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The Western bee-keeper. Vol. I, no. 2 Feb. 1, 1899

Denver, Colorado: J.W. Bailey, Feb. 1, 1899

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Vol 1, no 2.

— THE —
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Denver, Colo.



Published Monthly
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•—THE—• WESTERN BEE KEEPER.

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HONEY PRODUCERS.

J. W. BAILEY, PUBLISHER.

F. L. THOMPSON, EDITOR.

Published Monthly.

Office: 2341 Fifteenth Street.

● ● 50 Cents per Year. ● ●

VOL. I. DENVER, COLORADO, FEB. 1, 1899. NO. 2.

Proceedings of the Colorado State Bee Keepers Ass'n.

REPORTED BY

..... F. L. THOMPSON.....

CONTINUED FROM PAGE SEVEN
OF OUR LAST ISSUE.

With one vote for each stock, and no voting by proxy; governed by a board of directors and a full set of officers, non-salaried except those in charge of store rooms. It was the intention of the exchange to derive no pecuniary profit other than advancing and maintaining the price of honey; to see that all honey was properly graded, both comb and extracted; to have a trade mark and affix it to all approved crates and packages of both comb and extracted; to liquefy and repack all extracted honey in some uniform package.

The following blank was sent out with the circulars:

I will subscribe shares of the capital stock of the Colorado Bee Keeper's Exchange, at \$5 per share, amounting to dollars.

I will pay my subscriptions in { Honey
Cash.
about the ... day of ...

..... Signed.

Mr. Honnett—How much honey was shipped out of the state this season?

Mr. Rauchfuss—A total of eleven carloads, of 1008 cases each, not including a number of local shipments from Denver of twenty-five to one hundred cases each.

Mr. Honnett—I was asked if I did not over-estimate in putting it at 700,000 pounds.

Mr. Rauchfuss—No, that is too low.

President Aikin then exhibited several samples of "German Fibre" packages manufactured by a firm in Detroit. They were shaped like tin fruit cans, with removable lid, and resembled light brown pasteboard in appearance. They are a little cheaper than lard pails.

Mr. Aikin tested one by filling it with cold water and letting it stand for two

weeks. It was not affected in the least.

Another was submerged in water heated to 100° or 130° for 8 or 10 hours, which caused the glueing to give away. Honey did not affect them. He had not tried liquefying honey in them by dry heat.

Question—Has any one tried the Golden method of producing comb honey and with what success?

None of those present had tried the Golden method.

Question—Can we sell section honey from a super filled by a foul brood colony?

W. L. Porter—It is very rare that one is filled by a foul brood colony.

Mr. Adams—There is a fine against selling it in the law.

Mr. Booth—It is said that alfalfa honey has no distinctive flavor; is this true of it any more than of any other honey? I can't tell by tasting where a honey comes from.

President Aikin—Prof. Gillette once wanted me to guess what a sample was. I guessed fruit bloom. Then he said it was sugar honey. He also said that perhaps he was not a good expert, as his smell was defective, and he had come to believe that taste and smell go together. I have determined the source of honey by the smell of the raw nectar and also by dissecting bees and tasting the honey-sac. Alfalfa honey has not a decided flavor. It is mild. Cleome honey has a decided flavor, and so has sweet clover; as Mr. Rhodes says, it is like cinnamon. I was once told by a firm here in Denver that they could ship in a little white clover honey, mix it with a good deal of alfalfa honey, and sell it for white clover honey.

Mrs. Booth—I cannot tell the difference between the perfume of red clover and alfalfa blossoms. I have asked several persons to shut their eyes and try, but they could not tell. I think cleome honey is not dark and purple, as it is

said to be. I live in the midst of miles of cleome, and have none of the purplish honey.

Mr. H. Rauchfuss—Hav'n't you green-colored honey?

Mrs. Booth—No.

Mr. H. Rauchfuss—Our cleome honey was green.

J. Cornelius—My crop was at least two-thirds cleome honey. It was of a very dark green.

Samples of Mr. Cornelius' honey were exhibited, showing a decided green color.

Mr. Porter—I have had a good deal of experience with cleome honey. It is always of a greenish cast; this may be seen in the sections. It has a very little bitterness, not disagreeable, in its flavor.

Mr. H. Rauchfuss—I think the presence of the pollen in the honey gives the color. The pollen of cleome is perfectly green. Bees working on cleome blossoms become green all over. They soon die on account of fringing their wings by hitting them against the hard and sharp stamens in getting the nectar.

Mr. Booth—A dozen might bring in samples and I would wager considerable that we could not tell the difference.

Mr. F. Rauchfuss—That was tried at the Omaha meeting. Committee made very few mistakes, only three or four.

Mr. Booth—I don't want them to see the honey, only taste it.

Mr. F. Rauchfuss—Out of a number of samples, all of the same color, only one was erroneously estimated.

