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The Southland queen. Vol. IV, No. 5 September 1898

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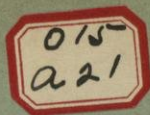
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— THE —

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— PUBLISHED BY —

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BEEVILLE, TEXAS, : : : September, 1898.

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THE SOUTHLAND QUEEN.

Published Monthly.

Devoted to the Exchange of Thoughts on Apiculture.

\$1.00 Yearly.

Vol. IV.

BEEVILLE, TEXAS, SEPTEMBER, 1898.

No. 5.

SOUTH TEXAS BEE-KEEPERS' ASSOCIATION.

EVENING SESSION.

Continued from August Number.

The evening session was called to order by the president at 1:30 P. M. The program was as follows:

1st. Comb honey, led by G. F. Davidson and Ray Royal.

2d. Extracted honey, led by W. A. McPhail and Frank L. Aten.

3d Which is the best way to market honey? by all.

4th. Queen rearing, led by Willie Atchley and G. F. Davidson.

G. F. Davidson—well, as I myself make a specialty of raising comb honey, I will say a few words along this line. The first and most important thing in raising comb honey, is to look after your bees very closely, and see that they are all good and strong at the beginning of the honey flow; to do this one must study the seasons and know when the honey plants bloom. Watch your colonies close, and as soon as they get one super nearly ready to seal, give them another one. I find that black bees are the best for capping honey, as they

don't fill their cells quite as full as the Italians do. This gives it a more clear look, and a much whiter appearance, while the Italians put the capping direct on the honey which gives it a kind of a greasy look.

Ray Royal—I have very little experience in raising comb honey. My plans are about the same as Mr. Davidson's. There were several other short talks made on this subject, but all were about the same as Mr. Davidson.

W. A. McPhail said—let the bees cap most all, if not all the honey before extracting it, as by doing this you never lose any of it by fermenting. I only use one super at a time on my extracting colonies; by this means they will seal and fill it quicker. I use a small box with a piece of wire cloth fixed in the bottom to let the honey through, this is a very simple and cheap uncapping box and can be made by anyone. Of course where you extract all day it may be necessary to empty it a time or two. I give this plan for the benefit of those that are young at the business and

have no money to throw away, for there are so many new things now offered for sale to the bee-keepers who know nothing about the bee business, some times jump in and buy lots of things they can make themselves.

I am a poor hand to talk in public, but if any of you have a question to ask me, I will be glad to answer it.

F. L. Aten, says his plan of raising extracted honey is to see that all of your colonies have good queens in the early spring, and see that they don't want for something to build upon, so they will be good and strong when the honey flow begins. I must differ with my friend Mr. McPhail on this subject, as he says he only uses one story on his extracting hives, while I find that it pays to use from two to five, and find that some honey will do to extract sooner than others. Our cotton honey will do as soon as it is gathered if it is hot dry weather, while our horse mint honey must be about half sealed. I use a barrel for uncapping purposes with a strainer about half way down into it and fixed so I can draw the honey off at any time; this will hold all the cappings you can cut off in one day or more. I also find by using three to five stories on my hives that it keeps down swarming, and the result is I get

more honey.

Willie Atchley says his experience is about the same as Mr. Atens, as he uses from two to five stories on his extracting colonies.

G. F. Davidson, M. M. Faust and others made some short talks on this subject, but all about the same as has been given, except they don't use as many extracting supers on one hive as Mr. Aten and Willie Atchley does.

Mr. L. Stachelhausen also made a short talk on extracked honey; he says he uses the shallow extracting frames altogether, while most of the others use full size brood frames. He says that late in the evening he goes around and puts poter bee escapes under as many full supers of honey as he thinks he can extract next day, and by morning he can take the wheelbarrow and in a few minutes work have all his honey in the extracting house and has no trouble with the bees, as by the next morning the bees are out of the supers. He says that the full size supers are too heavy to lift when well filled with honey.

F. L. Aten says he has had no trouble in selling his honey this season, as he has employed a traveling man, a drummer, to sell it for him. He tells the drummer to make the honey net him so much, all over that, is his commission, but

don't allow him to collect the money. All the proceeds come to Mr. Aten, and he sends the drummer his commission himself. Says that he can't fill orders fast enough, has orders ahead all the time.

Willie Atchley says they have had no trouble in selling all their honey and all they can get besides. They have a man on the road same as Mr. Aten. Willie says he finds Mr. Doolittle's plan of facing honey does not work well with him, but says he always sends a sample of honey, but does not send the best, then if you sell the honey from such samples as this, when your customer gets it and finds it all as good as the sample, and a little better, you will be sure to get to fill all of his future orders; but if none of the honey is as good as the sample you sent, your customers may refuse to take it, then you would be out the freight on it both ways and lots of time and money lost. So I think it is best always to send a fair sample of what you have then you will likely have no trouble.


Ray Royal, has but little experience in selling honey and has nothing to say on the subject. Others gave short talks on the subject, and most all say they have a drummer on the road. If you have a large quantity of honey, or if not, try to build up a home demand.

Willie Atchley: Well, as I am on the programme to lead this subject, I will try and give the most simple and best way of rearing queens for a beginner, as I believe most all here are beginners in the queen business. I think it would be useless for me to give the different plans of rearing queens artificially, as there are but few here that would understand it. So I will give the best plan for a beginner, at least I think so. Go to some strong colony and take the queen away in the evening, and on the next evening take all the unsealed brood away, before doing this get a new tender comb, slip it in your breeder's hive between two frames of brood, where she will likely lay on it right away. Watch this frame every day, as soon as the queen has layed on it, take it out and cut several pieces out that contains eggs, fasten them on other frames that are in the queenless hive that you wish to build cells, also put the frame you have cut the pieces from in it same time, and you will get a lot of nice cells on it; then after they have the cells all started that they are going to build, look them over carefully and pinch off all the small ones, and save none but the largest and by this plan most any one that understands bees can rear good queens.

