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Rocky Mountain Bee Journal

*****Boulder, Colorado.*****

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

Price 50c per year.



H. C. MOREHOUSE,
Editor & Publisher.

MARCH 15,
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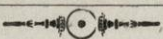
Volume Three.

Number Two.



Whole Number,
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FRANK RAUCHFUSS, MGR.,

1440 Market St., DENVER, COLORADO.

The ROCKY MOUNTAIN BEE JOURNAL.

BOULDER, COLORADO, MARCH 15, 1903.

CONTROL OF SWARMING AT OUT APIARIES



*It May be Accomplished by the Scientific Application of Well
Known Facts in Relation Thereto.*

BY OREL L. HERSHISER.

There are various "hopeful fields" for the apiarist, some of which are esteemed by their advocates to be "The Most Hopeful Field." A "field" that appears to the writer entitled at least to be classified as "hopeful," is the quest of knowledge as to a rational system for the control of the swarming propensities of bees, in such manner as not to diminish, but increase, the honey crop. Particularly is such a consummation desired by the specialist, to whom the expense account in the management of his out apiaries is the item which determines the success or failure of the enterprise.

If swarming can be brought under practical control without any diminution of the honey crop, and by such routine labor as can be conveniently arranged for, a long step in advance in the science of apiculture will have been taken, which will lessen, to a great degree, the uncer-

tainties of success with out apiaries, especially those that are run for comb honey. Are we not in possession of sufficient knowledge of the habits and natural instincts of bees, which, if properly classified and used, will eliminate their desire to swarm? With our present knowledge cannot we perform the swarming function, to all intents and purposes, and in just the manner that will give the greatest and surest returns in honey and the control of increase?

It has been repeatedly alleged that a colony with a young queen will not swarm during the season in which she is reared. Apiarists, whose careful observations entitle their statements to belief, inform us that the colony is safe from swarming only where the queen is reared therein and is of its current season's breeding, and that introducing a young queen, of the current season's rearing, to

EXTRA--Late in the afternoon of Friday, March 20, the Pure Honey bill passed the lower house on second reading, without opposition.

a strong colony, offers no safeguard against its swarming. If this is not an absolute certainty, it seems fair to assume, in view of the statements by experts on these points, that the likelihood of a natural swarm issuing from a colony that has reared a young queen during its current season, prior to swarming time, is quite remote.

Again, swarming is usually defeated, but perhaps with less certainty than by the above method, if the colony is "shook" from its combs and lived on starters on the old stand: and not only is swarming defeated, but, in the hands of the careful and skillful apiarist, an increased amount of the finest comb honey is produced.

Further, it is well known that colonies build up in strength and numbers with greater rapidity if a second brood chamber is added as soon in the spring as the weather conditions and the strength of the colony will permit, giving the queen access to all the brood combs; and that colonies so treated enter the sections readily when the super is substituted for the upper section of the enlarged brood chamber.

Here we have the fragmentary knowledge necessary, if comprehensively used, for the evolving of a perfect controlling or non-swarming system; viz., the colony should be built up as rapidly and as strongly as possible by the use of an additional brood chamber, making the hive two stories high, as soon as the chamber, in which the colony has wintered, is crowded with bees and the spring weather conditions are favorable. At the approach of the first surplus honey season—usually white clover in the east and north and alfalfa in the west—and when the hive in both sections of the brood chamber is literally full of bees and when, if the bees swarmed naturally, the brood would not chill after the swarm had departed, remove the lower section or portion of the double brood chamber with the queen to another stand which should

be along side of the old stand and contiguous to it. In fact, a stand large enough for two colonies to be placed upon, side by side, is the ideal arrangement for this purpose.

In place of the lower part of the brood chamber thus removed substitute a brood chamber with clean frames of starters. Now all the field honey gathering bees will return to the old stand, leaving the brood chamber with the queen with sufficient young bees that have not flown, to take care of the brood; and this removed portion of the hive is in the best possible condition for rapid increase of bees, that is, rapidly hatching brood and not enough honey being gathered by this colony of young bees to keep the cells filled with honey as they hatch. Empty combs should be substituted for any combs that are full of honey, in order that the queen may be allowed to lay to her full capacity. The bees occupying the hive on the old stand will at once commence to rear queens and in due course of time a fine batch of queen cells will be found in the upper chamber, usually along the bottom bars of the frames, one cell only of which should be allowed to hatch and the queen to become fertile in the colony. By the time the young queen begins to lay practically all the brood in this upper chamber on the old stand will have hatched. Now remove the colony with the old queen to a new stand, preferably about ten feet to the rear of the stand from which originally taken; shake the bees clean from the combs in the upper story of the colony on the old stand that has reared the young queen, in front of their hive; remove this upper story, with the frames shook clean of bees, and place it as an upper story to the hive with the old queen; place a super of sections on the hive in place of the upper story that has been removed from the hive on the old stand.