Mr. Honnett—Why should there not be some who can not distinguish colors? Railroad committees examine for color blindness.

Pres. Aikin—There is vast difference in tasting powers. You couldn't fool me on buckwheat honey if I was blindfolded.

Mr. Porter—You couldn't fool me on basswood honey. But it depends on training the observing powers. I have extracted apple-blossom honey. It has a very distinct flavor, resembling the aroma of the apple-blossom. To find the source of the honey, the best way is to extract some before it is ripe; then bserve, and cultivate the sense of taste.

Question—Do bees necessarily have to have salt in brood-rearing?

Walter Martin—It is not absolutely necessary, but I do think they ought to have access to salt in some form.

J. E. Lyon—I never do without sal in some form. I put from a teaspoonful to a tablespoonful of a solution of salt at the entrance. It soon dries up, but the deposit does not blow away.

Mr. Adams—Salt is necessary, but in this country bees get salt from the water.

Mr. Monnett—Bees are fond of salt. Sometimes a swarm which has absconded from a hive will stay in the same hive after it has been washed with salt water.

Mr. Rhodes—The question is do they NEED salt? An eastern writer says man and cattle don't need salt; for proof he says the cattlemen in the west don't give salt; but our cattlemen do buy and distribute salt.

Mr. H. Rauchfuss—We formerly salted our bees, and they dwindled a great deal in the spring. Lately we have not done so, and the bees have done considerably better.

Dr. McLean—Physicians say it is impossible for life to exist without salt. Bees are like other animals, therefore they require salt. They will procure more or less in what they eat. Salt exists in almost every food.

Question—What would you do with a hive just having a little foul brood at this time of the year, the hive being very strong with bees and honey?

Mr. Adams—Let them alone untill spring.

Mr. H. Rauchfuss—When can you handle bees in spring without risk? Kill them; you can buy bees at two dollars a colony. Boil the honey and buy bees with the proceeds.

Mr. Booth—It is against the law to get the money for that honey.

Mr. H. Rauchfuss—The law only says until disinfected.

Mr. Martin—Can the honey be taken from such hives so as to be first-class, or salable at all?

President Aikin—The flavor is destroyed by the heat.

David Bates—I have had considerable experience with foul brood. If I had such a hive as described, I would set it aside and burn the whole contents. If you do leave it, you are liable never to get rid of the disease. A neighbor who has been treating it has had it continuously four or five years. He has kept the whole country alive with it. The only safe way to handle foul brood at this time of year, is to burn the whole thing.

Mr. Lyon—There is too much monkeying with foul brood in my neighborhood. It does not pay. I would kill it out. Five out of ten colonies will be robbed out before spring, regardless of the present strength of the colonies.

Mr. Bates—I have been in the bee business over forty-five years. I have had it come up in my yard again and again. I have tried to save the colonies infected, but have only made a bad matter worse. They get weak, and are robbed. They spread the disease over the ground and neighborhood. If one hundred sections were on a hive I would not save any of it.

Mrs. Booth—My honey won't burn.

Mr. F. Rauchfuss—Make a pit. Set the hive over it. After everything has burned, that will burn, bury the rest.

Question—What authority have you for thinking that bees are taxable, as

other property?

A lengthy discussion followed which it seems best to summarize: some thought that as bees could not be identified, they could not be taxed, and expressed surprise that any one should want his bees taxed even if they were property, as no object was apparent in having them taxed; and pointed out that frequently bees were not taxed by assessors. To these objections it was replied that the reason bees are often not taxed, are either that they are often considered insignificant or that freedom from taxation is considered an inducement to bee-culture; that runaway bees can be claimed if not lost sight of, and could be recovered if identified, as horses are; that in general it is not a question of identifying, for bees are generally in hives, not out of them, and hives may always be identified; that if bees were not property, inspectors could not inspect, nor bee-keepers' proceedings be published at the expense of the state, nor would money be invested in bees, instead of in something more secure; and that if bees were not property, they could not be protected by law.

SECOND DAY'S PROCEEDINGS

IMPROVED APICULTURAL APPLIANCES

....BY BEN HONNET....

