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The Southland queen. Vol. III, No. 11 March 1898

Beeville, Texas: The Jennie Atchley Company, March 1898

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BEEVILLE, TEXAS.

MARCH, 1898.

— THE —
SOUTHLAND QUEEN.

— PUBLISHED BY —

THE JENNIE ATCHLEY COMPANY.

PRICES OF

Bingham Perfect BEE Smokers and


Hoey Knives

Patented 1878, 1882 and 1892



Smoke engine { largest smok- }		Per Doz.	each
4-inch stove { er made }		\$13 00-Mail,	\$1 50
Doctor, 3½ inch stove		9 00 "	1 10
Conqueror, 3 "		6 50 "	1 00
Large, 2½ "		5 00 "	90
Plain, 2 "		4 75 "	70
Little Wonder, 2 "		4 50 "	60
Honey Knife,		6 00 "	80

Direct-Draft Perfect
BINGHAM
Bee Smoker

All Bingham smokers are stamped on the metal
 Patented { 1878 Knives, B&H
 * { 1892 * *

The four larger sizes have extra wide shields and double coiled steel wire handles. These SHIELDS and HANDLES are an AMAZING COMFORT—al-

ways cool and clean. No more sootty or burnt fingers. The Plain and Little Wonder have narrow shields and wire handles. All ingin Smokers have all the new improvements, viz: Direct Draft, Movable Bent Cap, Wire Handles, Inverted Bellows, and are in every way ABSOLUTELY PERFECT.

Fiteen Years for a Dollar! One-half a ent for a Month!!

DEAR SIR, : havs used the Conqueror 15 years I was always pleased with its workings, but think I would need a new one this summer, I write for a circular. I do not think the 4-inch Smoke Engine too large. Yours, ect. W. H. EAGERTY, Cuba, Kansas. January 27, 1897.

T. F. BINGHAM, Farwell Mich.

HOLYLAND BEES & QUEENS.

I am now ready to fill your orders for any amount of bees and queens. I now have 200 colonies of bees in conection with my large number of qneen rearing nuclei; and am better prepared than ever before to fill your orders. Untested queens, 1.00 each, or 5.00 for six or 9.00 per dozen. Tested queens 2.00 each or 10.50 for six or 20.00 per dozen. Bees by the pound; one pound 1.00 10 or more pounds 90c. Special prices on large quanities quoted on application

WILLIE ATCHLEY, Beeville, Bee Co, Texas.

THE SOUTHLAND QUEEN.

Published Monthly. Devoted to the Exchange of Thoughts on Apiculture. \$1.00 Yearly

Vol. 3.

BEEVILLE, TEXAS, MARCH, 1898.

No. 11.

—NEWS NOTES.—

Below we submit to our readers the result of the election of officers for the National Bee Keeper's Union. The votes were counted by the committee February 12, and we note with pleasure that our old wheel-horse, Thomas G. Newman, is still general manager. Much good has resulted to the members of this organization from the protection it has thrown around them, and all suits and grievances that have come up wrongfully against the members have been over come by the assistance of the general manager; as he has so faithfully performed his duty that the rights of all bee keepers have been fully taken care of. Mr. Newman is indefatigable in ever watching out for intruders, and is the right man in the right place. The result of the election is as follows:

Total number of votes polled, 129.

For president 115, of which R. L. Taylor received 94, G. M. Doolittle 7, A.

J. Cook 5, Dr. C. C. Miller 2, Eugene Secor 3; P. H. Elwood, Chas. Dadant, F. A. Gemmel, B. S. K. Bennett, Geo. W. York, A. I. Root and E. S. Lovesy, one each.

Vice-president—G. M. Doolittle received 96, Dr. C. C. Miller 91, A. J. Cook 87, Eugene Secor 79, A. I. Root 73, R. L. Taylor 9, Chas. Dadant 8, Geo. W. York 7, J. M. Hambaugh 6, Frank Benton 6, P. H. Elwood 6, C. P. Dadant 6, A. B. Mason 5, France 5, R. B. Leahy 5, R F Holterman 5, W D French 4, C F Muth 4, James Hedden 4, G G Baldwin 3, Dr. E Gallup 3, Wm. McEvoy 3, J H Martin 3, J H Miller 2, G W Brodbeck 2, Frank McNay 2, E R Root 2, Mrs. Harrison, Geo. E Hilton, W L Wilson, R H Smith, D N Cummer, Thos. W Farmer, Aaron Young, C A Hatch, F A Gemmel, R T Rhees, C H Dibbern, John Nebel, John Conwill, J S Crowfoot, A M Hoyle, Rudolph Hillman, Fred Krum, N Shoemaker, E A Boon, A I Emonds, J C McCubbin, J A Golden, Thos. G Newman, Chas. Lud-kee, C Theilman, M H Mendelson, E S Lovesy and H R Boardman, one each.

For General Manager, Secretary and Treasurer—Thos. G. Newman received 116, E Secor 5, R L Taylor 1, C C Miller 1.

For Resolution, 121.

Against Resolution, 3.

Committee. { W D FRENCH,
A ARTHUR HANSON.

Central Texas Bee Keeper's Convention.

The Central Texas Bee Keepers Association met in convention at the home of Judge Terral in Cameron, February 2 and 3, and was called to order by the president, E. Y. Terral.

Judge J. M. McGregor delivered the welcome address and was responded to by Mr. E. R. Jones.

The roll was then called for, but the secretary, Mr. Bankston, being absent, and the roll and other records not being there, its calling was omitted.

Mr. E. R. Jones was elected secretary, pro tem.

The committee on programmes having failed to prepare a program, Messrs. Aten, Hyde, Cairnes and Jones were appointed in their stead, to report at 10 a. m. next day.

President Terral then made a very interesting talk on apiculture, emphasizing the fact that to be successful in bee keeping, strict attention must be paid to the details in management.

Mr. Aten followed on the same line. He runs his bees for extracted honey almost exclusively. He puts extracting combs in supers on the colony to keep over winter and says bees will eat out the foundation if left in the hive

over winter. He keeps his colonies built up strong, three and four stories high, and they do not swarm but little.

Mr. Hyde then spoke, as follows: Bee keepers, as a rule, view the bee business from a dollars and cents standpoint, and, how to get the most honey with the least outlay of money and labor, is what we want to know. For, if we can get the honey, we know we can get the money for it. In early spring I see that all colonies have plenty of stores and a prolific queen. If I find a colony with a poor queen, I give it a new one. I generally keep a few nuclei for the purpose of queen rearing, and can get a queen from one of them. I use full sheets of foundation in all frames and narrow starters in the sections. By using full sheets of foundation I get all my combs straight.

Mr. Madley:—Which way do you front your hives?

Mr. Hyde:—South.

Mr. Madley:—Then you do not need foundation to get straight combs. If you front your hives north or east and don't give them foundation, they will build crooked combs.

President Terral:—I think it better to supersede a poor queen in the fall; it is no use to give a pro-

lific queen to a colony that has not other subjects, the convention adjourned till ten o'clock a. m. next day.

Mr. Madley:—I never saw a bee tree that the bees went in on the north or east side.

Mr. Jones:—The bees went in on the north-east side of the first bee tree I ever found, and on the north side of the next one. I found both one evening. Finding those two trees is what gave me the bee fever.

Mr. Booth:—I am ignorant about bees. I came here to learn. I have six colonies and took about fifty gallons of fine honey last year. I worked under the instructions of Mr. Bankston and others. I think I got about twice as much honey from my three-story colonies as I did from those having but two stories.

Mr. Hilliard:—I have had no experience with bees. I bought nine colonies last fall and am going to put them in framed hives. I come to learn how to handle them profitably.

Mr. Cairnes:—I started in queen rearing last year with forty-nine colonies. Queen rearing is very hard on bees. I think I will come out this spring with twelve or thirteen colonies. I have been feeding for about two weeks.