Now, we have a colony working for comb honey that has a young queen that **IT HAS REARED**—the first requisite of

non-swarmling; it is a colony the brood chamber of which is supplied with starters and contains little or no brood—a second requisite of non-swarmling, and a colony that, to all intents and purposes, has swarmed—a third requisite of non-swarmling. Besides, the hive with the super is in the best possible condition for a crop of fancy comb honey, providing the foregoing manipulations are performed at the proper time, and the hive with the old queen is in fair shape to gather a very satisfactory crop of extracted honey, provided the honey flow continues long enough for it to rear the worker bees, with no likelihood of swarming, because the season therefor will have passed before it attains to sufficient strength.

If no increase is desired, when the colony on the old stand is prepared for comb honey work, move the colony with the old queen on the opposite side of the colony on the old stand, with the entrance as near as possible thereto and facing in the same direction and in one week return it to its original position on the now opposite side of the hive, and repeat this moving to opposite side and back again weekly through the season to keep the colony with the young queen at all times well supplied with worker bees.

Thus we will have the work of two queens in the comb honey colony, instead of one, resulting in a greatly increased production of fancy honey. At the end of the season the old queens may be disposed of to the best advantage of the apiarist and the combs she has occupied may be extracted and stored for the following season's use.

Buffalo, N. Y., Feb. 11, 1903.

[The chief objection we see to this system is, if we wait until the young queen begins to lay before putting a super on the comb honey colony, at least half of the harvest will have passed before storing in the sections is begun. This means a loss of half of the honey crop. The strong points in favor of this system are, the swarming fever is under control,

and we get the work of two queens concentrated in one hive. If we are wrong in our deductions, we hope friend Herisher will hasten to make corrections and let in more light. ED.]



A "Romance" of Youth.

BY J. L. BELLANGEE.

Stingless bees would eliminate all the romance from beekeeping.—Rocky Mountain Bee Journal.

How oft I remember the days of my youth;
The games that we played with such zest,
But of all, the most thrilling, exciting
event

Was fighting a bumble bees' nest.

I was raised on a farm in the old Sucker
state,

Where clover and bumble-bees thrive;
And our meadows would be, when the
season was wet,

With bumble bees fairly alive.

And when but a boy of twelve to fourteen,
There was naught gave me more pure de-
light

Than to get my boy friends, when they
came down from town,
To join in a bumble-bee fight.

So when Jim came to see me one hot Au-
gust day,

We decided fresh laurels to win,
By fighting a whooping big, "Black-head-
er's" nest

That was sassy and vicious, as sin.

And each solemnly swearing to never de-
sert,

But conquer each foe as he came,
We took our positions each side of the nest,
And cautiously opened the game.

We were valiant and brave, and for a brief
while,

Our prospects for victory were bright;
When a sudden flank move, by a home-
coming bee

Who had taken a hand in the fight.

'Twas a moment of action: the power of
my blows,

Was inspired by horror and dread;
While the paddle, descending, with death-
dealing force

Found a landing on top of Jim's head.

And the bumble-bee getting warmed up
to his work,

Got a cinch on the bridge of my nose.

And I swear, he looked bigger, just then
to my eyes,

Than the heaviest turkey that grows.

We were routed and beat an ignoble retreat,

To hold a fresh council of war:
And decided that strategy, properly used,
Was better than valor, by far.

So we half filled with water, a black, gallon jug

And tied to the handle a string;
Then, carefully dropping it close to the nest,
We stirred them again to take wing.

Oh then, how we fooled them; by jerking the string,
And causing the water to chug,
They would dash in mad vengeance, and nine times in ten
Would drop in the mouth of the jug.

'Twas the triumph of mind over matter,
I ween,
Though we weened not the truth of it then,
But seeing their numbers so greatly reduced.
Returned to our conquest again.

I have tasted the nectar, fresh borne from the fields,
Of alfalfa, white clover and sage.
And other choice honeys, whose praises are sung,
Both green, and when ripened by age.

And I never expect, though I live to be old,
And taste all the purest and best;
To find nectar so nearly approaching the god's
As we took from that bumble bees nest.
Denver, Colo.



ORGANIZING THE LOCALS.

How to go About it in a Fraternal, Business-Like Way That Will Insure Success.