There is an urgent necessity for an article upon this subject to elicit the discussion necessary to a formal conclusion. There is a wide divergence of opinion with reference to appliances so-called improved. Starting with the Langstroth Improved hive, are several objections; that is, the brood-frame resting in wood saw kerf, which causes many of them to become broken and troublesome at the busiest time. Another is the raised rabbet all around the brood chamber, which frequently breaks off on being pried loose from the super. The Wisconsin is an improvement in

this respect, as it allows the super to be slid on without injury to the bees, which in itself is a great consideration where time is essential. We next find many other hives patterned in a great measure after Langstroth's, to wit: the Wisconsin, the Wisconsin improved, the Heddon shallow or Heddon deep, all having their supporters. In my humble judgement a movable frame hive is correct, no matter what the make. So again we have the preference shown in size, some advocating eight frame and others advocating ten-frame hives. From my own experience I prefer eight frame hives, for this reason: they are more easily handled, the super is more quickly filled and more readily refilled when a good honey flow is on. There being more medium sized swarms than extra large ones, is another good reason for eight-frame hives. Of course I do not for a moment believe this is the only hive that is good. I would say that the particular hive that a bee-keeper fancies is more apt to give good results than any other, from the very fact of his being predisposed in its favor (providing always the frames are movable), the main consideration being the result in honey. Beginners are more apt to be misled than the old bee-keepers. It is a notable fact that almost every novice in bee-keeping makes an attempt to revolutionize the business, which by his or her idea has been conducted on erroneous principles, hence we have a large variety of hives. I have bought bees at various times, and accumulated Langstroth, Langstroth-Grimm, Simplicity, Langstroth Improved, Wisconsin, Heddon and others, my preference being the Wisconsin; which I have found to be simple to operate and producing good results. I know it is touching a ticklish spot for me to mention this fact, and it will arouse considerable discussion (and that is what we want with reference to the best hive), so I will leave the subject and proceed onward.

The various makes of supers also have many divers admirers. I have tried the T, the pattern slat, and some of my own make, the latter having bars across the super instead of the T, the same allowing only bee-space to enter the super.

They worked fairly well, but I prefer the pattern slat in preference to any other for this reason: the sections fit the slat to a nicety, and this super keeps the sections cleaner than any other, which is very desirable, as those having plenty of propolis to remove will readily appreciate. Of course the follower can be wedged up to a nicety, thereby giving the bees a minimum of space to gum up.

I have been using separators for two seasons, and though I have not met with the success that was desirable, I am satisfied that parties running their apiaries for comb honey should not do without them. My hives being mostly Wisconsin I use the thin wood separator scalloped at the bottom, as I found many that had not been scalloped gnawed at the bottom, thereby wasting time which should otherwise be employed. I carefully examined a new device called the fence separator, which is intended for sections especially prepared without bee space. I object to the fence separator for the following reasons: they are not practical, nor are they profitable to use. A change must be made in every super, giving more width to allow for the separator, which has cleats up and down holding the fence, which are glued, and in this dry climate fall off. The space between the slats is too small, and will cause the bees to enlarge the same, but at the cost of valuable time. It is claimed by the manufacturer that square no bee-space sections produce more uniform and slightly combs than others. That remains to be proven. I feel firmly that they are a delusion and a snare in our line. I believe in keeping up with the times, but make your experiments on a small scale, so you may avoid disaster. Of course we understand the animus—in most cases the

manufacturer finds it necessary to get out some novelty, the same as the men charging round prices and getting rid of them as rapidly as possible. A most careful consideration should be given to any new appliance, in recognising as a factor the increase in cost and time necessary to handle the same; and most beekeepers have other business, and give their time, which is rushed in the spring and is limited. If we could concentrate upon one style of hive and section, the beekeeper would have solved a problem that has as yet found no solution.

Mr. F. Rauchfuss—I have never been favorably impressed with the plain section and fence. But I would not condemn them until they have been tried. At Omaha I thought the best filled and capped honey, so far as could be judged from the outside of the cases, was a lot of three cases of Minnesota honey, in plain sections. It is another question whether there are advantages enough in these fixtures to justify adopting them.

Prof. Gillette—When plain sections and ordinary sections are stacked up separately, the plain sections take the eye better.

Mr. Adams—Don't we have to cater to the eye more than to the palate?

Prof. Gillette—Yes.

A. L. Foster—I am starting in the bee business in Colorado, and I want to start right not, change after starting.

F. L. Thompson—Last season I had one half of five supers full of plain sections with fences, and the other half of ordinary sections with plain separators. The plain sections did not prove superior to the others in the matter of filling at the edges of the combs, except in one super, and then it was but faintly apparent. On counting the number of holes through the comb next to the wood, I found that the plain sections averaged

two and one half holes to the sections, while the ordinary sections averaged $2\frac{1}{2}$ holes. But this superiority of the plain sections was about all on paper, because I did not suspect it from the appearance alone, and only found it out by counting and computing. Of course the combs were plump in comparison to the width of the section. I found they did not need separators in the shipping-case, as had been supposed they would. As I did not use special cases, but the ordinary ones together with a follower and wedge. I cannot speak of the difficulty of withdrawing them from the case.

Prof. Gillette—I also found a small difference in favor of the plain sections, in the matter of holes in the combs. I have not the figures but my recollection is the percentage was identical with that mentioned by the last speaker.

—Continued.

The Western Bee-Keeper.

A Monthly Journal
devoted to Apiculture.

