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Rocky Mountain Bee Journal

~~~~~Boulder, Colorado.~~~~~

A monthly Journal devoted to Bee Culture and Honey Production in the arid parts of the United States, but more particularly in the region of the Rocky Mountains.



Price 50c per year.



H. C. MOREHOUSE,  
Editor & Publisher.

JANUARY  
1904.



Whole Number 36.



## WESTERN MADE HIVES FOR WESTERN BEEKEEPERS.

The high price of eastern lumber has forced the cost of eastern made supplies up almost out of sight. I have leased suitable machinery, and am now equipped for the manufacture of

### Hives, Supers, and Brood Frames.

And sell them at prices that will allow them to live and continue to do business. My goods are accurately made, the work being under the supervision of a practical and progressive beekeeper, and they will give you satisfaction, as well as save you 25 to 50 per cent.

For prices and description of the goods, write for circulars to

**A. E. MORTON,**

**BOULDER, COLORADO.**

## BEWARE THE RUT!

Are you making money out of bees? You may some years, but do you every year? Even if you do, couldn't you make still more? Arn't there some radical changes that might be made which would make your business still more profitable, and place it upon a more substantial basis?

Perhaps you are keeping about the same number of bees year after year, managing them in the same way each succeeding year, and getting results that seldom reach the high water mark. In short did it ever occur to you that possibly you may have fallen into a rut? If you have, wouldn't you like to know it, and be helped out!

The Bee-Keepers' Review is leading and encouraging beekeepers to consider earnestly their conditions, with a view to their improvement by radical changes—even to a change of location, if necessary—it is even turning its attention to the looking up of good locations.

If you are keeping a few bees, or struggling along, scarcely making "both ends meet," by the management of a single

apiary, the reading of the Review for the coming year may suggest such changes that will lift your feet out of the rut, and place them upon the mountain top of prosperity.

For instance, the Review is about to make a specialty of publishing articles from men who have developed systems, methods and short cuts whereby one or two men have managed several apiaries and made money. To begin with, Mr E. D. Townsend who manages an apiary by only three or four visits a year, will begin in January a series of articles giving his methods in detail. Mr. E. F. Atwater, of Boise, Ida., who last year, with one helper managed 11 apiaries, scattered about from 7 to 16 miles from home, will also have a long article in the January issue.

**Special Offer**—There are still on hand from 75 to 100 sets of back numbers for 1903, and as long as they last, a set will be sent free to every one who sends \$1.00 for the Review for 1904. These back numbers contain a lot of useful information, and—a man cannot know too much about his business.

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HAMILTON, HANCOCK Co., ILLINOIS.

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A. E. GIPSON, Editor.

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Our Catalog tells how to raise queens and keep bees for profit. Send for sample copy and catalogue.

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**Pacific States Bee Journal,**  
**TULARE, CALIF**

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We will club the ROCKY MOUNTAIN BEE JOURNAL with your choice of the following publications at the prices set opposite to each. Write for prices if a combination of two or more of these is desired.

|                                      |        |
|--------------------------------------|--------|
| American Bee-Keeper . . . . .        | \$0.75 |
| American Bee Journal (new) . . . .   | 1.25   |
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| Bee-Keepers' Review . . . . .        | 1.25   |
| Gleanings . . . . .                  | 1.10   |
| Irish Bee Journal . . . . .          | 0.75   |
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| Poultry News . . . . .               | 0.60   |
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| Pacific States Bee Journal . . . . . | 1.25   |





# The ROCKY MOUNTAIN BEE JOURNAL.

VOLUME 3.

BOULDER, COLORADO, JANUARY, 1903.

WHOLE No. 36.

Entered at the Post Office at Boulder, Colorado, as second class matter, April 3 901.

**H. C. MOREHOUSE,**  
Editor and Publisher.

Terms of Subscription, 50 Cents Per Annum.

Office and composing rooms at 2439 Bluff Street, Boulder, Colorado. PHONE 454 Red.

**Remittances.** Make them payable to H. C. Morehouse, and remit when possible by draft, express or money order. Otherwise send clean one and two cent stamps.