BY R. C. AIKIN.

The organization is a co-operative one, but at the same time a stock company. It is a stock company for two purposes: to conform to state statutes governing such matters and to obtain funds with which to do business and give a standing and stability. Some, no doubt, object to the stock company feature, saying that having to buy stock bars from membership, and thereby from profits. But

don't you see that we must have money to do business, and the stock plan is the only feasible way. A company could not do business that had no capital whatever, not even a place of business or set of books—nothing but wind. Wind won't pay for a car of supplies amounting to \$1500, and the factory won't ship to such backing.

It is possible for a few beekeepers to co-operate by clubbing together and each putting up his cash in advance, depositing it in the bank, so that the factory people will know there is more than wind backing the call for goods, and this is all right where no better plan can be put into operation, but one great trouble with this is that the committee who sees to ordering usually HAS ALL THE WORK TO DO and still share alike with the others on the deal; then there is a kick and a bust up. And, if a few, not having the cash in advance, do not put up, but promise to have it on the arrival of the goods, usually some of these fail, and a bill of goods left on the hands of the committee, for which, they have to "dig up," and usually lose on the deal.

Let every beekeeper desiring the benefits become a member by purchasing at least one share of stock, costing \$10; then he is in position to receive the same benefits as the others. If any man is too poor to even get one share, he ought at least to have friends, and these friends will incorporate his order with their own and let him have his goods for at least a very nominal fee for trouble. By some it is possible for every locality to be served in some way, and all be able to co-operate. Let the beekeepers in a locality get together and agree to do something. Let some one of them act as manager for that community; but don't ask any one to do so gratis; it will surely make ill feelings and kill your enterprise.

If it be possible, have a ware room. If you are to receive a car of supplies, it is impossible to tell when the car will arrive, and very difficult to notify all to

come for goods and get there within the limit of time in which a car is to be unloaded, and sickness, storm and bad roads are almost sure to interfere with the best plans possible, so that some will fail; then the manager must store the goods. The same is true of shipping out honey. Every car going out ought to be put in a ware room and counted out in detail, according to grade and condition, so as to be loaded properly in the car. A ware room is a necessity in nearly all cases.

"But," you say, "you have to put up the \$10 for stock, and then have to buy the supplies in addition, you will keep the \$10 and buy as best you can." That \$10 is still yours, and you have just invested it in your own business. Because of the co-operative work, you are a member of the company and receive of its profits. Your local branch lays down a car of supplies at your station for just the same price it would put one in Denver, but charges you a commission. A Denver firm, not beekeepers, could buy just the same as our own company, but if our company or any other puts the goods in stock in Denver, they must and will have, not only a commission, but enough more profit to pay for the extra handling, storage room and all such expense. Then, if there is any profit in handling the goods, the other company gets it, and not you, and they do not care for you so long as your trade and money comes their way. Work together, put up our own capital, keep our own interests within our own management, and then if there is any profit in the business, it is our own. If it proves that we cannot possibly supply goods to ourselves one cent cheaper than other houses who have no interest in us, save the mercenary one, why should we not still do our own business? Beekeepers, surely, have a right to do their own business.

I hope to see within this year branch offices of our association established all over the state, and a general co-operative

work done. Our general manager and board will be only too glad to assist in getting things in shape.

That this association has done something to benefit its members, and all beekeepers, cannot be successfully denied, and that it can be of much more benefit, if all would help, is another incontrovertible fact. Such work is not a trust, in the general acceptance of the term. A trust is selfish, and wants the business within the hands and control of a few that they may manipulate and monopolize to the profit of the few, but our association is a combining of the many as against the few. If we were to follow the trust idea, we would try to get the whole business within the hands of the few and keep the whole thing in one place, so far as possible, and dictate prices, but we are working on the very reverse plan of putting the business out everywhere, to give the greatest advantage to the greatest number, making so far as possible every producer one of us, and where, if there is any profit to be had, we all share it together.

Hard competition with other great interests makes it hard to make it apparent to the average observer that we are not a self-boasting concern, but, certainly, with the opposition of those who want us out of the field and the tardy support of our own people combining with the opposition and giving support to the enemy, we ought to be proud of what we have accomplished. All that we now need to clinch our victory and make plain the benefits of co-operation is the support of our own selves and a sticking together in a brotherly manner.

Loveland, Colo.