J. W. BAILEY, Publisher.

F. L. THOMPSON, Editor.

Office, 2341 Fifteenth Street,
Denver, Colo.

Subscription price, 50 cents per year.

All letters relating to subscriptions, advertisements, exchanges, etc., should be addressed to the publisher.

C. H. Gordon is no longer in any way connected with this journal—see publisher's announcement on another page.

Until about March 15, the editor will be at the publishing office, 2341 Fifteenth St., on Friday and Saturday of each week, between 10 A. M. and 3 P. M. Bee-keepers then in town are invited to drop in and make themselves at home.

In this issue appears a slighting reference (p. 29) to the firm that has put the new fixtures of plain sections and fence separators on the market. I think all who are acquainted with the firm will agree that their sincerity is above the average; at the same time, their unconscious bias, and somewhat rash enthusiasm, and carelessness in making indefinite recommendations, entitle them to criticism. But if one wants to prove a man's course foolish, it is not necessary to prove him a villain.

It is my desire to make a specialty of association work in this paper. This not only includes The Colorado State Bee-Keepers' Association, The Colorado Honey Producers' Association, and The Denver Bee-Keepers' Association, but also all local associations, whose secretaries are hereby invited to take advantage of this opportunity to insert notices, make reports, set forth objects, or discuss lines of work, which a local bee-paper affords. As for the first two, in which we are all interested, it will be apparent on reflection that the possession of

an organ, wherein members may be at once and thoroughly apprised of any movement, and which may serve at any time for the informal exchange of opinions on important questions, may be made not only a saving in expense, but also a more effectual aid to concert of action than most others, because it reaches those who may be unable to attend meetings.



We need a local bee-journal for a certain reason which is new to apicultural journalism in this country. A feeling of the necessity of organized work, particularly in marketing honey, has been steadily growing in Colorado for the last few years. Something to keep each other informed of what we are doing, and promote unity and intelligence of purpose in the objects of which our need is now most pressing, can not help but be a great aid. A bulletin which will do that, and at the same time give apicultural information particularly adapted to the alfalfa region from the pens of our own successful apiarists, has a definite field of action. We, the publisher and editor, make no large and vague promises, but we do expect to put in all the honest work that an undertaking may be expected to call for which is to be of direct benefit to the western honey-producer along those lines.



I call especial attention to our official grading rules for comb honey on another page. While they may not correspond to what

many of us think ought to be, they have the somewhat unusual virtue in grading rules of answering to the actual conditions of the market. Bee-keepers will find it to their interest to conform to them, for a standard and uniform system of grading aids in establishing standard and uniform prices.

Some may wonder why cull honey should be excluded from shipping. It is because it was not thought good policy to lend countenance to a certain kind of trade which strikes at the root of the prosperity of bee-keepers—that of the vendors of glucose, who buy cull honey in order to cut into strips and put one in each bottle or jar of glucose, and label the package “Pure honey”.

The quotations do not represent the actual amount the bee-keeper may expect to receive from the sale of his honey. To estimate this, he must deduct the commission in vogue, and other expenses; in all, not less than 10 per cent of the figures quoted.



CONTRIBUTIONS.

To contribute to a bee paper means simply to talk in meeting. The object is to convey information, not to be a good writer. Plain bee-keepers are better than merely “good writers” for this purpose. The best way to contribute, for those who are not possessed of the happy but not indispensable faculty of talking and writing without saying anything, is to comment on something that has preceded. And even if one is a

good writer, it is one of the best plans. For discussion has a quality of arousing interest, and of driving home the points involved, and of making one think of others that is lacking in formal discourse and set subjects.

For example, take that discussion on sweet clover on pages 5 and 6 of our first issue. Notice how one point brought out another, untill finally we have quite an array of facts, and very likely our previous notions of the sweet clover question are somewhat modified, to our advantage. It is absurd to suppose that one man could attain that result, even an editor. And there may be something else which ought to be said yet. It reminds me, for example, that last season at Montrose, though my second crop is usually amber honey, it was light honey then; that the scale hive commenced gaining July 19, and ceased about August 19, which dates also mark the beginning and end of the main sweet clover bloom; but that the second crop of alfalfa began and ceased a week later in each case. Putting these facts together with the second crop honey I actually obtained, less than usual, but still no inconsiderable amount, shows that sweet clover is a good honey-yielder, and may not be recognized as such simply because the alfalfa usually preponderates at nearly the same time.

I can also reinforce that other point of its soil-restoring qualities. Around Montrose is a good deal of land that is fertile enough, but worthless because it sheds water and bakes. A bee-keeper

there kept such a patch in sweet clover three years, then put in wheat, and raised a fine crop.

