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## The Southland queen. Vol. I, No. 3 July 1895

Beeville, Texas: The Jennie Atchley Company, July 1895

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# The Southland Queen.

MOTTO: FAIRNESS.

VOL. I.

BEEVILLE, TEXAS, JULY, 1895.

No. 3.

This is a Monthly Journal Devoted to the Honey and Bee Interests of this Country, North and South, East and West, and we will not except any of the rest.

Application has been made to the Postoffice Department to have this journal entered at the Beeville postoffice as second-class mail matter.

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE: \$1 PER YEAR.

ISSUED BY

THE JENNIE ATCHLEY Co.

THE honey crop is not so universally large as we at first thought it was. We learn that north Texas will have but little if any honey this year.

MR. L. E. SAMERFORD, of Navasota, Texas, has just come in home from Cuba, where he has been for four years, in charge of four hundred colonies of bees.

WE are looking out for a hive that will give best results, and noted for cheapness &c., for southern bee keepers, and if any of you have anything to offer in this line, please send it in. We are satisfied that there is no use in using so much timber in a hive as our northern friends use, and we will do what we can to look up something that will fill the bill.

SECTION honey is now bringing ten cents per pound in our Texas markets. Bees wax still continues to decline, and is only worth in this section today 22 cents per pound.

It is thought by our bee keepers that we will not have any fall flows of honey this year, as our unusually wet spring caused the vegetation to do all it could, and now it is so dry that every thing is parching up.

WE are very thankful that we are not troubled in this part of the south with any bee diseases, of any kind or character, and no wintering troubles, no cellars to build, and bees fly from their hives at least 350 days in each year. What a favored spot for bee keeping this is.

READ Dr. Marshall's article, in this issue. He as well as ourselves has been through the mill, and now only uses such articles as will pay, and there is no use in a bee keeper buying every little clap trap that is offered for sale, thinking that it will give larger returns. But often many things are bought that are worthless to the purchaser.

# Beginners Department.

## LESSON No. 2.

In last lesson I promised to tell you how to divide your bees and get them ready for the honey flow. Well this is a big lesson, but we will now proceed to recite it. First, I will say you must know when your honey flow comes, as I do not wish to have you rear bees out of season, and about eight weeks, (I will put it to be more sure) before your honey flow begins, you must begin to stimulate your bees, and if they are not getting honey you had better feed, (how to feed will be given later) but, if you will leave your bees plenty of honey in the fall, you will seldom have to feed in the south, at least in this portion and what I mean by plenty, is about twenty-five pounds of honey to the colony. If the bees have plenty of honey, and you do not wish to feed them, you can stimulate them by uncapping their honey, and placing the honey uncapped, right in the center of the brood nest, and the bees will remove it to the out side combs, and it serves the same, or about the same as when honey is coming in to stimulate them, and get brood-rearing started. On first examining the bees after you have began to stimulate, you will do well to

look close after your queens, and see that each one is doing her duty, or in other words, if she is not prolific, better kill her and give them another queen, or let them raise one, as you had as well do nothing as to fool away your time with a poor queen.

In some localities in the south we do not have to feed at all. Where your bees get honey from the flowers it will be ever so much better than to feed them and they will breed up as fast as they ought to without any stimulating, when they are getting a little honey and pollen. It will be a good idea to look after them though, pretty often in the spring, when they begin breeding heavy, as their honey will disappear like magic, as it takes lots of honey to raise a large lot of brood, and you can keep a watch after them and do not let the bees run out of honey, as then you will likely loose all you have gained and more too, as it costs the keeper to get bees. After you get good queens in all your hives, and get them to going nicely, then you can get your surplus arrangements ready, either for extracted, or comb honey; and then when your honey flow comes, you will be ready to reap the harvest.

This lesson will do you but little good unless you know your honey resources, as I am trying now, to get you to have your hives running over with bees about a week before

your main honey flow comes, and if you will follow my directions, you will seldom miss a crop. There are many plans and ways to build up bees, and increase them, but I am only going to give you one that I know to be a good one, and one that will insure success if followed, and be the most profitable, or has been for me. You likely know that there is hardly any two farmers that farm just exactly alike, but as a rule they all make crops, well it is somewhat the same with beekeepers, they nearly all have their hobbies, and I like to see it, as it shows a sign of success. I will tell you how to do things a way that I know will be successful, and when you have learned bees &c., you can take up your hobbies. As this lesson is mostly for southern beekeepers, I will tell you how to divide your bees and build both colonies up ready for the honeyflow. Our bees usually build up and get ready to swarm here in the south, long before our honey harvests begin, and when you see that the bees are getting ready to swarm, or when they are jammed full of bees, and whitening up the combs near the top bars, you may know they are getting a little honey, and swarming will soon begin. Now go to all your strongest colonies first, and take an empty hive for each that is to be divided, and put in starters, or full sheets of foundation, as you chose, but you had

better use starters anyway, as so many beginners hive their swarms on frames entirely empty, and the bees go crossways, and then what a fix you are in. I had rather transfer bees out of an old log, than to transfer out of a framed hive after the bees have built crosswise, as you cannot get out a single frame or get to the combs without tearing the hive up. So I will repeat, do not let your bees build crooked combs, if you are expecting any satisfaction or profit out of them. Well, when you have your hives ready, begin by taking out half of the frames, and those that have the most sealed brood in them, and place them in your new hive, all the time looking out for the queen, and be sure you find her. Let all the bees stay on the combs, and place the new hive off on a new stand, contract the entrance, and leave them alone until the 9th or 10th day.

I will now carry you back to the old hive and have you fill it up with frames with starters in them, or better still, frames of foundation. If you do not wish to go to the expense of full sheets of foundation, then just use starters, say not less than one inch wide, and this will always insure you nice straight combs. I will add that comb foundation is made from beeswax, and is run through a mill, or between two rollers that resemble a clothes wringer, only the



rollers are metal, and have the indentations of the cells cut in the rolls, and the bees draw out the wax, and soon have nice combs. Well after you have filled the old hive with frame you may close it up and go to the next and so on till all are divided that need it. Your old colony will have most all the old bees, and of course will build right up, and will not likely swarm and you will notice that the new colony will not work much for several days, but do not be alarmed at that, as the brood will soon hatch out and you will have a fine young colony of bees, with all their working lives before them, and their queens will hatch out and be ready to lay about the time the last bees are hatching. Now, I will tell you to look sharp that the newly made colonies do not swarm, as you cannot afford it if you are going to run that apiary for honey, as you must have your hives strong for your flow, or you will miss a crop, and I do not wish to do that. On the ninth or tenth day, better be the ninth, go to your new colonies, and remove all the cells that they have started, except one, the best looking one and I mean by the best looking one, the longest and the best shaped cells, and be sure you get them all out but one, or the bees will swarm sure if any honey is coming in at all, or if they have plenty in the hives, and such swarms will be the same as second

swarms in natural swarming, as the young bees know nothing of the way you have manipulated things, and the first young queen that hatches will lead out a swarm, and leave your hive too weak. If you have any hives that you have divided that is, or has better bees than some others, and you wish to breed from them, you might tear down all the cells of those you do not want and insert cells from those you like best, and by this means you will be keeping your bees up.

When you take all the sealed brood away from the old parent colony, and give it to the new colony you have the very same conditions that you would have in natural swarming, and beats natural swarming two to one if done in the right manner and at the right time. The new colony will have the young bees and the young queen the same as in natural swarming, and when you become accustomed to the work you will learn to equalize them and have them come on and get ready for the flow at the same time.

