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West Maitland, N.S.W.: E. Tipper, September 28, 1900

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A MONTHLY JOURNAL, DEVOTED TO BEE-KEEPING.

Vol. 9. No 6 SEPTEMBER 28, 1900 Per Copy, 6D.

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The Australian Bee Bulletin

A JOURNAL DEVOTED TO BEEKEEPING.

— Edited and Published by E. TIPPER. —

MAITLAND, N.S.W —SEPTEMBER 28, 1900.

We would ask those beekeepers who appreciate the manner in which this journal is conducted, to patronise those who advertise in it. We believe they are all good reliable men, whether queen raisers,

supply dealers or otherwise.

The following is a list -a poor one we are sorry to say-of advertisers in this issue, but we are satisfied those who do advertise with us will not regret it. One gentleman, doing a large business, and a large advertiser, told a friend that an advertisement he had in the A. Bee Bulletin paid him better than any advertisement he had ever inserted in any paper. And why should it not? Beekeepers as a body are a thrifty, straightforward, careful class of people and if the number of our advertisers are small, all the better for those that do advertise in it. The excuse made by the general advertiser is it is a specialist journal, only one class of persons reading it. And we have seen journals that we knew had neither the circulation or the excellent class of readers, but simply because they were supposed to go among a mixed class of readers, well supplied with general advertisements. Will our many friends and sympathisers help us in the matter with advertisers they happen to know.

The following is a list of advertisers

in our present issue :-

Supply Dealers.

R. K. Allport, Chuter St., North Sydney. A. Hordern & Sons, Haymarket, Sydney. Hebblewhite & Co., 377 George street, Sydney.

The W. T. Falconer Manufacturing Co., Jamestown, N.Y., U.S.A.

J. Pease, 8, 9, 10, Newtown Rd., Sydney. Chown Bros. and Mullholland, Ltd., Thomas St., Ultimo, Sydney.

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R. Beuhne, Tooborac, Victoria

Oueen Raisers.

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J. W. Miner, Ronda, N.C., U.S.A. R. H. Jervis, Moss Vale, N.S.W. S. C. Strand, Longford, Tasmania. T. Bolton, Dunkeld, Victoria.

Miscellaneous.

A. Hordern & Sons, Haymarket only, Sydney.

Allen & Co, 242 Sussex street, Sydney Anglo-American Publishing Co, Waterloo Chambers, 458 George street, Sydney

The Farmers' Co-operative Company, Ltd., Sussex street, Sydney.

HE Bee-Farmers Association is progressing well. Quite a number of most interesting letters have come to hand, and are coming in. A Correspondence Committee is formed, and some very valuable suggestions are emanating from it.

to "Private" have spoken of honey exhibits at shows, some saying that quantities of 500lbs only should be exhibited. We quite agree with them, as things have been carried on in some shows in N. S. W. From things we happen to know, and which some persons think to be perfectly right and legitimate,

but of which we have very strong doubts, we have not exhibited at such ourselves for years, and in future have resolved not to report the prize lists of such in our pages.

See there are no wet blankets or leaky cover lids.

A lot of very interesting correspondence unavoidably held over to our next.

Many thanks Mr. Davey, for your good

and truthful words, on page 138.

When sections in centre of super are full, exchange with empty ones on sides.

Hives placed in trees close by apiary are said to be good for catching swarms.

Solar extractors with lamp underneath also, for additional heat, are very successful with some Americana

ful with some Americans.

Glazed sections combined with lace paper are much in vogue in England. They look nice and tempting in shop windows.

Although the drone is a consumer of what he does not produce, how welcome is his appearance in spring time.

For a good farm, garden, and family paper, send for the *Martin's Home and Farm*, advertised on another page.

In raising comb-honey in out-apiaries keeping as much as possible to young

queens will minimise swarming.

The Californian bakers combined not to give more than $4\frac{3}{4}$ cents for honey delivered to them.

In Florida 1000 hives are said to be kept in one place, and 3000 within the

range of a few miles.

We have found frames that have been filled with sugar syrup, green and mildewy. Was anything wrong with the sugar?

Rearing Belgian hares are said by American papers to be a good industry to combine with beekeeping. They are less trouble than poultry and more profitable.

For cleaning kerosene tins to put honey in, Mr. Beuhne uses a frame work in which the tin is fixed and revolved in the same way some churns are.

Fifteen able German bee-keepers on being consulted all agreed that injudicious stimulation might do much harm, and that it was a very good thing for beginners to let alone.

"Little Bobs" would have stood a poor show for being commander-in-chief if men had been judged as queens are in

N.S.W.

A Swarm Catcher.—A broom handle. Wrap rags on end, making a roll about ten inches long, and three inches through, saturated with melted beeswax.

At the Royal Show at York, England, on June 18, a swarm of bees were driven in the presence of the Prince of Wales

and the Duke of York.

W. McEvoy says that queen-excluders that have been used in foul-broody colonies are perfectly safe to use in any hive of bees without disinfecting.

In Canada the prize list for shows contains such items as—Comb honey, 200 lbs. in sections; liquid extracted honey 200

lbs., etc.

S. T. Pettitt recommends, in cases of robbing, to put the colony being robbed in a dark cellar in the evening, leaving it there for a couple of days, placing an empty hive on its stand.

Honey is still reported as plentiful in Sydney, notwithstanding the past season's failure. It is quoted from 1½d to 2½d. What would it have been if the past

season had been a good one!!!!

Two pounds of honey to one of water makes good vinegar. Put in barrel on end, top out, and wire cloth cover. Examine good vinegar with microscope and it will show plenty of life.

In opening hives, puff a few whiffs of smoke at entrance, then lift cover of enamelled cloth slightly, blow smoke under, and gently lift rest of cloth.

Don't hurry. Take it quietly.

Doolittle says no bottom starters for him. R.C. Aikin says, in a good flow a bottom starter is of little use. In a slow or intermittent flow, is a necessity to obtaining the best shipping sections.

After feeding over night it is well to look around next morning, and watch for the first signs of robbing. The food may have been given with every care and

safe guard, but bees of other hives soon get to know it. At the first sign close the entrance so as to allow only passage of one bee at a time. If bad cover all over with a sheet or bagging.

Hives intended to put swarms in should be kept in a cool place. We know an old box hive man that used to wash such in the river, put a little sugar in one corner, and was not particular if it was not dry

when the swarm was put in.

Green branches suspended or on poles in an apiary are good swarm-catchers. A swarm in a busy thoroughfare we once caught by putting a green bough in the neck of an empty oil drum and placing in the middle of the road.

One way of removing bees from super of sections. Bore a one and a half inch hole in side of empty hive. Place same on flat surface; put super of sections on top. Put smoker nozzle in hole and blow. The smoke will fill the empty hive, and drive the bees out of the section super above.

Dadants have at no time for a period of 28 years less than two apiaries, and for 20 years, six apiaries at one time in different locations. They never exceeded 120 hives in each, the average was 80 to 90 in each apiary. From their experiences, the bees should not be more than a mile and a half from the crop.

We have watched bees working on flour. They take it up on their legs, then poise themselves on their wings a few inches above the flour, working away with all their legs, evidently blending it with honey from the stomach. After a few minutes they again dip down and take more flour, and resume the same

position and working again.

Have received from Mr. Jervis, Moss Vale, what he terms an introducing cage. It is something same as the Benton cage, but is covered with perforated zinc, like a cap, extending not only over the top, but some half-inch all round. At one end is a tube 1½ inch long, to be filled with feed, the entrance being stopped with a cork. It ought to be very useful.

Weak hives may be protected from robbers by enclosing the swarms in smallest number of frames by a divider on one side, having the entrance closed to the opposite side, where only space enough is left for one or two bees to pass out at a time. Robbers object to cross an empty space inside a hive. If robbing has started throw a bag or sheet over all. Robbing is often started by carcless handling, leaving combs containing honey about in the open.

H. Rauchfaus says: Some cans which I liquefied by setting them on the bottom of the tank, poured out light honey at first, and dark honey from the bottom, showing that the heat from the boiling water between the two bottoms of the tank was transmitted directly to the cans, without being modified sufficiently by the water around the cans in the tank. Hence it is necessary to place two chips of

wood under the cans.

Editors sometimes get little troubles. Now here is one of them. Don't laugh. We often get correspondence from ladies, perhaps writing for their husbands, perhaps for themselves. They sign their Christian names, but it is not nice in reply to call a "Miss" "Mrs.," or a "Mrs." "Miss." If we have offended, after scratching our heads hard, we must plead extenuating circumstances. We write this par because reminded by a New Zealand young lady putting Miss in front in brackets (Miss) before her Christian name. Will some of our lady friends take the hint?

Respecting numbering of hives. Two seasons ago we carefully numbered every hive. They were arranged in 10 rows 20 in each row, each row beginning with 1—first row 1, second row 21, third row 41, and so on. A season's working, however, upset all this. Changing hives be swarming, uniting weak ones for wintering, &c., not many remain in eriginal position. As long as there are no two numbers alike, we record when necessary in our book the number on the hive, and the number of the row it is in. It is quite as satisfactory.

Mr. R. Beuhne has kindly forwarded us a parcel of seed of the black sage of California, some of which he procured from that country. (We may here mention Mr. Beuhne is an enthusiast in doing good for his fellow apiarists, without deire for hope or reward. And we feel it our duty to thank him not only for his services so rendered to the industry by fighting those who would for money making purposes make a catspaw of beekeepers but also for his disinterested labours on behalf of this journal in the same noble minded way.) He is distributing the seed to such of the members of the Victorian Apiarists Association as apply for it, and send 2d to pay for postage. The mountain sage honey California, is celebrated as one of the very best in the world. It is very little inclined to candy, is white, and very dense. Grows anywhere where mint or pennyroyal grows. Should be sown in Autumn, and the first Autumn rains will start it, flowering the following spring. It grows very fast, has a dozen or more stalks from three to eight feet high, each being loaded with racemes of buds, which remain in bloom for several weeks.

BEE NOTES.

HALEWOOD.

Mr. R. Beuhne's idea of the cause of his loss of bees is, I think, the correct one, from my own experience. winter 1899 was very severe on the bees in this locality. I fed the bees on sugar syrup. The close of winter showed a great loss in bees, and I put it down that not only had the bees been over-worked in a search for suitable food, but that the food obtained was unsuitable for their proper nourishment. I also hold the opinion that bees fed on sugar syrup for any length of time, became feverish and excited and are more likely to go in search of food in the fields in unfavourable weather.