Again, in Mr. Honnet's article, on page 4, it is said that shade during the hottest part of the day is one of the main points. That is a little stronger than I would put it. When there is nothing between the cover and the frames, and the hive is exposed to the hot sun, then there is danger of an occasional break-down of combs, especially when the hive is of a dark color; for dark colors absorb heat. Heat, too, makes the bees cluster on the outside of the hive, instead of inside. Yet when it comes to the actual amount of honey produced, it does not seem to be proved, according to the experience of our best apiarists in this state, that exposure of the hives to the hot sun makes any difference; and last season, if there is anything in the idea that exposure to the sun is deleterious, I should have noticed it, for one of the apiaries I worked was in the shade and the other in the sun. But the difference in yield was very trifling, and most likely due to other causes.

But though not essential for the bees, other things being equal, yet shade is certainly very comforting to their owner, when he works among the hives.

I wish each reader to consider himself invited to scrutinize the points presented in this paper in the light of his own experience, in some such manner as I have illustrated above; and if he notices any thing incomplete, misleading, or not

made strong enough, that he would write a personal letter to me and tell me all about it, or, if he wishes, a formal article; but at least a letter. I hope this plan will enable many of our best bee-keepers who would not like to write formally, to have their say on how our business should be profitably managed. I cannot make it too strong that in our pursuit it is not the way a man talks or writes that counts at all, but it is the information he gives. The editor alone will be responsible for the shape in which such informal matter appears.

Publisher's Announcement,

We regret very much that owing to unforeseen circumstances, the second issue of the Western Bee-Keeper has been delayed until now. We have taken measures to prevent a repetition of the occurrence, and expect hereafter to be out on time.

Desiring to leave no stone unturned in the effort to give bee-keepers substantial and practical aid in their pursuit, we have thought best to secure the services of another editor, and we are pleased to announce that Mr. F. L. Thompson will hereafter manage the editorial department. Mr. C. H. Gordon is no longer connected with this paper.

As publishing expenses are greater in the West than in the East, we have decided to issue the journal monthly instead of semi-monthly, and increase the number

of pages when it seems justified; paying however, a stricter attention to quality. We do not intend to give gold watches and the like as premiums, but will bend all our energies toward making the subscriber feel that the greater portion of the benefit he receives from the practical pointers he reads herein is the best kind of a premium on his fifty cents. We have, as you see, adapted a better quality of paper, suited to half-tones and cuts. Any subscriber who is dissatisfied can have his money back by writing for it.

Yours for business,

J. W. Bailey, Publisher.

Our new Marketing Association.

BY F. L. THOMPSON.

The Colorado Honey-producer's Association was organized Jan. 3, 1899, and incorporated in due form under the laws of the state. The directors selected for the ensuing year are as follows: W. L. Porter (President) 3522 Alcott St. Denver; R. C. Aikin (Vice-President) Loveland; Frank Rauchfuss (Secretary and Manager) Elyria; V. Divinny (Treasurer) Villa Park; H. Rauchfuss, Elyria; J. N. Pease, Quimby; J. B. Adams, Longmont.

Annual meetings of the stockholders will be held in the last week of December, and quarterly meetings of the board of directors on the first day of January, April, July and October.

The objects of the association

are to promote the industry of apiculture, to conduct a general buying, selling and commission business in apicultural products and supplies of all kinds, to maintain a uniform system of grading, packing and marketing under a common brand, and to acquire, hold and sell all necessary fixtures, appliances and property, personal and real, for the conduct of said business.

The purpose of the organization was at first to form simply a co-operative association with a membership fee of ten dollars in cash; choosing this sum because repeated and strenuous efforts in the past have shown beyond the possibility of a doubt that efforts to organize on a smaller scale will fail, because of the indifference of the large number necessary for success. It was found, however, that the laws of the state require every association for profit to be a stock company.

Hence it is in form a stock company, with shares of ten dollars each, but in effect corresponds to the original intention. Since the "capital stock" of a company is merely a technical phrase to indicate the limits of future growth, the capital stock has been placed at \$10,000. The amount of paid-in stock is in no way determined by law.

The Treasurer and the manager both execute bonds to the association in sums satisfactory to the Board of Directors. The Manager is the only salaried officer. The honey of all who desire, whether stockholders or not, will be handled on a uniform commission of ten per cent, but stock-

holders will receive dividends after expenses are paid.

How will one be benefited by being a member? By the ordinary plan, every producer has to expend time and energy in selling for himself; by the co-operative plan one man does the work for the whole crowd, and every bee-keeper can put his whole crop in one or more loads, haul it in, and be through. Moreover, the books of the association are at all times open to him. But the proof of the pudding is in the eating, and the best recommendation of co-operation is the fact that it obtained satisfactory prices last year.

How will distant districts be benefited? A bee-keeper of the western slope showed his appreciation of the situation by saying that a few can make up a carload between them, and would feel infinitely safer in consigning it to a committee of bee-keepers in Denver than by the ordinary plan of marketing in far distant points.