After talking promiscuously on

SECOND DAY.

The convention was called to order by the president, at 10:30 a. m., and the committee on program reported as follows:

1st. Enrollment of members and collection of annual dues.

2d. Is it advisable for the Central Texas Bee Keeper's Association to make an exhibit at the Omaha Exposition? Discussion.

3d. Is the plain section and fence separator better than the standard section and solid separator? Discussion.

4th. Fixing time and place for next meeting.

5th. Resolutions and other business of interest.

6th. Question box.

7th. Adjournment.

Report received and committee discharged.

J. H. Hilliard then enrolled the names of those present and the following paid their annual membership fees: J. H. Hilliard, W. H. Madley, F. L. Aten, O. P. Hyde, Homer Hyde, R. S. Booth, John Cairnes and E. R. Jones.

A motion was made and carried to have badges printed for the convention. Uncle Jno. Cairnes was dispatched to attend to it. The

regular program was then taken up.

Is it advisable for the Central Texas Bee Keeper's Association to make an exhibit at the Omaha Exposition?

After considerable discussion Messrs. O. P. Hyde and F. L. Aten were appointed a committee to correspond with all the members in regard to the matter, and with Mr. Atchley and the managers of the Apiarian department of the exposition for any information necessary in the matter.

Is the plain section and fence separator better than the standard section and solid separator?

Mr. Jones:—I used a slated separator last year; it was simply an ordinary plain sawed separator, cut in three pieces lengthwise and nailed to the section holders, with an opening between the slats of 3-16 of an inch. I think the bees will go to work in a super of sections with slated separators quicker than they will plain or solid separators. I find that most of the honey produced between the slated separators has a slight ridge on the capings opposite the openings in the separator. I have been favorably impressed with the plain tall section for some time, so much so that I ordered 500 last year, but did not get them in time to try

them. I feel very certain that with the plain section and cleated separator the bees will enter the supers quicker and finish the honey nicer than they will with the standard section and plain separator.

Others had no experience.

Time and place of next meeting.

By a unanimous vote it was decided to do away with the semi-annual meetings, and hold annual meetings on Thursday and Friday preceding the full moon in July, of each year.

The next meeting will take place at the home of Mr. F. L. Aten, near Palm Valley switch, between Hutto and Round Rock, in Williamson county, on the I. & G. N. R. R. It will be opened June 30th, and an Apiarian fair will be held in connection with the convention.

Resolutions:

Resolved, that this convention extend its sincere thanks to the people of Cameron who have offered their hospitalities, and especially to Judge Terral and his esteemed family, for the kind and hospitable manner in which we have been entertained while here.

A letter from F. J. R. Davenport to President Terral was read to the convention. Mr. D. regrets not being able to be at our

convention. He has been working very hard and is completely broke down. He made 4,581 pounds of honey and has a stock of sealed combs to build up prime swarms with. His bees are in fine condition with prospects for a good honey crop this year.

Question Box.

What is the best plan by which to requeen a queenless colony?

M. Hyde:—Give it a comb of eggs from your best queen and let them raise a queen; or, a better way yet, is to have some extra queens for that purpose.

Mr. Booth:—I am a beginner and would like to know how to introduce queens?

Mr. Hyde:—If you get a queen from a breeder, the instructions always accompany it.

Mr. Jones:—If you have an extra laying queen and the bees are gathering honey, you will be pretty safe in drizzling a little honey between the combs of the queenless colony, then daubing the queen with honey and dropping her right in among them and closing the hive. Do this very quietly and just before night. It is a little safer to cage the queen and hang the cage between the combs and let the bees release her by eating out the candy in the cage.

Can all bees lay eggs?

No.

Is there any difference in the appearance of a laying worker and any other worker?

No.

What is the best mode of procedure when all drones are found in the hive?

Kill the drones and save all combs and honey.

Does artificial queen cells produce as good queens as natural cells?

President Terrall:—I think they are just as good.

Mr. Hyde:—I don't know anything about it; never raised any queens in artificial cells.

Mr. Jones:—I see no difference. I have had twenty-six as fine cells as I ever saw, perfected from one setting of thirty budged cups.

How is the best way to raise queens for your own use?

Mr. Hyde:—By saving cells from colonies that have cast prime swarms and rearing them in nuclei prepared for it.

Do bees lay on their backs or on their faces before they start to cut out of the cells?

Mr. Hyde:—I never observed.

Mr. Aten:—I never noticed positively.

Should transferred combs be placed the same way in frames that they were built?

Mr. Hyde:—I think they should.

Mr. Madley:—It wont do to put them the other side up. Bees build their cells inclined upward. If the combs are turned over they will not raise brood in them any more.

Mr. Jones:—I transfer brood combs the way they will fit best, with a preference for the way they were built. The cells will be inclined upward on combs that were first used for storing honey in, but with combs that were first used for raising brood, the cells are built square out. Cut a piece from the middle of a brood comb and I do not believe there is a man in the house that can tell which side up it was built.

Adjourned.

Report for 1897.

I started in the spring with ten hives and increased to forty-five, then traded honey for twenty-five more. I have kept bees twenty years and never saw as good a honey season as we had in '97. I have bought some queens and sold some. I have a new hive for the north. It is two feet high and nine inches square in the brood chamber, with closed end frames. It is to be a cheap hive.

ALBERT HINES,

Independence, Iowa.

Milam County Farmer's Institute.

APIARIAN DEPARTMENT.

The following report of the fourth annual meeting of the Milam county Farmer's Institute, which was held in Cameron, October 7, 8 and 9, 1897, has just reached us:

The Institute opened on Thursday, and everybody was in a rush that day, getting things in proper shape. Prominent among the exhibitors were The Jennie Atchley Co., Judge E. Y. Terral, C. B. Bankston, W. H. Mites, Mrs. Nabours, E. R. Jones and others.

The Jennie Atchley Co., exhibited a fine Holyland queen with her bees, in an observatory hive. I am very sure there were more questions asked about the Holyland bees than about any other part of the exhibit. I met a lady there who had traveled a great deal and had been in Palistine; she said she had seen bees while there but did not know there was any difference between them and the bees we have here. The card pasted on the hive, "Holy Land Bees, Compliments of the Jennie Atchley Co., Beeville, Texas" had attracted her attention, and many were the questions asked by her and others. I was kept busy from

Friday morning until the close of the Institute, answering questions about bee keeping and the various implements and fixtures used in apiculture.

Bankston was there with his Golden bees, Jones had about 300 pounds of section honey and a bee keeper's mashing machine, (honey extractor), while Judge Terral exhibited the clothes wringer, (foundation mill.)

There was not near as large a display as there might have been had every body done their best to make a big show.

Taken all in all, it was a very enjoyable occasion, but I was glad when Saturday evening came.

I offered premiums to the amount of \$10. The following is a list of premiums as offered and the awards:

CLASS A.

No. 1—Best Italian bees with mother queen, in observatory hive, \$1.00.

No. 2—Best Carniolan bees with mother queen, in observatory hive, \$1.00.

No. 3—Best Holyland bees with mother queen, in observatory hive, \$1.00.

No. 4—Best and largest number of queen cells actually built by the bees, shown with bees in an observatory hive, \$1.00.

CLASS B.

No. 1. (special by R. T. Pool, Milano, Texas.)—Best comb honey, (in standard one pound sections,) not less than twenty pounds, \$1.50.

No. 2—Best extracted honey in marketable glass packages, not less than twenty pounds, \$1.00.

No. 3—Best extracted honey, any package, not less than five pounds, 50 cents.

No. 4—Largest number of pure samples of honey from different sources, 50 cents.

CLASS C.

No. 1 Best beeswax, not less than five pounds, 50 cents.

No. 2—Largest variety of aparian products, 50 cents.

No. 3—Largest variety of aparian conveniences and appliances, 50 cents.