**Discontinuances.** In all cases we send the JOURNAL until all arrearages are paid and we are notified to stop.

**Expirations.** The number opposite your name on the address label indicates when your subscription will expire. The number of this issue is 36; if your number is ahead of this you are paid in advance; if behind this number, you are in arrears.

## EDITORIAL.

BY H. C. MOREHOUSE.

THE cut on the opposite page is a view of one of the State Line apiaries of Geo. A. Eversole, of San Juan county, New Mexico.



COLORADO contributes 98 members to the National Beekeepers' Association, according to the annual report of General Manager France.

## SUBSCRIPTION ADVANCED TO ONE DOLLAR PER ANNUM.

On and after February 10, 1904, the subscription price of the ROCKY MOUNTAIN BEE JOURNAL will be one dollar per annum. Several reasons have dictated this advance in price, the chief of which is that without a much larger circulation, it is impossible to print it at a lower price and maintain or raise its present standard. Conditions seem to warrant a larger JOURNAL, and that the quality of it be improved. Therefore to keep pace with the demand for something bigger and better, we have determined to enlarge the JOURNAL, and improve the quality of its contents. All this will cost more money, and to offset the increased cost, we are compelled to advance the subscription price.

There is also another factor that has made the advance imperative. In the past, the labor of issuing the JOURNAL, has been performed almost wholly by the editor and members of his family. Conditions are now such that most of this labor must be hired, and this will increase the expenses of publication. With 700 colonies of bees to care for, the editor is compelled to relinquish all mechanical work in "the print shop," but he will continue to hold the editorial reins, and will really have more time to devote to that branch of the work than heretofore.



The improvements we contemplate for the JOURNAL before the close of the present year will place it in the front rank with the journals of its class.

Subscribers who are fortunate enough to be paid in advance, or whose renewals reach us before February 10, will receive the JOURNAL at the old rate for the full term for which they are paid. Those who are in arrears will be charged the old rate up to and including the present issue, but after February 10 they will be charged the new rate.

We believe that the majority of our subscribers will enter no objection to the advance in price, especially in view of the fact that the JOURNAL is to be enlarged and bettered. Those who do not wish to continue it at the new price will kindly notify us, and we will stop it at the expiration of their time.



Who among our readers have photographs of their apiaries or things apian? Send them in, and we will have cuts made of those that are suitable, and print them in the JOURNAL.



THE report of the Utah State Beekeepers' Association came too late for the December issue, and now it will have to wait until the February issue, in which we hope to have room to present it in its entirety.



THE Idaho State Beekeepers' Association and the Parma Beekeepers' Association will hold a joint meeting at Parma, Idaho, February 5th and 6th. Matters of great interest to beekeepers of the state will be considered, and the attendance of all is urgently solicited.



THE response to our invitation to amateur writers has been generous beyond our expectations. A number of good articles are now waiting their turn for publication. After this issue the JOURNAL

will be enlarged, and we will be able to present a greater variety to our readers each month. Let us hear from others, and it will do no harm for those who have written once to write again.



BEE HIVE factories galore are starting up in Colorado. The L. A. Watkins Mdse. Co., of Denver, is installing an expensive plant of machinery, and will be ready, shortly, to turn out dovetailed hives and supers and other accessories of the bee yard. An enterprising planing mill man, A. E. Morton, of Boulder, (see ad elsewhere) is manufacturing hives, supers and frames, and putting out first class work. All these enterprises are deserving of success, and will be the means of saving Western beekeepers thousands of dollars.



## ANNUAL MEETING

### Of the Colorado Honey Producers' Association.

The annual meeting of the Colorado Honey Producers' Association for 1903 was held in the parlor of the Western Hotel, Denver, December 29th.

The report of the manager was highly satisfactory to the members and indicates that the Association is in a healthy and prosperous condition. Notwithstanding the light honey crop, the regular ten per cent dividend will be paid to the stockholders, and the members who sold their honey through the Association will receive back in rebates nearly all the commission they paid. This certainly is a fine showing and ought to substantially increase the membership of the Association during the coming year. Those who sold through the association and graded their honey according to its rules, received a good price and were rid of their honey early.

The following members were elected to serve on the board of directors during 1904: F. H. Hunt, R. C. Aikin, Frank

Rauchfuss, Herman Rauchtuss, F. L. Thompson, W. L. Porter, H. C. Morehouse.