Some orchardists and horticulturists complain that bees cross their best fruit and flowers with inferior varieties. When

such is the case I think it is the result of a district being over-stocked; there being more than sufficient bees to work any main floral crop, the bees are compelled to obtain their food from any and every variety at one and the same time, with the result that varieties become crossed and hence the complaint of fruit and This is one reason flower producers. why such growers should discourage the overstocking of their localities with bees. I either heard or read of a lecturer saying that bees never inoculated one variety of fruit or flora with another of a different variety; but I think that in cases where overstocking exists, it is a case of "necessity knowing no law." I am also inclined to believe that overstocking in a locality is the cause of "inferior honey" as there is no possibility of keeping different varieties of honey separate, the bees having thoroughly mixed it themselves.

Bees here are building up very well, but I am afraid it is not going to be the good season it was thought was coming. I received "Martin's Home and Farm" for August; it is a good, useful, interesting and instructive paper, and I am look-

ing for the September number.

CLEANING TINS.

R. BEUHNE, TOOBORAC.

Kerosene tins, even if bright and thoroughly cleaned, still have prejudice against them, and are not suitable for retail trade; but those who dispose of their honey in bulk, or through commission agents, have found by experience that the new tin adds to the cost, but does not add to the returns.

There is, however, a great objection to improperly cleaned kerosene tins, and they are not infrequently met with in consignments of honey, to the loss of either the producer or buyer. Various ways are practised by different people for cleaning tins, while many neglect cleaning them almost till wanted. Winter is the proper time to get the tins ready for the coming season. They are more easily obtained in winter, on account of the

greater consumption of kerosene; there is more time to clean them, and water is plentiful. A simple churn, fixed in a framework of stout wood, while easily constructed, is very useful, thoroughly cleans the tins, and at the same time tests them. A box is made out of the kerosene case, just large enough to take a tin comfortably. In the centre of the two stout boards (the heads of the case) a hole is cut, say, 2 inches square. Into this is fitted the axle on which the churn turns. The axle consists of two sections, one for each side, is rounded to 1 inch or 13 inch, wherein works in the holes bored through the uprights of frame which suspends the churn. The projecting end of the axle on one side is cut to a square, on to which fits the handle crank. On top of the churn on one side a piece of wood, carved underneath, is securely fastened On the opposite corner is fastened a bar, turning on a screw. It is wedgeshaped at the handle end, and sheeted with tin. A bung closes the opening of the tin. It is wedge-shaped on top, sheeted with tin. On the under side a sufficient number of discs of felt, blanket, or other suitable material, are fastened on by a screw driven through a piece of wood or cork.

When preparing kerosene tins for cleaning, the handles of the tin should be gone over with the solder iron, and a little extra solder put on. The cap covering the filling hole of the tin should be removed with the solder iron, and surplus solder run off so as to leave a clean rim. Remnants of kerosene are first poured out, and then boiling water, containing soda and soap in solution, is poured into the tin, the tin put into the churn, the bung inserted into the hole, and the bar pushed in over the bung to wedge it down airtight. The churn is then turned forwards and backwards at just the speed that will cause the most splashing of the water in the tin. Some steam is generated by the agitation, which will blow out the tin to its full expansion, and will also show any leak that may exist. The tin should not be filled more

than half, and when opening the bung after churning, don't have your face right over the bung, as it sometimes blows up with the pressure. I always give the tins two washings as described, using the water of the second wash for the first wash of the next lot after reheating.—Abridged from *Leader*.

PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

Mr. A. A. Roberts, Muswellbrook. Queen and Poultry Circular. Send to him for copy.

Programme and Bulletin of the Societe Centrale D'Apiculture et D'Insectologie

de Paris.

Report of the Intercolonial Protectionist Conference held in Sydney, April 18th to 26th, 1900.

Rules and Regulations of the West Australian Beekeepers' Association, from

Mr. J. Kline, Hon. Sec.

"Farmers and Manufacturers under Federation," by Charles E. Ludomin, President of the N.S.W. Chamber of Manufacturers.

Mr. H. L. Jones' Catalogue, of Mel-Bonum apiaries, Goodna, Queensland. It consists of 56 pages, and is a very complete compendium of everything required in an apiary, together with a lot of very valuable information.

A booklet, beautifully got up, dealing with the new Hospital for Sick Children, Sydney, and appealing for help in the matter. A most worthy cause for the benevolently disposed. Mr. Tom Pratt is the organising secretary, 76 Pitt Street, Sydney.

From Mr. J. Smith, Mount Cotton, a pamphlet from the Queensland Farmers' and Fruitgrowers Association, Mt. Cotton and Tingalpa Division, objecting to the Diseases of Plants Act now in force in Queensland. It says the tendency of the working of the Act will be "to drive off by hundreds, say thousands, those who have been foolish enough to settle in the land."

LANGSTROTH FRAMES.

I. HOPKINS.

"Australian correspondent Yankee" seemed to me to have given a most comical reply to his own query as to "why the Langstroth frame is the 'Standard one." Its comicality has not, it appears, escaped his own notice, as he thinks it may seem a rather strange one. I have no doubt of it. A. Y. could not surely have given the matter serious thought when he gave as the reason it became, and is now the Standard frame, because A. I. Root choose it. That it should be so, this with the gist of his letter, implies that it has no merits of its own, that it gained and retains the position it at present holds simply on A. I. Root's choice. The whimisical part of this will be realized by those who are aware that among English speaking people the world over there are more Langstroth frames in use than all others put together, and that they are largely in use on the Continent of Europe. The logical reasoning of our friend's statement, is, that all who are using this frame, if not idiots have no minds of their own, but are simply being led by the nose by A. I. Root. I am sure this gentleman would consider himself highly flattered were he to know that anyone thought he had that power. No, our friend A. Y., if he will give the matter a little consideration, I am sure he will concede that the Langstroth frame must have some remarkably good points, though he may not see them, otherwise it would not have kept its position as the leading frame all the years it has. I will not discuss its comparative merits just now as I think there is scarcely any need for my doing so. I with others have frequently done this.

T. H., Cooktown, Queensland, August 24th:—I am very pleased with the A. B. B., and I find a lot of interesting news in it. My bees have been doing fairly well, but owing to the drought there are very few flowers, therefore the honey flow is affected by it.



283.-Mr. Beuhne's experience in loss of hives?

F. GREBERT.

284. What particular kind of queen bees are the best layers for workers?

285. Is there any way to force swarming?

286. Does extracting a sist to force swarming or is extracting a check on swarming?

287. Is swarming in any way forced, and if so

288. What is the quickest way to work up colonies?

monnon

E. T. PENGLASE.

:84. There is no particular queen a good layer unless she has a strong colony to back her

285. Yes, use small hives.286 Yes, it helps to check swarming.

287 & 288. If you are a new beginner, don't force it too much, go slowly and build up carefully and learn to work a few colonies well first. A. A. ROBERTS.

284. I do not know of any particular kind being best Young prolific queens of any good strain will give you plenty worker bees.

285 Keep your bees in small hives. why force swarming? More profit in non-

swarmers in my experience.

286. In my opinion it does not assist swarming and will very often check it. I have had bees on the point of swarming and gave them a good cleaning out with the extractor and the bees tore down all the queen cells and stopped swarming, but it will not always do it.

287. Not with me. See 285.

288. Break your strong colonies up into nuclei and give them laying queens.

E. TIPPER. 283. Mr. Beuhne asks for experiences re bees dying off in an apparently unaccountable manner. In the winter of 1894, Mr. Williamson of Tarro, had a similar experience. Plenty of honey in the hives. yet they dwindled from 60 to 23 swarms. The bees disappeared away from the hives. There had been exceptionally sharp frosts succeeded by extensive bush fires. Our idea at the time was that the bush fires had the effect of cutting off the food supply of many birds and reptiles, and they had gone for the bees instead. Other apiaries not far from same spot had also suffered, the bees being in heaps upon the bottom board. We forget how their top protection was, but not sufficient cold protection there might have been the cause of it. 284. Italian.

283. During the winter we fed sugar syrup when short of honey. A neighbour did the same. In several cases the frames containing it have been left untouched by the bees, and turned mildewy green. It was sugar bought at the general stores. Query: Would there have been anything wrong about it, and would the sugar syrup given by Mr. Beuhne have been the cause of his trouble?

285. Keep in small hives.

286. A check on swarming. 288. Number of colonies I take it is meant. Break up strong colonies by taking a frame with brood and bees, and another with honey. Put in small hives with queen cell. Close up for a day or so. Make as many such as you con out of the strong hive.

J. A. BRIEN.

295. Yes, but most beekeepers choose to force it backwards.

286. Extracting is decidedly a check on swarming.

288. By scientifically rearing queens and forming small colonies, and building same up as season advances.

283. I think they had no pollen or a very bad substitute, and swarmed out.

284. Italians for all round workers. If you want something to swarm get Carniolans.

285. I prefer to divide.

286. Extracting checks swarming.

288. Plenty of pollen and thin honey.

H. JUPP.

283. From the limited facts to hand, one can only guess, but I think that probably the autumn of last year being dry, there was a very limited snpply of pollen, so that there was not enough brood reared about March and April to carry through the winter This is the only conclusion 1 can arrive at. Have experienced the same myself with a few swarms. To sum it up one arrives at this point, "died from natural

284. A queen selected by the bees themselves when the mother of the hive is too old to be of any good My best swarms as honey gatherers are the progeny of such queens.

285. Do not give much ventilation when a

honey flow is on.

286. Extracting in my opinion is a check on swarming, as there is so much more space and

therefore less heat.

287. Some years since Mr. Munday, of Woodville, wrote an excellent pamphlet on this If he answers this question now such subject. answer should be well worth the perusal of all beekeepers.

288. A young, healthy and vigorous queen, with plenty of food and warmth

LOYALSTONE.

283. Can't understand it at all. Plenty stores, young queens, and bees disappear. Did the queens die during the winter and bees dwindle off, or go into other hives close by? Or the queens dying, and feeding bees, cause bees to fly, and die of cold before getting home? Or is it spring dwindling? If you feed bees outsidduring warm winter days it will cause bees from queenless colonies to go into hives where there are queens.

284. Italians.

286 Extracting during the swarmin: period checks swarming, especially if you place empty frames between brood combs.

287. This is practically the same question as 285. You can force swarming by confining

queens in 8-frame hive only.