[Friend Aikin strikes the key-note of the whole situation in his closing paragraph. Co-operation may be written and talked about forever, but unless beekeepers drop all petty strifes and jealousies and STICK TOGETHER, first, last and all the time, it is time and effort wasted. The advantages of co-operation are now

fairly well known to beekeepers, especially those who read the journals. A very great interest is being manifested and there is evidently a strong desire among them to get nearer together, and the only thing that stands in their way is so infinitesimally small that they ought to vanquish it at once. ED.]



OUR CUBAN COMPETITORS.

Who are They, and are We Justified in Asking Protection From Their Competition.

BY ARTHUR C. MILLER.

In the January number of the JOURNAL, you had an editorial on foreign competition in honey, particularly referring to that from Cuba. In connection therewith permit me to call your attention to the following copy of a letter recently received, name of firm, etc., being omitted:

Jan. 24, 1903.

"We are receiving some very fine new crop comb honey from Cuba, produced by American beekeepers and put up same style as our domestic honey. We offer you fancy white tall sections, 20 in a crate glass front crates, at \$2.80 per crate and square sections, 32 in a crate, at \$4.25 per crate, f. o. b.

"These are packed in shipping carriers of eight and nine crates each, so there is no chance of breakage whatever while in transit. Quality is as fine as anything that can be produced and we should like to have your order for a few sample carriers, feeling confident that you will duplicate your orders.

"Hoping to hear from you, we are" etc.

The above prices make the tall sections 14c each and the square ones 14¼c each. The same day the same firm quoted American honey at, fancy 15c and No. 1 14c. Cuban competition certainly isn't very dangerous at those figures.

Furthermore, it is not the competition of aliens, but of Americans who are sojourning in Cuba; brothers with whom we have worked side by side. Shall we slam the door in THEIR faces? Shall we remove about all that makes their life in those surroundings bearable? It is not

the Cuban's honey, but the American's honey, that you are crying against, and it is just as reasonable for those states producing little honey, and which sells at high prices, to ask to have Colorado or Texas or California honey kept out of their borders as for all of us to ask that our brother's honey be kept out of the American market (unless it pay a high tax) because it was raised in Cuba.

Providence, R. I., Feb. 19, 1903.

[The fallacy of our friend Miller's argument is, we believe, readily apparent. As yet there is very little Cuban honey on our markets—not enough to appreciably effect prices one way or the other, hence the figures quoted prove nothing. When Americans make use of the resources of an alien soil to compete in the markets of their countrymen, to all intents and purposes they become aliens, and they should be regarded as such. If the conditions in Cuba are unbearable, the United States is still here for them to return to, where there is plenty of undeveloped bee territory that will yield fairly profitable returns. The parallel between Cuba and the states of our union is manifestly an anomaly, as the former is a foreign nation, while the latter are a part of our own country.]



CARPET GRASS.

It is not Drouth Resistant, and is, Therefore, not Adapied to the Arid States.

BY W. A. H. GILSTRAP.

In your issue of last November you say: "A honey plant that would grow above ditch on our arid lands would be quite an aquisition. Such an one seems to have been discovered in the California carpet grass. It seems to be worthy of a trial."

After reading the above I scratched my head and smiled and said: "Well! Better put the alfalfa above the ditch and the carpet grass below the ditch, as carpet

grass is distinctly a swamp growth." It does not appear in the JOURNAL, where your information comes from, and it is stranger still why no one has straightened the erroneous impression out sooner. I supposed a storm of protests would come and, being busy, just waited like the others that know of its habits.

There are thousands of acres of carpet grass in reach of my bees. It commences blooming here about the middle of June in fair earnest, some bloom showing even earlier. As little flora is available for the bees at that time, it should be a fine opportunity to judge as to quality of the honey, but it yields so scantily here that little surplus is secured, and that is so mixed with honey from the few other flowers that an impression is left that the honey is of good quality. My first year here was with about seventy colonies of bees and several thousand acres of carpet grass. How is that for a honey yielding plant? A friend with five colonies and a much wetter locality secured several pounds of strictly first class comb honey the same year, evidently from carpet grass. I am convinced that it is a good yielder of fine honey in some favored localities.

The plant in question grows in the counties of Kings, Fresno, Merced, Stanislaus, San Joaquin, and perhaps other parts of this (San Joaquin) valley. To see how beautifully it grows on the overflow lands of the Sacramento valley it is only necessary to look at Gleanings in Bee Culture, page 769, September 15, 1902. The companion pictures of bees on levee and on scaffolds tells the swampy tale. The ground may look dry enough at times, but it is likely that it gets a good flooding in summer as well as in winter.

It can stand a dry climate if the ground is wet enough. Any of our upland grain land is too dry for carpet grass.

Modesto, Calif., March 11, 1903.

