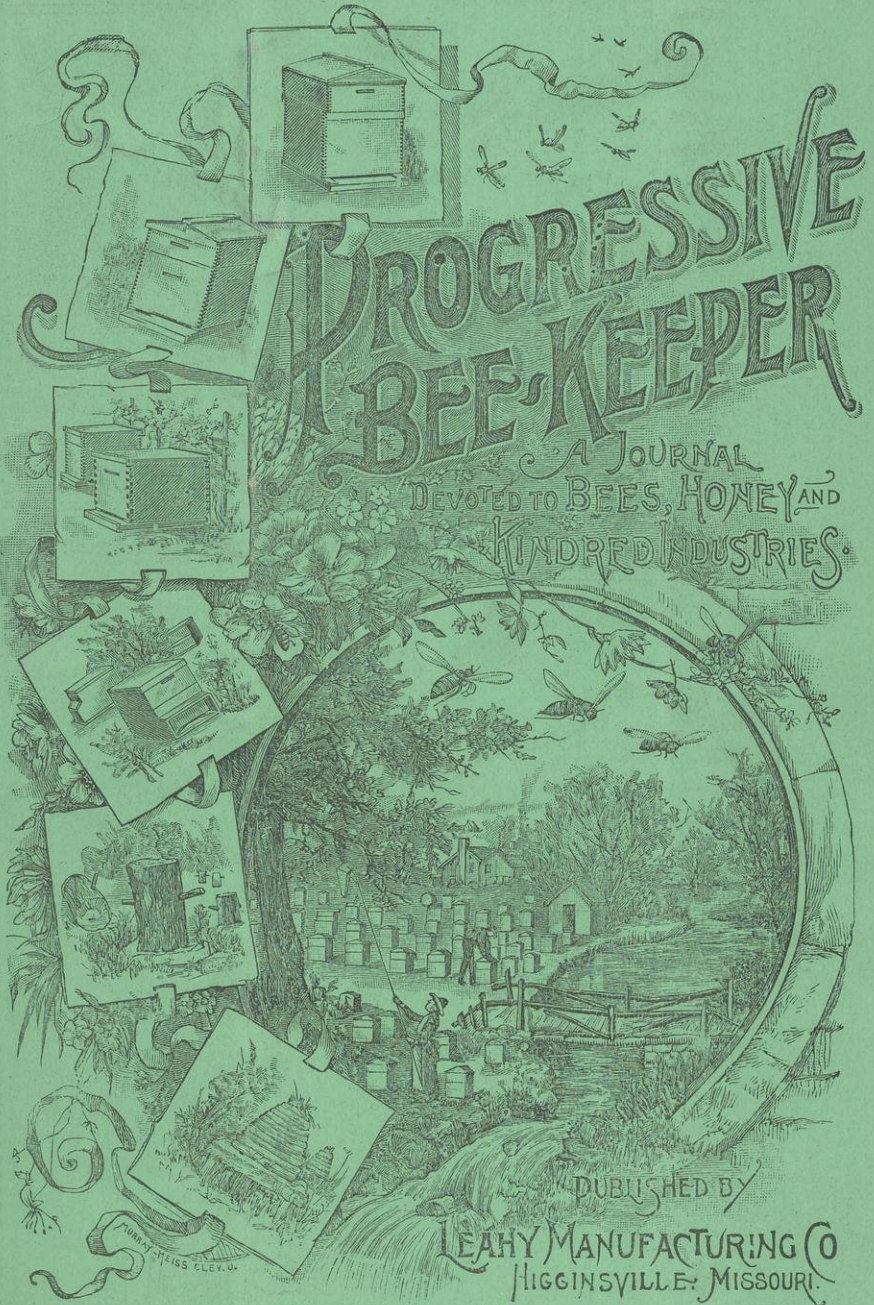
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DECEMBER 1902



PUBLISHED BY

LEAHY MANUFACTURING CO  
HIGGINSVILLE, MISSOURI.

Entered at the postoffice, Higginsville, Mo., as second-class matter.



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Being located in the great **BASSWOOD** timber belt of Wisconsin; admitted by all to be the best for making sections.

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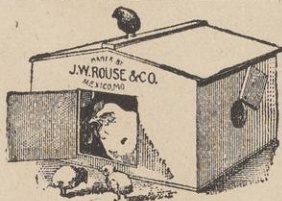
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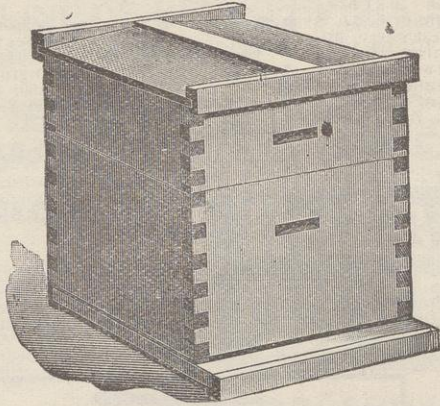


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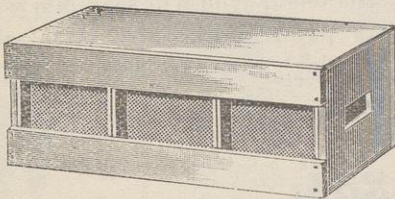


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We have just taken in a second-hand foundation mill in exchange for goods. This mill has 2½-inch roll, the round bottom cell, of which the foundation comes off so easy, and from the looks of the mill, I do not think it has ever been used. The price of such a mill is \$30.00, and we will take \$15.00 for it on cars at Higginville. This is very little over half price.

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Higginville, Mo



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OF THE

"Progressive Bee-Keeper," Higginville, Mo

7 agate lines [½-inch]	one insertion	\$ 50
14 " "	[1 " " ]	" " " 90
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42 " "	[3 " " ]	" " " 2 50
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Journal of Agriculture	1 00	1 15
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**The Amateur Bee-Keeper**, (a gem for beginners), by Prof. J. W. Kouse; price, 28c.

**Advanced Bee Culture**, by W. Z. Hutchinson; price, 50c.

**Manual of the Apiary**, by Prof. A. J. Cook; price, \$1.25.

**The A B C of Bee Culture**, by A. I. Root; price, \$1.25.

**A Treatise on Foul Brood**, by Dr. Howard; price, 25c.

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Colds, Coughs, Colic, Diarrhoea, Cholera Morbus, Dysentery, Indigestion, Cuts, Burns, Bruises, etc.

An especially strong point about Watkins' Liniment from the farmers' view-point, is that it is equally good for

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Our agent will furnish you with any of Watkins' Remedies, or if we have no agent in your neighborhood, write to us, and we will see that you are supplied.



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We offer a beautiful Cook Book and Home Doctor this year to anyone who will send us his name and address on a postal card. Filled with useful information on everything pertaining to the home. Write to-day. It is free.