288. K ep your colonies in 8-frame hives and when each hive is strong divide same by taking all frames with sealed brood, and one good honey frame from old hive and placing in new hive, putting an untested queen in fresh hive untested queens from some reliable breeder it is the cheapest and quickest way to increase. In a good season, this way you can increase 5 hives to 40 and have a surplus of honey. Read " How to make a start in bees" in baca numbers of A. B. B. by "Loyalstone."

QUESTIONS NEXT MONTH.

J. A. BLIEN.

289 What is the best way to treat honey to keep it from candying in the winter? Will acid do it, if so in what quantities and how used?

290. Could you, by paying a fair rent for the tree tops, compete with those that have no rent

to pay

291. Would you expect the Government to reserve the forest from ringbar ing around you to the detriment of the grazing value, for your special benefit for nothing (good and promising timber excepted,?

WORK FOR THE MONTH.

Fine weather, with cold winds, and occasional slight frosts, has been the order of the day. Plenty of small flowers on the ground—one a five-petalled, pinky blue; another a little white flower 4 of an inch in diameter. The box buds gradually increasing in size. All looks well. Nature's carpet alive with bees, their hum quite gladdening. A few afternoons back we enjoyed that delicious smell of new honey as we passed along the hives. It was not there next day or since. Had expected from the way they were going out and in and working in the grass especially there would be plenty of honey

to keep them going in the hives. But no filling up with combs with starters, and Hive after hive is opened to find brood and little honey. We suppose the rearing of brood takes all they get in now, and a little more, so have to continue feeding. A few drones in one hive. Another If she can't fly you may save many a queen laying all drones. Pinched her head off, and sent for a new queen. Now is the time to supersede faulty queens. An old or inferior queen means a poor return, or none, for that hive. Hives are wanted strong and in good order, to meet the flow coming on as the summer approaches. Get your hives and frames ready.

If a hive is queenless, or weak, it may be better if the flow is near to unite with another, and so make a strong body of bees to gather the honey. never failed to unite in the following way: Get a fresh empty hive and place midway between the two to be united. Then take combs alternately from the two and place in this empty one, dumping the

remaining bees in front.

As the warm weather comes on the increase of bees is exceedingly rapid, and it will be necessary to see the queen has room to lay all the eggs she desires. Too much room should not be given at a time, or the brood may get chilled, if there are not enough bees to cover it. A good plan is to place, if you have it, a frame of sealed honey (worker comb) in the centre of brood nest. The bees uncap and remove this honey, and so make additional room for the queen to lay. If you have not a frame of sealed honey give one filled with syrup. In feeding place frame with food as near the cluster as possible, and give it in worker comb. It may save their raising drone brood, which they are likely to do if drone comb is given them. Young queens as a rule do not raise many drones. Old, worn-out queens raise more drones than workers, and when that is seen they should be superseded by new or younger queens. If the bees increase and honey comes in so fast that the hive is full, a super may be placed on. Take a frame or two from the now lower box and place in the upper,

place same on outside of brood nest in lower box. If room is judiciously given swarming will be very much minimised.

See your queens have one wing clipped.

swarm.

A backward swarm may be helped * much by giving a frame of uncapping brood from a stronger one. An old or inferior queen had better be substituted, as the uncapping brood frame given would be a loss to the colony from which it was taken, and only benefit the weak one for a time.

HONEY TINS.

DVERTISER will supply 60 lb. Honey Tins, Lever Top, Guaranteed First Quality, f.o.b., Sydney, at 110/- per gross. Cash must accompany order. References to Editor "A. B. Bulletin," to whom remittances may be made payable.

"SYDNEY."

c/o "A, B. B." OFFICE.

To Bee Farmers.

BEE FARMERS who live by raising and selling Honey are asked to communicate with this journal with a view to the formation of a N.S.W. Bee-Farmers' Association. Please Address:

> "PRIVATE," c/o A. BEE BULLETIN, West Maitland, N.S.W.

Communications will not be published.

NOTICE.

R. R. BEUHNE, Tooborac, is appointed Agent for Victoria for the AUSTRALIAN BEE BULLETIN, and is authorised to receive subscriptions and advertisements for

E. TIPPER.

BEGINNER'S & COLUMN.

We have been requested to give such in every issue. We thought by careful editing and giving the work for each month, that want was met. As the question, however, has been put, we will endeavour to meet it.

Well, as you are going to make a start in beekeeping, From where have you

commenced?

1. From a swarm caught perhaps by a friend as it was settling on a bush close by?

2. Or a swarm in a box hive that you

have become possessed of?

3. Or a hive of bees that you have purchased in a bar-frame hive?

ANSWERS.

Well, possibly you have it in a small box, perhaps a cubic foot in size, turned upside down, with a small hole cut for the bees to go in and out of. Placed alone on a stand, the bees will gradually, if the season is favourable, fill it with comb, brood and honey. If the bottom is a fixture on the box you will never know how the bees are getting on, till perhaps some day a swarm issues; in a few days afterwards another, and the same again and again. At last you find the box very light, and very few bees in it. You have courage sufficient, with the aid of a smothering smoke, and the endurance of a few stings, which are anything but pleasant, to break the box open, and cut out the combs. In doing so you will find brood, i.e., little maggots at bottom of cells; cells ceiled over with a dome-like covering; adjoining the same, beside cells The eggs are containing little eggs. hatched in about three days after being laid; they are larvæ for five days, and ceiled over for about fourteen days, for the general worker bee. You want to see the queen. Well, she is longer than the worker or general bee, her abdomen tapering gracefully to a point. She lays all the eggs in

the hive. A good queen, in a good season, laying up to as many as 3000 eggs in a day—double her own weight. The drone, or male bee, is a big, burly fellow, and makes a big humming noise. He is only tolerated during the honey season. Directly winter approaches, or the honey flow ceases, the workers turn him out of the hive, or kill him.

Well, now, you want your bees in a bar ame hive. There are many kinds of frame hive. bar-framed hives. It is an essential where there are more than one hive in a yard, the frames and combs should be interchangeable, i.e., that you can, when necessary, take a comb from one hive and place it in another. It is an advantage, also, should you wish at any time to sell your hive, to have it in accordance with those generally used, so that those who purchase should have the same advantage. A practical apiarist objects to two or three kinds of hives or frames in his yard. At least we do. So our first enquiry should be for the hive and frame most generally used—there is no doubt that is what is called the Langstroth. The top bar of frame of same is 19 in. $x \frac{7}{8}$ in. $x \frac{5}{8}$ in., depth of frames $9\frac{1}{8}$ in., bottom bar $16\frac{3}{4}$ in. x $\frac{7}{8}$ in. x $\frac{3}{8}$ in. The top bar being long, the ends enable it to be hung near top of box, sufficient space being left between top of frame and level of top of side of hives for beess to pass along. Usually the hive is made to hold either eight or ten frames. It is a very undecided question which is the better. It depends much on the likely honey flow in your neighbourhood, a small flow not needing a large hive. We have come to the conclusion that with attention it does not matter, as if the smaller hive fills up quicker than the larger one, a super can be put on quicker.

The frames should be hung in the hive at a distance of $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches from centre to centre of each. The size of hive should be such that there is a bee space, or sufficient space for the bees to move about in, not only on top of frames, but also below.

A great many beekeepers make their own hives and frames, using a treadle saw to cut the timber up to sizes. There are many, however, who buy from supply dealers. One advantage in this is, that steam driven machinery is so effectual in cutting to exact measurement, and so quick and powerful, you get the sizes more accurate, and very little, if any, above the cost you would incur in buying vourself in small quantities. Respecting the frames, many are made what is called self-spacing, that is, shoulderz are left on the side bars, so that when they are pressed up together they come to the $1\frac{1}{2}$ inch space from centre to centre. Without these the combs are not often properly spaced. They are very handy also in removing hives from place to place, in preventing the combs being jammed together, and destroying bees or brood; and without such self-spacing it would be necessary to fasten strips across frames to keep them in place.

CALIFORNIAN SAGE.

R, BEUHNE, TOOBORAC.

Mr A. I. Root, in his A. B. C, says: -" The Sage belongs to the great family of Labiatae, or the mint family: Labiatae means lip-shaped; and if you look closely you will see plants of this family with a sort of lip on one side, something like the nose to a pitcher. Many of this family, such as Catnip, Motherwort, Figwort, Gill-overthe Ground, have already been mentioned as honey plants, and the number might be extended almost indefinitely. The Sage we have particularly to do with is the Californian Mountain Sage, and I do not know that I should be far out of the way in calling this one of the most important honey plants in the world. The crops of honey recorded from it have been so immense that the sage honey is now offered for sale in almost the principal cities of the world. This species of sage grows along the sides of the mountain, and blossoms successively as the season advances; that is, the bees first commence work on it in the valleys and then gradually fly higher up as the blossoms climb the mountain

The seed to hand was forwarded by Mr M. D. Nichols, of California. Mr. Nichols says :- "I am sending you seed of the Black Boll or Blue Sage, all meaning the same kind. This sage makes the whitest honey like white clover, and it grows on the side hill more than the White

Sage does. The White Sage produces honey not quite so white, but it has a flavour and is of very rich quality. This seed here will start with the first rains in the fall, and begin to bloom in the spring. If not destroyed it gets larger every year, until one plant will cover several square feet. Mountain quail live on the seed here, so that it does not increase very fast from seed. The White Sage is just done blooming (7th July), and the seed not ripe yet. It begins to bloom here about the time the Black stops, unless the early rain comes so late as to throw the black later in the season.'

The seed forwarded by Mr. Wilder I expect to arrive in the next few days. I should advise those who receive seed to reserve some of it for sowing at the end of summer, when the first autumn rains will start it, and it will probably thrive better-in dry localities-than that sown now. The seed could not be got earlier, as it ripened only just before it was sent. I have always been of opinion that it does not pay to grow plants for bees only, but there are many waste, barren places which might possibly grow sage, judging by Californian conditions .-Leader.

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E. TIPPER. "A. BEE BULLETIN."

DERSONS in want of HONEY in bulk, if they communicate with us, we will do our best to place them where it can be had. Same time, those who have quantities for sale, we shall be pleased to do our best for them by their sending samples and price. For these services we only want 4d. postage stamps to cover the necessary correspondence.

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Editor, "A. B. B."

FOOD VALUE OF HONEY.— Its Adulteration and Analyses.

PROF. H. W. WILEY, IN A. B. J.

A great poet, as well as one who had a keen insight into the scientific laws of nature, said, about one hundred years ago, in language which I shall venture to translate—

"He who knows not all that has happened In three thousand years, will never See the light nor have experience Even should he live forever"

This statement of Goethe is true, also, in matters concerned with honey.