The board organized for business by electing W. L. Porter, president; F. H. Hunt, vice president; Frank Rauchfuss, secretary and manager and F. L. Thompson, treasurer.



### Prices Cancelled.

The 1903 annual report of National Beekeepers' Association, on page 53 gives prices of tin honey packages. I am informed those prices will not be granted any longer.

N. E. FRANCE,  
Gen. Manager.

Dec. 23, 1903.



### Why Supplies are Higher.

BY W. H. PUTNAM.

One of the parties who answered my advertisement in your December issue and who was a prospective buyer, and the representative of a co-operative association in the West, now writes me: "We are quite sure to take an agency, and so not have to buy outright. Have a good offer." Now, I wish to say to that Association and to every beekeeper, singly and collectively, through the medium of your paper, that as a student of this matter for a number of years, I am firmly convinced that this policy and practice of the beekeeper asking and expecting some manufacture dealer or association to carry their stock of supplies, is responsible for the present high price of supplies today. The branch house business in bee supplies today requires the investment of fully a million dollars, all of which is in the hands of a half dozen firms.

Is it not human nature to buy as cheap as you can, and sell at the best price you can get? Can't you see that the agency and branch house business is profitable to the firm that can carry such a deal? Can't you see that the beekeeper will rest assured that the goods are at hand in the branch house. He can get them any

day, and he can also pay the additional cost. An agency is only another name for a branch house. The goods belong to a parent firm until they are sold, and the accumulated cost of carrying the stock is added yearly. You can see the advance in the price when you get a new catalogue, but you do not see the reason. I may not be able to make it plain, but I can see for my own satisfaction that the branch house proposition is responsible for the advance in price, and I think the end is not yet.

River Falls, Wis., Jan. 15, 1905.



### Carniolan Crosses and Their Nomenclature.

BY FRANK BENTON, U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE.

Although I thought that in my article in the ROCKY MOUNTAIN BEE JOURNAL, for April, 1903, (vol. III, No. 3, p. 47), I stated plainly enough my own preference in regard to crossing material for the production of prolific, hardy, energetic workers, quite a number have written to me as though they were of the opinion that I sanctioned the crossing of Carniolans and Italians, some even implying that I preferred this cross. Under these circumstances a little more definite statement from me may be allowed. I consider the introduction of Carniolan blood a benefit to Italians and would prefer such a cross to pure Italian blood, but my own experience and my knowledge of the qualities of these various races, leaves in my mind not the slightest doubt but that far better results can be obtained through using pure Cyprians on the female side, and pure Carniolans on the male side, for I am sure this cross gives, both theoretically and practically, the greatest combination of energy, hardiness, wing-power, tongue reach and prolificness, that can be obtained from any of these races, and with these qualities a fair degree of gentleness is obtained through the Carniolan males.

In selecting names for these various



combinations it seems to me advisable to preserve, in the root-term, all of the letters in that part of name of the race from which the element is taken. In other words if we breed from a Carniolan queen and mate her to an Italian drone, the better name for the product would be Carnio-Italian, and not Carno-Italian, since the first part of this combination comes from the word Carniola. I am quite well aware that this last word is often mispronounced and misspelled, a frequent error being to call it Carnolian, omitting the i which should be after the first n, and inserting an i after the l, where none should exist. The adjective is derived from the name of the province Carniola by merely adding an n. The pronunciation should be Car-ni-o-la, the main accent being on the letter o. The correct pronunciation of the adjective is found by merely adding the n-sound to the name. Again, in case a cross is made by using an Italian queen with a Carniolan drone, I would call the product Italio-Carniolan, and not Italo-Carniolan, the preservation of the i after the l in Italio being advisable, it seems to me, since this word comes from the word Italian.

Washington D. C., Dec. 9, 1903.

[A well known trait of the pure Cyprian race is that of filling the cells so full of honey, that, when capped, the comb presents a greasy or water-soaked appearance. In Colorado, where comb honey is the leading product of the apiaries, this is a fatal fault, and at once puts the Cyprians out of the race for popularity, regardless of any other valuable traits they may possess. It is possible, however, that in the Cyprio-Carniolan cross this fault is modified or wholly eliminated. If Prof. Benton has made any observations along this line, we would be glad to have him report the results.—E.D.]