Your new colony will not necessarily need foundation or frames as divided, like the old colony, but I would advise you to use a division board, in the new colony and keep them on the four or five frames as the case may be taking it that you use eight or ten framed hives, and if you use eight frames you will have four frames &c, and when the

brood begin to hatch rapidly, and your new colony is working nicely you may give them their frames the same as the old colony and you will be pleased to see how soon and how fast they will come up after they do get started. It will be well for you to look over your new colonies soon after the brood is all hatched, and if you do not see eggs or larva, you had better search for the queen, and if found, see if she can fly, if not kill her at once, and give them a frame of brood and a queen cell, or provide them a queen and do not let them remain queenless long at this stage of the game, or the worker bees will begin to lay and you will have a hive of drones and the bees will some times refuse a queen after laying workers get well started. Now you may find some colonies that missed as we call it, either from the cells not hatching, or by the queens getting lost on their flight to mate, which occurs on the 5th to the 8th day, according to the weather, strength of the colony, and how honey is coming in. If any get lost, of course give them queens or keep them up with brood from other hives till they can raise another queen, or better still, if you can afford it send of and get a queen from some breeder that is already laying. You get instructions with queens how to introduce them. Now look over your hives at least once a week,

and see that all are coming on all right, and get them up good and strong if you can a week before your main honey flow comes, and you will reap a harvest.

You may say that this is a heap of work, and it is, and you must make up your minds to do a heap of work or have it done, or better let it alone. This is one of the best plans of artificial increase for the south, I know of and beats natural swarming as you do not have to be right in the yard every minute, or climbing trees etc., and then you can proportion the bees to suit yourself, and when they swarm naturally the old bees just about all go with the swarm, unless it is a few that are in the fields at work, when the swarm issues. When divided, a great many old bees remain with the new swarms and keep it well protected from robbers till a full force hatches. Now, we expect that you have everything going nicely, and as soon as your harvest opens, or a few days before, put on your supers, either full upper stories with frames for extracted honey, or sections, and I will be proud to learn at the end of next season how you have succeeded. If any time along the line you get tangled, and need a little help in the way of advice, let me know and I will do what I can to help you out. These lessons open up places for you to ask questions, and when any thing is

not plain enough for you, please do not be backward but come right on and we will answer all as soon as we can consistently, and see that you get your bees in shape. I think now that you are far enough along to ask questions, and I will ask the class to give us a subject, or subjects for the next lesson, and subjects pointed out, that I think will do the most good, we will answer first, and all will be answered. If no subjects are named I will make my own selection, and do the best I can for you, and mind you, we want to go through the whole shooting match from A to Z before we dismiss school.

WHEN you wish to purchase bees queens or supplies, look over our advertising pages, we know all that are advertising with us and they will treat you right.

WE are now able to club you "Gleanings of Bee Culture," published by the A. I. Root Co., Medina, Ohio, a semi monthly journal, and what we term the mother of Bee Journals with THE QUEEN, both one year post paid for \$1.70.

WE are now having very dry weather, and after so many hard beating rains in the spring and turning off so dry all at once, our summer honey flows are being cut off considerably, and bees at present are not gathering more than a living.

## Queen-Rearing Department.

### HOW TO MANAGE CELLS.

Willie Atchley said in his article in first issue of this paper, that to get good queens in every case, the cell builders should be selected, as there are many bees that are not good for building cells even under the most favorable circumstances. There is nothing that he could have said nearer the truth, but there is other things that should be carefully guarded. In addition to having the cells built by bees that are best adapted for that purpose, they should be kept at the proper temperature, during the progress of development. If queen cells get too cold, or too hot, the queens will be stunted, and a great many prove no good, and some never hatch at all.

Cells should never be kept in an abnormal colony, but if we wish perfect queens, we must have the cells kept in vigorous colonies. You may place a frame of sealed worker brood in a colony of old, half starved workers, and when this brood hatches, it will show signs of the unfavorable conditions. The time that cells are the most easily damaged, is from five to seven days after they are sealed. During the first eighteen hours of the queen's life, after the cell is sealed,

she is not so easily injured, but after that and up to within eighteen hours of hatching, she is easily disfigured, and a slight jolt will cause them to double themselves up in the cells, at the lower ends, and if they hatch at all they are most sure to have some deficiency, either a bad wing, leg, or some other deformity, that renders them worthless. You can always find more or less of these kind of queens in the hands of beginners, and their experience is so slight with such queens, that they do not detect it till a great deal of time has been lost, and the colony reduced to mere nothing.

Of course all such queens should be destroyed at once, as soon as discovered, and a new cell given. If a batch of cells are exposed to the hot sun, or to cold chilly winds, just a few moments, they are apt to be damaged considerably, if not entirely ruined.

We frequently have occasion to cut cells from combs of brood, but it is very difficult to get them safely introduced, as the bees seem to be more inclined to tear them down, on account, I suppose, of their being so rough. Some time ago one of my neighbors had me to divide his bees for him, and in a few days afterward, I agreed to introduce queens to the newly made swarms, for the cells that were in the hives. In all there were six hives, and from them I

obtained forty cells, and out of that number, I only got five queens hatched, this being the pay I received for all my work, and for the six queens I gave for the cells. This put me to studying on some plan whereby such cells could be introduced more successfully. During this time, my friend John Carin, made me a box to carry cells in from one yard to another, which is a simple affair, and made as follows. Make the box five inches deep and six inches long and four inches wide. There is two boards which hang just like the frames in a hive. In each of these boards there are augur holes thirty in number, and a small wire is inserted in each hole. We let the wire project about one half inch on either side of the boards, and the wire is slightly bent, in the shape of a hook on purpose to hang the cells, and it is the best device I ever saw for carrying cells. I find that by hanging a lot of cells in the box and putting about a pint of bees in with them, taking the box off from other bees, then the bees in with the cells will take care of the cells while they are being moved, and I find they nearly all hatch.

It is always necessary to feed bees if no honey is coming in, and especially if they have cells to care for. The success of rearing good queens, which will prove prolific, depends a great deal upon the man-

agement of cells after they are sealed. It is much better to keep a record of cells, and know just about the time they hatch and it is best to leave them alone till about eight or ten hours before the hatch, and then they can always be pretty safely introduced.

In mid summer in my locality, (middle Texas) I find it pretty difficult to successfully introduce cells to weak colonies, unless the cells are almost hatching.

C B. BANKSTON.

Chriesman, Texas.

### GRAFTING QUEEN CELLS.

So many questions have been asked me about grafting queen cells, that I hardly know where to begin first, and as my time is so limited, that I do not have the time to answer as I would wish, as I have four large queen rearing yards to look after now, but I will do the best I can under the circumstances. First, I see a friend wishes to know how he may tell the age of the larva, and the size to use in grafting. Without the trouble of making much of a calculation, I will say that you can put a frame of old comb into your breeder's hive, and note the day you discover eggs, this you can tell by looking in every day. On the morning of the fourth day you can get ready to do your grafting, and the larva will be about right, and you can soon tell the age of the

larva without taking any note of the time the eggs were laid. On the morning of the fourth day after the eggs were laid, if they have been properly handled by the bees, I mean kept warm, and in a good colony, the larva will be about ten to twelve hours old, and will be seen lying in the bottoms of the cells in a half moon shape, in a small portion of almost transparent or milky substance, and as I said before lies in the shape of a new moon, and ought to be about twice the size of the eggs from which they were hatched. I go to my breeders' hive and get the age I wish from a full comb of brood, as I can tell the age just by looking at them. Now, I made many mistakes and bad blunders when I first began grafting cells on my plan, and I wish to keep you out of these troubles as much as I can, lest you become discouraged. After you get on to it nicely you can graft cells about as fast as lifting out frames from a hive, and I can now graft two hundred per hour and not hurry very much. Let the combs you place in the breeders' hive be old enough to have three or more cocoon linings, and when ready get out a piece of the comb containing the larva you wish, shave down the cells with a sharp instrument, (I use a razor) just as low as you can without disturbing the larva, then take your tweezers, (I use watchmakers tweezers) take



hold of the cocoons with the tweezers, and give your hand a little quiver and the cocoon will easily come loose, and you can place it larva and all right into the cells prepared for them and the larva does not get any check in growth, and in fact you might say, does not know it is moved, and if you will be careful you will do it so nicely that the bees will save all of them and you will get the most even lot of cells you ever had.