It seems to me, therefore, in discussing the subject of honey as a food, that it would be wise to go back over the pages of history and see what uses were made of this substance during the past three thousand years, or even longer. If you will indulge me, therefore, I will preface what I have to say by a few extracts taken from historical pages, relating to honey and its uses. We ought to know what has been done in three thousand years, but I do not propose to take three thousand minutes to tell you.

EARLY HISTORY.—The tribes of men that live solely, or almost so, on flesh, use neither salt nor sweets. The transition from flesh-eating to plant-eating in the early history of all nations is attended with the consumption of salt and sweets. The word sweet is common to all dominant languages. In Sanscrit it first occurs, thousands of years old as svadu, to make sweet; ydus, Greek: snovis, Latin, etc. The use of honey in early historical times was connected with religious rites, chiefly because fermented honey-water was supposed to contain a spirit powerful, and needing to be propitiated.

Wine or beer made from honey was known in the earliest historical times, known in Sanskrit as madhn, and in Greek as meu, and in German as meth.

Bee-culture was unknown to many early nations which valued wild honey. It is evident that Homer would have mentioned bee-culture had it been known to the Greeks in his time. Homer frequently mentions honey and its uses, but never suggests that men have anything to do with its production. Homer, in the 9th book of the Odyssey, calls wine the "red honey of the grape." A "land full of honey " to the ancient writers did not mean the ideal land full of milk and honey, but a wilderness where the bees worked undisturbed in accumulating their storos.

While some attempts were made before Christian era to increase the production of honey by man's aid, no true system of bee-culture can be said to have existed 2,000 years ago. This is plainly evident from a perusal of that book of the Georgics devoted by Virgil to bees and honey. During Pliny's life (died 79, A. D.) men learned to build rude hives, and even placed in them windows of isinglass in order to watch the bees at their work. Pliny had some remarkable ideas in regard to the propagation of bees. He states that if the carcasses of young steers be covered with dung, Nature will change a portion of the steer's body into bees. (Book XI.) This idea probably arose from the fable of Aristous, the first bee-keeper who helped to compass the death of Eurydice. He was punished for this by having taken from him all his bees. He was advised by Proteus to supplicate the gods in a sacrifice of bullocks. was delighted to see arise from their carcasses a new supply of bees.

Aristotle, who lived 350 years B. C., states that the bees make the wax, but gather the honey from Heaven—dew. Even up to the time of Virgil, and after, the ancient writers had no notion of the existence of sugar in flowers but the honey gathered by the bees was supposed to be a direct gift of Heaven, or, as Virgil describes it, "That gift of Heaven, ethereal honey."

The use of honey in baking is mentioned in the 7th century B. C. At the time of Aristophones the use of honey in the bakeries of Athens was quite common. (444 B. C.) The Athenian honey was very costly. Aristophones

says, "I beg thee, friend, use some other 'loney, spare the Attic which cost four rowns."

Xenophon mentions a poisonous honey which made many of his soldiers ill. Investigations in late years, of honeys produced in the locality described by Xenophon, show that this poisonous principle is derived from the Jimson-weed (Datura stramoniun), of whose flowers the bees are very fond.

In Rome in the earliest times honey was very costly, and it was used only in religious ceromonies and as a medicine. It was supposed to have valuable healing powers. It was only about 170 B. C. that it became cheap enough to be used

in baking.

In Cæsar's time honey was used to a considerable extent. Vejanus, a beekeeper near Falerimer, is said by Varro to have sold annually 10,000 sesterces worth (\$650), of honey from a flowergarden of about one acre in extent. His bees probably poached on his neighbor's preserves.

During the empire, honey merchants and bakers were found in all parts of Rome, and poultry intended for the rich were fattened on honey and ground cereal.

During this period, also, the preservation of fruits in honey was first practiced, and the foundations of a great modern industry laid. The preserving power of honey, however, was not discovered by the Romans, for Herodotus, who lived nearly 500 B. C. says that dead bodies in Eastern countries were preserved from decay by honey and wax.

It is said that the body of Agesipolis, king of Sparta, was preserved and sent

home in this manner.

The Egyptians fed their sacred animals. i.e., the crocodile, goose-flesh and honey-cakes, and pictures more than 4,000 years old of bees have been found in Egyptian antiquities. It seems probable, therefore, that the Egyptians were the first to gather honey.

Especially as a medicine honey was largely used in Egypt. In an old Egyptian writing, at least 1500 B. C.,

have been found numerous recipes for remedies in which honey plays the most

important part.

Hippocrates, the celebrated Grecian physician, who lived 450 B. C., describes many remedies in which honey was the chief ingredient, and ascribed to it remarkable curative properties. An ancient fable recites that in thankfulness the bees constructed a hive on his grave, and that honey of miraculous healing properties was produced therein.

Democritus, who was contemporary with Hippocrates, and who lived to be more than a hundred years old, when asked how to attain so green an old age, replied, "Honey within, oil without."

Many curious theories were developed in respect of the curative powers of honey and wine—not perhaps any more absurd than many of the so-called medical theories in vogue at the present time.

Macrobius, 400 A. D., explained the healing power of the mixture by saying that the old wine by reason of its moist nature was warming, while the honey, by reason of its dry nature, was cooling. Pliny, on the other hand, ascribed the good effects to the property of honey,

which prevents decay.

The early Christian era saw a great impulse given to the production of honey. The souls of the dead were represented as flying to Heaven in the form of bees. Honey became of more general use, and the wax was made into candles for religious uses. The discovery of paraffine has rendered less effective the old Christian legend that God blessed the bees as they were sent from Paradise, and that as a consequence no mass should be said without beeswax candles.

Bee-culture spread with great rapidity over Europe during the first millennium of the Christian era. In Spain honey became an article of export in the early centuries. The tithes of the church were paid in honey in many places. In Saxony honey and honey-bees were so abundant that a fire in Messina was extinguished with honey bees in 1015. Nuremberg,

however, seems to have been the chief get good queens and increase for those centre of the German bee industry. In who do not make a business of bee Russia, Poland and Lithuania, immense quantities of honey were produced at this time. A king of one of the Russian provinces was said to have given to the poor honey and honey-wine, while he himself lived on mare's milk.

In the old Indian writings honey is frequently mentioned. The new-born child was welcomed with a religious ceremonial in which honey was the chief material employed, and the first artificial food of the infant was composed of honey and sourmilk.

In taking honey from a hive the sacred books of the far East prescribed great care, in order that the hive be not injured. The wanton destruction of a hive was regarded as a heinous sin, and one of the 88,000 hells which are conveniently provided in the theology of Brahma and Buddha were set aside especially for sinners of that class.

The cultivation of the sugar-cane, which became generally known at the time of the Crusades, and the discovery of beet-sugar, 150 years ago, have made artificial sweets so cheap that bee-culture no longer, as it did in the middle centuries, controls the market for sweets, and few bee-hives are now found in the European countries where they were abundant 1,000 or 500 years ago.

NON=SWARMING. The Most Hopeful Field.

I believe the most hopeful field for commercial bee-keeping lies in the improvement of the stock, in the direction of non-swarming. There are some strains of bees not so much addicted to swarming as others. Take such a strain and use every means available to prevent swarming, breeding always from colonies that are not inclined to swarm, and I believe you will, in time, have a non-swarming strain of bees. Bees have, in times past, been bred mostly from the worst swarmers; it is the easiest way to

who do not make a business of bee keeping; but I think the time is coming when those making a business of beekeeping will reverse this practice, and breed from those that don't swarm. Now I will have to plead guilty to a charge of breeding from swarming colonies myself. I was, like all beginners, anxious for increase, and glad to have them swarm. I soon saw, however, that the colonies that did not swarm were a good deal the most profitable in honey; so I have reared a few queens from some that did not swarm, and they were away ahead of the average bees. The worst year for swarms that I have seen, about one-third of mine run for comb honey did not swarm. Other years I have had from none to eight or 10 from 30 to 50 colonies. But each season the bees have to be watched. and this watching is what we want to do away with.

There are many plans of dividing and uniting in the fall, and thus keeping down increase after a fashion, but we want the whole force of one queen to stay together through the honey-flow in order to get good crops of fancy comb honey.

How to do this without any one on hand to watch for swarms is, in my judgement, the greatest problem now before the beekeeping fraternity.—E. S. MILES, IN Beekeepers Review.

GOOD QUEENS: How TO REAR THEM.

W. C. Gathright, *Progressive Beckeeper*, says:—

If it should be necessary to begin queenrearing much before swarming time, my plan is to go to a colony having brood in all combs below: if not, draw them from other colonies until the hive is full of brood and bees. Then a queen excluder is placed on the hive, and an empty body placed over the excluder. In this empty body I put 4 to 6 frames of sealed brood and fill out the rest of the space with empty combs. In a few days the colony will be in a condition to rear queens as good as can be obtained by natural swarming. In practice I have been more successful with strips of drone-comb than with the artificial cell cups. strips of drone-comb are cut the proper length and width, and the cell are cut down to about half length, then dipped in melted wax and placed on the stick, which is inverted about the center of a frame. In transferring the larvæ I use a small stick of soft wood shaved down to a feather edge. With this stick I pick up the larvæ and place one in every other cell of the strip of drone comb. These are now hung in a strong colony having been made queenless and broodless 12 hours previous. After about 12 hours it is then placed in the upper story of the hive prepared for cell-building having a laying queen below and a queen-excluder between. The cells can be started in the upper story but it is not near so certain as having them started in a queenless and broodless hive.

By the above plan I am sure I get as good cells as are built in natural swarming. I should have mentioned that it is necessary to feed the cell-building colony if no honey is coming in.

QUEENS.