[The article above referred to in Gleanings of September 15, 1902 and also in Gleanings of February 15, 1903, page 142,

are our sources of information in regard to carpet grass and its habits of growth. It seems, however, that the whole truth was not told, as the impression was left that it would grow on arid lands. We are glad to have this statement from friend Gilstrap, as it will prevent much fruitless sowing of the seed. As the matter now appears, it thrives best in a hot, dry climate, but on lands either influenced by irrigation or subject to periodic overflows. In Colorado and the neighboring arid states it will probably succeed best on irrigated lands and on lands rendered too wet for cultivation by seepage from the ditches. Try it. ED.]

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DISGUSTING!

***A Sample of the Idiotic Drivel
Doled Out to the Public by
Denver Reporters.***

The meeting of the Denver Beekeepers' Association, which was to have been held at the Western hotel this morning, was postponed until this afternoon on account of the serious illness of the secretary, Mr. Krueger.

The morning was spent in an informal discussion on the training and education of bees. It is a well known fact that bees may be fed so as to produce any flavored honey that may be desired. In fact, they appear to enjoy producing peculiar combinations. According to the president of the society, they have been known to flavor their product with skunk oil. The great difficulty with these experiments was in the naturally energetic bee growing so lazy under forced feeding that he refused to hustle for his master. The discussion was consequently on the best ethical training for a bee.—Denver Times, March 11.

✿ ✿

Parties desirous of testing carpet grass may obtain the seed in limited quantities of Frank Raufuss, 1440 Market Street, Denver, at 25 cents per ounce, post paid.

The **ROCKY MOUNTAIN** *BEE JOURNAL.*

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H. C. MOREHOUSE,
Editor and Publisher.

Terms of Subscription, 50 Cents Per Annum.

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WE would be pleased if the secretaries or presidents of local beekeepers' associations would announce the meetings of their societies through the JOURNAL, and also send us reports of the proceedings of such meetings for publication. This is a feature that your members will appreciate, and it will not only add interest to your meetings, but will increase the influence and membership of your associations. The JOURNAL is in the field to serve you, and you are invited to make use of its columns to advance the beekeeping interests of your respective localities. Let us hear from you.

WINTER LOSSES SEVERE.

Weather conditions throughout the Rocky Mountain country were almost ideal for the successful wintering of bees up to the first of February. Since that date old Boreas has endeavored to not only do what is expected of him, but to make up for lost time. So far our reports are meager, but all indicate that the loss has been unusually severe. This is due more to the bad condition of the bees upon entering winter quarters, than to the cold weather.

Our reports from the Western slope indicate that the loss will be large, due to the severe cold weather and depleted vitality of the bees. Denver beekeepers estimate that the average loss in their locality will amount to fifty per cent. In northern Colorado the loss is above normal, but not so severe. We have no reports from the Arkansas valley.

It is too early yet to make a reliable estimate of winter losses. There are colonies that now give promise of survival that will not reach the first of May, unless the spring is extremely favorable.

We would be glad to have every reader of the JOURNAL, write us a postal card about April 1st., stating what percentage of loss they have experienced and naming the causes which, in their judgment, are responsible for their losses. We will publish a summary of these replies in the April issue, which will approximately be the truth of the matter.



A DENVER commission firm is locating a car load of bees in the Arkansas Valley near Ordway. We have supposed for a long time that the valley was fully occupied with bees, but still they come.



BEWARE of the east wind. That it does not blow good to beekeepers, is asserted by our friend, J. B. Adams, of Longmont, Colorado. He says the prevailing winds last season were from the east, and twenty years of experience and observation have

confirmed him in the belief that an east wind will always check a honey flow.



FOR BEGINNERS.

While the JOURNAL aims to serve all classes of beekeepers, it especially desires to extend a helping hand to those who are just learning the ABC of apiculture. These columns are always open to the consideration of questions propounded by beginners. All calls for information will be promptly and carefully answered. If you send in a question that "stumps" the editor, he will frankly own that he is cornered and submit it to some better authority. Don't be backward, friends—tell us your troubles, and we will try to help you.



THE JOURNAL FORCE INCREASED.

The rapid expansion of our business has made necessary the employment of additional help. We have been looking for some one whom we hoped would prove a capable assistant for some months past, and on Sunday, March 15th, he made his appearance. He arrived hatless, coatless, pantless, shirtless, bald-headed and—nameless. He is nameless, still, but is otherwise pretty well provided for so far as his immediate necessities are concerned. We have engaged him to tarry under our roof for at least twenty-one years, and we shall hope to admit him to an equal partnership at the expiration of that time. As this is the first assistant to the firm of Ourselves & Wife, we feel considerably "stuck up" over the matter, and any discrepancies in this issue of the JOURNAL must be attributed to that cause. While our feet are still stumbling over the clods of mother earth, our head is (it feels like it is) floating somewhere away up in the ethereal blue.