No. 4—For the most attractive feature of the exhibit, \$1.00.

Premiums were awarded as follows:

CLASS A.

No. 1—To C. B. Bankston.

No. 2—Not represented.

No. 3—To E. R. Jones.

No. 4—To E. R. Jones.

CLASS B.

No. 1, (special)—E. R. Jones.

No. 2—To Mrs. W. A. Nabours.

No. 3—To E. R. Jones.

No. 4—To C. B. Bankston.

CLASS C.

No. 1—To E. Y. Terral.

No. 2—To E. R. Jones.

No. 3—To E. R. Jones.

No. 4—To E. R. Jones.

The complimentary exhibit of The Jennie Atchley Co., was barred from competing for a premium, by a rule passed by the executive committee of the Institute, to the effect that no one living outside of Milam county could compete for a premium, and that every entry must be made in the name of the owner.

Judge Terral was down on the programme for an address on Apiculture, and E. R. Jones for one on Comb Honey; but from some cause, probably the lack of time, the Judge was not called on.

While the display was not as large as it might have been, I feel sure that it will help to stimulate apiculture in Milam county.

E. R. JONES.

Notice.

We wish to correct a statement that was made in last month's Queen, to the effect that the Central Texas Bee Keepers Association elected officers at their meeting last month. No election was held. Officers will be elected at their next meeting, which will be held in July.

PROCEEDINGS

Of the South Texas Bee Keeper's Convention--Held at Beeville.

The South Texas Bee Keepers Association met in the factory of The Jennie Atchley Co., February 15, 1898, at 9:30 a. m. President G. F. Davidson in the chair.

The following members answered to roll call: G. F. Davidson, Fairview; T. C. Thedford, Beeville; C. A. and J. H. Manlove, Couch; E. J. Atchley, Beeville; Willie, N. N., Ives, Leah and Rosa Atchley, Beeville; W. W. Downing, Pettus; J. M. Faust, Floresville; Tommie Atchley, Beeville; Mertie and L. V. Cruse, Beeville; S. F. Cude, Beeville; J. L. Crabb, Kennedy; Miss L. W. Hardiman, Miss Mae Hufstedler, Mrs. M. V. Hufstedler, Geo. W. Hufstedler, Beeville; W. L. Hornsby, Clayton, La.; J. C. Thompson, Beeville; C. W. Webb, Skidmore; G. W. Marshall, Beeville; T. F. Jonah, Normana; R. O. Morrow, Quincy; W. B. Upton, Quincy; Mrs. S. A. Osborn, Miss Bessie Osborn, Miss Fannie Smith, Beeville; O. H. Stevens, Normana; J. H. Osborn, Beeville; Mrs. Marshall, Mrs. Ella Long, Miss Mary Turner, Miss Amanda Atchley and Mrs. I. S. Long, Beeville.

How is the best way to ship

comb honey?

J. H. Manlove:—I have no experience.

E. J. Atchley:—Comb honey cans with large screw caps is by far the best in this climate.

Willie Atchley:—I prefer the sixty pound can for wholesale and twelve pound can for the retail trade.

G. F. Davidson:—I think the cans with eight inch tops are the best.

Which is the best bee for this locality?

J. H. Manlove:—I am using the common black bee, but think the Italian are the best.

C. A. Manlove:—I don't know which is the best.

T. C. Thedford:—I prefer the Italian, all the time.

E. J. Atchley:—I think the Italian the best all-around bee. The Holylands get more honey but I think a cross between the Holyland and imported Italian are the best for this locality.

Willie Atchley:—I think the Holyland bees are by far the best.

J. C. Thompson:—I don't know which is the best, but I think the Italian is the prettiest bee I ever saw.

G. F. Davidson:—I prefer the Italians. I think they are a dead shot on moths.

G. W. Hufstedler:—I think the Italian the best.

Committee on programme for evening session: Willie Atchley, J. H. Manlove and Geo. W. Hufstedler.

Motion to adjourn until 1 o'clock p. m., carried.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

President Davidson in the chair.

Prayer, by T. C. Thedford.

Song, by the convention, "What a friend we have in Jesus."

Reading of the 19th Psalm, by Bro. Thompson.

Omaha Exposition—After considerable discussion it was moved and carried that the president appoint a committee to confer with the railroads and Exposition committee, relative to making an exhibit. T. F. Jonah, E. J. Atchley and G. F. Davidson were appointed as a committee.

No bee-way section.

It was decided that the said section was no improvement over the old section.

Graham Foundation.

The convention agreed to use Graham's new process foundation when it was practical to do so.

Question box.

ist. Which is the best to breed from, a young queen or an old one?

It was decided that a queen in her second year was preferable.

What race of bees make the sweetest honey?

Honey bees. Worker bees. All bees gather the same honey from the same flowers.

How cheap can we sell honey and not get below the cost of production?

E. J. Atchley:—I don't know.

G. F. Davidson and Willie Atchley think 5 cents low enough.

What is the best thing to feed bees?

E. J. Atchley:—Honey.

Willie Atchley:—Honey first, brown sugar second.

What is the best method of testing the purity of a queen?

E. J. Atchley—The characteristics and color.

Willie Atchley—By the color of her progeny.

G. F. Davidson—I must see her queen progeny.

What would you do if the ants bothered the bees?

O. H. Stevens—Move the hive and put a bottle in their nest.

Willie Atchley—Ants never attacked any but weak colonies for me, then I exchanged places with a strong colony.

G. F. Davidson—I sprinkle London Purple where the ants are.

T. C. Thedford—I use ashes. I have a colony of bees that are sick; what is the matter.

E. J. Atchley—They have a touch of paralysis, or nameless bee disease.

What is the best to do with them?

W. W. Downing—Sulphur them.

How do the bees measure the cells when making them.

T. C. Thedford—They measure them by the length of their legs.

How long will a fertile worker live.

G. F. Davidson—I don't know.

Willie Atchley—Two months.

Number of colonies reported by

the members: J. H. Manlove 67,

spring count; increased to 105 and

took 111 pounds of extracted hon-

ey to the colony. T. C. Thedford

8 colonies. C. A. Manlove, 10

colonies, spring count, have 30

now; have taken 75 gallons of hon-

ey. E. J. Atchley; 300 colonies,

1000 pounds of honey and sold

about 2,500 queens. W. W. Down-

ing, 56, spring count, 77 now;

2,750 pounds of honey and sold 2

queens. J. M. Faust, 246 colonies,

7000 pounds of honey. J. L. Crabb,

78, spring count, 73 now. J. C.

Thompson, 2 colonies, 100 pounds

of honey. G. F. Davidson, 177,

spring count, sold 120, have 187

now; 8000 pounds of honey, 2000

pounds of which was comb honey,

also sold 100 queens. Geo. W.

Hufstедler, 175 colonies, sold 800

queens. Willie Atchley, 87, ashamed to peddle honey. spring count, increased to 150, Brother Jonah—Peddling honey sold 45, have 200 colonies now; is honorable. sold 550 queens.

Prospects for honey crop in 1898 town to town selling my honey. is universally good, all over the state. How to manage an out-Apiary?

Best method of manipulating bees for a crop of extracted honey? C. A. Manlove—I travel from town to town selling my honey. How to manage an out-Apiary? E. J. Atchley—I think it best to have some one with them. Otherwise give them plenty of room, using very large hives. Follow up with the extractor and keep the honey out.

E. J. Atchley—I use a comb bucket, holding fourteen combs; otherwise the same as brother Davidson. Brother J. H. Manlove—I think plenty of room is the best thing that can be done for an out-Apiary.

Brother Manlove, J. H.—I use a long hive, combs running cross-wise, taking from one end of the hive at a time. Brother Davidson—At swarming time I swarm them thus: I prepared a hive and put one frame and queen in the new hive and turned the old hive around; in a few days I put the old combs in the new hive instead of new combs which went in the old hive, letting them rear their own queens.