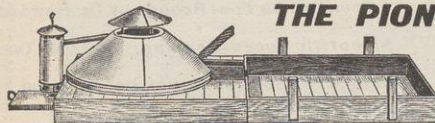
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has invented a brooder. It differs widely from all others. It is the accumulated result of deep thought, wide experiment and long experience. Like the old hen

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warms the chick's back, where all the large blood vessels and vital organs are located. Warms by contact with brooder walls—not by vitiated, death-dealing hot air. Suits chicks of all sizes. Note the sloping walls. Rat proof. Made entirely of metal. Reduces the fearful brooder loss to the minimum. Our Mother Nature Hatchers are of equal superiority. Brooders and Hatchers sent anywhere on free trial. Write for free illustrated catalogue.

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# The Progressive Bee-Keeper.

A Journal Devoted to Bees, Honey, and Kindred Industries.

**50 Cents per Year.**

Published Monthly by Leahy Manufacturing Company.

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### FEEDERS—WORK WITHOUT ASPIRATION— SMOKER FUEL.

F. L. THOMPSON.

Mr. Smith—What's it to be about now?

Mr. Thompson—Don't know. Why don't more subscribers write their ideas to the Progressive, instead of leaving it all to regular writers? It is hard work to write about bees when not working with them except in this fool way—still feeding on the truth of October, and cold weather coming on.

Mr. S.—What about the jackrabbit jumps Mr. Aikin takes in writing between seasons?

Mr. T.—That is simply because he has no time in summer. Of course a little leisure is required to warm the mind up; but writing that is not forced out by fresh experience is not much good when the last experience is as far back as last spring.

Mr. S.—Say something about feeding.

Mr. T.—My first experience, on a large scale—and then making a muss of it. Anyway, there isn't a decent feeder on the market you don't have to pay like sixty for.

Mr. S.—What would be a decent cheap feeder?

Mr. T.—Don't know, so what's the use of kicking?

Mr. S.—Lots of use gets people to thinking so the right idea may strike some one.

Mr. T.—It may be one will have to make up his mind to pay for a good feeder, or do without. Any old thing will do for a few hives, but for a good many no old things are numerous enough. Multiply the price of a good feeder by 200, when you have to buy the sugar besides and you may conclude to resort rather to lots of work by feeding a little at a time on the bottom boards. And the good feeders are not so good after all. The Miller and the Heddon cost a lot; and then think of nailing up and paraffining enough for 200 hives, when it may be 15 or 20



years before you feed so many again and by that time this climate will draw them all apart, not to speak of the storage room occupied. The Boardman costs still more, and the Hill costs something and doesn't hold enough. I did make some very cheap feeders by making trays of tarred paper, putting them in empty supers. They held the syrup well enough, but covered over the cluster so the bees wouldn't go up around the edges to amount to anything at this time of year. No, I'm disgusted with this sort of work, and the less said about it the better. Nothing but results makes work seem all right. Nothing succeeds like success

Mr. S.—Shaw, now, you're cross, that's all. That reminds me. I want to read you something that Gleanings calls "a little gem," sent out by the Anti-Saloon League:

Charles Kingsley said:

Thank God every morning when you get up that you have something to do that day which must be done whether you like it or not. Being forced to work and forced to do your best will breed in you temperance, self-content, diligence, strength of will, content and a hundred virtues which the idle will never know.

There, how does that strike you?

Mr. T.—I really wonder what you expect me to say.

Mr. S.—Wh, what's the matter?

Mr. T.—Is it possible?

Mr. S.—What's possible? I think that hits the nail on the head

Mr. T.—It is discouraging; it is, indeed, that a rational man should regard for a moment such pestiferous nonsense much more so it broadcast. Charles Kingsley was one of those bluff, burly old codgers who think anything goes if uttered with sledge-hammer force; the Anti-Saloon League says, "The Saloon must go," and won't fill its place; and Gleanings—well Gleanings says comb honey production is going to be revolutionized by a tuppenny twist in

sections. Great authorities. I thought John Smith had more sense.

Mr. S.—Proofs, please. Abuse isn't argument.

Mr. T.—Aspiration! Aspiration! Did you ever hear that word? Did you ever think that idea? Did you ever conceive what the lack of it means in human life?

Mr. S.—I don't see the connection.

Mr. T.—No; I believe you don't. If you did you might set the duck-pond on fire, or do some other damage.

Has it really never occurred to you that millions—yes, hundreds of millions of men and women have been forced to work and forced to do their best and were thereby made intemperate, witself-control lazy, shiftless and unhappy? Come now isn't that a pain, bald-headed fact?

Mr. S.—What are you talking about?

Mr. T.—Oh! if I must give you milk and water I must I suppose. I am referring to slaves; both literally, in the past and figuratively, or rather virtually in the present. Forced work that is just forced work and nothing else, is no advantage to anybody but a detriment. What is the use of saying anything else? Those people don't know what sweatshops are; oh no, certainly not. The "Song of the Shirt" was a fancy no doubt. I tell you in every pursuit, ours included, those elements which force work for mere food and clothing at the expense of individual development, are bad, bad, bad, and there is no health in them.

Mr. S.—Oh I don't suppose they meant just that.

Mr. T.—But man they said that! and they knew well enough that the stupid or amateur constituency they were addressing would take it just that way; and that is the sin and the shame of it that they can do society the infinite harm of indolently bandying about these half truths for whole ones, and call themselves good people. How



many young lives have been ruined by observing the hopeless charm between the selfish stiff-neckedness of their elders (that shrinks from the mental exertion of making just distinctions), and the half-understood but vived facts of life as they force themselves on the growing mind! Would it have been such killing task to have reflected, and pointed out that severe and unwelcome toil is bracing only when preceded and accompanied by aspiration, by the personal recognition of the results of particular toil for permanent good and the striving for that end? After pointing that out it would have been well enough to have gone on and praised the effects of discipline. But no; this would have been too complicated; it would not have given that Thus-saith-the-Lord effect that sheer dogmatism produces redounding to the credit of the dogmatizer; it would not have—oh bah, I'm sick of the whole thing. Let's talk of something else.

After reading Mr. Doolittle's preference for partially decayed wood, as smoker fuel to anything else and considering the fact that so many other people also prefer it I wonder whatever can be the reason that it does not do nearly so well for me as sticks of sound wood the length of the smokerbarrel, split up fine. This gives a smoke that can be depended on and nothing else does. It responds to the slightest touch and yet gives dense clouds whenever wanted. Rotten wood smoke for me is generally thin and blue, and not to be obtained in quantity without considerable puffing.

Mr. S.—I use old burlap as a great many do. It seems to be all right.

Mr. T.—Clogging with ashes, and insufficient smoke, unless one is puffing all the time, put that out of the race for me. Excelsior is fair but lasts only a short time. Planer shaving cause poor draught with the smoker frequently going out when not in continual use. Twigs are a nuisance—always crooked,

hard to get in and do not burn nearly so well as split wood. Chips from the woodpile are hardly ever the right size, and when at their best are still inferior to the upright sticks. The most convenient form of these is pieces of old sections split in three. I wonder if the difference in views is not caused more by a difference in individual requirements than by the fuel. Some may never want more than a light smoke. As to cleaning the smoker I have for years done so by the plan of burning out as described, but never had the gumption to say so; also by soaking in water for twenty-four hours or more when the creosote flakes off easily with the assistance of a knife.