THE JOURNAL desires a subscription agent and local correspondent in every beekeeping locality in the West. Write

us for particulars and liberal inducements.



WE hear a great deal said about intensive farming, but how about intensive bee culture? Here is a theme worthy of some consideration from beekeepers.



Puzzles of an Amateur.

I am an amateur in the bee business. I bought ten swarms of bees last spring, apparently in good condition. They did fairly well last season in making honey. Since winter began they seem restless every warm day. From the way they stain the snow and hives I should think they had the scours. Hundreds of them are dead and thrown out of the hives. One colony is entirely dead with twenty pounds of nice honey left in the hive. Is there any remedy? W. C. HUNTER.

Colorado Springs, Colo., Feb. 22, 1903.

[We wish to assure our amateur beekeeping friend that, excepting the dead colony, his bees are all right. The symptoms described do not indicate anything wrong or that they are diseased. Bees always fly out in winter when the weather is warm and sunny, and especially will they do this when the hives are facing south. This gives them an opportunity to empty their bowels every few days, which is highly conducive to their good wintering, and does not indicate disease. The dead bees in front of each hive are the old bees that have succumbed to age. It is hard to assign a cause for the death of the colony so well provided with stores, without "viewing the remains." They may have been queenless and naturally dwindled away, or they may have starved to death by clustering at the side of the hive and consuming all the honey within their reach, and not being able, on account of the cold weather, to move to fresh combs of stores. Another possible cause is foul brood. If so, destroy combs and honey at once. ED.]

REPORT OF THE DENVER B. K. A. MEETING.



**The Attendance was Light, but a Fine Programme was Rendered, and
The Topics Discussed were Timely and Seasonable.**

BY F. L. THOMPSON, REPORTER.

At the meeting of the Denver Beekeepers Association held on March 11, Mr. H. Rauchfuss speaking on the topic of "Spring Feeding for 1903," said the bees were not in good condition last fall. They did not have enough honey, and what there was, scattered. The colonies were not very strong, and generally clustered near one side of the hive, so that when the honey next to them gave out, they could not move to the rest of the honey, and starved. In ordinary years the bees have enough honey in the place where they cluster in the fall. As a rule they do not move their cluster during cold weather. When they do so, it is exceptional. They would more readily move, if it were not for the fact that they start to rearing brood in January, and must stay where the brood is. Whenever empty combs are found next the cluster now, they should be exchanged for full ones, and the bees brushed from the empty combs on to the full ones. If it is not practical to feed, candy should be made, by kneading powdered sugar with a little honey, making it very stiff, so that it will not run and drown the bees, by heating it before kneading. Liquid feed is better whenever it is practical to feed it. Colonies here generally require forty or fifty pounds of honey to go through the winter and carry them to the next honey flow. Last fall, they did not have more than twenty-five or thirty, hence averaged fifteen pounds short. This does not mean that they would not live through, but they will not be so strong.

Mr. Thompson, speaking on the same topic, said there would be about fifty per

cent. loss in colonies of bees before June, and no really satisfactory winter feeder had yet been invented and a good spring feeder ought also to be a good winter feeder, so as to have one set of implements for feeding. When so many are to be fed the preparation of candy for each would be a tremendous amount of labor. He has been using fruit cans, inverted, with perforated caps, so as to bring the syrup right next to the cluster, and believes that the proper kind of a winter and spring feeder will be a modified shape of the fruit can, reducing the depth so as to bring it within the compass of one empty super, instead of two, as the fruit cans require; and greatly enlarging the diameter, so as to increase the capacity to about five quarts, instead of one, materially lessening the labor which repeated feeding requires, and carrying the bees through the longest cold spell we have here without disturbance. Atmospheric pressure will keep the syrup from running, if the perforations are fine enough, as in the Hill feeder; and if not, a piece of cheese cloth put on first, and then the perforated lid, accomplishes the same result. The opening of this large vessel should not be in the center of the bottom, however, but adjoining the circumference, so that the feeder can be turned around to bring the opening directly above the cluster, wherever that happens to be. The top, of course, should have no opening, but be perfectly tight, so as to preserve atmospheric pressure, like the bottom of a fruit can when inverted so that the bottom becomes the top. Although this vessel would be prac-

tically the same thing as a fruit can, yet on account of the modification in shape, a more appropriate designation would be "tin drum" instead of "can." All space in the empty super not taken up by the feeder should of course be covered by a quilt, to preserve warmth.