I believe I have told you before how to dip the cells, and how to prepare the colonies, to rear the cells after they are grafted, also I think I have told you how to place the cells on the combs &c, and how to prepare the nuclei to take the cells, and how to graft in colonies ready to swarm &c., but if any of you have not seen all this, please make it known to me, and I will gladly give it all in full again, as I wish you all to know how to raise your queens by this plan as it is the best I ever saw and I have been rearing queens nearly all my life.

WILLIE ATCHLEY.

LAMAR county Texas, bee keepers have organized a bee keeper's association, and met at Lone Oak, July 20, which is their second meeting. They are taking the right step, and fashioning after the bee keepers of Australia, in having meetings often. Why can't we have meetings more often in southern Texas too?

### Another New Scholar.

MRS. ATCHLEY.—Your May copy of the QUEEN is at hand, and while I could not get in, in time to take a seat with the class in June, you may now seat me on a stool at the foot of the class, and send me the SOUTHLAND QUEEN one year.

F. M. SHICK,

Tours, Texas, June 30, '95.

FRIEND SHICK—I am glad to welcome you to a seat in the class, and while you wish a seat at the foot, I trust you and all the balance may be at the head when school closes. We are here to learn, and let us attend closely, and be prompt, and speak right out, even if it is during books, and let us have such a school as never was heard of, a beekeepers school, and scholars allowed to talk right out during books.

### An Aged Pupil.

MRS. ATCHLEY.—Find money order enclosed \$1.25, send me the SOUTHLAND QUEEN and Dr. Howard's foul brood book. I am quite an old man, nevertheless I wish a seat on the bench. I have kept bees quite awhile, commenced with them fifty years ago in Georgia.

S. F. RAY,  
Cleburne, Texas, July 8, '95.

FRIEND RAY.—Your age does not prohibit you from entering this school, and all ages and sizes are within the bounds of the scholastic age. Some of the best bee keepers we have in our land, began when



old, to keep bees, and found it pleasurable, as well as profitable, and I see you are already an old beekeeper, and this school is for all to learn, and we can learn a great deal from each other, so now come on and tell us something of that fifty years of bee keeping, and I assure you it will be interesting, as well as instructive.

### An Extra Good Paper.

The June number of the SOUTHLAND QUEEN is an extra good paper and deserves a liberal patronage.

J. O. GRIMSLEY.

Otto, Tenn., July 8, '95.

### Large Flow in California.

THE SOUTHLAND QUEEN.—My report for the season of '95 is as follows: The honey crop here is very good, and I will harvest from one hundred and ten colonies spring count, with the increase to one hundred and sixty-six, I averaged one hundred and twenty-seven pounds per colony, spring count, or fourteen thousand pounds comb honey in all, against twelve thousand in '93. Grand balmy weather, no hot days, or dry winds is the secret of the flow evidently. I think I have made a grand success introducing all my queens this year, with the exception likely of one.

B. A. NEF,

Fallbrook, Cal. July 14, '95.

Hurrah for California, and we wish you continued success, both in getting honey and introducing queens.

### From Llano County.

DEAR SOUTHLAND QUEEN.—I am no land agent nor have I any lands to sell, but as some of our bee keeping friends wish to know all about this country as a bee country, I take the liberty of telling them through the QUEEN, as near as I can, what this country is as a bee country, and all I shall say will be for that end. A short description of Llano county is as follows: About one half of this county is mountainous, the other is hills and gentle slopes, and valleys. Some of the mountains are composed of limestone, but most of them are granite. The valleys are sandy, and the timber is post oak, live oak, blackjack, mesquite, and hackberry. The mountains are covered with all kinds of scrubby timber and brush, too numerous to mention. For a bee country, I do not think it can be excelled in the state. I will try and name a few of our honey plants. I will begin with our earliest, and name to the latest. First is called, wind about brush, am not able to give the proper name, which blooms about Feb. 1, water elm, Feb. 15, wild currant, Feb. 20, persimmon, March 10; cats claw blooms all through May, horse mint, May 20; then mesquite begins, and lasts until July, then sumach, August 1. The above dates are about the time the plants come into bloom.

There are a great many weeds that furnish honey in addition to the above, when it is not too dry. The beeweed blooms every time it rains, during the summer and fall. This last named furnishes the finest flavored honey that we have. We have flowers blooming from February 1 to November, if it is not too dry.

In 1894, my honey crop was one hundred and fifty pounds per colony half comb in one pound sections. I divided one colony in '94, and run it for increase artificially, and made eight colonies

from it, and I only gave each division one comb of brood and honey, and one empty comb besides and they built their own combs and filled up for winter. I used a narrow starter on the frames is all. Yes, I forgot to say that I took some honey from them too and weighed the honey I took from one of the eight, which was about an average, and it was one hundred and thirty-three pounds, and left them about forty pounds each for winter. Now, friends, don't think we can do that we'll every year, for we cannot. You see our best honey flows come in the fall, and weak colonies in the spring will build up, and be as strong as any and likely give as much honey, as there is about four months for them to build up in, which will give you some idea, why and how I obtained so much honey from the eight weak divided colonies, that were made in the spring. Friends please do not draw ideas that this is a paradise, for it is not, and it has its drawbacks as well as other mountain countries. We have bad roads, as beekeepers must locate up in the mountains to get the most honey, and for best results. Should any of you get the consent of your mind to come to this country, I would advise you to come and look first, as what suits one person may not please another, and if you come to look, better come in July, as that is our hottest time, and every thing looks most discouraging at that time, and if you are pleased then, you need not fear. If you can stand to bump around over our rocks, and hunt for springs to get a drink in July and not be discouraged, then you are the one we want. Another serious and troublesome drawback is, we have a poor honey market here. Now friends I think you have heard enough of Llano county and the next time I write for THE SOUTHLAND QUEEN, I will tell you how to raise good queens, as I think

more of a good queen, than any other animal, and I have worked harder to that end, than for any thing else. Do not think that I have queens to sell and send me an order, as you would be disappointed, as I have none to spare.

L. L. SKAGGS.

Llano, Texas.

FRIEND SKAGGS.—Your article brings out the points that I have often made, and I am glad that you have put them in the light you have, as it gives the reader a chance to realize how it is done. I have often said that I would not fool with natural swarming, in southern Texas, as we can, if we wish increase, take a strong colony in March, and divide it into eight or more colonies, and provide for each a good queen and they will build up and give a good honey crop. By all means give us your plans how you obtain your queens, as the queen means it all, when it comes to raising honey, we want to know all about their make up, and how to get the best ones. I know you have a good bee country up in the hills of Llano county.

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OUR boys have been taking a lay off this week, and used their time hunting bees, and they have just drove home with their honey. They were out two days, and found two trees, and had a fine time. Some other bee hunters had just hunted the woods over, before them and taken out some thirty odd victims, as they called it, (bee trees.)

### Questions About Queens.

THE JENNIE ATCHLEY Co.—I write to secure THE SOUTHLAND QUEEN, and I would like to know Mrs. Jennie Atchley's opinion, as to the comparative merits of the fivebanded bees, and the leather colored Italians. Also, which she thinks the best bees of all. I am a novice in bee culture and wish to get on the right track to success. You would also oblige me much to give your opinion whether in stocking my apiary, I should secure queens from a northern or southern climate.

W. J. COPELAND, M. D.

Fetzerton, Tenn.