Denver, Colo.

## Wanted.

Reliable young Stockman in Higginsville for office or home work. \$45 per month or commission.

Address,

**The Veterinary Science Assn..**

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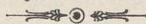
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## Cheapest and the Best

queens can be had at the lowest price—Long Tongue, Leather Colored, 5 Banners and Carniolians, at all seasons. Untested 50c; tested 75c. Satisfaction guaranteed.

**New Century Queen Rearing Co.,**  
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## Make your own Hives.



Bee-Keepers will save money by using our Foot Power Circular Saw in making their Hives, Sections and Boxes. Machines sent on trial if desired. Catalogue free.



**W. F. & JOHN BARNES CO.,**

**ROCKFORD, ILLS.**  
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Please mention the "Progressive."



## FOLLOWING THE FASHIONS.

S. E. MILLER.

As a rule women are more given to following the fashions than men, and we of the sterner sex look upon it as a sort of extravagant folly. As the seasons change the fashions also change and the lady who wishes to be up with the times must have the latest in shoes, bonnets, capes, fans, gloves, etc. This is certainly extravagance, for many of the garments are cast off before the owner has worn them more than a few months. As I said, women are more given to this than men. But while we do not follow it in the matter of dress, so closely as do the women, are we not guilty of following fashions in some other respects?

I could sight you to farmers who purchases new implements from some smooth tongued agent and leave other implements that are only partly worn, lie in fence corners to rust and decay. The agent tells them that he has sold one to Farmer Jones and Farmer Smith and so in order to be up to date. Mr. Brown gives the agent an order for the latest in harrows. He may not really need it, but that is his way of following the fashion. No one should hesitate then to purchase the latest and best in implements if he really needs them and is able to pay for them, but he should never purchase an article simply because his neighbor has done so.

But I am digressing too much and must now get down to the subject.

## FASHIONS IN BEE HIVES AND FIXTURES.

As I look back over the past seventeen years that I have been a bee-keeper I wonder how much I have saved in dollars and cents (simply because I did not have them to spare) that would have been invested in new hives and fixtures had I always been possessed of the ready cash.

At the time mentioned my brother

and I commenced with one or two colonies of bees, and ordered a simplicity hive, a smoker and a few other articles from A. I. Root. At that time the metal cornered frame was quite popular, in fact was highly recommended, and as A. I. Root was our teacher, we decided that whatever he recommended must be the best. We increased our bees and purchased more in box hives, and soon needed hives in considerable numbers. We therefore purchased a Barnes foot power saw, bought lumber and commenced tramping out hives and frames. We adopted the Simplicity hive, with metal cornered frames. We increased our apiary until we had nearly 100 colonies in the above named hives.

About that time we bought and sold hives in a very small way, but soon found that the fashion in hives and fixtures changed too fast for us to keep up with it and abandoned the business. We handled eight and ten frame dovetailed hives, but in some way few of these got into our own yard.

Some years later I went out of the bee business and left it in charge of my brother, who decreased the number of colonies to about 25 during my absence. Hence when I returned and took charge of the bees, we had on hand a large number of second-hand Simplicity hives, mostly fitted with metal cornered frames and supers. And now it may look as if I was a back number, but I am not ashamed to tell you that I am still using, mostly, those same hives and frames. Since I took charge of the bees after my return to the farm in the spring of 1900, I have increased the number of colonies and received fair to good crops each year.

And as I view the past I wonder whether I would have received one hundred pounds more of honey in the whole time had I followed the fashion and adopted each new frame as it



was brought out. The wide top bar, the wide and deep top bar, the frame with staples and without staples, etc. etc. Had I adopted the various covers as they come to light I suppose I would have enough to roof a barn.

I have been using some of the Hoffman frames in the yard for some years past, but I notice that on some of them the Hoffman part gets knocked off and then they are no longer a self-spacing frame. Taking the advantage and disadvantage of the Hoffman and the metal covered frame, I doubt whether it would benefit me to exchange, as I produce mainly extracted honey and have an abundance of propolis to contend with. As to the Simplicity hive, that leveled edge, that I once thought a positive necessity, I now consider an abomination and although A. I. Root, no doubt, brought it out with the best of attentions, he may some day be called to account for inflicting it upon the bee-keeping public. Yet I get along with them as well as with some of the old-time Simplicity alighting boards that are equally objectionable. The latter, however, I am fast doing away with. The fence separator I have adopted and would use if for no other reasons than that it permits of the use of plain or no bee way sections, which I consider better in every way than the slotted section.

To the bee-keeper of limited experience I would say, select a good hive and fixtures. Probably there is no better hive in the world for all purposes than the dovetailed hive with Hoffman frames. But do not cast aside serviceable hives and fixtures and invest in others simply because some one says they are better. Do not expect hives to gather honey. Keep the right kind of bees. Give them proper care. See to it that each colony is ready for the strenuous life when the honey flow comes, and they will store honey in any old hive, but if you need

more hives select such as will give the best results with the least amount of labor, but do not try to follow the fashions in hives simply because they are fashionable.

Proper management and good location are the chief essentials to success in bee keeping and what is lacking in location must be made up by better management. Without either of these, a mahogany hive with rosewood frames and ebony sections would not get you much honey.

Bluffton, Mo., Nov. 12, 1902.

### Retrospective.

The waves of memory are stirred tonight,

The air is filled with phantoms bright,  
The dancing sunbeams 'round me play,  
I feel the breath of balmy May.

The fleecy cloud in yonder sky,  
Like shrouded hope goes flitting by,  
And dancing merrily along,

The river sings its blithesome song.

The birds in happy hearted glee,  
Warbling flit from tree to tree.

Each phase of this familiar place,  
Brings back your well remembered face.

Again in measured cadence clear,  
Your friendly voice falls on my ear.

Again you clasp my hand and say,  
"We shall be friends for aye and aye."

The sunset dies, far in the west,  
The sighing breeze is lulled to rest,  
The river sings its song no more,  
But softly ripples on the shore.

\* \* \* \* \*

I wake and shiver in the gloom,  
Which slowly fills the silent room.  
Alone, before the dying fire  
I sit, and see my dream expire.

—May Campbell.

Snow, hail and sleet cover the earth  
in Missouri and most all the western  
states.



# The Progressive Bee-Keeper.

A journal devoted to Bees, Honey and Kindred Industries.

FIFTY CENTS PER YEAR.

G. M. DOOLITTLE & R. B. LEAHY, EDITORS.

We wish all a merry Christmas and a happy New Year.

Mr. C. P. Dadant has resigned as a director of the National Bee-Keepers Association, and Mr. C. A. Hatch, of Richland Co., Wis., has been appointed to fill the vacancy. A good selection, but all will regret the resignation of Mr. Dadant.

The Chicago North Western Bee-Keepers Association, which held its convention Dec. 3-4, was the best convention we have had the pleasure of attending for a long while. Besides the social features many interesting subjects were discussed, with profit we think to all.