Some will inquire why form a new association? Why could not the State Association take hold of the matter? The State Association was not formed to carry on business, and is not a stock company.

A glance at the names of the Board of Directors will show that it is a strong one. The Directors' meetings will not be a fizzle, either for lack of discretion or of attendance, in which latter particular so many co-operative bodies have been found wanting. Four constitute a quorum, and all but two of the seven are close to Denver.

The By-Laws cover as many

points as was thought desirable without running the risk of so tying the hands of the directors, as to make their work ineffective in unforeseen emergencies. Thus, for example, it is left with them to decide whether they shall deputize a limited portion of their number to act in emergencies; to make appropriate arrangements with committees of bee-keepers in distant localities, who will find it to their advantage to organize locally in an informal way; to make arrangements for grading, for a trade-mark, and for the handling of retail packages of extracted honey; to carry insurance, keep a reserve fund on hand to do business with from one year to another, and so forth.

The membership will necessarily be limited, owing to the sum required for admission, but such an association of men of whom every one means business is far better than to have no association at all, which would inevitably be the case if the initiation fee were put at a small sum and distributed among a large number of half-hearted doubters. Every one who has now joined knows what has been done and what will be done. The present manager will be continuing under more favorable auspices the same work in which he has already been successful. Nor will the good be confined to members, by any means, for the honey-market in general will be rendered stable.

Some excellent ideas on plans for associations of large membership were presented by one of the organizing committee, and would

undoubtedly have been considered, had not the majority had experience in this matter of getting work actually started. After this is done, and confidence once established, so that larger numbers can be relied on, these ideas should be looked into.

Any bee-keeper may become a member by purchasing a share of stock. Those who intend to join should do so before May 1, so that funds will be on hand early enough in the season, for it is likely that the business attempted this year will be governed by the amount of paid-in capital at that date.

Members or consignors will find it advantageous to deliver their crop for storage as soon as possible after a certain date, which will be announced. Probably the warehouse or storage-room will not be open to receive honey oftener than, say, two days in each week.

NOTICE.

The Denver Bee-Keepers' Association will hold its annual meeting for the election of officers at 10 o'clock A. M. on Wednesday, Feb. 8, at the Western Hotel, cor. 12th and Larimer Sts.

R. H. Rhodes, Pres.

What the Bee-Papers are Saying.

GLEANINGS IN BEE-CULTURE.—

G. M. Doolittle says a hive run for comb honey ought to be a different size from one run for extracted honey, because the capacity of the queen is not the same in

each case; there is something about extracting that stimulates egg-laying. It fixes the capacity of a queen in a hive run for comb honey at an amount of brood that would fill nine Gallup frames clear out to the corners, or six and three-fourths Langstroth frames; and is inclined to think that what is applicable in his locality will come very nearly the truth in all localities, if others will work along the same lines, and experiment and note things as carefully.

AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL.—Mr. C. P. Dadant, in an article defending large hives for the production of comb honey, finds that the only attempt to support the common belief that a large hive is better for extracted honey and a small one for comb honey, rests on the argument that whenever a hive exceeds the capacity of the queen, so that there are empty cells at the beginning of the harvest, some honey will be stored in that space, which would otherwise go into the sections; and replies to this by saying that while it is true, his own experience showed that the colonies in large hives, on the average, were ahead of the others just that quantity of honey which was stored in the brood-combs instead of in the sections. And if it is not desirable to have that honey in the brood-nest, the number of combs at the beginning of the flow can be reduced to the exact number occupied by the aid of a division-board.

R. C. Aikin, makes an appeal to bee-keepers through out the coun-

try for co-operative experimental work. "The same work in the hands of one man would be years in attaining the desired result—often would be abandoned in despair" because of the many conditions under which experiments must be repeated to be decisive.

He names four experiments in particular. Many believe that an apiary run for extracted honey, with ready-made store-combs, will yield considerably more honey than one in which the bees must build combs in sections. His own belief is, that with intelligent management in an average location, the surplus will not exceed the proportion of four to five in favor of the extracted. Experiments should show this.

Again, one colony will yield much more surplus than another apparently alike. Much of this difference he thinks due to the present or absence of a certain proportion of bees old enough to fly to the fields, and wishes this point established by trial.

Thirdly, he wants direct and comparative tests side by side, and date for date, of the effect upon the energy of the colony by removing its queen. Those who favor natural swarming say that a colony that swarms stores more honey than one prevented from doing so by the removal of its queen, and more even than a colony which retains its queen but does not swarm.