DR.—I think the Italian bees are best, for all general purposes, and to use by the general run of bee keepers, and I would not turn round for choice, if I were going to run for honey, between the five band Italians and the three bands. The best bees for honey, without a single doubt in my mind is the pure genuine Holylands, and they are away ahead at all times and under all circumstances, but tis said that it wont do for every body to have them, as they have the name of being fearful stingers. We find the Holylands here are just as gentle as any bees we have. Your last question, has been thoroughly tested by us for quite awhile. It does not matter where you get your queens, so they are good stock, which means it nearly all. When this thing came up several years ago, that southern raised queens would not winter in the north, and that northern queens would not do

so well in the south &c., we at once set to work to test the matter, and we did so laying aside any and all partiality that might be likely to crop out, and it proved that there is not a whits difference. You see that the inside of a beehive or the nest, is about the same in all countries, the same as the egg under a setting hen are kept at about the same temperature in Minnesota as in Florida, or Texas, and the queens do not ever leave the hives, only when it is warm outside, say at swarming and mating time, and in all countries at such times it is warm. The bees from a queen hatched in any country are natives of that particular clime, just as though the queen was raised there, as they are born there. I received queens from Minnesota, and sent Texas queens there, and one does as well one place as the other, and if I was going to purchase a breeding queen today, and knew of one in Iceland, if it were possible that suited me, I would just as soon have her. Send north or south, east or west, as you please to get your queens, and if you get good stock you are O. K. Others may preach to you that it makes a difference, but mind you look out for where that person lives and what his aim is as I must rehearse there is no difference, and I send north for a queen when I want one from there.

READ the "ads" in this issue.

### Queenless Bees.

THE JENNIE ATCHLEY Co.—I have a colony of bees that are acting very queer. There is a great number at the entrance, and on the front of the hive, running and buzzing, with their wings as though they were hunting for something. They seem to almost take spasms, just like they do when the hive is opened, and run and scatter around faster than they ever move at other times. What does all this mean? Other bees seem to be working right along. Please answer in QUEEN.

A. H. WEBSTER.

Walnut Springs, Texas.

FRIEND WEBSTER.—From your description of your bees they are queenless and I advise you to look into the matter at once, and if found queenless, provide them a queen at once. You can give a frame of brood containing larva of all ages, and they will soon raise themselves a queen, or if you have any queen cells, give them one that is sealed. Their queen may have been out only a short time which is evident. As a rule bees do not mourn the loss of a queen after a few days. If this is the case, they may soon have cells of their own, and you can pinch all off except one, or they perchance might swarm as soon as their first young queen hatches, owing of course to how strong, and how they are gathering honey.

### Proud of the "Queen."

THE JENNIE ATCHLEY COMPANY—Dear Sirs:—The second issue of the SOUTHLAND QUEEN is at hand and it seems that the dear QUEEN has improved from

the very start; what can I do to help you? The QUEEN seems healthy and in good condition, bright and fresh and I am proud of her. W. R. GRAHAM.

Greenville, Texas.

BROTHER GRAHAM.—You can tell us about that great comb honey man of Texas, and how he manages to get that fine section honey we so often saw around Greenville, and this will not only help the QUEEN, but many others.

### Bees Doing Well in New Mexico.

My Bees are doing well this spring. The Italians have had a swarming fever somewhat, as some colonies have sent out two big swarms, also some of the earlier swarms have swarmed again.

L. N. HOAG.

Malaga, New Mexico.

### Another Subscriber.

MRS. ATCHLEY.—Please send me your catalogue, that tells all about queen raising, and THE SOUTHLAND QUEEN. I miss your department in the American Bee Journal very much, and I will like to read your paper. WM. PLYMELL.

Choctaw City, O. T.

THE JENNIE ATCHLEY Co.—Will you please tell me through the QUEEN what the meaning of a mismated queen is? I see such advertised and I would like to know what they are.

A. READER,

Athens, Tenn.

FRIEND READER—What is meant by mis-mated queens, in the advertisements that you read, is queens, bred from pure Italian mothers, or other pure stock, and mated to impure drones, making the bees all sorts of colors, such are termed mis-mated queens. But



to be right about it, a mis-mated queen, is one that is not mated at all, or one that has tried and failed, which makes them mis-mated queens proper, but what we term hybrid, or mis-mated queens are queens reared from pure mothers and mated to black or impure drones.

WE are to soon have a look at the home of the honey bees of Medina, Ohio, and its additions, and improvements. Hurrah for the home of the honey bees, where will the Roots stop at? So we will watch "Gleanings" closely for that photo.

#### **Comb and Extracted Honey.**

Which will pay best in the south, comb or extracted honey? I have noticed that the honey flows are too slow and gradual, and the bees get the combs travel stained before the sections are finished. So I have come to the conclusion that it will not pay to raise comb honey, and will run all my bees for extracted, or principally so next year. What does Mrs. Atchley think about it?

E. L. CARRINGTON.

Pettus, Texas.

FRIEND CARRINGTON:—I hardly know what to say, as I am not prepared to tell which will pay best, but I am sure that our honey flows do not always come as slow and gradual every year as they have this. I know that it is less trouble and less expense to take care of extracted honey, and even if we get less for it, we may realize as much in the end, as we can I believe as a rule get one third more

extracted honey, then we can go from yard to yard and take the honey, put it up in cans, and pile it up under a tree, and go ahead and it will be all right, especially if we use screw top cans. It is hard to keep comb honey any length of time, as the ants are bad and the combs become soft and very tender and to handle it without damaging it is a difficulty, and take it all in all, I kind o think you are right, that it will pay better to raise extracted honey. I will be glad to hear from others on this subject that live in the south, and lets see if we are correct in our views in this matter. I am led to believe a little bit too, that it depends on the season, as well as the taste of the person raising the honey. I think that nice sections will be more ready sale, at the start at least, as its looks make it sell. When people are once educated in regard to honey, and find that they can get pure extracted honey, then, they will buy it in preference to comb honey. The thing to be done and most closely observed, is not to extract your honey until it is ripe. A good honey market can be quickly run down, by putting raw or unripe extracted honey upon the tables of customers. It is best to always let the combs be sealed at least two thirds down, and I must admit that all the way down is better, but a narrow strip at bottom will not do any particular hurt.

### How to Make Bee-Keeping Pay.

For The Southland Queen.

Beekeeping is like every other pursuit, to make it pay, advantage must be taken of all the improvements, and discoveries of the present times.

That moveable frame hives must be used, is an absolute necessity. Then there must be a locality where honey is found. Most places will, with care and intelligence, be made to pay something; to make it pay in any locality, we must observe the following rules:

1st. Go to as little outlay as possible of money for fixtures. Frequently expensive fixtures are bought that really are of no practical use, such as expensive veils, expensive feeders, and a dozen other fancy articles of no practical utility, consuming the profits. Expended only what is absolutely necessary for fixtures.

2nd. Some literature that will give all the improvements up to date, is necessary. The experience of successful bee men, that have always made the business a success, is a necessity, and will largely aid in securing a profit in the business.

3d. Get the best strains of bees, the Italians, all things considered, are admitted to be the best up to date. I do not go so much on color, or on the five bands, as on the working qualities.

4th. Have good young prolific queens. Everything depends on the queen. A prolific queen, producing good and gentle workers is a necessity.

5th. Be familiar with every hive, but do not open too often, or handle too much.

I have given these particulars, principally for young beginners, or those having little experience. Many rush into the business without experience, expecting to make a fortune in a year. You may set it down as a fixed fact, in this, as in everything in life, that you can never get something for nothing.

The bee business, managed with energy and intelligence, will pay a moderate income; it has been injured by making exaggerated reports, and exciting false expectations.

I may give you for a future number some articles on the best mode of increase, the time to put on the supers, or whether to work for comb or extracted honey, &c. W. K. MARSHAL.

We will hail with delight that article on the best mode of increase, or any other subject you may name.

### Bees Doing Well at Abilene.

Bees are doing well, and gathering some honey from cactus, honeysuckles and mesquite will soon be in bloom. The bees seem to be breeding slowly, but I hope they will come along all right. We are having rain now every day, but the sun shines some and the bees fly. F. C. D. ROBERTS.