Brother Manlove, J. H.—I think this is one of the most important questions yet brought before the convention. I sell to my neighbors first, then go to town and let the people taste my honey, and I find it no trouble to increase my sales. Brother Jonah—Is there any way by which a queen may be judged from the appearance of the cell?

E. J. Atchley—I never had as much honey as I could sell. The best way is to put our honey up in such a way as to suit our individual customers. Willie Atchley—A cell must be at least one inch long.

J. H. Manlove—I am not What is the best package for shipping extracted honey? E. J. Atchley—I think a five gallon can with a screw cap is the best.

J. H. Manlove—Same as Bro. A. Willie Atchley—I think five

gallon cans for the wholesale trade and one gallon cans for the retail trade the best.

Queen Rearing.

Brother Davidson:—I use the Alley plan.

Willie Atchley:—I use a plan of my own, which is an improvement over the Doolittle plan.

J. H. Manlove—I take a comb from my best queen and place it in a queenless hive, getting my cells built where I want them by mashing comb.

E. J. Atchley—We give our plan, which is printed in book form, free to all who ask for it.

Brother Davidson—I take the brood all away from the cell building colonies.

The following resolution was then passed:

The South Texas Bee Keepers, in convention assembled, do hereby resolve, that we tender our most sincere thanks to Mr. E. J. Atchley and family; also the bee keepers and neighbors, for the full baskets of good things placed before us today. We also wish Mrs. Atchley a speedy recovery to her natural health.

The election of officers then followed and the following will serve the ensuing term.

E. J. Atchley, president; Willie Atchley, vice president; Geo. W.

Hufstедler, secretary.

Beeville and Floresville were then put in nomination as the place for holding the next meeting, and Floresville was almost unanimously selected. The date was fixed for August 17 and 18, 1898.

Convention then adjourned till 7 30 p. m.

NIGHT SESSION.

After the day meeting was closed and supper over with, about twenty very enthusiastic bee keepers remained for a night meeting, in response to Mrs. Atchley's request, as she was sick and could not leave her room. Everything was cleared from the room except her bed, and seats arranged. Mrs. A. was not able to sit up any, but took part in the meeting.

Prayer, by Rev. T. C. Thedford.

Song, by the convention.

All took part then in asking questions,

Which is the best way to manage bees in the spring?

Willie Atchley—I see that all colonies have good queens and plenty of stores to build up on.

J. H. Manlove—As Willie has said, it is very essential, that all colonies have good prolific queens. As I have only one-story hives, I will tell how I manage them. I mark all my hives and keep a record of them. As soon as the

weather will admit, in early spring, I begin to equalize the colonies, and try to get them all strong and ready for the harvest.

I take care not to give too much brood to the weak colonies as that might result in a loss, should it turn cool. I also equalize the stores, take from the rich and give to the poor, until all are about equal in honey. As the colonies increase and begin to get strong, I begin to form my artificial colonies or nuclei, for the purpose of raising queens to keep up my yards. I do not make but few nuclei at a time. When I get laying queens in my nuclei I begin to build them up also, and after warm weather comes I can soon build up all my nuclei to full colonies. I manage so as to have them all built up for the harvest, as I want every colony very strong in bees by harvest time. By drawing brood early, for building up weak colonies and nuclei, I can hold the strong ones from swarming and always have some empty frames for them to work on. When the harvest comes I take the honey before the bees think of swarming. If my strong colonies show a disposition to swarm, I take their brood all away at the beginning of the harvest and build up nuclei, etc. One spring in north-east Texas, I began with forty colonies, took 1,026 pounds of honey and only had eleven swarms.

G. F. Davidson—My method of spring management is quite different from brother Manlove's. I always see that I have good queens in the fall. I do not rob Peter to pay Paul. My reasons are, that I do not want my bees to have an even start, as I would then have fifteen or twenty swarms in a day, and by letting them remain rich and poor, I have my swarms scattered along so it is not so much trouble on my hands at once. For the past seven years I have made my swarms artificially. One of my best plans for building up colonies, is by moving the brood from center to outside. I believe the bees are better off with all supers removed, but I leave mine on, for it is the best way I know of to take care of combs. I always give empty frames or foundation in supers, as the bees will crowd the queen out of the brood chamber if I do not give plenty of storing room above.

J. H. Manlove—My nineteen years at bee keeping teach me that I can keep down swarming with empty frames. I always know the condition of my colonies and do not fear losing swarms on Sunday while gone to church.

How to prevent bees from robbing and how best to stop it after it is started?

Willie Atchley—When I find my bees have a regular robbing spree on, I hastily close all the entrances with wire cloth that I have for that purpose; but fortunately I have not had a bad case of robbing for a long time. When robbers are just beginning, it is usually just a few colonies that start it, and I can pick them out in a few minutes and close their entrances, in place of closing the hive being robbed, and soon all will get quiet. This is the best preventive that I know of.

J. H. Manlove—I do not think there is anything that vexes me more than to have hands about the bee yard that will persist in leaving bits of comb and honey scattered around, which is almost sure to start robbing. To keep all sweets out of their reach during a drouth is the best preventive I know of. I would bury a barrel of honey before I would feed a drop, unless they really needed it; as feeding during a drouth is usually the outcome of great destruction in large apiaries, unless the greatest of care is taken. Another good remedy to stop robbing when once started, is to tie coal oil rags above the entrances to the

hives being robbed, say about four inches above the entrance, or about where the robbers strike the hive, and they soon get enough of that.

How to prevent bees from ever swarming?

Willie Atchley—I think that is one of the impossibilities, as bees will swarm sometimes in this country, no matter how many or who's plans are used. Bro. Manlove's plan is a good preventive.

T. C. Thedford—I divide my bees and when they prepare to swarm, I cut out all the queen cells, that usually stops it.

How can we best protect ourselves against foul brood?

J. H. Manlove—I do not see that an inspector would do us any good, unless we could get our representatives in congress to give us a law to permit us to inspect bees that are brought into this country. We could not compel people to destroy their bees unless we had authority to do it. To buy diseased bees and burn them would be expensive, but should any brother bee keeper from the north ship in foul broody bees, we might persuade him to kill them by our helping him start up again.

Warren Downing—I think that most people would be willing to

destroy their bees, if they had foul brood, without a law.

G. F. Davidson—When our next legislature meets, if we do not get a law to help us, it will be our own fault. I know that bee keeping is in its infancy, but it is rapidly growing, and we have a right to be protected. I suggest that the Southland Queen agitate a Foul Brood law.

Some one thought that likely we could not get a law or protection until our bees were taxed.

T. C. Thedford—I do not think that will be a barrier, as our churches are not taxed and they have protection. I make a motion that the Queen publish a request for a Foul Brood law, and ask all other bee papers to take part.

The motion carried.

Mrs. Jennie Atchley—It is time we were looking out for protection, as so many are coming in from other countries. Some one may run right among us with the disease. We ought to have a law of protection.

T. C. Thedford—Come to think of it, I believe it would be better for the present if bees were taxed, as then the Box hive keepers would have to take better care of their bees or give them away to some one that would.

G. F. Davidson—In some coun-

tries bees are taxed, but there is no law for it in our statute books.

Mrs. Atchley—When bees are brought down here in winter, we could not tell whether they were infected with foul brood or not, and it would be a good plan to have all bees overhauled as soon as they begin brood rearing in the spring. That is, all that are brought in from other countries, as there is none in Texas now that I know of.

Merits and demerits of self spacing frames.

G. W. Hufstedler—I like the self spacing frames but do not like the small 3-8 inch bottom bar to it.

E. J. Atchley—I think the self spacing frame a good thing, but do not like the top bars more than 3-4 inch thick.

Mrs. Jennie Atchley—I like the Hoffman frames, but want a bottom bar at least 3-4 inch wide. Reason: they are stronger, better to transfer combs into and with the little small bottom bars, the bees sometimes miss them when building comb, and ugly combs are the result.