H. W. BRICE, IN heekeepers Record.

The microscope tells us much with regard to the queen's great fecundity. by any chance a recently killed fertile queen is available, those who possess a microscope and desire to investigate may immerse the dead insect in spirits for a few hours to harden the tissues. dorsal plates of the abdomen are then carefully cut away and removed (this must be done after fixing the body firmly down, either in water or a mixture of alcohol and water). The whole generative system of the queen is thus exposed to view, and the two pear-shaped organs called the ovaries are at once recognised, laying one on each side of the stomach. Each of these ovaries is composed of comparatively long tapering tubes, thickening towards the base, and passing at the

opposite ends to mere threads. It is estimated that there are about 200 of these tubes, or follicles, to each ovary. The eggs are larger at the base, and as the tubes narrow so the eggs gradually become smaller and smaller until at last they seem to gradually fade away. How they are first developed is one of the greatest marvels in this connection, but egg-production seems to almost keep pace with the queen's ability to deposit them in the cells, and we have about four hundred eggs formed contemporaneously with the laying of this number. Each tube probably contains ten to twelve eggs in various stages, and a little multiplication of ten times 400 gives us 4,000 eggs in the two ovaries. Whatever uncertainty may exist regarding the number of eggs a queen is capable of laying in a day, a microscopic examination of these tubes shows without doubt that the larger number of the eggs therein are either ready or in an advanced stage of ripeness, and could be deposited within a comparatively short period, it thus becomes obvious that during the height of the season eggs are developed and ovipositing goes on at an exceedingly rapid rate. In the quieter seasons of autumn, winter, and early spring there is, of course, a great diminution of egg-production. The above remarks apply simply to the busiest phase of the queen's existence, and only to good queens.

Yellow Sweet Clover (Mellin Officinalis) is very warmly recommended by John R. Schmidt in the American Bee Journal as one of the very best honey plants. He says it never fails to yield nectar.

A German paper says: Feb. 19, bees flew in a rain and fell to the ground chilled. After 24 hours, 50 of them carried into a warm room revived in 10 minutes, and flew in 30 minutes. After 48 hours, 30 were picked up, and all but three revived. After 72 hours lying on the wet ground, with one night's freezing, 22 were found, and eight of the 22 flew after five hours warming.

MUSICAL EDUCATION FOR HALF-A-CROWN.

The above heading will, of course, appear to most people as the height of absurdity, yet the absurdity is more apparent than real. It goes without saying that a finished musical education in the regular course cannot be had for a half crown, or even with several hundred additional halfcrowns, but can it be truthfully said that the person with a sufficient knowledge of music to play accompaniments on the piano or organ, to all the popular and standard songs of the day, has no musical education? Assuredly not. A musical education sufficient to enable one to play correctly accompaniments to the songs sung in the home, frequently gets and gives more pleasure from the modest accomplishment than do many on whose education large sums have been expended.

To the more modest education the above heading applies. Such an education the Bee Bulletin is now enabled to offer its music-loving readers for a half-crown, believing that it is the greatest benefit it can give to its subscribers, This ready-made musical education consists of Pratt's Chart of Chords for the Piano and Organ, which is the nearest approach to a ready made knowledge of music yet attained by science. It is a short cut to harmony, and is to music what the multiplication table is to arithmetic. A quick method of learning to play the Piano or Organ without a teacher.

With this Chart anyone can with but a small amount of practice become an expert pianist. It is a complete self-instructor, enabling anyone to play the piano or organ at sight, and to play without difficulty brilliant accompaniments to any song ever written. It is va uable to the advanced musician as well as the beginner, embracing nearly every major and minor chord used in music, and is endorsed by teachers and musicians everywhere. This chart is the result of years of study by Charles E. Pratt, the noted American composer and musician, whose compositions have worldwide popularity and a larger sale than those of any other American or European composer.

Believing that the educational value of this chart cannot be over estimated, the *Bee Bulletin* has arranged with the publishers to supply Pratt's Chart of Chords (published at 5s.) to its readers at the reduced price of 2s. 6d. each, with 2d. added for postage, and, in addition to the Chart of Chords, the publishers have kindly agreed to send without extra charge a copy of the Giant Album of Songs, containing 184 songs with words and music. Many of these songs are old-time favourites long out of print, that can be obtained in no other way. Add 2d extra for stamps. Intercolonial postal note, should have exchange added.

Every home that has a piano or organ, especially where there are children, should have Pratt's Chart of Chords. This offer is made for a short time only, and Bee Bulletin readers should avail

themselves of it without delay, and in writing mention this paper.

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HUSKS & CHAFF.

G. R. HARRISON.

I am a Queenslandite again, having returned to Warwick, on the far-famed Darling Downs. The weather is fine, with good morning frosts, which makes it inadvisable to get up too long before the world is well aired. There has not been what may be called excessive rains here, which was the state of things just before I left Sydney, about a week ago.

There is a little honey coming in already, and in fairly strong colonies have a few cards of brood, and the voice of the parrot is heard in the land, which generally means that there is something in

bloom.

I have struck an old time beekeeper here, who has passed the scriptural three score and ten by a few years, who kept bees in boxes in the honey age while the times were fairly good, but gave up instanter when the prices slumped so ruinously and came down below half-a erown a bottle. What would most of us say now to prices like that?

Warwick is well into the *yellow jacket* country, and it and all the other eucalypts are loaded with buds giving promise, if the weather etc. is favourable, of at least a decent season.

The business, which is most in order for beekeepers just now, is taking measures for working together for honey export. There is a possibility of their having something to export, and it is necessary for them to decide what are the best methods, the best packages and the best medium through which to ship.

Also to keep hammering away to get the consumer to understand the food value of honey, and keep hammering away at the Government Departments which really want to help the beekeeper, that the best way they can help us is to send the nice, snave glib tongued lecturer around among the towns and villages to educate the people at large to eat honey, to use honey as food—the less said of honey as a medicine the better—preach at all times the food value of honey.

CANDIED COMB and VINEGAR.

Provide a barrel with one head out. Take the frames containing the candied honey, and where they are sealed comb them with the edge of a wire-cloth just enough to expose the honey. Sometimes there will be enough honey in the combs that can be thrown out to pay for uncapping and running through the ex-Then pack the frames contractor first. taining the combs as snugly as you can in the barrel, noting at the time about how much honey they contain so that you will know how much water to add. Having the frames secured in the bottom of the barrel so they cannot float, pour in water enough to cover them. You can hurry fermentation by adding a little yeast; or should you already have some fermenting, add a little of it to the one just

prepared.

Two pounds of honey to one gallon of water makes very good vinegar; but you should keep it as much stronger as possible so that the water used to rinse the combs after they are through fermenting and thoroughly soured, may be added, making in all about one gallon of water to every two pounds of honey. honey, and even the pollen that contains some honey, or has absorbed some of the sweetened water, will be fermented out of the cells. What is not removed in this way will shrink from the cell walls, when dry, and will jar out or be removed by the bees. To remove the vinegar from the combs turn the frames, with the top down, supporting them between the thumbs and fingers, let them drop on to some strips across the top of the barrel, gently at first, until the comb is relieved of some of the vinegar; then immerse them a few times in water, jar the water out in the same way, and use it to dilute the vinegar. Any additional rinsing will do no harm, neither is it necessary to have the combs entirely free from the vinegar.

I treated black-brood combs in the same way last summer, and thought what little vinegar adhered to the combs was an advantage.—A. M. Applegate, in

American Beekeeper.

SOME ADVANTAGES OF PRODUCING EXTRACTED HONEY.

B. W. PEEK, IN A. R.J.

- 1. The apiarist can manage more colonies.
 - 2. There will be less swarming.

3. We will get more honey.

4. Combs once built can be used indefinitely.

5. Bees will work better in large combs

than in small combs or sections.

6. Much time is saved the bees in comb-building.

7. It takes less skill to produce ex-

tracted honey than comb honey.

8. Colonies that will do little or nothing in the sections many times will produce a fair crop of extracted honey.

9. Extracted honey can be shipped

with less damage than comb honey.

10. It can be kept over from year to year with less damage than comb honey.

11. Last but not least, I find extracted honey sells better, being cheaper than comb honey.

BEES HATCHING HENS' EGGS.

JOHN G. NORTON, IN A.B.J.

I have been using the plan of having the bees hatch hen's eggs all spring, and it is all that I have claimed for it. of 100, and perhaps a dozen more fertile eggs, every one hatched a good, strong chick, no crooked legs or half-dead ones. I have applied, and shall have the plan before the public before next spring. It will be very cheap, and any beekeeper can use it without much extra expense, as the bees are not interrupted in the least. I use a chaff hive for the purpose, with chaff cushions, which act as a hen, and the eggs are placed above the bees, where they are kept warm from Feb. 15 till late in the fall. I think after a person tries this plan he will have no use for complicated incubators or cross sitting hens. I have had the plan in mind for three or four years, but this is the first time I have tested it, and I have never heard of it being used by anyone before.

REMOVING SHORT DISTANCES.

I started to remove them at dark First I blew a puff of smoke into the entrance, then I carried them to their new location. By 2.30 in the morning they were all moved. The next morning before the bees moved any I disfigured the surroundings by hanging old hives on the fence-posts all around, then removed all the old blocks which they formerly rested on, and then as soon as they showed any signs of flying I went at the hives with a club and beat the hives, and gave them a good shaking up, thereby leaving the impression that they had been removed from St. Louis or some seaport. Not a bee went back to their old. location, for I left a weak hive behind expecting to catch enough bees to build it up a little, but to my surprise it didn't build. The reason I wrote this, the textbooks generously dissuade people from moving short distances only by degrees. But it can be done successfully the way I proceeded, and by moving all of them and everything which formerly surrounded them: and such things as can't be moved, endeavour to change their appearance as much as possible.—J. R. Dodds, in Progressive Beekeeper.

There has been a great deal written on the subject of dark bees, also on yellow bees, and we think that the surest course for the most profit is to use the bees that bring in the most honey, regardless of colour.—Southland Queen.

Why are cells built over larva, by queenless bees, not just as good as grafted cells? Why are the queens not just as good? You may say that bees will sometimes start cells over larvæ too old, and they will, but we can assort them and destroy the cells we do not like quicker than we can dip and graft cellcups, and besides, ali grafted cells are not good either. Does the moving of larvæ and the making of cell-cups, by the hand of man, make the queens any better? If so, why?—Southland Queen.

NOTES BY LIGURIAN.

Ligurian, Richmond River, writes:-I am in a dairying district, and complaint has been made to me recently that the bees cause great loss to dairymen. The man who complained said he intends asking the first aspirant for parliamentary honours if he is in favour of these "travelling menageries" being permitted to go about the country as they like. (He alludes to my shifting the bees, as I have taken several loads past his door.) He considers he lost £60 by my placing an apiary two miles off him. His paddocks in the spring are full of clover, and he says the bees are then present in thousands. His cows, after filling up with clover, lie down, and he says "very often their udders come on top of a bee." Result, a sting, and the milk vein at this spot swells and inflames, resulting very often in the cow losing her teat. In any case the cow goes off her milk and is spoilt for the season. It's no use my suggesting it may Le bulldog ants; its my bees. notwithstanding the fact that the timber around is full of bees. I question whether a cow could lie down on a bee unless it was one which had its wings frayed and whose life was spent. I should like to hear if any other beekeeper has ever had similar complaints. This man says he saw the evil in the old country and on the south coast.