Abilene, Texas.

WE wish we were able to write each of you a long personal letter, that has given us so much encouragement, and for the many kind words you have sent us, but, we cannot consistently do so, and ask you to please accept this just as though it was personal, and trust it may show you how much we appreciate such things. If you do not see your questions answered in the first issue after you send them in, please bear with us as we are not able to use this time one fourth the matter we have, and it is all good too. We want to hear from you all, and we will manage to get around to you in some future number.



# SOUTHERN TEXAS.

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The Texas Coast Country is fast filling up with a thrifty class of people. Fine lands in high, rolling, healthy, localities. Large bodies of improved lands at \$2 per acre. Small farm tracts at \$5 and up. Printed matter free.

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**T. J. Skaggs Real Estate Co.,**

BEVILLE, TEXAS.

## RECOMMENDS ITSELF.

Our Foundation needs no recommendation among those who have used it, and as it is given up to be superior to all makes we only ask a trial order, which will give you a chance to become a customer. Honey, beeswax, veils, Langstroth on the honey bee and general beekeeper's supplies.

Write for catalogue. Chas. Dadant & Son,  
Hamilton, Ill.

## Queens.

Untested 55c each, \$6 per dozen. About eleven out of every dozen will make fine tested queens, and for gentleness and industry we defy the world to beat them. Safe delivery. Money order office at Decatur, Miss.

Cleveland Bros., Stamper, Miss.

## Fifty Cents

Will buy an untested queen from J. W. K. Shaw & Co. Tested, 90c; \$10 per dozen. Queens are carefully reared from fine imported, and home-bred stock. Satisfaction guaranteed. Only give us a trial.

J. W. K. Shaw, & Co., Loreauville, La.

## Warranted Queens.

I propose to sell warranted Italian queens at \$1 each or six for \$5, and tested queens after June 1st for the same price. Try my stock and see what fine queens I send you.

Reference: Jennie Atchley. **W. H. Pridgen,**  
Creek, N. C.

## 200 COLONIES.

I have 200 colonies of bees in my charge, all in 8 framed hives, all upright, at \$4 each or \$3.50 per colony for the whole lot. Who wants them? Jennie Atchley, Beeville, Texas.

## J. N. COLORICK

Will send a good tested Italian Queen for \$1.25, six for \$7, or a Fine Breeder for \$2. Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Norse, Texas.

## Promptly Mailed.

Untested queens in the golden or leather colored at 75 cents each, three for \$2. Tested, \$1 each, 6 for \$5. My custom grows every year and my queens give satisfaction. I send queens to the leading bee-keepers by 50 and 100 lots. Safe arrival on all queens. Try my beauties.

W. H. Laws, Lavaca, Sebastro Co., Ark.

## GOLDEN BEAUTIES

And 3-Banded Italian, also Silver-Gray Carniolan Queens.

Reared in separate yards. Italians warranted purely mated, all at same price. Untested, 75c each; 5 or over, 10 per cent off. Tested Italian, \$1. Write for catalogue of bee-keepers supplies.

**C. B. BANKSTON,** Chriesman,  
Burlison Co., Tex.

## HONEY...

Send Your Honey to Lillenthall & Grant, 107 Main Street, Houston, Texas. They will insure you quick returns and general satisfaction.

**Raising Queens in the Upper Story.**

Mrs. ATCHLEY.—I think you promised to tell us how to raise queens in the upper story, and have the old queen in the lower story laying at the same time. I have been waiting and watching for this for a long time and as yet failed to see it. Will you please to tell us through your paper, THE SOUTHLAND QUEEN, how to do this, and greatly oblige us?  
PHILIP SMITH.

Williamsburg, Kansas.

FRIEND SMITH.—I will now tell you how to raise queens in the upper story and at the same time have the old queen in the lower story laying right along. First I will say that this cannot be done very well unless your bees are getting honey, or when you have a honey flow on, as the bees are not disposed to rear queens unless they are queenless or when honey is coming in plentifully. When your hives are crowded with bees below, put on an upper story, and raise with adhering bee, two brood combs from below, but be sure you keep the old queen below, replace the space below with combs or frames filled with foundation, and soon you will see that the bees will start to building above, and then you can dip up a lot of cells, as per instructions, which we have given in this paper, and will give again if necessary. We have started this paper to accommodate the people, and when you want to learn anything about bees, queen rearing, or honey raising, or in fact anything else about bees, just

make it known and we will take pleasure in telling you all about it.

When you get your cells started above, you must keep a record and move the cells out one day before they hatch and you must keep the old queen shut off from above by a queen excluder and you may then raise cells all the season up stairs, and get good cells too, and it is a good way where you only wish a few cells, but for cells on a large scale you will need to follow our instructions given in our catalogue we mail free. Mind you, the bees sometimes fail to start cells above at all, while they have a queen below, but in the majority of cases we get them to build cells when we have things right for it. There is no secret about it that I know of, only get your bees in good shape, and cut the queen off from above with a queen excluding honey board, and the bees that are above, so far from the queen seem to think that they need a queen and go to work to make queen cells. When you get everything ready, go to your breeders hive and get you some brood, say about one day old larva and have your cells all ready, and graft in the cell cups, and place them on the combs and the bees will finish them out. Count your cells to hatch eleven days after you do the grafting, and move them out to nuclei prepared to receive them, on the tenth day. Better

have the nuclei made three days before you wish to move the cells, and then you will be sure to get the cells received all right. You can get queen cells built behind division boards on the same principal, as you see the division board cuts off communication from the queen, as well or a little better than the up stairs plan, and you can put two or three frames of bees and brood over behind a division board, place in your cells as same as for the upper story plan and get queens just the same.

#### Seeking Information.

MRS. ATCHLEY—As a favor will you please answer me a few questions, as I have more faith in the views of a practical woman than in books. First, I live on a farm, the land is poor, the crops uncertain. The insects swarmed last year and destroyed most of what crops we had. I bought a few hives of bees, miserable old things they were, and paid high for them, thinking they would help me to earn a living. I have lived here all alone for five years, during that time there was once honey enough to pay first cost of hives. I know little that should be known of bees, and I have but little time and my experience is that it has been just so much money thrown away. There are so few flowers, and but little clover for two years. I paid a man to come and clean up the bees and he cut out old empty black combs, and after he left one colony died out. Yet, this man's father was a bee raiser before him. I can handle bees well, and am not afraid of them. This March two more colonies died. Now, what I wish to know is, is it foul brood when a hive smells

sour? If you will give a few moments thought I will feel greatly obliged, and tell me as nearly as you well can, what I had better do.

MISS PARROTT,

Meaden Station, Va.

MISS PARROTT—I will do what I can for you, but right at the start I will say that if you are located where there are but few flowers and nothing for the bees to work upon, as indicated, you had better move out to better range or give up bee keeping. It may be that you have a better bee country than I think, and likely it is the management of the bees that is at fault. The man that cleaned up your bees and left and one died, is no evidence that he was no bee man, as the bees may have starved to death, and of course he could not help that.

Now I will advise you to go to work and provide the bees with plenty of stores for winter and see that they have plenty till honey comes next spring, study the blooming time of the plants that give your honey flows and try and have your bees up in good shape, with hives full of bees at the time of the blooming of such plants, put on your surplus arrangements, and then let me know how they do, and I will tell you whether it will do to keep bees there or not. Of course you may have a bad year &c., in which case you must make due allowance.

No it is not foul brood when the hives smell sour, as foul brood has

quite a different smell to that, I am sure your hives have no foul brood, but need farming differently, and I believe you will get some honey to pay their way. If you will read this paper one year, and take a seat in our school, I am sure you will be well repaid for the dollar, as I am now running a school for beginners and will be glad to welcome you in.