Mr. Dudley said that Mr. Doolittle's plan of winter feeding by paper bags of candied honey, tearing off a strip and laying it right over the cluster, was the best possible plan when they were to be had.

Mr. Deviny said that candied honey would not do for this dry climate, and described Mr. Porter's plan of filling combs with syrup.

Mr. H. Rauchfuss said that in winter the bags of candied honey would be all right for this climate, on account of the moisture generated by the bees, which would liquify it sufficiently. The objection to filling combs with syrup is that they hold so little.

Mr. Dudley spoke on the topic, "Work in the Apiary for March," saying it had been partially covered by the discussion on feeding. The other essential work for March would be to prevent the robbing likely to begin on warm days, especially when foul brood was prevalent, by watching for and removing dead colonies, and uniting queenless ones. He never had much luck uniting merely weak colonies in the spring.

Mr. Rauchfuss agreed that the spring uniting that paid was to unite a strong queenless colony with a weak colony that has a queen, and Mr. Stone gave an instance of such a uniting that stored 160 pounds of surplus the following season.

Mr. Deviny spoke in favor of feeding flour early in spring. By the ordinary plan of exposing it in horizontal vessels many bees are smothered in getting it. His plan is to pack the flour tightly in the vessels, and then set them at an angle of about fifty degrees, so the bees gather the flour while on the wing, without getting themselves in it. He objects to feeding bran or corn meal, as the bees

wear their wings against the hard portions, so that many are unable to fly.

Mr. Rauchfuss said that we do not know whether it is the starch or the gluten of the flour that the bees want, but if it was the gluten, then second grade flour would be better than the highest priced flour, that Mr. Deviny recommends. It would be well to know whether flour does the bees any good at all, because they will even take sawdust, which certainly does them no good; and if flour is beneficial, to find out what part comes the nearest to pollen.

Mr. Morehouse was appointed a committee to ask the Agricultural College for information on these points.

Mr. Dudley mentioned the difficulty of getting the bees started on flour, saying he overcame this by scattering a few drops of honey on the flour exposed.

The question being asked whether it would pay to put the flour in combs and put them inside the hive, Mr. Rauchfuss said that he had tried it, and the bees could make no use of it at all. In enlarging their brood nest, they let it alone and went beyond and had brood in the next comb, and finally had to tear down the comb to the septum to get rid of the flour. He has also found that combs containing flour brought in from the outside are sometimes treated in the same way, as it becomes hard, so that it is a question in his mind whether the feeding of flour is of any value whatever. However, it keeps the bees away from the neighbors' meal bins, hence may pay in that way.

Mr. Morehouse read a paper on the "Introduction of New Honey Plants," and Mr. Porter read another paper on the same topic. Mr. Morehouse said in part:

"Colorado is well supplied with honey yielding plants that grow and thrive on irrigated lands, or lands that are indirectly supplied with moisture by irrigation. Naming then in the order of their importance, the principal varieties are alfalfa

fa, sweet clover, white clover, raspberry, dandelion, and some of the early blooming deciduous trees that furnish a little honey and a great deal of pollen at a time when pollen is worst needed.

"In my judgment, it would be a waste of time to try to add to this excellent list, and so, rather than recommend the introduction of new honey plants, requiring favorable conditions of soil and moisture for their profitable growth, I would favor enlarging the area of those we already have, and particularly so in regard to sweet clover.

"Few people seem to realize the enormous amount of honey that sweet clover will yield in favorable seasons. As an illustration I wish to refer you to a statement by one of the Pennington Bros., of Dell, Oregon, on page 10 of the Rocky Mountain Bee Journal for March. If this report is reliable, and I assume that it is fairly so, it broadens and brightens the horizon of beekeeping very materially and casts a glimmer of hope over the districts where alfalfa is now invariably cut before it becomes of any value to the bees.

"The yellow variety of sweet clover has started in some portions of the state and begins to blossom two weeks earlier than the white variety. This in connection with the white would afford a long flow.

"It is obvious that a honey plant of the greatest value to Colorado or any of the neighboring states, is one that would grow above ditch and yield honey in commercial quantities and in quality not inferior to the best we now produce.

(CONCLUDED NEXT MONTH.)

CONVENTION NOTICES.

UTAH STATE BEEKEEPERS' ASS'N

The annual spring meeting of the Utah State Beekeepers' Association will be held at Salt Lake City, April 5, the session to begin at 10 a. m. All beekeepers who possibly can are urged to be in attendance. E. S. LOVESY, Pres.