J. H. Manlove—I don't like the self spacers, because I cannot always have the spacing as I want it, sometimes narrow and then wide.

Willie Atchley—I like self spac-

ers for moving bees, but for extracting I do not like them, unless I had an extractor especially made for them.

Song, by Miss Mae Hufstедler.
Convention then adjourned.

It was a very interesting meeting, indeed. After shaking hands all around and wishing Mrs. Atchley a speedy recovery, the bee keepers departed for their homes.

Lets Them Cull Themselves.

I was something like Mr. Kunke of Ballinger; last spring he said in one of his communications: I extracted 5000 pounds of honey. In the next issue you said that was a misprint. Mr. Kunke expects to extract 5000 pounds. Well, so did I. I did not extract any this year, but took comb honey altogether. Got 00001 pounds of comb honey. Mr. Kunke wants to sell his bees on account of getting himself a home. I would have liked very much to have sold mine this fall on account of getting them a better home.

The bulk of the bees in this part of the world will die. I had 100 hives, let them alone until November, which is a good way to cull them; as the shiftless ones die out. Commenced feeding the latter part of November, doubled and

trebled up until I reduced them to 40 stands. Fed them nearly two barrels of sugar. I don't hear of anyone else feeding in these parts, not even Mr. Blank, who hardly ever has less than 150 colonies, and makes a business of raising honey. I do not depend on the bees for a living and work with them only at spare times. My wife attends to the swarms, hiving them if I am not at home; and yet, if there is any honey in the country we get a good share of it. Never before in the twenty-seven years we have owned bees, have we saw so complete a failure as this year. This neighborhood has to depend for its fall crop on Live Oak balls; in 1896 they gave less than usual, although a little surplus, but this year there was no Live Oak balls and therefore no honey. We put 1200 sections on our hives, which we wished to run for comb; we took them off this fall just as they were put on, except a few of the starters missing. We have quite a lot of empty comb on hand besides something over 100 pounds of wax, gotten out of crooked and ill-shaped combs. Those empty combs will be worth quite a little sum should we get a honey flow. A great many of our hives were two and three story, but we cut them all down to one story.

J. A. RUFF,
Ft. McKavett, Texas.

The Plain Section.

Gets a pretty good airing in the January Review. Mr. J. E. Crane is so well pleased with their appearance, although they require more careful handling when filled, to prevent the comb being marred, that he has rigged up a Barnes' saw, so as to slice off the projecting edges of ordinary ones. This has the advantage of leaving the edges clean and white, without scraping.

Mr. S. D. Matthews has tried them and says they look too lean, and are sometimes built out to the separators; but they sell well. He finds that the best work by the bees are done in sections having one bee space.

After setting forth the many disadvantages of the plain section in a manner that will make the prudent go slow in changing from the ordinary two bee space style, now in general use, Mr. T. F. Bingham says: "There is also a touch of art in the matter. Any one familiar with architecture knows the beauty of projecting edges and borders. Do the advocates of this formless 'chunk honey' realize how thin, meager and lean it will look? Take away the projecting edges from a section of honey and

we see sweetness without ornament."

Mr. James Heddon condemns the "fence" separator and plain section severely. He calls the separators "miserable glue-traps" and the sections "a nuisance." Having tried the latter years ago, by the thousand, he says sections with bee spaces are much superior to them at every step, from the surplus case to the consumer.

Thus, we see that wide differences of opinion prevail, and it is well to notice who it is booming a thing, before making expensive changes. People are naturally fond of new or uncommon things, and no doubt the salesmen take advantage of this fact in making sales of honey in plain sections. Who knows that there will be a marked difference in the demand when they become common.

W. H. PRIDGEN.

Gone to the Klondike,

Seattle, Wash., Feb. 20, '98.

THE JENNIE ATCHLEY CO.,

Please send the Queen to Mrs. H. Talmadge, Everett, Wash., until my subscription runs out. I will leave for Alaska about March 5. Will write you again as soon as I get settled.

JOHN FRANCISCO.

Box 152.

THE Southland QUEEN.

Published Monthly

E. J. Atchley, Editor and Business Mgr.

— Assisted by —

Willie, Charlie and Amanda Atchley.

Mrs. Jennie Atchley, Ed. and Manager
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THE JENNIE ATCHLEY COMPANY,
Beeville, Bee Co., Texas.

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

BEEVILLE, TEX., MARCH, 1898.

May weather, which gives the bees a fair chance. The woods are one big flower garden.

WE beg to call the attention of our queen customers to the fact that after arrangements have been made to mail queens on certain days, and that time brings a cool snap, or when we think it too cool to risk the queens, we hold the right to delay until it turns warmer, to mail. This is best all around as it is a disappointment to the recipient to receive dead queens, and a loss to the shipper. It is our aim to get queens out as soon as possible after the time arrives for them to go. If the delay is more than a day or two, we always write the customer, explaining matters. We now have 500 queens ready to mail.

WE have received the catalogue of O. P. Hyde & Son, Hutto, Texas. Bee Keepers' supplies.

THIS issue of the Queen might be called a Convention Paper, as there are full reports of three conventions contained in it. Read them over carefully and see what you can learn, and also send in your comments upon anything you dislike.

At this writing, March 1st, we are having nice showers and balmy

WE are fixing a machine to perforate our fine, thin sawed wood

separators; much the same way that queen excluding zinc is perforated; but we will have the perforations run from one end of the separator to the other, except a small space at each end. This will be much better than a fence separator, as no posts or stays will be needed to hold them straight; and we will have the perforations just as large as possible, so that no ridges will be made on the honey in sections. We will use them on the open bottom and top sections, and can be used for no-bee-way sections. We turn out the best sawed wood separators we ever saw, and when perforated as above stated, they will simply be perfection itself, or, at least it looks so to us. We will try to get our machine ready this month.

WE do not like the plain sections, or no bee-way sections, as that looks to us to be progress backwards. Who of you would like plain bedsteads or bureaus, without any scallops of any kind about them, or plain furniture of any kind? The honey does not look so well in the plain sections and will not, in our opinion, sell as well. Let's hear more about them.

A GREAT many are asking when does it pay best to use foundation?

Well, it pays best to use it when there is a sudden honey flow and the bee keeper has no empty combs. Sometimes the honey comes in much faster than the bees can build combs to hold it; and then is when it pays us best to use foundation. It never did pay us to use foundation when there was no honey coming in. Starters and full sheets of foundation put into hives when no honey is coming in, will be mutilated and often gnawed down and used to stop cracks and crevices with.

WE just received a letter from Stachelhausen, in which he says he will be at our Floresville meeting next August and will try and bring some bee keepers with him. Now, if all of you will do this, what a meeting we will have. Don't forget it. Be at that meeting and bring all the bee keepers with you, and we will eat Floresville out of house and home, as brother Davidson says we will have plenty to eat and it's all free, you know. No hotel bills to pay. Good!

WE will receive next month a fresh supply of the finest imported Italian queens to be had in Italy, also some Holylands from Jerusalem, in June, and Cyprians from Cypress, in May. All direct from their native lands.

The Cause of Bee Paralysis.

I have a letter before me from a bee-keeper who wants to know my opinion in regard to bee paralysis; the cause and cure. He thinks it is caused from the food they eat, and that Italians are worse affected than the Blacks.

As to its cause and cure, I am not certain that I can help him much. I think it is adapted to certain localities. My bees never had it until I came to Llano county. I never knew of bees having it where I came from, and I have been back nearly every year since I left. They have had it every year since I came here, but were worse in 1897 than any previous year, and I notice several colonies have it yet. I can't think that food has anything to do with it. We have no honey dew here, to amount to anything, and where I moved from it comes nearly every year, in great quantities. That was one cause of my moving. We get as fine honey here as I ever saw, and I have been north and west all along the Pacific coast, through Washington, Oregon and California.