Lismore, R.R., writes:—Prospects, which looked most disheartening up to within the last two or three days, owing to a long spell of dry weather, have been improved considerably by about three inches of rain. The clover is well orward, and in another week paddocks should be white. I had the first swarm on August 30. Bees came through winter well-losses about 3 per cent. Have cleaned out old honey, and expect extracting will be in full swing in another fortnight. So will swarming, I'm afraid. I note what you say about the "honey" you purchased in Sussex street. I have recently had honey tins returned from a Sydney firm to whom I sell a few tins every year at a price, and empties returned, and I have again to complain of the disgraceful tins some beekeepers send their honey to market in. Last year I had all sorts returned to me, including the original kerosene tin, and some leaky, plugged with wooden plugs and rag. This year they are about as bad. I would be ashamed to send my product to market in such packages. Its very disheartening to get such "return empties" when the tins sent away were new ones. If these "beekeepers" place their honey on the market in this class of tins, I'm not surprised at honey being unsaleable and unremunerative.

In reply to friend Abram, page 117. No, sugar-cane is not a source of honey. I have had a field of cane cut a few hundred yards from an apiary of 100 colonies, and never saw the bees take to the cane. In early morning when the moisture is on the cut stalks, I have

seen an occasional bee, but the cut edge very soon dries The bees will sip the juice if pressed out for them and my partner once suggested using it to feed in winter. I believe the bees do give trouble at the sugar mills sometimes, but they certainly get no quantity of the syrup. No, this district is not an El Dorado for beekeepers although I will admit if you go in for migratory beekeeping you could get honey nearly the whole year, but where I am in the forest country inland, our season starts in September and closes in December or January according to the time the wet season sets in. In February or March a beekeeper could shift to the coast and get Ti-tree and heath honey all through the winter months. I have done it, but no more of it. The honey is very inferior, still there are tons and tons of it poured into Sydney.

As to our average; mine has been from 60 to 112 lbs. As to the number of hives in the Richmond River district, I cannot say at present but roughly speaking I should say 2000 to 3000.

BEEKEEPERS' TROUBLES. How to deal with them.

ANTS.—Dig hole in centre of nest. Put Bi-sulphate of Carbon in same, cover up. The fumes will kill. Keep honey house clean. Chalk round where they can climb. Salt in front of hives. Allow grass to grow, but keep clipped. Clover bloom contains honey, but ants do not climb up and take it. A piece of fur tacked round the bottom board, hairy side down, is a good protector.

Four Brood.—Put bees in clean hive with starters. Close entrance for a couple of days to prevent them swarming.

Paralysis.—Kill queen and get a fresh one.

BLUE MARTINS.—Shoot them. Dragon Flies.—Use a whip.

Spiders.—Keep on the look out and kill them. Don't have porches to your hives. Langstroth said spiders were friends as they kept the wax moths in check. We don't want either.

Wax Moths.—Keep colonies strong, and occasionally look over combs and pick out when you see them. You soon get to know their galleries. Keep Italian bees. Black bees cannot resist them like Italians.

Get Sample Labels from the Bee Bulletin Printing Works.

FOUL BROOD ACT. THE

T is not our place to oppose any good work that may be done on behalf of beekeepers, even if such be done by those we think are not acting generally in the true beekeepers' interests. We would call attention, however, that, whether for the beekeepers' interests or not, members of the N.B.K.A. have interviewed the N.S.W. Minister for Agriculture to urge on the Foul Brood Act. Whether by accident or design we only got notice that a deputation to the Minister was to be held on the very same morning, when it was impossible, owing to distance, and no trains running to Sydney that could be in time. to be there. As we have already called the attention of beekeepers to this bill (it was published in last issue), also asked for opinions respecting the same, as we said in our last issue, the fault lies at door if it becomes law, and its working does not suit them. We are very thankful for replies re same received and published in this issue.

LOYALSTONE REPLIES.

I have 150 colonies of bees, and have no desire for any meddling act. If I get a case of foul broad in my apiaries, it is to my interest, my living, to get rid of it as soon as possible, without waiting for inspectors to 'prance' round. No, the N. B. K. A. has no right to attempt to support such an act, I am a member of it, and here not had a need in a member of it. of it, and have not had a word from them, only an acknowledgement of my 5/- membership. Besides a minority has no right to rule a major-Let beekeepers have a referendum on the subject.

J. A. B., DILGA.

Just a word about the foul brood act. I consider that it is not required, honey is cheap enough now without making it cheaper. If any man chooses to let his bees die of disease, it is his own fault, when there are known cures for such disease. I consider the more disease the less beekeeper-, and the better for those few, the careful few who remain As a rule beekeepers don't live close enough for the diseases to be caught from one apiary to another, if it were so I would say that an act of a kind, not the proposed act, was wanted.

W. H., WILSON RIVER.

My opinion is the foul broad act is a lot of rot; don't want any. No government inspector can

stop it if it likes to come along. I never had any of it. We have an inspector of st ck in Kempsey, and two or three police, and still cattle can rot and die of cancer about here without their seeing them, the bee men might be the same. I have eighty-five (85) hives all in fine condition, just starting to bring in honey, so between them and my cows I will have it lively for a time.

HALEWOOD.

If the State authorises inspectors to inspect hives, etc., on premises of beekeepers, it should also guarantee to make good any loss or damage consequent to the inspection. For as sure as experts and inspectors are appointed, unnecessary inspections will be made in apiaries and districts when no disease exists, therefore when damage or loss is sustained in such cases, reparation should be firmly insisted on; for there is no reason why any beekeeper should sustain loss through the inexpertness of any expert. If an expert or inspector, etc., does any injury or inflicts any loss on any beekeeper through ignorance, not an unknown quantity among bee-experts occasionally, (no offence in ended) or other causes, they should be made responsible to the State and the State to the beekeeper. Further, if experts, etc., are to be appointed they should be selected from the ranks of beekeepers, who have been working with bees for the whole or greater part of their lives, for at least 10 years if not a longer period Beekeepers have a perfect right to claim protection from the mistakes and blunders of inspectors, they won't be infallible. I would suggest, if necessary, that a deputation of beekeepers urge any necessary improvement in any such act. All will have to be subject to an act of that kind, and all should be allowed full opportunity of knowing the nature of it, and not have it rushed on to the Statutes by the few before the mass is consulted; it is just possible some of the mass of beekeepers may know what is to their best interests as well as the few. On the whole I am inclined to believe that a Bee Disease Act would do more harm to beekeepers than good In localities that are subject to foul brood in particular, I think that overstocking is the cause of spreading the disease, more so than any other cause, and how will a foul brood act cope with that phase of the question? There will be more opening and exposing of hives and bees at time of day when bees both healthy and diseased are flying, and being in search of food in an overstocked localit, they will avail themselves of the opportunity. The result needs no guessing.

W. F. E., TOOLOOM, VIC.

You ask beekeepers to send their opinion along with regard to the proposed foul brood act. I am pleased to say I have no personal knowledge of it, but I have noticed from time to time in the A.B.B. the trouble, loss, and expense that some of your correspondents have been put to with it; at the same time his neighbour is just sowing it broadcast by throwing broken combs etc., about his yard In such cases as this I think the act will be alright. In framing this act it will be necessary to make it compulsory for every individual keeping bees to register; there must be no side door left here. No doubt many will object to the expense, but I think that the benefits will soon counteract that. I am of opinion that it will tend to put beekeeping on a better footing. I would also be in favour of every place where honey is produced for sale being open for inspection. I have about 100 colonies of bees.

W. N , EUGOWRA.

After having read the Youl Brood Act through

my interpretation is as follows :-

Clause 1.—A beekeeper must do just as the Department may direct, even if he knew it were wrong.

Clause 2. Would be suitable if the whole

drafting of the Act was satisfactory.

Clause 3. The bee experts appointed to carry out the administration of the Act will have to be paid. Those who derive the benefits are the persons that should pay. That means a tax on beekeepers.

Clause 4 gives incompetent persons power to

do more harm than good.

Clause 5 is satisfactory.

Mr. Editor, I do not think that the best interests of beekeepers are guarded enough. From past experience, it must have come under the notice of others as well as myself, that the Government departments make blunders, and at times persons hold Government billets who are in no way qualified for them. A beekeeper may be an expert himself of a high standard among bees. If disease gets among his hives he gives the required notice to the Department; then a person perhaps less skilled than himself is sent with power to dictate to him what to do. my mind this would be unsatisfactory. If we are going to have the inspectors we will have to pay for them. From my experience of the beekeeping industry it is one that cannot bear much

In expressing my opinion I am not doing it to find fault. If it were in my power to draft a better Act than the one placed before us I would only be too pleased to do so. I will now make some suggestions, which may cause other minds, cleverer than mine, to think this matter carefully over

Clause 1 should read from "Agriculture" and take immediate steps for the eradication of such disease, otherwise the Department will deal with

the matter at owner's expense.

To Clause 4 should be added the following: Providing the time and atmospheric conditions are favourable, with the owner's permission; but should he enter thereon at an unsuitable time against the wish of the owner, and cause loss or damage which can be proved in a court of law,

the owner can obtain compensation for such loss.

I would suggest that Clause 5 read: If the

owner or person in charge of any bees should obstruct a duly authorised person in the discharge of his duties, at a suitable time, such owner or person in charge are liable to a penalty of not less than —, or more than —. Clause 5 in the Act would then be Clause 6.

In conclusion, I am not satisfied with the Act as it now stands. I work 246 colonies of bees.

R. H. G., GLEN WILLIAM.

I enclose a few remarks (although being a young beekeeper) which I hope will not be out

of place.

I think a Foul Brood Act entirely out of place, because, supposing foul brood breaks out in any apiary it will be to the beekeepers' interest to prevent it from spreading (if possible), and eventually to cure it, or else he is not a beekeeper. Another thing, the most of our apiaries are situated in or near the forest. The question is, should foul brood get into them, how is it to be cured there?

Then again, if the Act does pass through Parliament it will only mean a good fat billet for an inspector, who will come and upset all a beekeeper's arrangement of hives, &c., at any time he chooses, and who will have to pay him? The unfortunate beekeepers, I suppose. Who wants this? I for one don't require it, We get little enough for our honey without having to pay an inspector to come and see if the bees have disease or not. I have got 50 hiv es, and I think I can look after them myself, without the aid of an inspector, by the help of the notes in the Bulletin and other journals.