Some parts of your state are good for bees, and I am inclined to think when you get your bees up in good shape, and understand your bees and honey plants better, you will get quite a lot of honey each year. Suppose you try it for next year, and see what you can do, and all along through the season, and at any time from now on you can ask questions and I will answer them through this paper, and thereby help others at the same time I am helping you, and then give me a report of how you get along at the close of the season.

#### Best Mode of Increasing Bees.

For the Southland Queen.

It will be admitted on all hands, all things considered, that natural swarming is the best mode of increase. We can never improve on natural instinct of the bee and whenever we run counter to this, we do a positive injury. The nearer we can work in accordance with this, the surer and greater the success. In natural swarming there may be too large an increase. I think there is a positive loss, when there is more than one swarm from a hive. So I would have them swarm but once, if I could

help it. What is the best mode of preventing after swarms? That there is difficulty in this, every one who has tried it, will admit. I have tried this mode with some success. If a queen is hatched out take away all the queen cells but one, and remove the old stand to a new stand, and place the new swarm on the old stand. If no queen is hatched out, destroy all the queen cells but one. Most of the old bees will go back to the old stand, and the young bees will hardly swarm.

Sometimes we want to increase when the bees do not swarm, or we want a larger increase, than we would get by natural swarming. Then what is the best time and the best mode? The best time always is when there is a honey flow, and there is likely to be failures at any other time. Queens, or at least queen cells, should be provided before you divide. Remove the old stand from the old place, and place a new hive on the old stand, and take half the frames, with honey and brood, from the old hive and give to the new, and give them a queen, or if you have no queen, after twenty-four hours give them a queen cell. If you have no queens or queen cells, if they have young larva, or eggs, they will make a queen.

If a larger increase is desired, the best mode is to make nucleus, and give each a queen or in the absence of a queen, queen cells.

I am experimenting this year, in making ten swarms from one, to see if there is any money in it. It is not the number of swarms we have, or the amount of increase, that marks our success, or the amount of profit. Many persons think, that the more swarms they have the greater the profit. This is a big mistake, and may indicate the very opposite of success.

There are other modes of increase, but



it is hardly advisable to recommend beginners to try them. I would say to beginners, go slow.

I may give you an article on honey, how to secure the largest amount, and when and how to market.

W. K. MARSHALL.

Marshall, Texas, July 24, '95.

### Kind Words.

THE JENNIE ATCHLEY Co.—The sample copy of THE SOUTHLAND QUEEN is at hand and read with great interest. We send you \$1.00 for a years subscription, and wish to join your class, as we like your beekeeping school very much, and as soon as we get a little more time will put forth a great many questions.

J. W. GREGG.

Gazelle, Cal.

All right, friend G., come on with your questions, as we will try and be ready to answer them all, and won't we soon have a fine school?

### As to Pollen.

THE JENNIE ATCHLEY Co.—Friends, I have been somewhat perplexed over a new feature, (to me) in the bee business. My bees are coming in heavily loaded with pollen, but seem to drop a great deal of it after entering the hives. Is there anything wrong with them, and what causes them to act thus?

G. W. WILSON.

Hylton, Texas.

FRIEND WILSON.—There is nothing wrong, as the pollen your bees are gathering is rather dry, and the bees load heavily, and as they crawl about through the other bees and against the hives it knocks the pollen off and it falls down. It is said that all pollen bearing plants yield some little

honey, but in some instances there is not enough honey in the pollen to hold it together.

### Outlook in Ohio Good.

The outlook in this part of the country is good for our pets this year. I hope you will test one of my feeders and report.

J. A. GOLDEN,

Reinersville, Ohio.

FRIEND GOLDEN.—The first opportunity I have, I am going to test your feeder as I am led to believe it is a good one.

### Which is Wrong?

I want to tell you all about a big bee man here, he does not know the first lessons in real beekeeping. He says the drones help the queens lay the eggs, and that the bees cannot raise a queen only from a queen egg, and that a worker egg will not make a queen. I think he is very foolish talking that way.

EDWIN COOK.

Take a second thought Bro. Cook and see if your big bee man is not right.

### Bees Doing Well in Indiana.

Bees are doing fine, and working nicely, and they have fine looking queens indeed. I will take your paper.

JAS. A. MINICK.

Anderson, Ind.

### No Honey in North Texas this Year.

THE JENNIE ANCHLEY Co.—We have no honey as yet in this locality.

J. D. GIVENS.

Lisbon, Texas.

We have had no honey yet in this neighborhood, and we have had to feed considerable to keep our bees going.

W. R. GRAHAM.

Greenville, Texas, July 10, '95.

### As to Sheds for Bees.

THE JENNIE ATCHLEY Co.,—Find \$1.00 for THE SOUTHLAND QUEEN; the dear lady is loved and appreciated by all to whom I show her to, and I will be able in the near future to send you quite a number of subscribers. There is a neighbor of mine near me that wishes to know if his bees will do better out in the sun, as he has had them under a shed for several years, and they have not gathered him any honey. This subject I send is from a friend.

G. G. BARKER,

Yalaha, Fla. July 10, '95.

FRIEND BARKER.—We are glad to learn that the QUEEN is appreciated, and we trust that we may be able to improve her 'till she reaches the top. As to your neighbor's bees gathering more honey out in the sun, will say that it may not make much difference, after the warm weather comes, but it is best to have bees out in the sun or where the hives are exposed to the sun in the spring of the year, as it enables them to build up faster and likely this would enable his bees to be stronger, at the time of his honey flows, and of course gather more honey. We like our bees to be in the sun in the spring of the year, and shade in the hottest of summer. We now use a cover, that we call the ventilated cover, that enables us to leave our bees out in the sun the year round. Read the hive department of this paper, and where we give the improvements, as they come up, and you will see a description of the

ventilated covers as we now make them.

### Omit the Wintering Problems.

THE JENNIE ATCHLEY Co.—Here is my dollar, send me the QUEEN one year beginning with the first issue. This is sure enough a long felt want for southern beekeepers, and I for one hope that the wintering problems will in a measure, be omitted. Surely, our northern journals give us a plenty of that kind of reading.

F. S. POND,

Riverside, Cal., July 4, '95.

Yes, if the beekeepers of our sunny clime ever needed anything to help them along, and to assist in keeping thoroughly posted on bees &c., they need a bee paper, and we will by the help of such beekeepers try and make the queen fill that want.

### Warning.

The good book says an honest confession is good for the soul. So in all avocations of life, no matter what the pursuit may be, in all industries that was ever invented by men, or humanity, there are necessarily starting points. So there was once a leap in the dark with me in the bee business. Fearing some one beginning in the bee business may make the same mistake I made, I will give a word of warning, which may do them several dollars worth of good and keep them from becoming discouraged. Last spring, when I bought my framed hives, Mr. C. B. Bankston, who is now the annex to the great apiaries of the Jennie Atchley Co., told me he would come over and help me transfer my bees from the old boxes to my new framed hives. He did not come for several days, so I went to work and did



the work alone. The next day sure enough he came, and he at once discovered that if he had not come at this critical time I would have lost my bees. I took out all the old combs, and tied them in the frames, one comb of brood, and honey and one empty, and so on, as there was not combs to fill the brood nests and supers both, I put half in the top and half in the brood nest, with empty frames between them all, thinking the bees would build combs better with a comb on each side. He went to work at once to adjust the mistake by placing all the brood and combs in the brood nests. In a few days afterward there came a very cold snap, and then you see I would have lost all my bees or brood as there was not bees enough in the hives to fill both stories. I have always been very careful to have my brood nests full after that, before I allowed the bees to go above at all. I want to ask one question, why is it that it takes a worker twenty-one days to hatch, when it only takes a queen sixteen?

F. A. ARNOLD,

Hookerville, Texas.