As to the cure, I know of but one thing to do, and that is to move our bees where they don't have it. I am going to keep try-

ing everything that I can think or hear of, and if I find a cure I will let it be known at once.

As to Italians being worse affected than Blacks, I think it is a mistake. It is not noticed so much among the Blacks because they don't change color, but if you will look under the hive and in the grass in front of them, you will find dead bees. It seemed that it killed more Blacks in this country last year than Italians. Three years ago this coming spring, I asked a bee keeper if his bees were dying? he replied, "no, they are all right." That puzzled me, so I told him I would like to look in his hives; alright he said, so we began lifting the hives off their bottom boards. That told the story. There was from one to two inches of dead bees under every hive. That was a surprise to him. Blacks don't clean their hives as well as Italians.

If any one will give me a practical cure or preventive, I will see that they are well paid for it, if I have to pay it all myself. If anyone knows a cure, they ought to tell it. What would any of us know about bees, if no one had told anything they knew? We would all keep bees in log and box hives and look for the king bee. I would like to ask Mr. Banks-

ton a question: Does a tested five band queen rear all yellow drones? In other words, if you sell a tested five band queen do you warrant her to rear all yellow drones and no black drones at all?

Some tell me that Cyprian bees are easy handled if you go at it right; Mr. Benton for one, but they never attempt to tell how. It is strange that it is so easy and yet they can't tell us how. I would surely make an attempt to tell if I knew.

Mr. Golden tells us that salt and water will cure bee paralysis. I would like for him to go over the whole thing again; tell in what proportion to mix and just how to apply it and how much to the colony. I have used salt water several times but failed to cure. Perhaps I never got it just right.

L. L. SKAGGS,

Click, Llano county, Texas.

A Dewdrop.

As I have never before written any for the Queen, I will give you a little of my experience. In the spring of 1896 I commenced with 50 hives, and received 700 pounds of honey and had twelve swarms. In the spring of 1897 I commenced with 50 hives again, and by the help of N. P. Doak and the Queen

I tried my luck again and increased from 50 stands to 120 hives and got 3,500 one pound sections of comb honey. I have sold the most of it at from 10 to 12½ cents per pound. I have at this writing 115 hives in good condition to start with in 1898.

W. T. MOORE.

Boxelder, Texas.

In another column of this paper will be found the advertisement of the Texas Seed & Floral Company, of Dallas, Texas. As will be observed from the ad these people are growers, importers and dealers in all kinds of farm, garden and flower seeds. They have made a specialty of long season southern grown seeds that are unexcelled for vitality and germinating power. All our readers will appreciate these qualities in the seeds they buy, for the very success of the crop or the garden depends upon sowing and planting seeds that have the ability to germinate and grow. These people also own and operate extensive green houses and trial grounds, and are large growers of all kinds of small fruit and flowering plants. Their new 1898 catalogue is a model of art work, being beautifully illustrated with everything needful for the farm, vegetable and flower garden. Free to all who mention the Queen in writing for it.

Theory of Swarming.

At first we have to take into consideration a few facts about the biology of the honey bee.

The worker bees, especially the younger ones, prepare in their stomach the so-called royal jelly, that is, chyle, and is, in fact, identical with the blood of the worker bee. Old bees can prepare this chyle, but young bees, before they go out in the field, prepare it instinctively as long as a sufficient quantity of honey and pollen is coming in.

This chyle is fed to worker larvae exclusively, till they are five days old. From the fourth to the fifth day they receive chyme, that is semi-digested food; and after the fifth day, till the cell is sealed, honey and pollen is fed to the larvae.

The queen helps herself on honey, but she receives no other nitrogenous food as this chyle or blood of the worker bees; and when a queen is laying a large quantity of eggs, an enormous quantity of it is fed to her by the worker bees. To the drones the same chyle is fed.

If this chyle is not regurgitated to feed the larvae, it will necessarily go through the wall of the stomach into the body of the bee,

in the form of blood, and so cause a superfluous amount of this fluid. This is just the condition in which the bees secrete wax, and this is the reason we find wax scales on the body of nearly every bee of a natural swarm, especially of an after swarm, which is composed of young bees, nearly exclusively.

Under all circumstances the bees try to find use for this superfluous chyle. If they need new combs, they at once commence comb building; generally drone combs under these circumstances. Then they start queen cells, because queen larvae are the best consumers of chyle. As soon as the queen cells are started, the swarming will commence, without another impulse of the bees.

We have to remember that the queen is in no way the ruling animal of the colony; in fact, she is a very dependent being. If no chyle, or very little is fed her, she can lay no eggs. She may, by her constitution, be as prolific as anyone. Without the worker bees the queen would starve to death in a short time, because she is not even able to eat pollen, the only nitrogenous food the bees have access to. We can in fact, say, the worker bees prepare the blood for the queen, and this is of much importance since the younger generation re-

ceive the hereditary instincts of importance in the life of a colony. If the worker bees through the queen. a queen had laid 2,500 eggs daily

So it is with swarming; the and for any reason does not lay worker bees start queen cells either any more; or considerably less, in over already layed eggs or the a few days the number of sealed queen lays eggs into them without brood cells and young bees will be knowing the consequences. The large, compared with the uncapped worker bees protect these cells larvae. On the other hand, if the against the queen and then start to egg laying capacity of the queen swarm and take the old queen is increasing every day, the number with them. number of unsealed larvae will be large

We further have to take into compared with the number of bees consideration another fact: We in the hive.

know that the life of a worker bee At the beginning of the honey has the following course: Three flow, the combs of our bee hives days in the egg state, six days in get filled with brood and honey. open larvae and twelve days in the If the hive is not very large, the sealed cell. During the first six queen cannot lay as many eggs as queen cannot lay as many eggs as she did before, because a part of the cells, from which young bees will fly out to carry in pollen and grow out are filled with honey, honey. In the height of the season we can suppose, that after sixteen days more the bee is dead. and the queen has not cells enough to lay the same number of eggs daily. Consequently the young bees can find no customers for the chyle and preparations for swarming are made. Practical experience teaches that small hives give many 6000 eggs, 12,000 open larvae, 24,000 sealed brood cells, 32,000 swarms, large hives with many house bees and 32,000 field bees. empty combs, no swarms.

We will call this the normal state An old queen will lay a large of a colony, and if we know the quantity of eggs for some time, but number of one kind, we can find afterwards their fertility will be out the numbers of all the other less, and so the same condition is kinds by the proportion of 3-6-12-16-16 respectively. This is the reason why colonies with old queens sometimes swarm with plenty of empty

This proportion is of great im-

combs in the hive, and why such swarms nearly every time change their queen soon after swarming and many times will get queenless.

If a colony is forced to build new combs, the young bees secrete the wax, and in this case the chyle is changed to wax in their bodies. Consequently, this colony will not swarm.

If the honey flow is very good and there is plenty of room in the hive to store it, the young bees will be partially engaged in changing the nectar to honey and storing it into the cells. Consequently no surplus of chyle and no preparation for swarming.

We can prevent swarming by putting an empty comb between two brood frames; because, by so doing we increase the number of open larvae. By taking away sealed brood, we reduce the number of young bees.

A young queen, as a rule, will not swarm out the same year she is reared, because her fertility is increasing for some time before she will reach her full capacity in egg laying.

In fact, I do not, as yet, know anything about swarming, that can not be explained by the above theory. L. STACHELHAUSEN.

Friend S.—We note that you say, "the workers start queen cells either

over already laid eggs, or the queen lays eggs into them without knowing the consequences." Very likely you did not make the above quotation read just as you meant it, as bees never start queen cells over eggs, according to our observations, but always wait till they are hatched into larvae. The balance of your theory and experience with queen cells and their protection is right in line with our own.—Ed.