A fourth experiment would settle a point that enters into a number of unsettled matters. Is it really true that for each pound

of wax built into comb we have lost fifteen or twenty pounds of honey? If so, then a colony that builds twenty-five pounds of honey-comb, requiring three pounds of wax, would have stored at least forty-five pounds more if they had had ready made combs so that they would not have needed to secrete wax. But Mr. Aikin believes that during a flow they will secrete wax anyhow, whether they need it or not; and that wax is secreted by young bees that do not fly to the fields that would have been idle otherwise.

In addition to what Mr. Aikin suggests, I want to see another experiment tried by various people. It is said that the passage-ways which bees leave at the edges of combs, which when numerous contribute to what we call "poor filling" of section honey, may be obviated by giving the bees free passage-way all around the comb. We may either partially do so, or entirely. The bees may be unrestricted in their movements from the face of one comb to the face of the next one opposite, by using a slatted separator instead of a solid one; or they may be free to pass between the edges of the wood, and pass directly from one section comb to the next one in line with it, by another kind of separator; or they may be allowed to pass behind and around the wood, by spacing the sections apart that way. The question is, how much do each of these methods contribute to doing away with passage-ways? Last year the first method was chiefly recommended. My experiments showed that it

only reduced the number of holes in the combs from twenty-one to thirty-six per cent, which is not enough to be apparent to the eye in judging of cases of honey; and that the size of the holes was not reduced. Will a combination of this with the other methods do better, and if it does, will the device necessary be simple and cheap enough to make it pay? And will free communication in any or all of these ways have any effect on preserving plumpness of the comb clear up to the wood and in getting the last row of cells filled and sealed? this point is much more important than the other, in marketable and shipping qualities of the sections.

At the Omaha convention, Mr. F. Rauchfuss said that his observations with scale hives showed that the best kind of a day for bees to gather honey from alfalfa is when it is fairly calm, with little wind, and the temperature from eighty to one hundred degrees. Bees will visit alfalfa that is not irrigated, but do not seem to get much from it, and will pass it by to get to irrigated alfalfa much farther off. His maximum daily yield from alfalfa, from a single colony, was sixteen pounds. Last year one colony gained one hundred and one pounds in ten days.

THE PROGRESSIVE BEE-KEEPER.

—R. C. Aikin, discussing the proper shape of sections, favors one that is taller than wide. Combs are better attached in tall sections, because the deeper the section, the greater the proportion of comb that is attached to the

wood. Thus a four and one-fourth by four and one-fourth section has twelve and three-fourths inches of comb attachment when the bottom is not included, while a four by five section has fourteen inches. The combs in the tall sections will be finished just as quickly as in square ones of the same capacity, because bees build combs downward more rapidly than side wise.

He also prefers sections with top and bottom-bars the same width their whole length, not wide at the ends as in the ordinary style. The top bar that is just as wide as the thickness of the finished comb that is attached to it, is much easier for the bees to finish. In the ordinary sections of honey, inspection shows that the finish is worked out even with the narrow part of the section top, but dubbed or rounded off when it comes to the wide part.

Separators he considers a necessity for two reasons: that the comb surfaces may not so easily be marred in handling, and that the weight shall be so nearly even that they can be retailed by the piece and at even price.

GRAING RULES.

Grading Rules for comb honey adopted by The Colorado State Bee-Keepers' Association, Dec. 2, 1898.

NO. 1.—Sections to be well filled, honey and comb white, comb not project beyond wood, wood to be well cleaned; cases to weigh not less than 21 pounds net per case of 24 sections, but cases in lots must average 22 pounds net.

NO. 2.—Includes all amber honey, and all white honey not included in No. 1; to be fairly well sealed, and not weigh less than 18 pounds net per case of 24 sections.

CULLS.—All cull honey shall be sold in the home market.

[In addition, the following description of cull honey has been suggested by good authority: all sections that have more than one-third of one side unsealed; all combs not sufficiently attached for shipment, including those sections of which the top or bottom-bar has become accidentally detached from the comb; all connected combs, or those that bulge very much, or have very prominent burr combs, or leak very badly, or cracked from any cause; all sections that average less than 18 pounds net per case; and that very small percentage which have the wood badly mildewed, or the combs very badly spotted or daubed with propolis.]

DENVER HONEY QUOTATIONS.

JANUARY 20,

Demand fair.

Comb honey No. 1, \$2.50 per case.

" " No. 2, \$2.25 to \$2.40 "

Extracted, 6 to 8 cents.

Beeswax, good yellow, 22 to 25 cents.

THE COLORADO HONEY PRODUCERS' ASSOCIATION.