ATTENTION is directed to the new advertisement of Barteldes & Co., in this issue. In addition to bee supplies they carry a complete line of seeds.

## HONEY IN COLD STORAGE.

### Ignorance of Commission Men, Sometimes, Responsible for Granulation of Comb Honey.

BY FRANK H. DREXEL.

Some years ago an article from the pen of M. H. Mantelbaum, honey man for S. T. Fish & Co. of Chicago, appeared in the Review. Among other things, the writer stated that he had never been in an apiary, and the way it was said left me under the impression that this gentleman really felt proud of the fact, too. I couldn't quite forget the thing, but there being no occasion to say anything further about it I held my peace.

Having a car of honey to dispose of I have been in communication with several large honey buyers, and today I received a letter from one firm soliciting a consignment.

The writer of that letter, who is probably the honey buyer for said firm, after assuring me of conscientious service, goes on to say that I had better ship the honey in a refrigerator car and that on receipt they would put this same honey that I am trying to keep warm, into good cold storage for three months if necessary. Ye gods! And here I have been wishing for an iron honey house, a-la-B. Taylor, or some other kind or house, where I might easily maintain a high temperature in which to store my crop of comb honey only to find that some obliging commission man stands ready to put it on ice for me as soon as he can get a hold of it.

I am wondering whether a certain car of honey shipped from this county to Chicago some years ago met with such treatment. In view of the fact that the firm receiving the shipment claimed the honey was badly candied, it is just possible that they put it through the icing process, which would of course, hasten granulation.

Now, if I should send a lot of nice comb honey to the firm soliciting a ship-

ment and advise them to hold for better prices and they, unknown to me, keep it in cold storage, and then sell it in small lots over the country, receiving complaints from here and from there, about its being sugared—in that case I say, who will foot the bill? Why, the shipper, of course. Will they not tell me that they handled my produce carefully and sold it at best figures, only to find that the goods were not what they should have been? The freight, the drayage, the commission must be paid and I will get what is left. And all because some one has blundered.

Beekeepers are an obliging set as a rule and I am sure if some of the big honey firms would send their buyers out among the "Rubes" for a week in off seasons, they would be able to learn quite a few useful things to the advantage of all parties concerned.

I met a buyer for a large house last fall who was giving me pointers on how honey should be cleaned and graded and yet he did not know the first thing about how a section of honey is produced. I must say that such men do not inspire me with confidence. They should be familiar with the goods they buy and sell, not only in the finished state, but in the making, as well. They would then be able to judge more correctly and handle more intelligently.

In this connection I will tell you something a gentleman said to me which contains more truth than poetry. I was grading up a lot of honey and he was looking on. After a while he said: "What's the use of all that anyway—didn't the bees make it all?" I said "yes" and tried to explain. "O Rats!" said he "You know what will happen to that honey? Some blasted Smart Elic of a kid who don't know alfalfa honey from buckwheat honey will grade that all over for you some day, and your work won't amount to a snap. There's a good example right here. Here is a young chap

whose father owns a big commission house in—and who struts about the streets putting on airs. He grades apples and yet doesn't know any more about apples than a hog does about Sunday."

Better be careful about shipping on commission.

Crawford, Colo., Dec. 29, 1903.

[The incidents related by Mr. Drexel would be highly amusing, did they not have such a serious side. Doubtless many a shipment of first class honey has been ruined by improper handling by commission men, and the blame and loss unjustly charged back to the producer. This should help to impress upon the minds of the apathetic and unbelieving the urgent necessity of co-operation of beekeepers for the distribution of their products. Then, no such mistakes would be possible, as the honey from producer to retailer would be in the hands of practical and competent men. Too strong emphasis cannot be placed upon the last sentence of Mr. Drexel's article—"Better be careful about shipping on commission," and we would add, especially to houses not making honey their leading specialty.—ED.]



### A Western Honey Producers' Ass'n.

At the late annual meeting of the Colorado State Beekeepers' Association, a committee consisting of H. Rauchfuss, F. H. Hunt, J. N. Pease, D. W. Working, F. L. Thompson and H. C. Morehouse, was appointed to look up the feasibility of organizing a western honey producers' association, to include Colorado, Utah, Nevada, California, New Mexico and Arizona. The committee is empowered to confer with representatives of other organizations, and to formulate, if possible, a plan of action. To get the matter started, it would be well for the state and local beekeepers' organizations to appoint similar committees. These can then confer with each other by mail, and report at the next meeting of their associations.