The reason so many young

breeders make a failure in the attempt to raise good queens, is because they don't know the age of the larva that they start the cells from, and most always start them from a larva too old and of course the results are bad queens. By this plan there is no danger in getting the larva too old. I have not used any larva in rearing queens, that was over two days old in the last two years and during all this time the many thousand queens I have raised, I have not had but two or three drone laying queens reported. But during 1896 and 1897, I often used larva three and four days old, and had it reported from many customers that some of the queens were drone layers; so you see it will not do to use larva over two days old and I think the younger the better.

G. F. Davidson: I use the Henry Alley plan, modified or changed to suit my taste. I commence by dequeening a strong colony in the morning, that the comb from my breeding queens should contain eggs just hatching into larva; this strong queenless colony remains queenless all day, or about twelve hours, at sundown the colony was dequeened. I take away all brood, let them remain all night without queen or brood, this gives me brood just twenty-four hours old to start queens with. After several years

of experimental queen raising, I have decided eighteen to twenty-four hours the proper age of larva to raise queens from. Now early in the morning after having taken the brood away, I prepare my larva as quick as possible and give to them or they will swarm out and go into the nearest neighbor hive. The larva is prepared by cutting a piece of comb from the centre of the comb from my breeding queen, this piece is cut about five inches long by three inches wide; this I lay on a board, and with a sharp warm thin bladed knife cut through each alternate row of cells lengthwise of your piece of comb, these strips of single row cells are then laid flat on board and with knife warm and sharp, cut one side down half the depth of the cells, then with scratch end of a match I destroy each alternate larva; this is done to give room for cutting queen cells apart; when finished the long side of the three strips are dipped in melted wax, not too hot, just barely melted and quickly stuck on to the under side of combs that have been previously prepared by cutting away the bottom part of comb two or three inches up from bottom bar, this bottom is cut in three rounding or convex scalops like this , each scalop being about five inches or near the same length as your strips of larva; this

converse shape is given to make the cells stand apart similar to your fingers when spread open; when the strips of larva are fastened onto the combs I give them to the queenless and broodless colony. I will guarantee that if you follow these instructions you will get a cell from every larva given. If I want the cells matured or completed in this colony I never give more than 30 or 40 cells, but if you want 100 or more, give as much as you want and after this colony has worked on them twenty-four hours, remove them to some other strong colony, one that you know is preparing to swarm—one that has considerable brood in second story. Be sure and put your frame in middle of the second story; this should all be done when you have a good heavy flow. If you try this method a few times you will want no more Doolittle-Atchley-Pridgen's sticks for moulding queen cells.

The wax spoken of, is two parts beeswax, one part crude rosin. When frame of cells are moved after twenty-four hours, don't put all in one colony again, but put one frame in one colony and one in another and so on until all cells are disposed of. I have other methods for other circumstances.

SECOND DAY.

The convention was called to order by the president at 10 o'clock a. m.

1st. The opinion of those that have ate of Mr. Stachelhausens' comb honey, made on drawn comb by the new process.

Mr. Aten—I cannot tell any difference in it, and don't think that it has any more fish bone than natural comb built honey from foundation.

Willie Atchley—I can't see that it has any more wax or fish bone than honey made from common foundation.

J. B. Salyer—I have the same opinion as Mr. G. F. Davidson, who says there is no difference.

There were several others who sampled the honey, and all say there is no difference.

QUESTION BOX.

Which are the best bees for comb honey, also extracted?

G. F. Davidson—I use black bees for finishing up or capping, as they cap the honey much whiter than Italians, but the Italians are the best for extracted honey.

Mr. McPhail has the same opinion.

Mr. Aten—I have no use for black bees at all. I use the Italians for both comb and extracted.

Mr. Stachelhausen—I think the Italians are far ahead of blacks or Hybrids.

Willie Atchley—I think the black crossed with any other race make the best comb builders, but the Holylands and Cyprians are the bees for extracted honey.

Continued to October Number.

HOW MANY WORKER CELLS IN A SQUARE INCH?

(By L. Stachelhausen.)

At the convention of the South Texas Bee-keepers' association in Floresville, the question was asked:

"If a worker cell would measure exactly 1.5 of an inch between two parallel sides, how many cells would cover a square inch?"

Different friends answered that 5 times is 25, consequently 25 cells would cover a square inch. This answer is entirely incorrect, because the cells are six-sided and not square; the correct solution is that nearly 29 cells would be necessary to cover a square inch. When I made this assertion very few were willing to believe it and tried to take an actual account on a natural comb, but had to give it up.

This question is of some interest and I will try to explain it, but some mathematical knowledge is necessary to fully understand it.

Our prominent writers in bee-culture know the fact very well, but I do not remember that anybody has explained it so far.

Cheshire says that worker cells with 1.5 inch diameter are 28-13-15 in a square inch and the statement that 25 would cover a square inch is erroneous.

Cowan, in his book, "The Poney Bee," says:

"The worker cells are 1.5th of an inch between the parallel sides and 13.64ths of an inch across the angles (in a regular hexagon, nearly 15.64, would be more correct L. Sx.) According to Abbe Collin there are 27.5 worker cells to a square inch of comb on each side."