FRIEND ARNOLD.—Your mistake was the same that many make, and it seems we must have some such sad failures, before we are fitted to make a start. If I had been able when I first started in the bee business to run to a neighbor for information, every time I got tangled, I would have been much better off, and would have gotten along much faster, but, when I started there was no books that I knew of, and I tell you I would have made money to have got Langstroth's book on bees for fifty dollars. I suppose the rea-

son that a queen hatches about five days first from the egg is, she is much higher, or more plentifully fed. The queen has an abundance of food, and some left, and we cannot see where a worker gets any food after it is sealed up, and they have but little when the door is shut over them, and they mature slower, which I suppose nature has arranged to make the workers undeveloped, and hardy for the duty assigned to them, honey gathering. The queen being reared from the same kind of an egg, has plenty of food, and a large roomy cell, which allows her to fully develop, and grow faster, and also gives her the power of taking up the duty of mating, when the workers do not have such power.

#### Thinks it a Wise Move.

I believe you made a wise move when you started THE SOUTHLAND QUEEN, as we need a bee journal in the south, and I feel that success is yours. Here is my subscription.

DR. W. M. STELL.

Jesus Maria, Mexico.

SOME want to know why we do not have something printed on the backs of our paper. Well, we print the covers separate, and it would be a great deal harder, to set up the type every time. We will in the near future, have the backs, as well as other parts of the paper improved, as we will soon have a nice lot of new cuts ready for the purpose of illustrating the QUEEN.

### News from California.

MRS. ATCHLEY:—I might give you some items on our county and wild bees. I have been at Honey Grove, Texas, where it was said that 300 bee trees were cut in one grove, but I will venture that I can beat that story and tell the truth too. I know of one mush oak (they look very much like the post oak of Texas) that has five strong swarms in it; know of several that have two and three each in them. All over the hills are scattering oaks, and you can find bee trees in any direction you go around Lower Lake. I cut over 80 bee trees and never went over two miles from town. The lake is 30 miles long, east and west, and one to eight miles wide. The town of Lower Lake is at the east end of the lake, and the town of Upper Lake is at the west end; and Lakeport, 10 miles south of Upper Lake is the county seat of Lake county. The lands in the valleys, which are small, are the very richest of lands, produce the finest of alfalfa, corn, pumpkins, vegetables and fruit of almost all kinds, including figs and oranges. There are a great variety of honey producing plants. The hills for miles are covered with scrub brush, oaks, pine and fir, 10 miles back the red wood is abundant. There is not a month in the year but the bees can get stores, and they seldom stop brood-rearing the whole year. Some of the trees are very rich with honey of good quality. In the hills the honey is all good, but in the big valley near Lakeport the honey is bad on account of tar weed and wild tobacco. I am now taking off as fine section honey as can be produced any where, Los Angeles nor San Diego not excepted. Our bees seem to be very healthy. There are no large apiaries here as there has never been any one in this section who thoroughly understood handling bees. Of course I don't know for certain how

they will do, but so far I have received considerable encouragement. I don't know much, but will try and learn. The people here never valued bees, but since I have been putting honey in the market they have begun to open their eyes. One thing I will say on the size of brood boxes is, that out of all the trees and old box hives of all sizes I have never found more brood than enough to fill six Hoffman frames. So 8 frames must be near the right size to give the queens laying room.

If at any time you wish an item I will do what I can to help you. I will occasionally report how things are progressing. I am beginning to think I can build up a trade here, judging from the inquiry for hives and supplies. Of course we are away back from the railroad, some 20 miles, but we have the finest wagon roads and the finest climate in the world; nights always cool, a little inclined to frost easy. The thermometer has not been below 30 in a year. Just now planting corn. Corn is never planted here until the rains stop. From 50 to 60 bushels per acre is an average yield, and that without a drop of rain after it is planted.

I wish you would please send me one of those cell sticks and tell me how to dip. I will send my subscription and "ad" in soon. I will want some of those mailing cards such as come on your mailing cages. I suppose you can print them as you are publishing a journal. What will they cost per hundred. I have lots of southern blood in me yet, and I love southern pluck. My best wishes are for your success and happiness.

G. P. SHIRES.

Upper Lake, Lake county, Cal.

FRIEND S.—We would be glad to take a peep at your great country, and may some day make you a visit. Yes, that big bee tree

story gave the town of Honey Grove its name. We send you a cell stick, and you can dip it in melted wax, shallow at first, going a little deeper each time, say six or seven times, the last time going up to the mark. First dip stick into water and then in the melted wax, then the water, and when done take hold of cell with left fingers and the stick with the right and twirl the stick and the cell cup will easily come off. Of course send in your items.

### Interesting Bee Notes.

DEAR FRIENDS.—To say that I am pleased with THE SOUTHLAND QUEEN, expresses my thoughts very mildly, but as my mind is on the Carniolan bees, I want to give a little of my experience. I began fifteen months ago with nine colonies of "brown" bees in box hives. I made hives and transferred—comb and all—early in the spring and on May 20, introduced a Carniolan queen I purchased of A. L. Lindley, an Indiana breeder. During the summer I requeened, and by close watching and more from accident, I suppose, succeeded in getting all but two of my young queens purely mated and one of them in particular is an extraordinary fine one. One reason I suppose for my success in mating was that very few brown drones were raised in this community last year, and my Lindley queen raising me a great number gave me good advantage.

We had no swarms last year until September, when we had two good ones, but in August, we divided three colonies and introduced Italian queens. We went into winter quarters with fourteen and came out in the spring with thir-

teen. This summer I have been killing out all inferior queens and selling some queens and have been requeening up to this time from the fine queen I raised, and if she was mated to a drone from her parent colony, I am bound to say her queens are the largest I ever saw. Right here let me ask, are extra large queens better than medium sized ones? Now, here is an abstract of notes from the two strains of bees, Italian and Carniolan.

Pure Italians and Italian hybrids show three yellow bands, hybrids very cross, but good workers, storing too much in lower story.

Carniolans, larger than Italians, and most of them show from one to three copper bands. Even the hybrids are very different from our common brown bees. Carniolans store but little honey in the lower story, except a strip along the top bars.

We find Carniolans superior to Italians in every respect, except as to color, but according to my notion, Carniolans are as pretty as any of them. We now have thirty-eight colonies in good shape, all in eight frame hives except one, a ten frame. I make my own hives and use either sections or shallow frames in the upper story. I feel confident that all who give the Carniolans an unprejudiced trial, will like them best of all, and never get into your heads that they are hard to distinguish from the common brown bee, for they are very different.

Speaking of brown bees makes me think of one of our countrymen who has a strain of brown bees as gentle as Carniolans, and very large, and are superior to nearly anything I ever saw for money. They are the finest I ever saw. In my notes I speak of Italian hybrids having three bands and some may dispute my word, thinking me mistaken, but I had some Italian queens which

I know were mated to brown drones and they produced uniformly marked three banded workers. Now, how can we tell an Italian hybrid from a pure Italian?

My letter is now longer than I intended. Wishing you success I am your friend,  
J. O. GRIMSLEY.  
Otto, Texas.

FRIEND GRIMSLEY:—We are glad to note your success. Large queens are always the best. We prefer queens of medium size but slender or long bodied. Still, the large queens are preferred by many Italian Hybrids, or rather a mongrel race, are almost as purely marked as pure Italians and can be distinguished easier by their actions than any other way. Italian queens mated to pure black drones never give all 3 band bees, but if mated to a part Italian drone they may all be 3 banded.

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### Bee Exterminator.

For The Southland Queen.