Sheaves and Bee Chat.

A sentence in a price list from Italy reads: "The ordination must be united with the payment, which shall be effected by means of post-money orders." Well, that's better than I could say it in Italian. But listen, oh ye disciple of Atchley, Root, Pridgen, Doolittle, Alley, and all other good queen breeders, read, "If by chance, a queen bee dies upon the journey, it must be returned, accompanied by a Post-certificate, and another queen bee will be sent immediately in its stead." This is copied from an export price list.

A Mr. Hooker, in the B. B. Journal, says: "I think we have little to learn from our American friends as regards management, etc., etc." To which Beedom Boiled Down A. B. J.-71, replies: "Maybe neither side could learn from the other, and maybe either could." Well, we will not fight

over that last sentence, friend B. B. D., but, don't you think your queen breeders might learn a little from our Italian friend, the author of the above liberal offer? I must have a tilt with friend Hooker, if he does come from "John Bull's Island," like myself. Let's see, "we have little to learn from our American friends as to management." (He was talking about bees, mind you.) First, friend Hooker, take Thos. B. Blows' price list of 1897, turn to page 67 and what do you see?

"Manum in his apiary?" or "Doolittle making queen cells?" or a machine turning out "weed" foundation by the mile? Mr. Hooker replies, "No sir, I see a beautiful picture, done up in first-class half-tone fashion." Right, Mr. H., but what does it represent? "Oh! is that what you want to know, why it represents a man and a boy very busy making straw bee hives." Take home a 10-frame, dove-tailed hive, friend H., and tell them all to discard such antiquarian ideas hereafter.

However, friend H., don't go yet, I am longer winded than B. B. D. I notice that you have to pay 50 shillings for a Cowan extractor, while in America you can get one for a little over 40. Next, turn to page 21 and you will see

hives priced from 21 to 27 shillings and six pence. "Nothing to learn," friend H.? Take home with you an Atchley, Root, or other price list and read them carefully, and, while you are about it, get a copy of Dr. Cook's Bee Keepers Guide, Root's A. B. C., Mrs. Atchley's Lessons in Profitable Bee Keeping and Doolittle on Queen Rearing, and by the time you have carefully read these books, you will no doubt be ready to admit that perhaps "maybe either could learn from the other."

JAMAICA.

From Palo Pin'o.

The Jennie Atchley Co:

All the articles ordered from you have arrived except the pole to the swarm catcher. I see the bottom board is nailed to the hive, what is the object of that? Why not set the hive on the bottom board without nailing, as a new swarm could be put in easier. I enclose you a sprig which I suppose is horsemint, please state if I am correct.

THOMAS WYNN.

Friend W.—We nailed the bottom on the hive for shipping, you can use them nailed or not, just as you prefer. The plant you send is Hoar-hound, and belongs to the mint family but is not horsemint, proper.



Hempel's Plans for Non-Swarming.

I now have forty colonies, consisting of 3-band Italians, Albinors, Adels and a few 5-band Italians. The Carniolans swarmed too much for me and I discarded them. I examined them all yesterday and found them in excellent order. All hives were clean and every colony had from three to seven frames of honey yet. They worked nearly all winter, as we only had one light frost during the whole winter.

As I wrote you before, I began bee keeping in August, 1896, with three colonies of Blacks and about four nuclei of Italians, the latter I bought in the spring of '97. I also bought some queens of the different breeds; divided and took swarms until I now have forty good strong colonies, all pure races. They are the most gentle bees I ever saw, and it has been a long time since any of us got stung, although we are out among them almost every day. Last year I did

not take any surplus honey, as I built up the weak colonies and nuclei with the honey and brood of the stronger ones; but I think I am all right now and it gives me much pleasure to see good strong colonies where last year I only had weaklings and had to feed to keep them from starvation. I have learned a good deal in the short time I have been at the business and my children also take an active interest in the work. My boy, Emil, 14 years old, nailed all the hives together, painted them and nailed the frames; my daughter, Amanda, 18 years old, wired all the frames and fastened all the foundation in. I have now about fifty single hives, 8 & 10 frames, complete, extra. I left the second stories on my hives all winter, and after your instructions as to how to keep the moths out of the combs, I got along all right.

Now, as swarming time will soon be here, and I do not care to increase much, I want to ask you a few questions as to the manipulation of my bees this year: I want to knock all swarming out of them and take them in time this year and will proceed as follows: When honey is coming in and the bees are flying a good deal, also plenty of sealed brood in the frames, I will take all frames out of the brood

nest except one frame on which the queen runs, and will put them in the second story; take the empty combs out of the second story and replace them in the brood nest, putting a honey board between the first and second story so the queen will have no chance to go up; the brood in the second story will now hatch soon and the bees will fill the empty combs with honey; below, in the first story, they will build another brood nest and in about three weeks from the beginning of my manipulations I will extract the honey in the second story; take the brood again out of the brood nest and put them in place of the combs I have extracted, and put the empty combs in the brood nest. The bees will again make a brood nest below, and the brood in the upper story will hatch and the empty combs will again be filled up with honey. If I do this twice, that is, every three weeks, which gives six weeks time, I think all swarming will be over. Of course I have to cut all queen cells out of the combs before I put them in the second story; then I think we will have plenty of honey and no increase in bees. In the fall we could do this again, probably only once. What is your opinion about this? Please reply and let me know if it is right or wrong to proceed this way.

Now, I have another question: Should we desire an increase of bees and a good honey crop at the same time, we would proceed as follows: When the bees are flying, honey coming in and we think the brood nearly sealed up and they will soon be ready to swarm, we take the old colony from its place and put in its stead a hive full of frames with full foundations or starters, then we will take the frame which contains the queen out of the old colony and put it in the new hive. In twenty-four hours we will take this frame out again, but brush off the queen and bees into the new hive, and replace the frame in the old hive, giving it any desired position in the bee yard. The bees will nearly all return to the new hive, which stands on the site of the old one and also contains the queen. In a day or two you can put on the second story and they will not swarm, as they are in an entirely new habitation, are very strong and will gather plenty of honey. The reason we take the empty comb out again after twenty-four hours is, that by leaving this comb with brood in the new hive, the bees might think it the old hive and swarm. The old hive which

is now in another location, has all the sealed brood and young bees, as the old ones have returned to the old location. Therefore, if this old colony is very weak in young nursing bees, I think it a good plan to take a few combs of brood out and give them to some weak colony. Also feed them syrup or honey for two or three days. What is your opinion about this? Of course you can give the old colony a young queen, if you have one, without waiting for them to rear one. Please answer the above questions. I think I know another way to prevent bees from swarming without increasing, and at once have a very strong colony for the honey harvest, but will tell that some other time.

J. H. HEMPEL,

Lucy, P. O., Louisiana.

Friend H.—After close reading of your plans, they call to mind the fact that I used the same plans in 1880, or very near the exact plans you give. That year I had one colony give me over 500 pounds of extracted honey. Well, I tried it again the next year and it would not work, because there was not the honey to be had that there was the year before. I have found out by experience that we must adapt ourselves to such circumstances as may arise at any time in the apiary. I know it is a good thing to try to foresee and lay plans as to how it is best to manage a business of any kind, but I have also found that bees can knock our plans in the head in a jiffy;

and then we must pick ourselves up at once and start anew. Either of your plans will prevent swarming as a rule, but there are some that will swarm any way; but we may call these the exception, not the rule. If you are going to run for extracted honey, as your plans seem to indicate, you can knock swarming out as slick as a button, by simply giving big hives; that is, hives two and three stories high, and keep the honey out with the extractor; that is, all but the exceptions. You will have to look a leedle oud or you will not catch all the queen cells, as there may be some in little nooks and corners. When you try these plans this season, let us know how you succeed. Give us your other plan when you have time.

Fort Worth, Texas, Feb. 24, 1898.