Langstroth revised by Dadant, page 67:

"It is generally admitted that 5 worker cells measure about a linear inch, or 25 to the square inch, but this is incorrect. If 5 worker cells measured exactly an inch the number contained in a square inch would be about 29. As they are usually somewhat larger, the average number in a square inch is a trifle over 27."

If we try to account the number of cells which are covered by a square inch or any other square we will see the difficulty at once, because a large number of cells are covered only partially by the square. The only possible way to solve the problem is by mathematics and for this we have to find the area of the regular hexagon.

If we call the distance between two parallel sides of the cell = a , so is the formula for the area of the hexagon: $A = \frac{3}{4} a^2 \sqrt{3}$.

The square root of $1\frac{1}{3} = 1.154$; was equally $A = \frac{3}{4} \times 1.154^2 a^2 = 0.866 a^2$.

If the cells would be square with sides = a , the formula for the area would be, $A = a^2$.

We see to find the area of the hexagon we have to multiply the area of a square by 0.866.

If $a = 1.5$ th of an inch $= 0.2$ we will have for the hexagonal cell an area of $0.866 \times 0.2^2 = 0.866 \times 0.04 = 0.03466$ sq. in., and because $1.0, 0.03466 = 28.8$ we will have nearly 29 cells in a square inch.

The square of 0.2 is 0.04 and $1.0, 0.04 = 25$, so we have 25 squares on the square inch.

Some readers may not be quite satisfied with this formula for the hexagon, so I will add as short as possible how to get at this formula, but some mathematical knowledge is necessary to understand it.

The side of a regular hexagon is alike the radius ($= r$) of a circle around the hexagon. The height of one of the 6 triangles in the hexagon $= h = a - 2$. Now is $h^2 \times r^2 - 4 = r^2$, consequently $r = h \sqrt{4-3}$. The area of a triangle $= rh - 2 = \frac{1}{2} h^2 \sqrt{4-3}$ and true area of the hexagon $A = 3 h^2 \sqrt{4-3}$. $h = a - 2$ and $h^2 = a^2 - 4$, consequently $A = \frac{3}{4} a^2 \sqrt{1\frac{1}{3}}$.

Cutoff, Texas.

NOTES OF TRAVEL.

By E. J. ATCHLEY.

Continued from August Number.

After harvesting, we hauled our honey to the depot on the International and Great Northern railroad at Pearsall, made shipment, donned our camping outfit and pushed for Cotulla, thirty miles south of Pearsall. The writer preceeding the

buggy by train, to arrange our camp, etc. On our arrival at Cotulla, we met Mr. S. Elliott, Jr., standing on the platform awaiting us. The next day Charles and Mr. Whitlow, came in by buggy. Here at Cotulla Mr. Elliott had stored in warehouse 20,000 lbs. of honey. We bought it and loaded it on the cars in short order. After shipping the car load of honey we were invited to visit the bee ranch and home of Mr. Elliott, 25 miles west of Cotulla. There we found a nice apiary of about 350 colonies. Mr. Elliott did not have quite all of his honey harvested, so we lit old Bingham and worked the hives, while Mr. Elliott, Charlie and Jno. Gilbert, together with Albert, the son of Mr. Elliott, run the Cowan extractor and cutting out comb honey. We sure had a fine time at this place, as Mr. E. has large herds of goats running all round the ranch, and the eve we arrived a fat kid was slaughtered, and we ate so hearty that we felt 10 per cent stouter in two days. Mrs. E. knows how to make good coffee and cook goat meat, and if such a thing as a Paradise on earth could be had we think Mr. and Mrs. E. have it.

If ever you wish to find clever and whole-souled people, don't leave Texas, especially Cotulla, to hunt them. Why, the merchants took the scales from their stores

and gave us free use of them to weigh up 30,000 lbs. of honey, and it is almost considered as offering an insult to ask if any charges were made for the accommodation. Even the good bakery woman loaned us chairs to keep in camp during our stay of 10 days. We have visited several apiarists here, among them Dr. Speer, who lives in the town of Cotulla and has about 80 colonies of bees; we also bought his honey; also Mr. P. C. Conway has a nice apiary of about 130 colonies near Cotulla, and Mr. John Gilbert has a beautiful apiary about 20 miles west of Cotulla. John is an all over young bee man and a son of that veteran, J. M. Gilbert of Uvalde. We also bought Mr. Gilbert's honey.

After we were here about a week, Mrs. Atchley and the three little ones joined us, arriving on August 6th. Mrs. A. has been in poor health for some time, and it was suggested she take camp for her health, which she is doing, and if she improves as fast for one more week as she has the past one, she will be herself again. She now eats well, sleeps well, and enjoys the pure, fresh air of the high dry winds off this mountainous country. We have been fishing twice, caught plenty fish, and visited the large irrigated farm of Mr. Copp, near Cotulla, where vegetables of all kinds are grown the year round. Mr. Copp gets his water from the Nueces river, pumped by an engine and I tell you things do grow lux-

uriantly in this warm country when water is plentifully used.

This is August 13th; we expect to finish our trip here and return home by Sept. 1st, by way of Pear-sail, Tilden and Oakville, and rob the courthouse on our way, of which we will tell you more about in a future number of *The Queen*. Mr. Whitlow is Willies apiarist.

E. J. ATCHLEY.

EDITOR *QUEEN*: Have you any "pod queens" for sale? If so send me one please. I have none, and never saw one; but you or your "devil," made me say "pod queens." See third line from bottom of first column, page 5, *July Queen*. Texas is a long journey from Jamaica or I'd visit your office. I weigh over 210 lbs. Am very good at—ahem, so look out next time, boys. Send your proof reader to Mandeville for a change.

JAMAICA.

Mandeville, Jamaica, July 6, 1898.