To those wishing bee-keepers supplies we would call attention that the coming season bids fair to be one of the best for honey for many years. We have on hand and are making some of the best supplies, especially sections, that we have ever turned out. Some one has said sections will be sections this year. They ought better say sections will be scarce and we advise all to place their order now, that can do so. We give 4 per cent discount for orders received by the first of January. Our price list free for the asking.

The following was received from friend Doolittle, Dec. 6:

"My sister (you will remember she lived just beyond the orchard from me) was buried one week ago. With my sister's death I am the only one of this

branch of the Doolittle family left. It seems very sad and lonely with her gone. She had been an invalid for two years and I had cared for her almost daily, which made me more attached to her than if she had been well and strong."

Yes, I do remember that some one lives beyond that orchard. The morning, after the night I spent at your home, I ascended to the top of the hill near your house to see the sun rise, and looking over among the trees, I saw "Gilbert" coming through the orchard with a pail. Quite likely you had been at your sister's and was returning. How much pleasure it must have given you friend Doolittle, to administer to the wants of one so weak and yet so strong in her love for you. Yes indeed, this will cause you day dreams of long ago. Go to the top of that hill where I saw the golden sun rise, go there now while all shows winter's sad decay and think of the beautiful spring time that is to come when the dew drops will sparkle in the golden sun rays again, when the trees will bud and blossom, and birds will sing among the foliage, then in the place of death there will be life and beauty. Through life we bear the burden which God has given us to bear, and when we lay that burden down and use it as a pillow in our last sleep, the soul from the dust and ashes here below, shoots up into the realm of light and joy, where all shall meet again to sing God's praise.

ARE your bees ready for winter? Mine are, and have been since the 20th of October. Would have been sooner, except for the uniting of so many queen-rearing nuclei in which were queens to fill late orders.

"How much honey did you allow for winter stores?" The usual amount, and that which is generally necessary from the last blooming honey producing flowers in the fall to those which produce honey in the spring, is from



20 to 30 pounds for those wintered in the cellar, and from 20 to 40 pounds for those wintered on their summer stands.

THESE figures are as nearly right for all section of the country as can be formulated, and if the beginner or novice take them as the standard they will not have any cause for regrets. The former figures are for localities where there is the least consumption of stores during the period named, and the latter figures for places where there is the greater consumption. But if any colony has from 40 to 50 pounds in their hive when the flowers cease to bloom in the fall there will be no harm in allowing it to remain, no matter where the locations, or where wintered.

BUT are these amounts actually necessary? Well, for the beginner and the novice I should be inclined to say yes, for such are not prepared to know all the kinds necessary where bees are wintered with less than the minimum amounts given above, hence are liable to have their bees starve if they try to winter them on a less amount, but with the thoughtful and experienced bee-keeper, especially the bee-keeper who calculates to supply any lack in stores in early spring, these amounts can be greatly reduced, and especially so where the bees are wintered in the cellar, for with cellar wintering the greater proportion of stores is consumed between the time of taking them from the cellar till the flowers yield nectar.

WELL, supposing I am that bee-keeper who is willing to look after his bees and leave no stone unturned that success may be obtained, how little can I use from the time the flowers cease blooming in the fall till the bees are set from the cellar in the spring. This again depends upon your cellar. If one wholly underground, so that the temperature keeps evenly from 45 to 48 degrees below zero, then my experi-

ence goes to prove that bees may be safely wintered on 10 pounds, from the time of the blooming of flowers in the fall, or say from October 20th to time of setting out in the spring, for it is a very rare thing that any colony consume more than one and one-half pounds a month while in my underground cellar. Many colonies do not consume one pound a month while in the cellar, and scarcely more than that from October till time of setting in, which is usually about December first. If in a cellar where the temperature goes from nearly the freezing point up to 60, or where the temperature materially changes with every change of temperature outside, then 15 pounds would be as little as I would recommend.

NOW, as I said before, if there is from 30 to 50 pounds in each hive I should not take out any of the honey, for plenty of honey in the hive is a great advantage for early brood rearing in the spring, where bees are not fed, but if from a poor season, or any other cause, the average number of pounds of winter stores was only 10 to 15 pounds, according to the above mentioned cellars, then I should equalize these stores so that each colony had 10 or 15 pounds, as the case might be, and allow them to go into winter with the amount, preferring to feed what is necessary between the time of setting out and the blooming of flowers at that time of the year, rather than feeding in the fall so that each colony had the regulation amount, as given near the start. Being short of honey after this wet, cold, poor season, I am allowing many of my colonies to go into winter quarters on from 10 to 12 pounds here at the home apiary, and with from 14 to 18 pounds at the out apiary, where they are wintered in an ordinary cellar under a farm house.

‘BUT why do you prefer to feed in the spring instead of in the fall, when



the bees do not have the maximum amount of stores?" is a question I think I hear some one asking. Well, in the first place, it often so happens that the bees consume so little during winter that I do not have to feed at all in the spring, the minimum amount being amply sufficient to carry them in good shape till the flowers yield honey, unless perchance some of those having ten pounds or less may lack, and in this way I get out of feeding altogether. In the second place fall feeding rarely counts anything toward building up any colony in the spring. Of course, if we begin feeding early in the fall and feed slowly, brood rearing will generally be the result in which case there will be more bees for the wintering than as though no feeding were done and it might be the means of giving stronger colonies in the spring, but, notwithstanding this, I believe the same amount of feed given the colony in early spring will give a better colony of bees at any given time after May first, in this locality, than can possibly be obtained by feeding in the fall. There is something about the securing of nectar to the spring which incites the bees to brood rearing above anything else, and for this reason I prefer to feed in the spring, where feeding is to be done, and so advise. But where the bees have all the stores they need, I think it easier to resort to other methods for stimulating brood rearing, rather than to go through the operation of feeding at all.

HAVING the bees all ready for wintering, as far as honey or stores is concerned, and all fixed for winter with forest leaves, planer shavings, sawdust or some other porous material over the brood chamber, what next is to be done? With me, the next thing is to reverse the bottom board, if I have the reversible kind, and if I do not have such I should consider that it would pay to make them. The reversible bottom board has a cleat one

half of an inch thick and seven-eighths wide nailed to one side of it except on the entrance part, so that when the hive is set on these cleats it is raised (and closed) from the bottom board one-half inch except in front, which front makes the entrance, so that the entrance is one-half inch deep by the whole width of the hive. On the opposite side of this bottom board, and covering the same part of it, strips of seven-eighths lumber are nailed, the same being two inches wide, so that when the bottom board is reversed for wintering, there is a space of two inches in depth under the bottoms of the frames for dead bees to fall in, and to allow a free circulation of air all under the combs, which keeps the combs free from mold and the bees in a healthy condition. Where the bees are on the summer side of the board, or having only half an inch under the combs, as they are in the fall, then this board is reversed so the deep side will be up, and if to be wintered on the summer stand, a board having an entrance half of an inch deep by six inches long is put in front so as to form a winter entrance of those dimensions.