Away up here in western Texas we have bees that are kept on different plans, very few being kept on the modern system. Some are kept on what I term bee exterminators, as a rule their bees are kept in a box made of pine plank about 12 or 14 inches wide and length all the way from 2 to 4 feet high, just owing to the length the plank will cut that they chance to find lying around. They put the poor bees in this horrible home and then rob them every time they are found with any honey and as a consequence those bees are veritable robbers and must live off their neighbors until they are exterminated by starvation and better kept bees. Now these ancient beekeepers claim that bees to do well must be set in a

peach orchard and face the south as a bee flies no other direction on leaving the hive and the whole colony is ruled by a king bee and the idea of a queen bee is all folly, that his father has had bees always and knows more about bees than any of those bee journal folks. His bees gather comb from bloom of some kind and they only get this article about three months in the year. They also claim that it is necessary to let weeds grow around the hives to keep the bees tame, also that they have honey to eat when those frame hive people have none. To this I agree, for I find when they have honey to eat, my bees are busy killing their robber bees that need the honey they are eating. I hope some of the readers of THE QUEEN will suggest some plan that can be used to exterminate those bee exterminators.

Bee keeping in this part of the country would be much more pleasant and profitable if those people could be induced to change their tactics.

This is a hard year on bees so far, in this section, they have been eating the peaches very much to which considerable friendly complaint has been made to us. We tell our neighbors that if they are certain that our bees eat their peaches, we will try to keep them away, of course we know our bees would eat our own peaches instead of going to our neighbors. I admire our California friends statement in regard to his correction to the honey crop in that country. Of course those extravagant reports when false would have a tendency to lower the price of honey. Honey producers should use every honorable means to hold up the price of their product as there is no rapid fortune in it for the producer as is the case with other farm products.

Us bee people in this part will have to buy our honey this year, unless an



unexpected flow comes and I am watching to see who will advertise honey for sale in the QUEEN. I could handle honey for some bee man, here I think, to advantage if he could not find a market where he lives; hope to hear from some one.

Will some one tell us what he knows about honey and pollen in the cotton bloom, and if any honey, what quality?

A. H. WEBSTER.

Walnut Springs, Texas.

### Just What Was Needed.

THE JENNIE ATCHLEY Co.—The sample copies of SOUTHLAND QUEEN at hand and I must say that it is just what we have been needing for so long a time; I like THE QUEEN splendid, and will work for her at our convention, which has been put off 'till August 9, on account of primary conventions.

W. T. LEWIS.

Matson, Miss.

### Notice.

The beekeepers of Marshall Co., Mississippi, meet in convention on August 9, at Lewisburg, railroad station, Olive Branch. Any information concerning same, will be given by W. T. Lewis, of Watson, Miss.. A full report of the meeting will appear soon in this paper. They meet for the purpose of organizing an association for DeSota and Marshal counties, every body invited. This is another step in the right direction, and we hope all states and counties will soon follow suit.

DR. MARSHALL, whose interesting and instructive articles appear in this issue, is the oldest beekeeper in Texas.

## Hive Department.

THE JENNIE ATCHLEY Co.—I would like to have some advice now, as to how to put gable covers together, also what holds the top story on to the hives? It appears to me that the hard winds we have out here would blow the top story off from the other one if there was not some way to keep it on.

W. SCARBOROUGH.

Sanco, Texas.

FRIEND S.—If it is the ventilated covers you mean, we will say they are just a little complicated and mean to make, until one gets a nack of it. The thin pieces and those you will find a little shorter than the top boards, go into the grooves of the gable pieces, and are flat when on the hives, then the thicker pieces are nailed on top, and are a little open at top, these project over the ends a little, and then last the ridge board goes on top, and is nailed on fast. This will give you a ventilated cover, and is the best cover we ever saw for this hot climate. No, there is nothing to be used to keep the upper stories on the hives as the bees soon do that part for us, and it will be necessary to use a chisel, or other tool to pry the top story off. We too, thought that the upper stories would blow off, but soon found years ago that it was not necessary to have anything to prevent their blowing off.

What kind of hives are best for

the south? Is asked by a reader. This is a plan that we have been working on for some time, and we have been using this season, with good success, a V shaped hive for the bottom hive, or what might be the hive stand, or cleaner. This part of the hive has frames, made also V shaped, and the large part of the V is turned up, of frame and hive, no bottom boards, or bottom bars to the frames. There is no accumulation of any kind that gathers, and no place is left for Mother Moth to build her nest, and then it does not require so much attention to keep the hives clean, and to look after the moths. The hives we use take ten frames, and take regular ten framed Langstroth super, and I tell you they work to a T. We can use the regular goods on these hives, either for extracting or for comb honey. You may not be favorably impressed with this hive till you give it a good look, as it seems to stray off from the regular size of hives in the wrong direction, but, I tell you that we must of a necessity have something in this warm climate to keep the moths out, or we will often find our bees ruined, as we have many times done.

MRS. ATCHLEY—Will you please tell me what killed my bees? By the smell I take it to be a diarrhea but the combs are a gray color, and there is about fifty pounds of honey in the hives. Would you advise me to put bees in the

same hives, or would it be best to use new hives? Had I better destroy the combs?

A. WARFED.

Peshtigo, Wis.

FRIEND W.—It is a little hard for me to tell you what to do unless I knew a little more of the circumstances. It seems that you are familiar with the diarrhea, and if that is what is the matter with your bees, I would not put them back into their hives, but give to them clean hives and new clean combs. I would not destroy the combs but I would extract the honey and wash out the combs, and hang them up to dry, and when they are thoroughly dry I would use them again. To wash such combs, fill the extractor about half full of water, and put the combs in, and keep them held firm down in the water so that you can turn the extractor and you can wash every bit of honey out of them. Then, you can pour the water out of the extractor when you are done washing the combs, and immediately put the combs back into the extractor, and throw all the water out, and by turning a little rapid you can almost dry the combs, then hang them up to dry, and use them when you get ready. This is some work I know, but if you are short on combs, it will be destroying them.

Dr. Howard's foul brood book can be had at this office, price, post paid, 25 cents.



# Notice!

Jennie Atchley Co's. Queens may be had at the Crescent Apiary, corner Depot and Rose streets, Seattle, Washington, at the Atchley prices

**C. M. Rivers & Sons.**

## Mississippi Hive Factory.

Your orders solicited on hives and supplies; 5 per cent discount till Dec. 1st, Roots dove-tailed hives, at Roots prices. Frames with slotted comb, guides and thick top bars. Dixie hives at 10 per cent less than Roots prices on dove-tailed hives. Patronize home enterprise. (Money order office, Byhalia.)

**W. T. Lewis, Watson, Miss.**

## Italian Queens for Sale.

If you want good queens in every respect send me your orders. Warranted Italian queens, 75 cents each; tested, \$1; select tested, \$1.50; breeders—the very best—\$2 each. Also bees nuclei, or full colonies. Safe arrival and satisfaction guaranteed. Correspondence solicited.  
**A. P. Lake, Batesburg, S. C.**

# Do You

Want to Buy Honey?

If so write at once to **W. D. Bunting**, Uvalde, Texas. He has a fine crop of both comb and extracted honey.

MARK OUR prediction, and see if two years pass till this country will be sending out honey by the car load, to northern markets, by the time our northern bee friends get their bees out of the cellars. Still, they may beat us raising honey, but if they do it will be our own fault and not the fault of the country.

WE have been trying the Carniolan bees, Holylands, imported Italians, and Five-bands side by side and under exactly the same conditions, the Carniolans will not stay in their hives long enough to build a super of honey, but fearful breeders, and have to watch them very close to keep them from swarming. We do not think that they will do for the south, but likely they are good for the north. The imported Italians and Five-bands are just about the same, and both give good results, but the Holylands, as we knew long before, lead anything in the yards, and will always do it, as they are the best honey gatherers we ever expect to see.

WE are having it pretty hot just now, 102 in the shade at noonday, July 15th, and every day is alike, pure sunshine all day, and one can work out of doors all the time without feeling uncomfortable, as we have a gentle sea breeze that tempers the air.

THE Nebraska Queen, a lively bee and horticultural journal published by that enterprising beeman, L. L. Alspaugh, Auburn Neb., comes marked X. Glad to X with you sister Queen.

A. O. PACKARD, recently of Longview, Texas, but now of Iowa, spent one week of this month in this section. He was well pleased with the country.