The proof reader noticed your "pod queens," but only after it was too late to make correction. Well, you big 210 pounder, just wait till you are annexed to the U. S. or Texas, and then we will step over and have it out, even if we have to throw gravel at you. It's all right, Mister, for you to be big, talk big, and threaten us, so long as you are away over there, but, just you dare come Texasward and talk that way, and we—we—well we might run and let you get out *The Queen*.
ED.

Newsy Notes from—
—Busy People.

After the Robbers---It is a Great Draw-back to be a Bachelor.

The Jennie Atchley Company, Beeville, Texas.

The nippers came to hand last night, O. K., except that you did not send me the nails I wanted; you sent 3 pounds 1 inch when I wrote for 1 $\frac{1}{4}$.

I am sorry I cannot go to the convention. The weather here is very dry and robbing is the order of the day. Were I to leave now I would lose half my apiary. I lost three during last month, although I did everything recommended in the A, B, C, etc. I have to keep up an incessant watch on them, and cannot work them satisfactorially at any time. I am praying for a good rain. The robbers are a little black bee—a wild bee—they nearly break my spirit sometimes, when a whole swarm comes into the yard and attacks everything in sight by swooping down on a weak colony—the strong ones take care of them and quarts of dead bees are the result; the most effective way I have is, on the old hives that are in bad condition, I get a sheet from my bed and cover all up and tuck it under the hives, in front I leave it loose and pile up

hay and weeds, thoroughly wetting them. The robbers are so bad that in half an hour they tear all the comb out of a hive and scatter it on the ground. I think bee-keepers need a lot of christian fortitude sometimes. Dry weather, moths, robbers, etc., are enough to test the forbearance of a truly christian character.

A bee-keeper from near San Antonio passed here a few weeks ago, he said he would be at the convention and would like for me to go with him but I could not.

I will send you the amount of your bill when I return next trip from Uvalde. I cannot go anywhere just now; that is the drawback of being an old bachelor without kin folks near me, and it was not the making of sweeter honey I alluded to in a previous letter, although I know California lasses of sixteen and over would take it as an insult if you insinuated that they did not have and did not make better and sweeter honey than any old bachlor that ever lived, and somehow I am rather inclined to think they are right. I know whatever they serve tastes better, or I suppose I relished it better than that served otherwise.

Yours truly,

J. J. FITZPATRICK.

Carrizo Springs, Tex., Aug. 1898.

**Kind Words---Poor Crops, but Prospects
Bright for Fall and 1899.**

Friend Atchley: I was just reading over the back numbers of *The Queen*, and I could not help but notice the vast improvement in that journal, more especially in the last year. Its editorial and entire get up is very commendable. I am glad to learn that its subscription list is increasing so fast during the past year, notwithstanding we poor bee-keepers up here are singing the song of disappointment and content ourselves by trying to eat bug juice on our pancakes; but O, dear me, I can't, somehow relish the black, blacker, blackest messy stuff. The dew was gathered mainly from oak leaves, and a little from black walnut. But as we are having quite a favorable season at present, I shouldn't wonder but we may have a fall flow. By the way, white clover has had such a growth since the rains commenced that quite a large bloom is noticed; in the fields and along the road sides a perfect mat of clover looms up. Don't you know we are already making preparations for a boom in 1899?

J. A. GOLDEN.

Renersville, O., Aug. 26, 1898.

Friend Golden—We thank you very much for your kind compliments, and we are glad to inform you that *The Queen* is still increasing, and the printer remarked a

few days ago that we would soon have to increase our issue again, as there were only about two dozen copies left for samples last month. We trust you may have your hopes realized, and you may get a big fall crop, and next year bring you a bountiful harvest. Hurrah for white clover. [Ed.]

* * *

Few Bee-Keepers in Hawaii.

Jennie Atchley Co.:

Enclosed I send P. O. order for \$2.75, for which send me one tested queen, leather colored, \$1.50, and the balance is for my renewal to subscription for *Southland Queen*. I have not got anybody to subscribe for your paper, you will know why when I tell you there are not above half a dozen bee-keepers on all the islands. C. F. WOLFE.

Honolulu, U. S. A., Aug. 10, 1898.

* * *

A Protracted Drouth.

Chas. W. Fager:

I have seen reports from bee-keepers from all parts of the country. I will give my experience in bee-keeping, although it is not of a flattering nature. I started this spring with 35 colonies and increased to 60. I did not allow but one swarm to issue from each colony. I have taken about 450 lbs. of extracted honey and 150 in sections, and this is a fair average for the last four years, so I have not got rich off of bee-keeping. I have

been looking forward all this time for a change in the seasons. This section has been subject to a very severe drought for several years. At this writing vegetation is all parched, and everything is suffering, bees has done nothing for over two months. It is impossible to open a hive now or do any work in the apairy. The following honey producing trees and flowers are abundant in this section: Mesquite, chaparral, catclaw, prickley ash, sweet bay, horse mint and various other plants in the live oak timber. If seasonable this would not be a bad country for bees.

When I hived my first swarm of bees it was supposed that honey produced here was not good, but it has proved to be an error, and there are about 40 colonies besides mine kept here now by about half a dozen parties.

I owe all I know about practical bee-keeping to the Atchley's, The Queen and the able writers that contribute articles of great value from time to time.

Ingleside, Texas.