# PROCEEDINGS

## Of the Twenty-fourth Annual Convention of the Colorado State Beekeepers' Association.

(CONTINUED FROM LAST MONTH.)

times the upper hive was left on a month later than it should have been. It is not as contagious as we think. It has to be carried in the honey. The bees that go into the new hive don't carry the old hive with them.

Mr. Rhodes—I have my doubts about that position. Smallpox can be conveyed without contact with the person. I remember a case in which a postmaster, by request, read aloud a letter from a person sick with smallpox. The post-master took the disease and died though he was many miles away from the source of the infection. Our professors make cultures of foul brood, and inoculate several other successive cultures without honey. During the early development of foul brood in Colorado it was very virulent, just as bad as it could be. The same is true of other contagious diseases. It may be from the condition of the germ or the patient may be more susceptible, but I am satisfied it may be communicated otherwise than through honey.

J. B. Adams—Somebody says it may be conveyed through pollen, fed by the nurse bees.

Mr. Aikin—That would not be different. Pollen comes under the same head as honey. The disease is a disease of the larval state. Unless a spore gets into the system of the larva, it is not going to have foul brood. The only way it gets it is by feeding. We have all had cases in which the combs on one side were thoroughly rotten with it, and the colony had moved over to the other side and established its brood nest there, and it was

perfectly clean. The point is the disease must be introduced through food into the larva. Making new cultures is just the same thing as putting it into the larval bee. Therefore I say that in 999 cases out of a 1,000, contagion is by food. But we must be careful in applying this. I said you could shake bees into the same hive they had before and have them clean. But suppose that the bees that were shaken up, and are full of old honey, get to flying around and entering adjoining hives, you have not accomplished the object. Especially will they do so if the new hive is different in appearance from the old one.

Mr. Gill—Smallpox and foul brood are hardly parallel. That postmaster who took it was in a recipient condition. It is possible for twelve or fifteen diseased colonies to be in the neighborhood, and be robbed by strong colonies, without communicating the disease at this time of year. If ten days or so of severe weather follow immediately, the bees will cluster up and consume every bit of the honey robbed, and spring will find them healthy.

H. Rauchfuss—It is wrong to shake off bees in transferring for foul brood. They are taken out of a hive that, to them, is in normal condition. After being shaken off, and flying around, they return and find a hive that is not the same, and the hive sitting next, that has brood, seems to them more like home, and many thus go to other hives. It is the same with making forced swarms; shaking causes many to go elsewhere and it ought not to be done.

Mr. Francis—Is it not all right to use the old hive again, with starters in it, to shake them in front of?

H. Rauchfuss—No, because the inside of the hive is different.

Mr. Harris—Might not the foul brood develop sometimes in a severe form, and sometimes in a light form? In Georgetown in 1877 the small pox broke out in a very severe form. About everyone that took it died. In Mesa county we have had it in a light form. Conditions in the surroundings may have an influence.

Mr. Gill—Is it not a fact that foul brood is a progressive disease, mild at first and bad later?

H. Rauchfuss—Is it not possible that one larva might catch it and not die, while another would catch it and die?

J. B. Adams—Several times I have known of colonies badly diseased being robbed without imparting the infection. But that was at a time of year when there was no brood.

Mr. Aikin—If you have foul brood, and can't tend to it right away, carry the infected colonies to a corner of the yard by themselves, or to a special yard reserved for that purpose, a pest yard; but don't handle it among the others, not even in a heavy flow. First carry it off and leave it a week.

H. Rauchfuss—If that is done at a time when bees are robbing, and there are not many young bees, the change of position will leave the colonies weak, and exposed to attacks by robbers.

Mr. Aikin—Don't do it except during a honey-flow.