My Dear Mrs. Atchley:

I suppose you think that I, as your pupil, have been playing hookey. You remember, I started last spring with two old box hive colonies and two that you sent me. Well, I was not very successful, for one of those you sent me died out, I suppose, last fall. They seemed to have gotten weak, for some reason, and then the pesky moths got into them and away they went. I lost two hives last year from the moths and I will thank you to tell me how to keep them out. I have an idea that gum of camphor will do it. What do you think about it? I now have seven colonies and they seem to be doing well, so far. They have been bringing in honey and pollen for two or three weeks. I am going to sow two acres in buckwheat, and have been trying to find some sweet clover seed, but have failed so far. Say, what time must I put on supers, blooming time? My peach trees are nearly in

bloom. Kindly send me your 1898 catalogue.

F. G. McPEAK.

Gum camphor might keep moths out, but I have never tried it, and I think it would be so very objectionable to the bees that I think it would do them more harm than the moths. If you will manage to keep the colonies strong, it will be the best preventive you can use. Put your supers on just at the beginning of your honey flow. Better have them on the very day, or the day before will be better. There will not be much use for supers in your locality before May 20, unless Red bud furnishes some honey in April. Horse mint will begin to bloom about May 20. If you have plenty of rain you had better have all your supers on.

Fynn, Ark., Feb. 22, 1898.

Mrs. Jennie Atchley:

I would like to ask your advice in regard to my intended plan of handling my bees. I have the eight frame hives and I think of letting them swarm and doubling them, putting two swarms in one ten frame hive, so as to have strong colonies. Now, if you think this won't do, please let me know; and if it will, please give me the best plan for doubling. Our honey here comes from Red bud, Black berry, Sweet Gum, Tupelou gum, milk weed and lots of other trees and plants, too numerous to mention.

JOHN J. GLENN.

Friend G.—Your plan for strong

colonies will work all right, provided you have a honey flow on at the time you double up. If you have to wait from four to six weeks for a honey flow after your swarms issue, as we do here, as a rule, it will pay you best to let each swarm have a separate hive, and get the use of all the queens: then at the beginning of the first honey flow, put two colonies together, give the extra brood to one of the queens with a few bees to take care of it; give the other queen to your doubled up colony. Place on your supers and reap a large yield, and at the same time the queen set off with the brood will soon have another strong colony. If your honey flow is on when your bees swarm, you can double up then, but if not, the doubled up colonies will decrease in numbers in three or four weeks and be but little stronger than if left as they were, or each swarm left to a hive. I have often tried these plans, and if the doubling up is done right at the beginning of a flow, it works all right; otherwise it is a loss. I have tried to test which way I could get most honey, by the doubling plan or by letting them run their own course, by putting each swarm in a hive. Sometimes one way gave more honey and sometimes the other, and I am undecided,

but rather hold that it is best to allow each swarm to occupy a hive and get the work of two colonies instead of one. I tell you it has got to be a powerful colony to get more honey under any circumstances than two good colonies. When you have tried let us know. Never mind the waste basket.

Fort Worth, Texas, Feb. 22, 1898.

Mrs. Jennie Atchley:

I have eight stands of bees; two of them seem to have gone wrong, i. e. out in front of the hives are a great many dead bees. On close examination, I find that every few minutes, two or more bees will surround another and move in a figity way all around it, apparently biting it. After a while one of the bees will fly away with what seems a well bee. Sometimes they drop down before the hive and gradually die, perhaps from bites or stings of the other bees. What is the matter with them and what shall I do with them? One stand, a weak colony, died a month ago, and on opening up the hive it was found to contain a great many worms, encased in a network of silk or webbing, similar to the caterpillar. The other stands have been opened up and seem to be free from these worms and all right, with plenty of honey. I am a reader of your "Bee Queen" but have seen nothing on this ailment that will enlighten me. An early reply will oblige me.

J. W. SPENCER.

Friend S.—I am of the opinion that your bees have a touch of paralysis; and you might apply the salt remedy: pour fine table salt

down over the frames, combs and bees, and repeat the operation in a week and let us know results. This is said to cure in many cases, but we have known it to fail. If your bees are only slightly affected, warm weather, new honey and a new crop of bees will effect a cure. This is a disease among bees in many localities, and one over which there has been a great deal of experimenting, but as yet no remedy has been found that will effect a cure every time. In the south it has done but little damage that we know of, and it will soon disappear when warm weather comes.

The Midrib of Foundation.

My assertion that bees can't thin out the midribs of foundation, found quite an opposition. Not only Mr. L. L. Skaggs said he had over one hundred combs with thinned midribs, but Mr. E. Root fired his shots against me. (Gleanings, Feb. 15, 1898.) Well, if these gentlemen say, they have such combs, I am bound to believe it.

It is pretty hard on me. The first thing I thought I knew a little better than the average bee keeper, turns out to be a mistake. But we will consider the matter again. So much is sure, that bees

many times, (I will not say any as a man can't bite a piece out of more) do not thin out this septum a wall.

of the foundation. This is proven, Cheshire, writes in his book, not only by my observations, but that the bees use their jaws for E. Root says so, in Gleanings. It scraping and moulding. If this is the opinion of most bee keepers was so, two bees would have to and the manufacturers of founda- work on the same place, from both tion; and is the reason that founda- sides of the midrib; because a single bee would soon have a hole dation for honey sections are made in there. That Cheshshire's de- with a midrib as thin as possible. scription of the manner in which

I am convinced of another thing, bees work out the wax, is entirely that the bees can't thin out the incorrect, I am fully convinced. septum by the manner of manipu- lation by which they draw out

natural combs and the side walls Now, who will solve the new problem, and tell us how the bees of foundation, nearly all ways thin out the midribs of foundation. using their mandibles like a pair

of nippers, and every single bee working independently of the other one.

But bees are wonderful insects and are especially able to accom- modate themselves to nearly all kinds of bad conditions, in which they are brought by the sense or the foolishness of men. For this it is very possible that they have invented a new way to thin out these uncomfortable midribs. If

this is so, maybe these gentlemen, especially Mr. E. Root, can tell us how the bees proceed in this case.

Somebody thinks they simply bite off some wax there. I re- member that somebody said the mandibles were not fit to bite into the skin of grapes, just the same

L. STACHELHAUSEN.

In referring to the mention of our new perforated separators on the editorial page, you will notice that we stated they **would** be perforated clear through, but we have come to the conclusion that it will be better to have them in two sec- tions, and the perforations will be about seven inches long and will not quite meet in the middle.

We have just received a copy of Dr. J. P. H. Brown's new book on Southern bee keeping. We will mail this valuable work together with the Southland Queen, one year, to new subscribers for \$1.00. This is a very liberal offer, and if you wish to learn about bees and how to manage them, better send now. The Jennie Atchley Co., Beeville, Texas.

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To correspond with some unmarried lady, between the ages of 30 and 35, with a view of getting a queen for a lonely bachelor. Bee hive is situated in California. Have a good hive for a queen that will keep house well. Address J. D. R., care of The Southland Queen, Beeville, Texas.

Very Kind words.

Mrs. Jennie Atchley:

Dear Friend—In looking over the Queen last night I saw a notice

of your being sick. I was very sorry to hear that and trust you may soon regain your good health. I want to make out my report for last year before long, and also renew my subscription to the Queen, I can't do without it. My bees are doing very well, but I will have to feed some this spring as a few of them are out of stores. They have brought in some pollen from the maples already, but everything is froze up at present.

Yours Respectfully,

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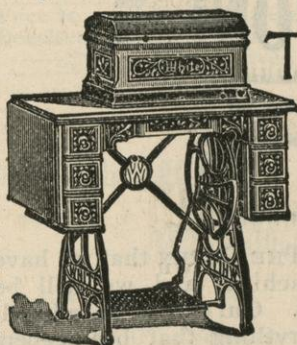
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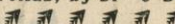
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