* * *

**A Poor Season Just Passed in Australia.
Nearly all the Bees Dead, But Enter-
ing into a Good Season. Ame-
ricans Congratulated.**

I have been endeavoring to arrange with our postal department here to adopt a better system of carrying queens, which has result-

ed so far in their communicating with the postal authorities in your country to see what can be done. I suggested to them the advisability of having a room set apart for the purpose, and to give it plenty ventilation with a temperature of about 80 to 85 degrees, which I think would meet our wants, we cannot afford to lose our stocks in transit, as it puts us out of the season. I have still the good queen you sent me first, she is not extra at laying, which I reckon is by her being hurt in transit, however, her progeny are very good indeed, amongst the best I have at present. I have but 80 hives left out of 258 and $\frac{1}{2}$ of them are not very much, but still am trying to nurse them up. We are entering on a good year ahead and hope to increase a good deal. Honey here is scarce and a good demand at $4\frac{1}{2}$ c per lb in bulk; most all the bees are dead in the colony and I think prices will be maintained during next season. Hope I shall receive The Queen you are sending me safe. Should I hear in time anything of importance, will advise you at once. We Australians congratulate our cousins (Americans) on their heroic and brave fighting with the Spaniards, and wish you all every success, hoping the war will not retard your bee farming or anything else. **ARTHUR BALLINGER.**

Nurrabiell, Victoria, Aus., July 15, '98.

Freind B.—We are pleased to be able to inform you that our war with Spain is over. We wish for you a prosperous season. [ED.]

Suggestions.

(By M. M. FAUST.)

Our Convention is now a thing of the past, but I am still in a giggle over my part of it. So much so that I almost wonder why I do not attend every one I hear of. I think I will be down next August, but in case I am not, I want you to nominate, and vote next one to Floresville. So I may be at one more, at least.

I would state that I was on committee (representing John Bell) to arrange a programme for the session, and our difficulty gave rise to a thought, or suggestion along this line, and that is this: you know, or at least I know, that in our routine of work, we frequently come to a halt, hardly knowing what to do, in certain cases, and under certain circumstances, wishing that some experienced bee man would happen along and tell us what to do; and just then, I think, is a good time for us to make a note of the perplexing questions and send them in to our secretary, he registering same. By this means we would by next August have a list as long as your arm; and the most important ones could be discussed, from which we might derive substantial and valuable knowledge. Not such as some questions we had, as; "which bees deposit the

honey in the cells, the field bees or home bees?" As if we care what bees put it there, so it's there. As two questions have come up in my mind which I would like to have discussed next meeting or through THE QUEEN, I will submit them:

No. 1. Of what importance is precision in bee space?

No. 2. In which can a man realize the most money, in the production of cotton, or that of honey?

Now don't get off that dry smile, which I can see from here, and say;

It appears that "old man" Faust is proposing to run next convention, no, I am simply offering the best suggestion I can think of, to avoid the great dilemma or difficulty into which we fell by not having our programme already arranged, and even published, that slow thinkers, (such as I) might give them a little thought.

Lest you think me in a rush to get my ideas on paper, and presumptuous in so doing, I will state that I am one of those, that if I defer until to-morrow, may forget altogether.

Friend Faust, we open the ball right now, and give your suggestions, and we trust that others may send in questions for discussion from time to time, and we will enter them as they come in, and then the record will be kept, that we may pick them up quickly at our next meeting. We can have them all printed in a programme. Any one that will, is

offered the pages of THE QUEEN to discuss all questions of importance to bee-keepers. We will not attempt to offer solutions to these questions, but leave them open for the many. We are glad that you are interested in our Bee-meeting Brother Faust. Of course we will expect you here next August. ED.

A Report.

I have taken 1100 sections and near 600 lbs. of extracted honey from 40 colonies. I do not know what others may think of this but to me it is pretty good results for the time and care that I have had to devote to my bees, and as I have sold enough to buy all that I have needed of the necessities of life, feel well recompensed for my trouble and hope that other friends have had like blessings.

MRS. L. M. PHILLIPS,
Valley Spring, Tex. Aug. 31, '98.

A Report.

I started with 17 colonies last Spring and increased to 76, selling four colonies for \$6.50 each, and have 1000 lbs. of honey ready to extract, and golden rod is just coming into bloom, and I expect a good flow from it. I am looking for that thousand pound colony that the Government tells about.

H. P. ROBIE,
Sioux Falls, S. D., Aug. 12, '98.

Likes Blacks For Finishing Up.

Find 1.00 for my renewal to THE QUEEN; she is a welcome visitor to our home and E. M. Storer, an old

veteran bee-keeper, says your paper is the best published if it only would come twice a month. When I wrote you last I was feeding four colonies for early drones, and the air was then full of Hybrid drones before the Italians were sealed, in the colonies that I was feeding. If I try to stimulate for early drones next season I think I shall double up two strong colonies together, and if this fails I think it will be my last attempt for early drones with the Italians. I like the black bees the best for capping honey, rearing queens, and for finishing up sections after the flows are nearly over.

I have had considerable finishing up to do this season after the flows, as the trains set fire to and burned up our range, or nearly so which causes a short crop for us this year. I am now pondering over a swarm marker. With it the apiarist can tell when a swarm has been cast by looking in front of the hive. Do you think such an arrangement will pay? I have read all the ideas put forth how to prevent swarming, but I have as yet failed to get anything that will be safe to use in out yards when no one is present. A. DUNCAN & SON,
Homerville, Ga., Aug. 11, '98.

Friends D:—We are not prepared to answer your question whether your swarm marker will pay or not, and we would have to test it before making a definite answer, but it appears to us that it would be a good thing. ED.

OUR SCHOOL.

Mrs. JENNIE ATCHLEY,
INSTRUCTOR.



How late will it do to rob bees in this locality, (Bosque Co., Tex.)? Is it best to take all the supers off, or would you advise to leave them on till Spring? My bees did not swarm any, please tell me why?