J. J.H., BROGO.

If it is not too late permit me to offer my humble protest against the Foul Brood Act (in its present form) being made law, and I feel sure I am expressing the sentiments of a very large number of beekeepers in the colony when I say that such an act is unnecessary, and would prove unjust and unworkable in a great many cases.

For instance, is a beekeeper going to report to the Department that he has a hive infected with a contagious disease, if on account of the prevalence of the same disease all round him, in bush trees, he does not, at that particular time, deem it wise to eradicate from his hives; and, for the same reasons, would it not be unjust for the Government to compel him to take such steps, unless perhaps in some rare instances, where a careless person leaves diseased combs exposed, or otherwise keeps his bees in such a way as to be a source of danger to a neighbouring beekeeper? The proposed Act may suit a few who would like to see the amateurs wiped out, but it would be rather inconsistent on the part of the Government to pass an Act which would have that effect after paying a lecturer to travel round and induce people to start beekeeping. What we require is an "Act dealing with Contagious Diseases in Bees," something similar to the New

Zealand Foul Brood Act, which would give beekeepers all the protection they needed and at the same time would not inflict unnecessary hardships on others. It would be well to have the assistance of an expert, but his duty should be to examine comb, and not to travel round the country looking for it. Anyhow, I don't want to see him down this way. I have had some bitter experience with foul brood in the past. I hope not to see it again for some time. I keep about 20 colonies generally, but owing to disease last year am reduced to 12, which, however, are strong. For the past four years I got about one ton of honey each year, which is not too bad, considering the little attention I am able to give them. All my honey I can dispose of locally at from 3d to 3½d per lb. nett. I have never been a member of a beekeepers' association, but would join any representative body which I thought would help the industry along. I always find time to read the A.B.B., which always contains the latest bee news, and some valuable advice. Wishing you success.

F. W. P., ELSMORE.

To eradicate Foul Brood is impossible while there are bush bees around seven-tenths of the apiaries. The inclusion of Inspector will probably prevent the Bill passing unless the registration fee is high enough to pay the Inspector, which most beekeepers will strongly object to. If the Government pay the Inspector, it will be considered a concession which the beekeepers as a whole will not benefit to that extent.

1 think if two or more neighbouring beekeepers could get authority to enter and act as Inspectors to the suspected apiary would be

The Foul Bood and other divers bee disease

sufficient for years to come. J. L. M. S., WEST TAMWORTH.

Act to my idea is an idiotic farce and a red tapeism on the first clause. Who is going to notify the thousands of hives of bees that are in the trees in the bush. If foul brood is such an awful contagious disease, all the above would have to be exterminated to procure the safety of the apiarist. I have known two beekeepers adjoining one another, one losing all his bees with foul brood and the other not being affected. How do you account for this? fact of the matter is this. Some idle fellows want an indolent living and a good circle round the country at the expense of the public. fact of the matter is that the honey industry is done or overdone and some of our artful men are trying to keep it going by bringing it into acts of Parliament. Export trade; for instance, a man sends a ton of honey to London and gets at

lb. and less. Bee conventions; what have they done to advance the honey and wax trade? Utterly ruined it. What have they done for supply dealers! Helped them in every way to make

the rate of 1/4 per lb, which is not sufficient to

pay for tins and cases. Sydney markets 11d per

good the trade, and also helped to bring foul brood into the country by their foreign bees. These games are both nearly wound up; supply dealers want to sell it under cost price. To illustrate this, I can buy hives made to order cheaper than I can get the timber locally, and another thing, the English and German bee produces the finest flavoured and clearest honey and also the finest wax and in time to come the black bee will be as much sought after as the vellow bee of to-day.

LISMORE.

Re the Foul Brood Act. Personally I think such an Act would do a great deal of good. I must say though I have never had any experience with foul brood and certainly hope I never may. Although it is said this district is not congenial, I dread its being introduced with some cheap queens for fear it might take hold. A lot may be said for and against, those who have never had it in their apiary will, no doubt, say give us a Foul Brood Act, while many others (I don't say all) who have it will say we want no Foul Brood Act. A lot will depend upon the way it is administered. Then again, there is the expert question. We cannot afford to pay a heavy tax to keep some kid glove inspector in a good fat billet. This is I fancy the crux of the whole thing, for surely no beekeeper would object to giving notice that he had foul foul brood nor would he need telling to stamp it out. I have a few over 400 colonies.



VICTORIAN APIARISTS' ASSOCIATION.

I beg to notify the members of this Association, that they can obtain the seed of the famous Californian Sage, by applying to Mr. R. Beuhne (Tooborac), or myself.

We are indebted to Mr. Beuhne for presenting

the seed to the Victorian beekeepers, should it prove itself to be adapted to our soil and climate, it should become of value to the beekeeper. I refer the reader to a clipping from the Leader in this issue.

Will members and others please send me their views, as to their requirements in the way of reduced freights on consignments of honey per Victorian Railways, as we intend approaching them before the harvesting of the honey flow, in the hopes of securing some improvements in this matter. 18/9/'00

W. L. DAVEY, SEC.

VICTORIAN NOTES.

R. BEUHNE.

The mortality amongst the bees in this district is far more extensive and serious than I was aware of when writing last. A large portion of the centre of Victoria has suffered very severely, as letters from various correspondents indicate. Last month it appeared from reports I had then to hand, that the smaller apiaries had not suffered quite so badly. Some of these reports could have only been based upon superficial observation and have since been amended with the result that it now appears small apiaries have suffered the same as large ones, whether frame hive or boxes, black bees or Italians, and my suggestion (in last issue) that overstocking had probably compelled bees to use rather unsuitable food falls to the ground. Therefore I can only conclude that the great mortality is due to some general cause prevailing, so far as my present information goes, over an area of some twenty miles in diameter. This issue will probably bring some further information from others, and enable us to draw some conclusions as to the cause.

I have at all times answered all questions and inquiries addressed to me, to the best of my ability, and shall continue to do so. Will beekeepers in return kindly give reports of their losses, the source of the honey their bees wintered on, and the condition of those surviving. Those who do not desire publication, may write to me direct, and their letters will be treated as private and confidential, and will only be used in an endeavour to find the cause of the trouble by

comparing the different reports.

So far as my own apiary is concerned the loss is even more serious than I anticipated last month, and the turn in the tide does not even appear to have come yet Comparing the condition of the apiary at present with that of the same date last year, the loss of colonies is about 70 per cent, but as the surviving colonies are very weak, the loss of bees is between 80 and 90

per cent.

When during the 1898-99 season this district had a good flow, reports of enormous yields, and suggestions of still greater possibilities were published in the principal daily and weekly papers by people purporting to speak with authority on the subject, and proposing the most disinterested motives. Will they give equal publicity to the dark side of our calling? They could not even if they wanted to do so, but they do not want to. In fact this very reverse is now being used as a lever for the same purpose that the mammoth yields were. stated that the production is not equal to the demand, because advertisements for honey for export do not meet with the response expected. The fact that the past season was a failure, and that those who burned their fingers in a previous export experiment are not likely to take any chances under the auspices of cranks, however

well meaning some of them may be, unless the local market is completely glutted, is apparently not taken into account. Honey producers are also beginning to see the export question in its true aspect, as regards Eucalyptus honey. The sooner we all know where we are the better, and Mr. Hopkins' letter in July issue, is very strong evidence in support of my contention that the average Eucalyptus honey stands no chance in competition against the mild clover. basswood or sage honies of other countries. This fact is not pleasant to contemplate and hurts our feelings much in the same as you offend a farmer's wife by telling her that her butter is not the best. There is, however, this difference, that by management the character of the butter can be

improved, but uot that of honey.

This disadvantage we are labouring under may possibly be overcome, when generally recognised. We are used to our honey, and most of us prefer it to any other. We may therefore infer that consumers outside Australia may be educated to a liking for our honey. Its low price will have to be its introduction. When a market is obtained it will have to be supplied continuously or it will have to be reintreduced and any advance of price lost. With our intermittent seasons to contend against it will require capital to keep up the supply, by holding over part of the feast to fill the gap during the famine The question is, who is going to find Either beekeepers individually the capital? should hold over part of their crop, if able to do so, or will the Government find the money, or some company, or will it be left to the London wholesale buyer to stock sufficient for a continuous supply. In either of the four cases the producer will have to pay the interest on the At present the outlook is not very hopeful. The beekeeper is needy, the Government parsimonious, investors in shares wary, and the London broker knows how to look after himself. The question may of course be solved in a very easy way: Increase production, bring down the price to 1d. and an export trade will spring up without effort. The more exports, the more prosperity (for the city), and if beekeepers exist only to make exporting possible, instead of keeping bees to live, then they should be happy.

Some few of your readers will probably see a way out of the difficulty in quite a different direction. That indicated by "Honey-comb" in the July issue. Honey-comb has given us his ideas of a beekeepers paradise but he has overlooved a few items that have to be reckoned with, such as the value of the land, fencing which would need to be bee proof, for there is nothing to hinder people to start apiaries all rounb the paradise, unless the number is to be limited by license as in the case of public houses, and there is also the probability that some of the plants would not secrete honey on soil and in a locality such as would not be profitably put to

some other use. Of course there is to be a combination of minor industries all dove-tailing into beautifully, on paper. one another, might elaborate the idea still further: worms could be introduced of a kind feeding on the leaves of a honey producing plant. bees would first gather the nectar from the blossom, after which the scent might be extracted from it, and the seed when ripe fed to poultry. When the silkworm commences to spin instead of allowing them to make a cocoon the thread could be picked up and whirled out of them with a spinning jenny, and the mortal remains given to poultry as insect food. There are still further possibilities, such as breeding white mice under the hive covers, and putting in spare time in winter making hair pains and clothes pags.

About three weeks ago I received from California seed of the Black Sage, just too late for announcement in last A.B.B. Not to lose any time I published a notice in the Leader, and have sent out quite a number of doses of seed. Receiving an announcement of a further, larger consignment of both black and white sage from another Californian, I find that I have been rather too liberal in the quantity allotted to each applicant, as the second consignment has not come to hand yet, those who apply for seed must not be dissappointed if they have to wait a little. Further particulars will be found else-

where in this issue.

Sage, of all honey plants, has in my opinion the best chance of becoming established as a honey plant, judging from Californian conditions it will grow on land useless for any purpose. Stock will I am informed not eat it. course we still have to find out as also the attitude rabbits will take in regard to it. Marie William

VARIED TOPICS.