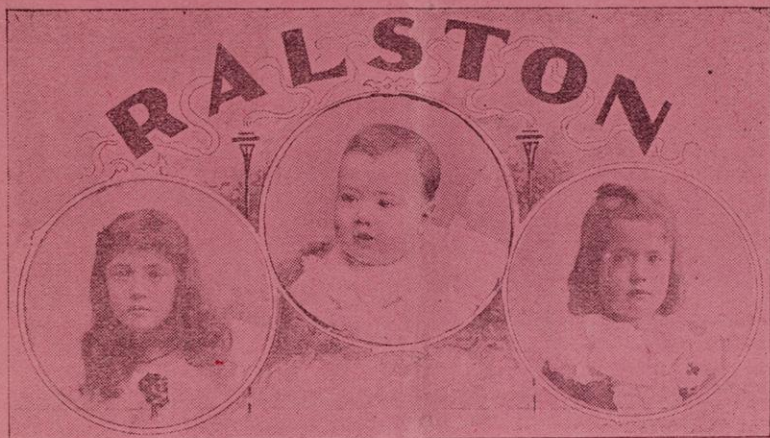
CHICAGO HONEY QUOTATIONS

FROM THE AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL.

JANUARY 9,

The trade is not active in comb honey, many of the retail dealers being supplied with sufficient stock to meet demands for some time to come. Prices are quite steady with 13c. for best white, off in color, etc. including amber grades, 10 and 12c; amber and dark, 5 and 6c. Beeswax, 27c.

R. A. BURNETT & CO.



Hyde & Joy Commission Co.,

Egg Market, Eggs; firm 17c
Butter, Eggs Poultry and Cheese.

Headquarters for **HONEY.**

And all kinds of Colorado Produce,

Write us for Information.

1508 Blake St., Denver, Colo.

SOLE AGENTS FOR THE CELEBRATED RALSTON HEALTH CREAMRY.

NOTICE: Until our Subscription List reaches 2500 we will insert advertising matter at half-price, or 35c per inch single column, and will shade this a little on long-time contracts. But will not insert an ad for anyone whom we can not recommend. We have in connection a first-class Job Printing Plant, and to introduce our fine work we will print 500 Note Heads and 500 Envelopes for \$1.75 if cash accompanies the order.

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A necessity and a luxury at the same time.

Many thousand are in use, and no house-keeper who has it wouldn't part with it for many times its value, if she could not get another

It has a galvanized iron bin which holds 50 lbs of flour, and another like it partitioned, to hold 25 lbs of oatmeal, corn, meal or sugar, etc. There is a drawer for napkins and towels and another partitioned for spices, salt etc.

There is a bread board which can be drawn all the way out and used on top of the table. The back legs only have castors, making it easy to move and at the same time steady. The top is of unfinished white wood and the balance is of Oregon pine—the best wood for the purpose—handsomely finished, natural color, with the best of varnish. While baking or cooking everything is at hand, thus saving thousands of steps to the pantry. This table is elegantly made. Never before has it been as well made for less than \$8.00, and with the workmanship better and the price so greatly reduced, it is sure to become universally used.

Price \$5. or FREE with \$15. Grocery Order Sample Order "A" if accompanied by cash.

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To quickly introduce my popular plan of selling direct to consumers at strictly wholesale prices, and to make customers at once, I give this table FREE to each purchaser of this sample grocery order

I Sell you the Groceries, I Give you the Table.

I sell groceries at wholesale prices and I want to place this sample lot in your home. I can save you from 10 to 25 per cent on all your purchases, and to prove my statement have made up what I call a "sample order," itemized in this ad. which amounts to \$15. I want you to try the groceries and examine yourself that my goods and prices are all that I claim. I know that you will help advertise me and will buy all your supplies from me after receiving this sample lot to be used as a test trial and returned if not as claimed.

50 lbs best granulated Sugar.....	\$2 95	12 boxes 200s parlor Matches.....	.25
3 lbs fine Mocha and Java Coffee.....	.90	1 lb best shredded Coconut.....	.35
2 lbs very best Tea gun powder.....		1 bx stove Polish Rsg Sun or Enam.....	.10
English breakfast or Jaran Tea.....	1 50	1 large box shoe Blacking.....	.10
2 lbs Perfection, grt'd baking Pwdr.....	.80	1 lb best black Pepper.....	.35
3 lbs best head rice.....	.30	1 lb best ground cinnamon.....	.25
1 lb best corn Starch.....	.10	1 lb ground mustard.....	.25
5 lbs box gloss Starch.....	.25	1 lb best ground ginger.....	.25
2 lbs choice Raisins.....	.25	1 lb best ground cloves.....	.25
2 pkgs new cleaned Currants.....	.20	1 lb extra large nut mugs.....	.35
32 bars laundry Soap.....	1.00	1 full pint triple extract of lemon.....	1.20
6 brs W. floating or tar soap (10c size).....	.50	1 full pint triple extract of vanilla.....	1.35
10 pkgs Amoline 16 oz, washing.....		1 pint best liquid blueing.....	.10
Powder same as Pearline.....	1.00	1 pint household ammonia.....	.10

These Groceries amount to \$15. Kitchen table sells for \$5. Both would cost \$20.00

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