G. M. DOOLITTLE.

Borodino, N. Y.

**To the Members of the National Bee-keepers' Association.**

Fellow Bee-keepers:

You have no doubt learned that there has been some differences between Mr. Hutchinson and Mr. Abbott, and I desire to say that I have just returned from an enthusiastic meeting of the Northwestern Bee Keepers' Society, in Chicago, where both of these gentlemen were present. Through my influence Mr. Hutchinson was led to approach Mr. Abbot and say that he was sorry for what he had written and offered due apology. Mr. Abbott accepted the apology in the spirit in which it was offered. Announcements



will be made in the next issue of both their papers that these gentlemen are ready to co-operate for the good of the association in the future the same as they did before this happened.

I felt anxious to have the members of the association know this, as I feel now since this breach is healed, that Mr. Abbott is the most competent available man for the position of general manager. I say this without any disposition to reflect on the qualifications of any other party, whose name may be mentioned. Mr. Abbott is centrally located, has good office facilities for taking care of the business of the association, attends all of the national meetings, and as many other meetings as possible, is a good speaker and writer, and has the confidence and respect of the bee-keepers at large, as was evidenced by the cheers with which he was received whenever he addressed the meeting at Chicago. I firmly believe he can, and will do more to build up the Association than any other man who will accept the duties of the office. I hope, therefore, that the members will give him their hearty support, unanimous vote; first, because I believe he is the best man for the place; second, because I think the membership owe it to him and themselves in so far as they can to right the wrong which has been done him; third, because I believe he will double the membership of the Association before the year ends.

Hoping that you will accept these suggestions in the spirit in which they are given, I am, yours for the success of the National,

R. B. LEAHY.

#### BIOGRAPHICAL.

DR. A. B. MASON.

Nov. 20 we announced the sad news of the death of Dr. A. B. Mason by an explosion of natural gas that had escaped from the stove in the kitchen,

whither he had gone, on Oct. 30, with a lighted lamp. The burns and shock to his nervous system resulted in his death on Nov. 12, and he was buried on Nov. 14.

We had known Dr. Mason for nearly 20 years, and quite intimately for over 10 years. While the writer was for two years President of the National Bee-Keepers' Association Dr. Mason was Secretary, and we planned the two annual programs together without a ripple. And when we were elected as his successor at Denver, in September, he referred very kindly to our work together in those other years.

Dr. Mason was born in Erie Co., N. Y., in 1833, and was raised on a farm. When 17 years old he taught school, and then attended Beloit College, Wis., for several terms. He then began the study of medicine, and attended lectures at the University of Michigan in 1857 and 1858. But the practice of medicine was not to his taste, and having studied it in connection with medicine, he adopted dentistry as his profession, and continued to practice it throughout his whole life.

In 1862 he moved to Waterloo, Iowa, and was president of the Northern Iowa Dental Association for two years.

Dr. Mason was prominently active in religious work. He united with the Baptist church when 18 years of age, and was active in filling different offices in the church. At one time he was a church clerk, a trustee, and clerk of the board of trustees, besides being a Sunday school superintendent. In Sunday school work he was prominent, his activity extending to neighboring counties.

He was pronounced in his temperance principles and efforts, and held tobacco in much the same contempt as alcoholic liquor. His temperance creed extended to the use of tea and coffee, and neither he or his children used either.



His interest in bee-keeping began in 1869, at which time a brother left in his care two colonies of bees until convenient to move them. Increase of interest and increase of number of colonies continued until in 1873 he made his bees an important source of revenue, severe attacks of rheumatism making close confinement to office work objectionable.

He was well known as prominent in apicultural matters in Ohio, to which state he moved in 1874, locating in the vicinity of Toledo. In 1882 his apiary was infected with foul brood, but he succeeded in curing it so effectually that there was no return of the disease.

He was the leading spirit in securing prominence for apiculture at the Tri-State Fair which was held yearly at Toledo, and was the efficient superintendent of that department. He was also superintendent of the Apiarian Department of the Ohio Centennial Exposition, which took place at Columbus in 1888.

For four years he was secretary of the Buckeye Union Poultry Association, although, perhaps, not generally known among bee-keepers as a poultry fancier.

In 1867 he was elected president of the National Bee-Keepers' Association (known by another name at that time), to which office he was re-elected the following year. For the past seven years he has been secretary of the same body, and occupied that position at the time of his death, his term expiring at the end of this year.

Dr. Mason was a man of fine appearance and commanding presence, and was always a conspicuous figure at the national conventions, his jovial manner always adding interest to the meetings.

We feel a personal loss in the death of Dr. Mason, and we are sure the old American Bee Journal has one less admiring friend. But they are fast pass-

ing to the other shore. Only a few more years and we who now remain will be called to join "the greet majority" who are constantly assembling there. Until then we can only fill the years with patient toiling, each doing his duty, and thus perfecting such characters as shall be worthy an eternal existence beyond the tomb.—American Bee Journal.

### LONG-LIVED QUEENS AND BEES.

BY E. F. ATWATER.

Hurray for Dr. Gallup's new fad! Long-lived bees are what we need, and such men as J. B. Hall, of Ontario, E. A. Morgan, of Wisconsin, and many others are working along that line. But as to the difference between the artificially-reared queens and naturally-reared queens, many will be sure to differ from Dr. Gallup, and I am one of the many, although my experience does not cover half a century.

When located in South Dakota, operating but few colonies, we had "native" stock, and these artificially reared queens produced colonies that excelled the natives almost every time, in pounds of honey produced.

In addition to this, the hardy (?) natives were seriously weakened by "pickled brood," while the Italians were practically immune.

In the several years that I have tried them, the queens reared by Atchley, Doolittle or Alley plans proved their right to replace the hybrids and blacks, and this in spite of the awful (?) handicap—artificial cell-cups, "fuss and feathers."

Upon my removal to Idaho I sold my bees, buying more upon my arrival here, starting with 150 colonies of Italians with naturally reared queens. All these queens of various ages were clipped in April and May of 1901. Upon examining the colonies in April, 1902, I found that fully half of these queens had been superseded by the



bees, making it appear that the average life of these naturally reared queens was about two years, although I admit that an occasional queen may live four or five years. Some (inexperienced amateurs) may say that clipping caused the queens to be superseded at this age, but I will say that in South Dakota, having two races, and being able to tell the age of the queens by mating (queens from abroad mated purely, queens reared at home mated with black or hybrids), I found the average life of the queen to be about two years.

Now, the larger part of our bees are run for extracted honey, with little or no swarming, and I find, like Mr. Chapman, of Michigan, that it takes a very good queen to live two years, or more, when given an abundance of room for egg-laying.

In May, 1901, I received several queens from different breeders; two soon died, but the others have equalled the naturally reared of stock as honey-getters, although it is yet too early to judge of the longevity of the queens themselves. We have the testimony of such practical men as Alley, Doolittle, Hutchason and Heddon, that the artificially reared queens are equal, or superior, to the natural ones; and among other observers I mention F. L. Thompson, A. I. Root, and the Dadants, who have touched on this matter in their writings.