S. A. FARMER,

Walnut Springs, Tex., Aug 29, '98.

Friend Farmer:—Much depends upon the season how late you can take honey in your county. I have known bees to do well and fill their hives full of honey near Hico, only a short distance from your place after Oct. 1st. If your Fall is favorable, and flowers plentiful, and bees gathering honey, you can safely take any surplus, as long as the bees are storing. In the Fall season when the honey flow may come to a sudden stop, it will be well to be sure to leave plenty of honey, and only take the surplus if there be any. In your locality, I would advise, for best results, one year with another to take off all supers, as it gets pretty cold in your county some winters, and the bees will be more comfortable, with supers off, and snugly kept down in the brood nests, as I have lost many bees from strong colonies, by their going up into the supers during warm days, and a cold snap

come up very sudden, and the bees would soon get chilled, and freeze to death right in their own homes. It would be hard for me to tell just why your bees did not swarm. There are several causes that might be assigned: first, your bees were likely weak in early spring, and it took them till your honey flow time to build up strong enough to swarm, and then honey came in so fast that they stored so rapidly that all sight of swarming was lost, and the combs crowded with honey, the queens stopped their rapid work, and no swarms were the result. Absence of pollen in the fields, has a great deal to do with bees not swarming: Some seasons bees gather in early spring a great deal of pollen, and but little honey, or just enough to keep comb building going, and then the queens just spread them selves, and excessive swarming is usually the result. Other springs, but little pollen is gathered, and more honey, which turns the tide the other way, and but little swarming is the result.

I have moved five miles from my old location, and when I move my bees will it be necessary to keep them shut up three days to keep them from returning to their old location? F. J. ERNST,

Stafford, Tex., Sept. 1st, '98.

No it will not be necessary to shut the bees' entrances any long-

er than you are moving, or I would advise, to keep each load shut up till dark, then open all entrances, and they will be quiet by the next morning, and you will have less confusion among your bees, as they will quietly fly out a few at a time and mark their new location, and soon all will be well. If you should haul them in the day time and open the entrances, all at once, while it was yet daylight, the bees rush out in great numbers, and some return to the wrong hives and get killed.

Mrs. Atchley; I submit to you one question, which I will be glad to have you answer. As now the progeny of the untested Cyprian queen I bought of you is hatching, I would like to know whether it is pure or not. There is no difference that I can see between them and Italians, except they are yellower, three and four bands predominate. In Langstroth on the honey bee, Cyprians are described, as though they were expressly Italians, with the exception, that they have a bright yellow shield on the throax. Must this yellow shield necessarily predominate, in order that they be pure?

HENRY JERABEK,

Silver Lake, Minn., Aug. 26, '98.

Friend J.—I would consider your queen a pure one from your description as the Cyprians as a rule are more yellow than Italians, and by close inspection it will be found that they are a brighter yellow than common run of Italians. We have some that have the bright yellow

thorax and some that do not show it but little, and they are all pure, so far as I know. It seems to be a little perplexing to many to mark the distinction between Cyprians and Italians, but, by constant handling them, we can tell the Cyprians by characteristics, as well as by color. They act quite different from Italians, build comb different, and do not crowd the brood nest with honey as the Italians do, and enter the supers more readily, are much quicker on the wing, and as a rule have a little different shape, which we call slimmer than Italians. We are getting our Cyprians from Prof. Overton, of England, and we will ask him to make us a true description of the Cyprian race of bees that we may note it down in our book.

Please tell me which are the best bees for comb honey and oblige.

FRED HUGHES,

Dallas, Oregon, July 19, '98.

Friend Hughes:—You have as broad a question in that short sentence as there is pertaining to apiculture, or at least I think so. I will only give my experience, and ask others who read this question, and have any thing to offer to do so, and we will give it in THE QUEEN. I will take for my choice Hybrid Italians, or Italians crossed with black bees, which means Ital-

ian queens mated to black drones, or I will take Cyprian and Holyland bees. If I were raising comb honey I would be safe and satisfied with either of the above races of bees. Will those with experience in the matter please give us their opinions?

I am wanting a little advice in regard to moving some bees. I have about 70 colonies here on the Colorado River, and about three and a half or four miles away there is a dense growth of Sumach (Which you know is a good honey plant) which is just coming into bloom and will last perhaps a month. Now what I want to know is this: 1. Would it pay me to move a part of my bees, say 30 colonies to where they could have access to this Sumach. They are gathering honey fast at present from Cotton Chittim and Poison Oak vines. Can't say how long this flow will last.

2. If you think best to move them, would it be best to move in day time or at night?

3. How would you prepare the hives to move a short distance like that? They are all in dove-tail hives on swinging frames with wired combs.

4. Would it do to tack thin cloth over the tops of the hives in the place of wire cloth.

5. Would it be best to get a set of springs for my wagon? I have nothing but a common farm wagon and the roads are somewhat rough. I think I could get the springs from a neighbor. Now if you think it would pay me (in dollars and cents) to make this move I would be pleased to hear from you at the earliest possible date. Any information you could give along this line would be

thankfully received. I would have to move them back this fall.

They would have the Sumach this summer, the broom weed and live oak balls this fall.

I have been a practical bee-keeper for a number of years but have had no experience in moving bees.

I know it is somewhat risky, and that is the reason I come to you for advice.

L. B. SMITH,

Lometa, Tex., July 10, '98.

Friend Smith:—I think it pays well to migrate with bees. I have tried it many times, and have been thoroughly convinced that it will pay well. If your bees are not likely to get a good yield where they are, you can easily move them to a territory where forage is abundant, without much trouble or loss.