Mr. Porter—Have any of the members observed foul brood as a disease of the bees, as well as of the brood? Mr. Benton's pamphlet speaks of it as a disease of the bees and brood, and Cheshire says the spores are found in the bees and the queen. I have made my home lot a pest yard for diseased colonies, as there are no other colonies there. I brought one small colony home, and put with it the brood from three others, so that in a

short time it became of immense size, and also became very foul, so it could be smelled outside. Pretty soon I noticed every day fifty to a hundred bees straggling around on the ground outside. They would unite in a little cluster on the grass in the evening, and in the morning they would be dead. Finally I shook the colony onto starters, and after the third day there were no more stragglers. So I am quite satisfied that foul brood is a disease of the bees as well as of the brood.

H. Rauchfuss—I don't think that is conclusive. I have had plenty of bees acting the same way that had no foul brood at all.

Mr. Porter—If the bees got well after shaking, that is a proof. That occurred about the first of last August. I have seen no paralysis this season.

Mr. Gill—I had a case of paralysis that was similar. I don't know whether it was from excess of pollen or a certain kind of pollen but I think it was bad nutrition. It was certainly a condition of the alimentary canal. When they got food from a new source because of shaking, the paralysis ceased.

A member—Paralysis only occurs in the spring.

Mr. H. Rauchfuss—I think some of it occurs later in the season.

Mr. Lindza—Eighteen years ago I had a few colonies on the dry prairie, six miles from any others. They took the foul brood from an empty hive that I got from elsewhere.

Mr. Gill—When did the first foul brood arrive in Colorado?

Mr. Lindza—The first I knew of was eighteen years ago, among the bees of Dave Wolcott.

Mr. H. Rauchfuss—It would be difficult to find out, because the first bees that had it simply died from it without it being recognized as foul brood.

Mr. Spencer—Under what conditions will a colony develop foul brood the first time? It must develop some time.



H. Rauchfuss—We might as well ask where does the first corn come from? Or, where do we come from? But you can't raise corn unless you plant corn. It is impossible to generate it. Chilled brood will never develop it.

J. B. Adams—A neighbor of mine was positive he could develop foul brood from chilled brood. I told him I would give him ten dollars if he could. He tried his best, but he had to admit that he could not.

Question—Give a plan for managing colonies that are being run for extracted honey in districts where foul brood is prevalent, without spreading the disease.

H. Rauchfuss—It is not a good plan to produce extracted honey in such a district.

J. B. Adams—Don't run a badly infected colony for extracted honey, but keep it separate.

Question—Which is the most profitable, to sell unfinished sections, or extract the honey and use them for bait combs the following season?

Mr. Aikin—I have pretty nearly decided to do away with bait combs. But conditions determine when they can be used profitably. If one uses shallow frames, bait combs are not much good. If you add to the depth, and use a ten-frame width, you need bait combs. Then it is profitable to extract your unfinished sections and use them as bait combs. But if you do not need bait combs, it is better to sell them.

H. Rauchfuss—The biggest crop I ever had was one year when I used no bait combs at all. In another season, the bait combs were the only ones filled in the supers. So it depends on the conditions.

Mr. Aikin—In Colorado, foundation alone fails to meet the requirements once in 14 to 20 years. That is when the flow jumps from nothing to a full flow in one to three days, so that the bait combs are filled almost before the bees can get to work on foundation. But those conditions do not occur often enough in Colo-

rado to make it pay to provide bait combs on that account. When people offer me only about half a cent more per pound for unfinished sections than for extracted honey, the difference due to the value of the wax makes it more profitable to melt up the sections.

Mr. Gill—There is a great deal more wax in unfinished sections than you think. This fall in cleaning up sections I had a lot of broken combs, amounting to eighty pounds in weight, which when melted up gave me sixteen pounds of wax.

Mr. Aikin—That would make about five pounds of wax to the super full of sections. How's that?

Mr. Gill—There were a great many sections, hundreds and hundreds of them, and many were so light as to contain only about a tablespoonful of honey. They had been built on full sheets of foundation. But I am quite a friend of bait combs, as you will see when I tell you that I had 180 cases of honey that had been bait combs.

Mr. Spencer—A bait section is about as clean when taken off as when it was put on, if it was cleaned before it was put on.

H. Rauchfuss—That all depends on the locality. If the bees have access to much narrow leafed cottonwood, they will paint it red all over, and if you case that section, it is not No. 1, while in other localities, the bait combs stay clean. Again, when the flow is heavy, the bees use only wax when otherwise they would use propolis.