If such men as these, eminently practical, have found no difference in results between queens reared from an egg laid (presumably) in a natural queen-cell, and those carefully reared from worker-eggs or larvae, then, in spite of the arguments of Dr. Gallup, the great majority of practically honey-producers will continue to rear and purchase queens reared by those artificial methods.

If bees will, in time, rear queens to suit the capacity of the hive, and how

shall we explain the fact that the Dadants have so little swarming with their large hive?

We have apiaries here where the queens have for years been confined to an 8-frame brood-nest. Surely these queens "bred to suit the capacity of the hive" can never fill two 8-frame bodies with brood! But, astonishing to say, when given the opportunity, they respond nobly, with 10, 12 or 15 frames of brood.

If the bees will rear a queen to suit the capacity of the hive, where will the limit be found?

More light, please. I am willing to learn. Ada Co., Idaho, Aug. 16  
—American Bee Journal.

#### GOOD THINGS IN THE BEE-KEEPING PRESS.

##### SOMNAMBULIST.

The bee-keeping world was shocked on learning of the death of Dr. A. B. Mason. The suddenness of it rendered it hard to believe. He was removed through the medium of an accident. How ill prepared these accidents find us. Burned by the explosion of natural gas from the effects of which his life went out. While enjoying his companionship and his many witty sallies, as all who have attended conventions have, little did we dream of this terrible ending. How greatly future conventions will miss his kindly beaming face and ever ready help. The family have the united sympathy of American beekeepers this sudden and bitter bereavement.

All over the American beekeeping world the past season is characterized as "peculiar," so much so as not to admit of practicing many of the usual regulations, at least with any degree of success. One of the greatest "peculiarities" is the general shortage in the honey crop. Personally we are not nearly so strenuously opposed to having our methods knocked out as the honey



crop. In other words our pet methods, even were they children of our own brain, are as naught if through or in spite of their defeat we gain a crop.

The big catnip balloon seems to have been pierced quite early in its vigorous flight by the snag of personal investigation. It is disappointing to be obliged to pursue old channels in quest of forage so very soon after having our catnip enthusiasm wrought to the extent of ecstatic anticipation; but it now appears that we shall have to come to it—American Bee Journal.

One of these old channels is "shook swarms" and they have been shaken at us until they threaten to shake a new era into beekeeping. Oct. 15th Gleanings was a "shook swarm special" or a "shook swarm" symposium. H. R. Beardman of Ohio, Harry Howe of Cuba, M. A. Gill of Colorado E. F. Atwater of Idaho, W. S. Poudel of Indiana and several others contribute to the feast. It is claimed that "shook swarms" behave in all respects like natural ones. A part of Mr. Boardman's instructions are as follows:

"It is important that the bees should be gathering honey and secreting wax in order that their work of comb building may be begun at once in the new hive, unless feeding is to be resorted to in which case it is better to give the colony at least one liberal feed 24 hours before they are swarmed. The colony to be swarmed should be strong in bees and brood and have a laying queen (several agreed that the queen should be young to avoid overproduction of drone comb.) Smoke the bees vigorously, turn the hive a quarter around on to a stand just back of the old one. Set in its place another hive with a full set of empty frames with only comb starters. Combs will be more perfectly built if the frames are closely spaced. Smoke the bees again, give them time to load up with honey; open the hive, find the queen and put her into the new hive after shaking a few bees in; then take

out the combs and shake in front of the hive and let the bees run in the same as a natural swarm. Strong swarms with prolific queens are important factors in getting good work in comb building. Favorable weather and a steady honey flow are also important. If I find brood in the sections I feel sure it is my own fault in putting the supers on too soon, or in stampeding the bees into the supers by careless handling. The queen will not leave the brood nest after she is well established in egg-laying unless some unusual disturbance has caused her to do so, I have never found it necessary to use perforated zinc excluders to prevent the queen from going into the supers. At the close of the season if I have more bees and combs than I want I unite the bees back and render the poorest combs into wax."

Harry Howe gives his reasons for using the system "to control swarming and to keep clear of foul brood." On account of the latter as well as the high price of foundation, uses starters only." Having formerly used full sheets, found that "they were not of enough advantage to pay the difference in cost" In shaking give a quick vertical movement and no honey is jarred out unless too violent. The old hive should be filled with frames as fast as the combs are taken out, to make a place for the bees to cluster on or they will run out at the entrance or boil over the top and perhaps lose the queen.

The best time to shake is towards night for the bees are not so apt to swarm out.

The brood is to be put into a new hive and set facing away from the swarm. I stop the entrance with green grass. By the time the grass wilts the colony is able to take care of itself. In filling the hive with brood I put in ten full frames, the combs of honey or those with little brood being put either on other colonies or extracted. This



makes less increase and stronger colonies. Some times there will be brood from three different hives to make one.

I give a queen at the time of shaking, then by the time the brood is hatched there is a young queen laying. I consider shaking the most valuable thing that has come up in the bee journals for a long time, for it gives perfect control of swarming.

M. A. Gill claims that "shook swarms" are much more preferable than brushed swarms, as "in shaking it is the oldest bees that leave the comb first, so that is possible for the apiarist to leave the combs protected by bees that will stay where he puts them. The combs of brood should be well protected. Just how many bees to leave would be indicated by the amount of hatching brood and the state of the weather. If intended for increase, the hive is carried to a new stand. "But if the intention is to unite with the parent colony at the end of 21 days, then it is set close beside it with the entrance at right angles. Some objections have been raised against "shook swarms"—that the new honey will shake out. In my opinion, swarms should never be shaken unless the new honey does shake out and more so the better I consider the conditions. When the honey flies out badly I shake them directly on to the top bars of the new hive dousing the bees. As the new swarm receives all the flying bees of the old colony they will soon cluster and clean themselves up and be in that plethoric and fat condition so necessary to the secretion of wax, a condition that is necessary if driven on starters. In practising this plan in out apiaries I examine every six days and shake every colony that has eggs in the cell cups. Unfavorable weather conditions sometimes makes you wish you hadn't but it also makes the natural swarm wish they hadn't. I always clip when I make a 'shook swarm,' for I think they are a

little more prone to abscond if they meet with bad weather than are natural swarms. On the other hand if the weather is fine and the honey flow good I think they are less liable to abscond than are the excited uneasy natural swarm.

E. F. Atwater of Ida, says: "The method is peculiarly adapted to the production of comb honey in out apiaries, with no one present to hive swarms. When the first flow begins, we drive to the out yards and quickly inspect all colonies for indications of swarming. Our hives are mostly in pairs side by side. Here is a colony that has queen cells started. We will call it hive A, while the one at its side we will call B. Hive A contains a very strong colony. We move it to one side and put in its place a hive containing a frame of brood and seven frames with half inch starters. On this a queen excluder and above this one or two supers containing several bait combs, or better a super bees and all from some colony already at work in the sections. Now the bees are swiftly shaken from the brood combs of hive A, in front of the new hive lastly dump all the old bees from the old hive to make sure of having the queen in the new colony. Now remove hive B to a new stand, placing on it the brood combs taken from hive A. This throws the working force of both colonies into the shook swarm which will do good work for some time. Seven days later hive B having a double quantity of hatching brood, will be very strong. Shake about half the bees into the shook swarm. If the flow continues repeat this seven days later. Hive B will give a good crop of extracted honey, or a shook swarm may be made of two such colonies should the flow continue."