I once moved about 50 colonies five miles and they filled their hives and gave a surplus, while those that I did not move gathered nothing. In summer time we always prefer to move at night; but, if it is not convenient to do so you can move in day time. If the weather is warm, and your colonies strong, better wet the hives well, after you have them loaded in the wagon, and if water is handy on the road a second soaking will help them. I have found out that if I use water sufficient that I can move bees successfully at any time of the year, as water will reduce the temperature, and keep it down.

You need not be afraid to throw on water, as if it goes right into the hives it is so much the better. If you have no spring wagon, you can make you a temporary set of springs, by placing stout boards, say two 1 x 12 x 10 feet, or as long as the inside of your wagon body; placing a scantling under each end of the boards, to sag down, and not touch the bottom of your wagon bed. Now place your hives in with ends of hives to sides of wagon, which will partly take off the side movement of the wagon, and your frames will not flop about but little, and if the distance is short you will not need to fasten the frames at all.

I received the queen in good condition the day she was mailed. I tried to follow instructions; what was obscure to me was; cover with enameled cloth or quilt; I did not attempt this; not knowing what it meant, but I this A. M. (sixth day) took the cage and ripped it open, it still appearing to be closed by the candy in the end of the outlet. She with her company of bees, were all lively, but I was afraid to let her stay "bottled up" any longer. So this A. M. I let her out in a hive which had only about a handful left when she arrived. I had transferred this hive as I wrote you, because infested with worms. I tied an old comb in the hive, which had a lot of bee bread, etc. on which the bees have been feeding since the transfer. I am in hopes she will be content to go ahead, and build up another good

swarm. Query: is not this the principal use for queens? B. L. AYCOCK,
San Antonio, Tex., July 6, '98.

Friend A:—You should understand that to be successful in building up a colony of bees, you must give the queen something to build up with. I don't think your bees will live long on the comb of bee-bread, but they require honey as well. The enameled cloth or quilt means the cloth you cover your frames with to keep the bees from sticking frames to cover & etc. Some do not use any cloth or quilt at all, but we call this frame covering a quilt because it just spreads over the frames like a quilt on a bed. Yes, the principal use of queens is to build up swarms and keep them up, but queens must have some foundation on which to build, such as bees enough to form a nest, keep it warm and hatch the brood, and some to spare to work. If you undertake to build up a colony from too few bees, it takes too long, and the season is gone by the time they get in shape to do much. It takes a fair swarm of bees, a good queen, and honey coming in to constitute a profitable colony for building up.

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THE SOUTHLAND QUEEN.

PUBLISHED MONTHLY.

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BEEVILLE, TEXAS, SEPT., 1898.

You may look out next month for a big discussion on deep and shallow frames, as there are two on a side, and we will get something good.

Our bees here at home are beginning to gather some fall honey, as we have had some local showers lately, but on the whole the country is yet very dry.

We learn that light rains have fallen in the vicinity of Pearsall and Cotulla lately, which was badly needed, as that country has not had a good rain since last June.

Frank L. Aten, of Round Rock, writes under date Sept. 5, '98; We have had some good rains, and we are good for a fall crop of honey. This is one of the Williamson Co. Bee-keepers that raise and sell honey by the car load.

C. W. Webb is figuring on moving his apiary West, to the Frio River country. Mr. Webb has been keeping bees near Skidmore, this county, (Bee) for three years, and now thinks he would like to "go West and grow up with the country."

We are now being asked by a great many beginners, how is best to manage bees to be successful. We think that the person that would be successful at any business, must study its requirements, and undertake it with energy and intelligence, and we think that the bee-keeper is no exception.

If you have a successful bee-

keeper in your locality, try to take lessons from him, and he will likely be glad to impart to you any information you may seek. If you are not close to some successful bee-keeper, then, study your bee literature, and try to follow some successful writer, and use your own skill and energy, as well, and you are most sure to succeed.

We to-day, Sept. 7, have our first drop in the temperature, and we think it will be safe from now till Christmas to send out queens, as it has been too hot for two months past, to send queens successfully from this warm country. We have a large lot of queens to go to Australia next month, and think we will now have no trouble getting them to San Francisco.

The other day I counted on one comb eleven cases in which the queen had laid eggs in cells containing pollen. In all other respects she seemed to be a respectable queen- [I wonder if Mr. Doolittle would think this was "Nature's Plan"']. Dr. Miller's Stray Straws and Editor's Note, Gleanings, Sept. 1, 1898. Wonder if these good people have never noticed before, that bees sometime get out of the ordinary, as well as people, or other animals?

We note in Gleanings, also the

Review Photo's. of frames of finished cell cups, which look very nice. We do not use the cut comb plan now, and find that the cell cups can be placed in a circle over a comb, and give a little extra space, and just as good cells are obtained. We just insert the base of the cell cups into the comb enough to hold them firmly, and when cells are finished, we pluck them right off easily, and no mutilation of combs is necessary.

While we were out West, we visited that old veteran, and Indian fighter, Robert Hall, now over 80 years old. His war suit, and his outfit worn during the early and perilous days of Texas, is worth anybody's time to read about, and as we made a call upon this noted gentleman, and interviewed him face to face, we feel that our readers will appreciate a few sketches from his life and of the great battles he encountered with the Red Men (Indians). We shall not encroach upon the space belonging to our readers, but place the matter on extra pages, and after a few lessons have been given if anybody (a subscriber) objects we will discontinue the work. Look out for Robert Hall next month. He gave us permission to get our extracts from his book.

Notice the new Ad. of Dadant & Son this month, they are the wonders of the age in the Fdu business.