STANDARD BRED QUEENS.

Buckeye Strain Red Clover Queens made their mark as honey gatherers. They roll in honey while the ordinary starve. Be convinced of their wonderful merit by a trial.

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 Select Tested.. 3.00 each; 6 for 15.00
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Send for Catalogue of Bee Supplies and see Special Inducements.

THE FRED W. MUTH CO.,
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DENVER BEEKEEPERS' ASS'N.

The April meeting of the Denver Beekeepers' Association will be held at the Western Hotel, Denver, Colorado, April 8, beginning at 1 p. m. The following topics have been chosen for discussion:

1. Forced Swarming.
2. Stimulative Feeding.
3. Work in April.
4. Getting Ready for the Flow.
5. Getting Bees Into the Supers.
6. Introduction of New Queens.
7. Painting Hives and Supers.

Beekeepers failing to attend this meeting will miss a rich treat.

HONEY MARKETS.

CHICAGO:—The demand for comb honey has been and is of small volume. Prices are weak, concessions being made, where necessary, to effect sales.

Queens! Queens!

We are now prepared to fill orders, large or small, for Queens, as follows:

1 Untested Queen \$1.00; 6 for 5.00, or 12 for 9.00. Tested Queens \$1.50 each. Fine Breeders 5.00 each. After June 1, Untested 75c; 6 for 4.25; 12 for 8.00.

The Southland Queen, \$1.00 per year.

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

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Contracts with dealers a specialty. Discount after July 1st. Send for circular.

JOHN M. DAVIS,
SPRING HILL, TENNESSEE.

HONEY FOR SALE—I have a few 60lb cans of choice white and light amber Extracted Honey that I will sell at 8c per pound, f o b Boulder, cash with order. Address, H. C. Morehouse Boulder, Colo.

Fancy white comb held at 15 to 16c. All other grades of white are irregular at 13 to 14c; light amber 10 to 12c; dark and ambers 9 to 10c. Extracted clover and basswood 7 to 8c; other white grades 6 to 7c; amber 5½ to 6½c. Beeswax steady at 30c. R. A. BURNETT & Co.

CINCINNATI:—The demand for extracted honey is good at the following prices: Amber barrels' 5½ to 6½c, according to quality. White clover 8 to 9c. Fancy comb honey 15½ to 16½c. Beeswax strong at 30c. THE FRED W. MUTH CO.

March 11, 1903.

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We will club the Rocky Mountain Bee Journal with your choice of the following publications at the prices set opposite to each. The offers are available to either old or new subscribers.

Gem State Rural (\$1.00)	1.25
Irish Bee Journal (36c)75
American Beekeeper (50c)	\$0.75
American Bee Journal (\$1.00)	1.25
Bee-Keepers' Review (\$1.00)	1.25
Gleanings (\$1.00)	1.10
Modern Farmer (50c)75

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T. S. HALL, " " **Jasper, Ga.**

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INTO YOUR APIARY when you least expect it. The sooner you discover its presence, the less difficult and expensive will be its eradication. If you know exactly what to do when you discover it, much valuable time may be saved. No better instruction and advice on these points can be found than that given in a five page article written by R. L. Taylor and published in the

February BEE-KEEPERS' REVIEW

It is comprehensive, yet concise. The description of the disease, the instructions how to detect it, are the best and most complete of any I have seen. No one need be mistaken in identifying foul brood after reading this article.

Mr. Taylor then goes on and tells how to hold the disease in check (a very important point), prevent its dissemination among other colonies, bring all the colonies up to the honey harvest in a prosperous condition, secure a crop of honey, and, at the same time, get rid of the disease.

If you wish to know how to recognize foul brood, how to get rid of it with the least possible loss, if you wish to be prepared for it should it come, send 10 cents for a copy of this issue of the Review. With it will be sent two other late but different issues of the Review; and the 10 cents may apply on any subscription sent in during the year. A coupon will be sent entitling the holder to the Review one year for only 90 cents.

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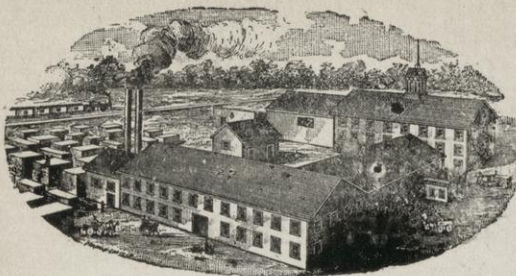
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