W. S. Pouder of Indiana gives his experience, a part of which follows:

"I have returned swarms to the old stand giving them the unfinished super



and frames with narrow starters, and after brushing off every bee from the remaining brood, I have obtained better and more rapid results in the super than I was getting before the operation. I have always found that a queen excluding honey board was very essential and the only objection to the entire method is that for a few days some pollen will be stored in the sections.

"I have always disposed of the remaining brood in two ways, by strengthening weak colonies and by tiering up over an excluder for extracting. I have tiered as high as five stories, and it seemed to me that such colonies contained a barrel of bees. In such cases I allowed only three or four combs of brood in the lower chamber, filling the remainder of the hive with empty combs or foundation in order that the queen might have plenty of room. As fast as the brood is hatched in upper stories they fill the empty cells with honey, making the way possible for a large yield, and greatly improving the results from the hives from which the brood was taken. A few, in attempting this method, have allowed one or two combs of brood to remain in the brood chamber. This is fatal to the results. The brood chamber must contain frames with narrow starters only. The bees will proceed to build comb fast enough for the queen and the new honey must necessarily be stored in the sections."

E. Bevins of Iowa gives a practical hint as to the method of shaking: "Place the forefinger and middle finger of each hand under the shoulders of the top bar, and the thumb of each hand above. Draw the finger upward a little and then make a sudden downward movement. This is arrested by the fingers under the shoulder of the frame, and throws the bees off their guard."

In summing up, the editor gives us the results claimed:

1. Swarming can be controlled at out yards with small brood chambers, when run for comb honey.

2. A brushed swarm may be stronger and produce more comb honey than a natural one.

3. It appears that starters are just as good as full sheets of foundation, under some conditions at least. If a young queen is in the hive, and the supers are put in soon enough, it is asserted that worker brood will be reared about as fast as the queen can take it. But suppose that drone comb is built out instead of worker, no great harm results, it is argued; for such comb can be cut out and melted up; and some there are who believe that wax and comb honey can be produced simultaneously with profit and to advantage.

Yes, it has even been urged in times past that in a heavy flow bees will secrete wax involuntarily; that if wax scales are not used in comb building they will be wasted. The inference is that the brushed swarm with foundation starters can and does utilize this surplus wax. If this be true the foundation bill can be cut down seventy-five per cent, and in addition save the wax scales.

4. Foul brood can be kept down.

Among all the reports given there was but one dissenting voice, that of C. G. Luft of Ohio. From his account it would seem that he has tried about all the combinations and tricks that could be imagined, but still the bees were not controlled nor in the least subordinated. Some years back that wise man Solomon recommended brushing for boys, but this case proved it would not do to depend on for all Bs.

Although Mr. Luft says "most of the colonies had not started queen cells when brushed, the editor comments in this wise;

"The bees throughout the yard had gotten the swarming fever to an unusual extent before you tried the expedient of brushing swarms to check



their furer. When an apiary becomes demoralized like this no repressive measures could bring relief. And further you gave them more room than they could keep warm "(this notwithstanding Mr. Luft said the weather was hot). To curtail the egg-laying of the queen at the wrong time will very often induce swarming."

Who shall say how many hills and valleys shall witness attempts at brushing and shaking bees next season?

Doubtless numbers of bee keepers are fairly itching to adopt the new fad.

Mr. Atwater said truly "the shook swarm is one (not the) solution of the swarming problem"

And among Dr. Miller's "straws are to be found," you are probably wise in being a little cautious about claiming too much for them. adds: "Forced swarms are away ahead of natural swarms; and the nuisance of the latter may be largely avoided by anticipating them with the forced swarming. But a colony that will stick right to its knitting without any thought of swarming is ahead of either natural or artificial swarming; and all through my beekeeping life I've been chasing after the non-swarming will-o-the-wisp, and so I can't be so very enthusiastic about anything that doesn't point straight in that direction.

And again "you ask Mr. Editor, what will be the difference between a colony tinkered by shaking so it will not have any thought of swarming, and one not tinkered up that has never thought of swarming. I don't know precisely the difference, but should say at a guess about 25 per cent. That is the untinkered colony might store 25 per cent, more than the other."

To this the editor replies that a colony not tinkered with and wont swarm when run for comb honey is a rarity, so that hope lies in forced swarms.

All the journals are interested in this subject, judging from the extracts to be found in them. And it is to be hoped that it can be made a great help at the time when of all times the bee-keeper needs help.

## CO-OPERATION AGAIN.

BY F. L. THOMPSON.

In the November Review, just to hand, the first proposal of a form of by-laws, by Mr. F. E. Brown, for a national marketing organization is given. An article appears by Mr. E. A. Daggitt, going rather extensively into co-operation for farmers; and an article by Mr. W. A. H. Gilstrap follows on the necessity for and right of a honest trust. The Rocky Mountain Bee Journal is also going at the subject in the same devoted fashion. An article by Mr. Aikin in the November number merits attention.

The by-laws proposed by Mr. Brown were not intended to be published, and, I think, it was a mistake to publish them. They are open to serious criticism, and will undoubtedly be greatly modified by the committee. Their chief defect is that they commence work from the top down, whereas it should be done from the bottom up. The marketing associations already existing should form the nucleus of a national affair. They are in the business; they know what it is by experience. Then other local associations should be organized, and in their turn make their local requirements and experience the basis of their influence on the policy of a national marketing company. To do all this demands and requires that the national marketing board of directors should be made up of representatives in the true business sense of the local marketing associations. But the proposed by-laws would do nothing of the kind. They would give us an external, foreign affair, with no particular hold on the confidence of producers. They would make the national marketing board a creature of the present national board of twelve directors. Now, who are those twelve directors? They are very good men, no doubt, but from the nature of the



case they cannot be our representatives from a marketing point of view, nor are they competent to choose our representatives. They may fitly represent us in the present objects of the national association, but marketing is different. It is business, commerce, and special business at that. The national association as it is at present is so largely inexperienced, and will remain so largely inexperienced at that kind of work, that to put that business crudely into its hands will surely result in inefficiency. There is too much of these indefinite assumptions that the work is easy enough and can be done by anybody who is popular with beekeepers. They must represent beekeepers in special work, not general work. Producers must be represented by large producers, business by business men, special business by special men. The editor of the American Bee-Keeper, who usually sees to the bottom of things, has suffered himself to fall in with the customary slipshod view by assuming that anyone of the popular Eastern beekeepers, who are general business men, could draw up a satisfactory and workable scheme of action. That doesn't follow at all. No doubt, the code of management that will be finally adopted, because successful, will be very simple, and will seem to the future producer nothing but a collection of almost axiomatic principles. But every one of those principles must and will be the outcome of experience. Our own marketing association violated one of the fundamental laws of co-operation during the first year of its existence. It didn't know any better. It found out by experience. Therefore let us by all means base our start on the special experience of both principles and men.