Bees wax, has again just about reached the bottom, or at least we think so, and we can still offer our customers 25 cts. in trade for fair average wax laid down at Beeville. You may just send in any amount you have without notice, placing your name on the package telling how much you have sent and how you sent it; by freight or express.

SPECIAL NOTICE.

I want the numbers of THE SOUTHLAND QUEEN that contain the reports of the first two Conventions held by the Central Texas Bee-keepers Association. Also the Sep., '95 QUEEN. If you have any of the above numbers please send them to me and I will either return or pay for same (whichever suits sender).

The reason I want them is; I want to record in my Secretary's book the minutes of all the meetings and I require the above numbers to make minutes complete.

Address H. H. HYDE,
Ass't. Sec'ty. C. T. B. K. A.
Hutto, Tex.

ABOUT SEPARATORS.

QUESTION.—Do you advise the use of separators in producing comb

honey? A bee-keeping neighbor says that money put in separators is thrown away, and, worse still, because bees will not store as much honey where separators are used as where they are not. What is your opinion in the matter?

ANSWER.—There is no question but bees will store honey in sections without the use of separators; but the question is regarding its MARKETABLE shape, where stored without them. I first used separators in 1872 on a small scale, to try the feasibility of them. These were cut so as to leave $\frac{1}{2}$ inch between top and bottom of the sections and the separator, as I felt sure they would retard the labor of the bees while storing comb honey, inasmuch as they apparently divided the bees into small clusters. To test the matter thoroughly I used a part of the apiary without separators, and even went so far as to leave the bottom pretty much entirely off the sections on some hives, to see how much the gain would be; but at the end of the season each was about balanced as regards the result in surplus honey, and I began to think that the claim of more honey without separators had no foundation in fact. But I found I had made a blunder in cutting my separators too narrow, in my anxiety to separate the bees as little as possible, for the bees built

their combs through the half-inch space, where they were in any way crowded for room.

The next year the separators were cut $\frac{1}{2}$ inch wider, and some were slotted so as to divide the bees as little as possible. Some were used with and some without separators. The result was no perceptible difference as to yield, while many of the sections without separators could not be sent to market at all, as the combs in them were so bulged and crooked that it was impossible to crate them. I finally adopted a separator as wide as the inside of the section, less $\frac{1}{4}$ inch at top and bottom, with no perforations of any kind, and to-day, although I have experimented many ways since then, and a quarter of a century has passed away, I see no reason for abandoning the separators as then chosen, but, on the contrary, many reasons for still continuing their use, a few of which I will give:

First, I often wish to move the sections about to a different position on the hive, and exchange them with other colonies, to start these colonies to work as soon as possible, believing that better results can be secured in this way. If I did this without separators I should get very uneven combs, as my experience has taught me.

Second, I wish to take off the

sections as soon as a sufficient number are sealed over to warrant the work in doing so, while they are "snow-white," and not leave them on the hive till all are finished, and the first capped over all travel-stained by the bees. Now, if we do this, taking out one-third or more, and place those partly filled or empty, except the foundation used for starters, in their places, unless separators are used, the bees will lengthen the cells of those farthest advanced, so as to crowd the others, thus making irregular combs, as we often have them when putting an empty frame between two full ones in the brood-chamber during a honey-yield, and before any of the honey-cells are sealed.

Third, by the use of wide frames with separators we need take none of the precautions about the nice adjustment of the sections and hive, which is always a part of the directions where sections are to be used without separators, but simply slip our sections into the wide frames and clamp them together with no further trouble. I should want to use the wide frames, even did I use no separators, to keep the sections clean, and free from propolis, if nothing more. Were such wide frames used, section honey would reach market in much finer shape than it often does now. From all of my experience and observa-

tion up to the present time I believe that section boxes can not be used to the best advantage without separators; hence I consider them one of the greatest inventions which have been made to help the bee-keeper, and expect to continue their use until I am convinced that I am wrong in the above conclusions.—Doolittle, in Gleanings, Sept. 1, 1898.

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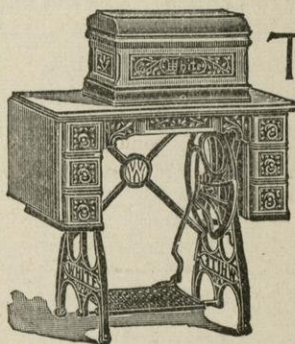
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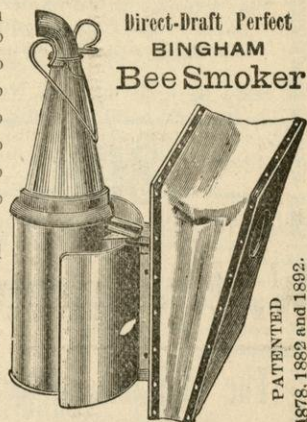
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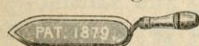
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Yours, etc., W. H. EAGGERTY, Cuba, Kansas, January 27, 1897.

T. F. BINGHAM, Farwell, Mich.

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They do Swarm.

REMEMBER



That we carry a full line of Bee-Keepers' Supplies, and everything in the Bee-Keeper's line. Such as Hives, Frames, Extractors, Smokers of all kinds, Foundation, and anything you may want, in the Bee line. Bees and Queens. Catalogue free. Read the following testimonial—such we are receiving daily:

FRIENDS:—The hives to hand in good condition. I am more than pleased; the lumber is good, and the workmanship is all right too, and a few (one or two) pieces of each kind allowed for splitting. Please accept my thanks for the way you filled my order.

Yours Truly, MERRILL W. SMITH, Cuero, Texas.

The Jennie Atchley Company.,

Beeville, Texas.