THE STATE OF

W. L. DAVEY.

BEE JOURNALS .-I wonder where they'll stop; Quite enough to stock a shop. First and foremost of the throng (There's one it isn't worth a song) Comes our faithful friend, the A.B.B.

The best for you, the best for me. What with the one started in N. S. W., by a firm of supply dealers, and our "Melby a firm of supply dealers, and our Ignobourne Silk Journal or Realm of rance," I'd like to know where it will all end, and yet a few faddists want a third. I should advise them to "put their heads in a bag." They ought to have more sense than to expect the industry to support such a host of would-be paper proprietors, most of them conducted by presumptuous, empty-headed hangers on to the bee industry, who in their endeavour to lead amateurs carry out the proverb that "the blind leading the blind, both shall fall into the ditch. There'll be a fine crowd in the ditch before long,

and they may probably curse a certain Association in Sydney and one in Melbourne As for the beekeepers themselves, they will only support that journal which is their own, which aims at being useful to the beekeepers themselves, which is their voice only, speaking and exchanging their views with one another. That is what we support, and of all the bee papers I have seen I have yet to meet the equal of the Aus tralian Bee Bulletin. Some others run a paper as an advertising medium of their own wares, not to represent the beekeepers, and let that

be their profit. Now Mr. Tipper is one of ourselves; he aims at honey production like ourselves; he wants things to pay their way at the apiary; he sells no queens, and no supplies; and is only interested in representing the barefaced truth, as he an apiarist sees it, as we see it, and as it really is, and I believe he will always always have the unreserved support of all sensible and wide awake beekeepers. Supply dealers must not be disappointed if they are not supported in issuing a paper, by those whose interests are not in accord with theirs. I for one regard such papers as merely a good plan of advertising their wares, and I shall still use my best endeavours to obtain subscribers to our old friend,

the Australian Bee Bulletin. Associations - As our friends the "Silk Worms' have not the courage to accept my challenge, and have not dared to refute any of my statements in public, I will say no more about them, but will take leave to tell Victorian beekeepers that I had hoped to have drawn them into the open by sending out the scouts you have all read, but like the Boers they stick amongst their kopies. If they'd have come into the open at my scouts they would have been easily shot, as the best ammunition was held in reserve, so I'll put away for use some other day.

Go ahead, friend Tipper, your move is a good we. It ought not to take long to outpace the N.B.K A. I'll give you six months to more than double their number of 37, if your new Association aims at helping the real man in the industry, "the beekeeper." I wish you every success. You have a hard fight, but stick to it. If you can't capture Kruger or De Wet never mind. Get your forces together and annex their country (the opposition will succumb to their own delusion in time.

FRIEND BEUHNE'S Loss.—I notice you have made this a question so I'll have a say in it. would not put it down to the bees' constitution being weak, through the bees themselves being reared during a honey dearth in a famine year, though that may be a factor in the heavy loss he has sustained, I think we must look else-

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where for the cause. If I relate an experience ►I had in 1895 with 20 hives, it might help to throw a little light into the loss. During August 1895, I purchased 20 strong hives in boxes, very heavy with honey; being a bit of a fool I never examined them, but the weight of honey was robbed honey from foul brood hives, the weight and bees misled me into thinking they were healthy bees.

GIPPSLAND.

E. PENGLASE.

I was sorry to see by last issue A. B. B. that Mr. Beuhne had lost so many of his colonies. I hope he will have a good season this time and be able to build his apiary up to its former standard. Beekeeping is very disappointing sometimes, and I don't wonder at so many giving it up before they have gone far into it. Many a time, while I was learning how to handle and keep bees and get over the difficult parts, I was tempted to start into something else, but I kept going and have 200 colonies under my management at present. I have taken nearly half of our colonies away from home, and I have to go to the new place twice a week and put in the day there attending to them. That leaves me four days at home each week and as we make nearly all our hives, etc., you will see that I am kept busy.

I am also sorry to see C. U. T. Burke, Lyndhurst, has had the supply cut off by the snow storms. It must be a great disappointment when there were such prospects in view. Gippsland is supposed to be the place for snow, but I have never seen but one fall of about 3 in. We can see plenty of it, but it is 40 miles from here on Mts. Baw Baw, Wellington and other mountains, and it is hundreds of

feet higher up.

BENALLA.

NEWS AND NOTES.

Our apiary being situated back in the hills is, of course late in season. Bees are very poor compared with other years. Last year was the worst season here for many years. Every prospect for a splendid season coming, and we hope it will make up fully for last bad season. A. B. B. is very good, and educating.

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Hoffmann's frames, Danz Covers and Bottoms, unless otherwise ordered. The Simplicity Hive— 1½ story, 10 frame 5/6 each	Extractors, Wax— Doolittle's Solar 13/6 ea. Swiss, with Generator 10/0 ea. Jones' 12/0 ea. Boardman
2 story , 6/6 ,, Complete fitted with Hoffmann's Frames and Starters. Hoffmann's Frames— Wedge Top, self spacing . 8/0 per 100 Stapled Spaced . 8/0 ,, Moulded Top . 7/9 ,, Thick Top	Extractors, Honey, with Tanks, made of best Tinned Steel, with malleable Gear and Gates— Cowan's 2 frame, 42/6; 4 frame 85/0 ea. Novice 2 frame, 27/6 ea. Entrance Guards, 8 and 10 frame 2/6 doz. Escapes—
Bodies, Empty8 frame 1/4; 10 frame 1/6 ea Bottom Boards, Danz or Solid, 8 frame 8d, 10 frame 9d	Porter's
Books— The Amateur Beekeeper . 0/6 ea, The ABC of Bee Culture . 4/0 ,, Langstroth on the Honey Bee . 4/9 ,, Doolittle's Queen Rearing . 3/9 ,,	Spur 0/7 ea. Easterday's 0/7 ea. Feeders— 2/3 doz Gray's 0/9 ea.
Comb Foundation 1/8 lb. Covers, Gable, Danz or Solid, 8 frame, 0/10; 10 frame, 1/0 each	Miller's, Flat 0/11 ,, Boardmau's, Flat 7/3 doz Followers 1/0 ea.

SEPTEMBER 28, 1900 The Australian	Bee Bulletin.
Gloves, Rubber, sizes 6, 7, 8, 9 4/6 pr.	Sections—
,, ,, 10, 11, 12 4/9 pr.	$4\frac{1}{4}$ in. x $4\frac{1}{4}$ in. x $1\frac{7}{8}$ in. No. 1 20/0 per 1000
y, ,, ,, 10, 11, 12 4/9 pr. If you order by number, remember that in	din v din v llin 2010
rubber you need two sizes larger than you wear	$4\frac{1}{2}$ in. x $4\frac{1}{4}$ in. No. 5 $20/0$,,
in kid; i.e., if you wear No. 6 in kid you will	$3\frac{1}{8}$ in. x 5 in. x $1\frac{1}{2}$ in 20/0
need No. 8 rubber.	$4\frac{1}{4}$ in, x $4\frac{1}{4}$ in, x $1\frac{7}{8}$ in, No. 3 20/0 ,,
Hats, Bee 1/3 ea.	Section Presses, Hubbard's 12/0 ea.
Honey Boards— 8 frame 10 frame	
Roots, Bound 0/9 0/10 ea	Swarm Catcher and Tripod—
,, unbound 0/8 0/9 ,,	Manum's 4/6 ea.
1 mker, bound 1/0 1/2 ,,	Supers— 8 frame 10 frame
,, unbound 0/i1 1/0 ,,	Empty 0/8 0/9 ea.
wood zine 1/0 1/2 ,,	Supers— 8 frame 10 frame Empty 0/8 0/9 ea. Complete with Sections 2/0 2/3 Plain Sects 2/0 2/3 2/0 2/3
Knives, Honey—	Ideal 2/0 2/3 ,,
Novice 3/9 ,,	
Bingham, American 3/0 ,,	Simplicity Supers, Empty 1/0 ,,
Novice 3/9 ,, Bingham, American 3/0 ,, Muth 2/6 ,, Quinby 3/3 ,,	" Bodies 1/8 "
Quinby 3/3 ,,	" Alighting Boards 0/6 "
Knife Heaters, with Lamp 3/3 "	
Nails, Cement Coated—	Uncapping Cans-
$\frac{3}{8}$ x20 $\frac{5}{8}$ x19 $\frac{7}{8}$ x18 1x18 $1\frac{1}{2}$ x16 2x13 $2\frac{1}{2}$ x12 inches	Dadant's No. 1, 17/6; No. 2, 22/6, Tanks made of Tinned Steel and Malleable
	Gates.
1/6 1/0 0/8 0/6 0/5 0/4 0/4 1b.	
Coppered Staples 0/6 lb.	Veils, No 2, Silk Face 2/3 ,, No. 3 Cotton Tulle 1/9 ,,
Queens and Drone Traps, Alley's,	No. 3 Cotton Tulle 1/9 No. 4, White 1/3 ,,
	Ro. 4, White 1/3 ,, Globe 4/- ,,
Catchers Willer's	Wire Timed 20.
", Catchers, Miller's 0/5 ea. Cages, Benton's 2/0 doz.	Wire, Tinned, 30g.— 10z. 40z. 80z. 1lb. 5lb. reels/8 doz/3 -/5 -/9 3/- each
,, Cages, Benton's 2/0 doz.	-/8 doz -/3 /5 /0 2/
Queen Cell Protectors - 3/3 ,	75 doz/5 -/5 -/5 -/5 -/5 -/5 -/5 -/5 -/5 -/5
West's 2/0 dog	Wire Gauze—
Doolittle's 2/9 doz.	24 30 36 inches
Smokers-	Green -/5 -/7 -/9 yard Galvanized -/7 -/8½ -/11
61 11	Galvanized -/7 -/8½ -/11 ,,
Clark's)	Plated for Honey Stainers, 24 in. wide
Crane's	For Extractor Basket. 36 in. wide 2/6 sq. ft.
Bing ham's "Little Wonder" 2/3 ea.	
,, more Engine 6/9 ea.	Zinc, Queen Ecluding— -/9 run. ,,
"Doctor" 4/9 ea	Poots' 00:

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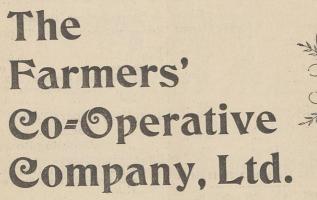
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