The gist of Mr. Daggit's article is implied in these words: "Now let the farmers combine into big farming corporations." He draws a very enticing

picture of combination farming under the management of experts, and shows how very gloomy the present state of things is in comparison. It is nearly all true. That portion of the article which may be misleading and dangerous implies his belief in the common ownership of land, a state of things, decidedly dampening to individual energy, now being revolted against in Russia for that reason, where it has long been the rule among the peasants, and has been found wanting. All the good things for which he contends may be brought about in other ways than that. For the rest there need not be the slightest loss of individualism in most of the system he describes, but on the contrary, a great and strong and more just and universal development of the individual. But, there is a hitch in his scheme after all. He closes in these words: "Shall the commercial interests hold down the farmers any longer? Shall the bee-keepers (and bee-keeping is a branch of farming) continue to crush one another? To each, I say, no." Politicians? What have they to do with the matter? That word stamps the whole article as socialism in disguise. The great defect of socialism is not so much in its ideas (always excepting its communistic extremes), as in the way it would apply them. It would work from the top down, instead of beginning from the top up. Reforms are not usually carried through in that way. When they are thus carried through, as in the case of our civil war, they are attended with terrible injustice and suffering; and they may not be carried through at all when attempted, yet cause the same injustice and suffering as in the case of the French revolution. Not even if it could be done by the peaceful use of the ballot should it be attempted now. That would still be working from the top down. Socialism has no rights as a political party yet. When it has ac-



taually done on a small scale what it theorizes about on a large scale, when it can point to farmers' associations in every town, each with its town warehouse and manager, and its daily freight wagon for every main road, bringing in milk, cream, butter, eggs, chickens, and so forth, and carrying out groceries and mail, when it can point to a bricklayers' association in every city that employs one of its own members to serve as contractor, paying him the wages he deserves and no more, and putting in the pockets of its individual members the profits that contractors usually make, and can point to similar associations of other trades—then, and not before, should larger combinations be attempted or thought of. Not until the people are thoroughly educated by actual experience in co-operative lines, so that each new move shall be a legitimate growth, should it ever be made a political venture. That time may not be far ahead, after all. But one thing is certain, that real effectiveness on a large scale cannot be secured in any other way than by effectiveness on a small scale first. If a few farmers on each main road would organize just as our Honey Producers' Association has done, with a warehouse and manager, and capital consisting of shares of stock drawing interest but not dividends, dividing the net profits among individual members according to the actual business transacted through the association by each, and would let the rest of the farmers go and pay no attention to them except when they wanted to come in one at a time they would be successful from the start, without waisting time and energy on that baseless political idea that everybody has to be in an enterprise to make it a success, or that the majority shall force everybody to act in a certain way, and they would be laying the surest and quickest foundation for that future development into

general use and conservation of land, and steel plate roads, and so forth, that Mr. Daggit so glowingly describes, and would not be sacrificing individualism and the incentive to labor for improvements by communistic ownership of land.

Mr. Aikin, in the Rocky Mountain Bee Journal, brings up the idea of making the national marketing association a stock company. It does seem as if that would be the best plan, for it would provide the capital to an extent no other scheme can. But the difficulty is, how do so and retain the intimate connection with local organizations afforded by the representative plan? It has to be either one or the other. It cannot be both by any plan I can think of. A stock company must be controlled by its stockholders—the representatives of local organizations would not come in at all as such. However, a virtual and effective connection might be established, though a formal one would be impossible, by making one of the by-laws of the central organization say that no association shall do business through it at cost whose members are not everyone stockholders in the central organization.


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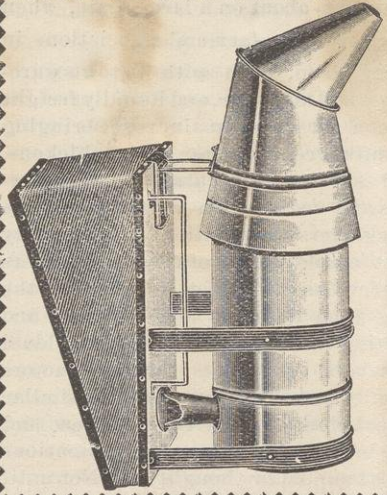
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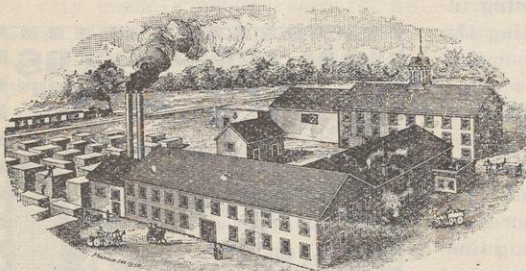
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There is not room to say very much about the back numbers for this year but I will mention one prominent feature of each issue.

**JANUARY** is a Colorado number; six pages being devoted to a beautifully illustrated "write-up," by the editor, of that paradise for bee-keepers. This issue also shows how to make a cheap hive-cover that will neither split, warp nor leak, in any climate.

**FEBRUARY** contains the beginning of a series of articles by M. A. Gill, who last year managed 700 colonies of bees, and produced nearly two car loads of honey. These articles are written from the fullness of his experience.

**MARCH** has an article by S. D. Chapman, on "What Makes Bees Swarm," that I consider the best I have seen on the subject. It gets right down to the foundation of the matter. In fact so thoroughly does Mr. Chapman understand the matter that he has so made up a colony that one half would swarm leaving the combs deserted while the other half would not budge.

**APRIL** ushers in some typographical changes. The smooth, shiny, glazed paper was laid aside for a soft white paper that gives to printing a clean, tasty, tempting look. The frontpieces are printed in

colors instead of somber black. The cover is of Court Gray printed in two colors—Umber and Milori blue.

**MAY** contains a five-page review of a book by E. A. Morgan, entitled "Bee-keeping for profit." It was rightly named, the author getting right down to basic principles, and giving the chit of profitable honey production, particularly in the Northern States.

**JUNE** shows how a man may practically defy foul brood; how he may keep bees in a foul-broody district, all surrounded by diseased colonies, yet keep his apiary so free from it and its effects, as to secure a good crop of honey each year.

**JULY** has an excellent article by Mr. Gill on the management of out-apiaries for the production of comb honey, showing how the work must be generalized, yet systematic, and done just a little ahead of time.

**AUGUST** illustrates and describes the handiest and best bee-tent for circumventing robbers that I ever saw. It also has an article by Mr. Boardman on "shook" swarms, showing how we may practically take swarming into our own hands.

Remember that each issue contains dozens of interesting and instructive items aside from the ones mentioned. Send \$1.00, and the back numbers for this year will be sent at once, your name put upon the subscription list and the Review sent to the end of next year.

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