Question—How can we get rid of mice in hives in the winter time!

H. Rauchfuss—Don't let them in.

Mr. Porter—It is not so easy in practice to have hives that are mouse proof, and only one of my honey houses is. Last winter I wet some wheat in honey-sweetened water in which strychnine was dissolved, dried it, and set it around in dishes. There was no damage done in the two honey houses thus treated, and I found a number of dead mice lying

around. The hives outside in those yards were not entered by mice, because all had access to the honey-house. I should think I used two or three grains of strychnine to a quart of wheat.

Question—Has anyone been successful in preventing swarming by tiering up their hives, thus giving more room to the bees?

Mr. Morehouse—Last season I tiered up as fast as was needed for extra honey, and had no swarms, in a yard run for extracted honey.

Mr. Porter—I have been successful with this plan in running for extracted honey. But if any have been successful with it in producing comb honey, I should like to hear from them.

Question—Can more honey be obtained in a good honey flow by placing the empty super under the one partly filled or on top of it?

Mr. Aikin—You will get more honey by putting the fresh super under the full one, but I will not guarantee that you will get any more money. The finish will not be so good. If the one already on is about three-fourths full, put the fresh one on top, because the bees will finish the one already started more rapidly by so doing, but when it is nearly finished change places. If the next time you look, a third super should be necessary, because both of them are almost finished, but neither one entirely, then put them both above the added super, but if one is almost finished, and the other not so much, put the new super between them, with the one almost finished on top. Keep the one that is being finished next to the brood chamber. It makes better finish and better weight.

Mr. Porter—I agree exactly, especially in changing the places of the supers when one is almost finished. It is then ready for taking off in a few days.

Mr. Gill—I am trying to get the most out of the business. I don't contend I can get a better finish, but I can sell more cases, by putting my added supers under

the old ones at any time in a good honey flow.

If you have a good flow, how do you know it is going to last?

Mr. Gill—It is in the air. It seems as if one could know by feeling it. If the bees come up to condition in a rush, and the alfalfa and sweet clover begin to yield at the proper time, the honey is pretty sure to come. Have you never noticed a honey day? This last season there was nothing sticky in the atmosphere.

Mr. Aikin—How many got a yield this year from sweet clover?

(Six)

This year the sweet clover did almost nothing for me, and out of 100 acres of cleome I only got the first taste of cleome honey. But the alfalfa yielded the whole season through, the first, second and third crops. There was a fine bloom of sweet clover.

Pres. Harris—A man in Mesa Co., has three or four acres of yellow sweet clover. The bees go wild over it. He says it does twice as much as the white to build up his bees.

Mr. Gill—I never saw the time when sweet clover did not yield something.

Mr. J. B. Adams—I never did.

Mr. Gill—Yellow sweet clover would be a boon to beekeepers. It commences to yield the 25th of May to the 1st of June. Last year it yielded splendidly. I shook one apiary within reach of it. The best swarms pretty nearly filled their hives with comb in a week.

Question—Can more honey be obtained in a good honey flow by using separators in the supers, or without them?

Mr. Aikin—Rather more without, but no more profit.

## SECOND DAY.

PAPER BY R. C. AIKIN:—"HOW TO PRODUCE FANCY OR EXTRACTED HONEY."

The subject is not well stated. If it said "fine" or "No. 1" extracted honey,



it would suit me better. The people who put up their honey in fancy packages are the ones who put up the fancy article. I believe I know how to produce a No. 1 article that may be sold as fine or No. 1.

I am considerable of a crank on this subject, the same as in methods of management of bees. What is No. 1 extracted honey? It is well-ripened and thick, and has a good flavor. The flavor depends largely on the bloom; the body or quality depends largely on the management. Many advocate and practice extracting before the honey is fully sealed. In a damp climate, this is altogether wrong. In a dry climate it is not altogether wrong, but nothing is to be gained by it. Never, in any climate, extract before the combs are half to two-thirds sealed. Let it remain on the hive long enough to become well ripened. But to get a good article, that is not all. In extracting, you always incorporate with the honey minute chips of wax and bubbles of air. Both of these, in their relation to honey, are impurities. The honey should be clear and free from all impurities. As the honey weighs 12 pounds to the gallon, and the wax approximately seven pounds to the gallon, if there are any chips of wax in the honey gravity will separate them. The same is true of air. When a tank is filled with honey, it contains a large quantity of air. The warmer the liquid, the quicker the impurities come to the top. Almost any impurity will rise to the top. Therefore it is necessary to have a large settling tank. It not only secures well strained honey, but is also a great saving in other ways. A number of producers advocate extracting at the out yards. Evidently they do not have a large settling tank. It is true, many haul their honey home after extracting and put it in a tank. But I do say the man who fills his retail packages from a small tank will never have a first class article. There will be too much foam and too much wax in it, and when it reaches the

consumer there is something on the top that is not inviting to look at. A tank will also go a long ways in eliminating thin or unripe honey, as it will rise to the top, while the faucet draws off the thick honey at the bottom. I have a tank of five tons capacity, and other tanks beside? The large tank is one of the greatest savers. I haul all my extracting combs home, and extract and put it in a tank on the upper floor of my honey house. It holds all I can extract in ten days. I am never bothered with honey overflowing or being obliged to draw it off before it has all settled. When the honey is in the tank, I let it remain as long as it does not candy. When it begins to candy I draw it off. It is a permanent investment. It cost me \$35 on board the cars at Loveland. It is of galvanized steel, and today the same tank would cost \$50. At that estimate, it amounts to half a cent for each pound of what it holds at one time. Suppose one is anticipating a flow, and buys cans ahead; how much does it cost him? Not less than three-fourths of a cent per pound, and the cans will be gone when he sells the honey, while the tank will last for 25 or 30 crops. You don't have to store many crops before the tank pays for itself. Don't undertake to extract without a big tank. In the tons and tons I have shipped and sold, there was never a single complaint as to the quality of the honey. Everywhere it goes it is satisfactory, and the customers want more, and today for the last two years, I have not been able to supply all the demand. Why don't they buy from the rest of the beekeepers? One reason is, many do not produce the quality of the honey I do. They think it requires too much expense to remove the impurities, and if the honey is candied, that they have to liquify it. Honey with granules in it can not be strained except by gravity. I was rather late with my extracting this year, and during the last two weeks extracted several thousand pounds that had more

or less granules in. One chamber of combs with granules through the honey will so stop the cheese cloth strainer that nothing will go through. The strainer I ordinarily use is a box set in the top floor, where I extract. Three or four inches from the bottom of the box is a wire cloth covered with cheese cloth. The honey after going through this passes out through a spout to the next floor below. When extracting combs that are slightly granulated, I have another box between the extractor and the tanks, divided into two compartments. One large, where the honey flows in, the other an inch wide, and extending from the top to about an inch from the bottom with an overflow spout on the side opposite from that next the extractor. With the help of this box I can extract all day long without interruption. The thickest and cleanest honey passes under the partition and overflows from the top of the small compartment. It requires a box of considerable capacity to do the work, not less than would hold 100 pounds, and 200 or 300 would be better. If the honey were made to pass up and down several times instead of once, it would be more efficacious. So far, I have found that many impurities pass under the partition, and have to be skimmed later from the surface of the big tank. But the great body of the chips of combs is left in the gravity strainer. The time the honey is allowed to remain in the settling tank depends upon the amount of heat, and the thinness of the honey. If the honey is thick, and it is warmed, the impurities separate much more rapidly. My tank is supported by a circular wall of stone work, making a shaft, at the bottom of which, in the cellar of the honey house, is the heating stove. The tank itself is surrounded by a wall of brick, at a distance of two or three inches, closed at the top, so that the tank is kept enveloped in a volume of hot air. It is surprising how much difference it makes in the handling of honey to heat it. It is almost impos-

sible to draw well ripened honey through  
(Continued next month.)

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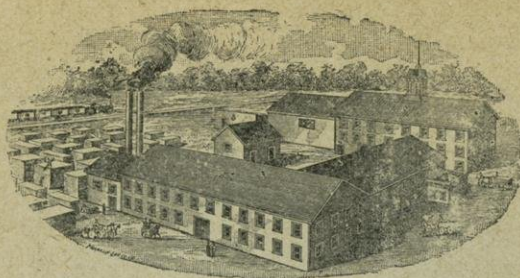
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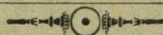
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