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T—h—e
Rocky Mountain
Bee Journal.

*A Monthly Journal De-
voted to the Interests
of Western Beekeep-
ers. Terms: Fifty
Cents per Annum
in Advance.*

MARCH 15,
1—9—0—2

*Boulder, Colorado.
Vol. 2. No. 2.*



BEE-KEEPERS, PLEASE NOTICE!

We have Five Large Agencies in COLORADO.

Colorado Honey Producers' Ass'n, 1440 Market St., Denver, Colo.
Colorado Honey Producers' Ass'n, Loveland Col. Br., R. C. Aikin, Mgr.
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Lewis' White Polished Wisconsin Basswood Sections are perfect, our Hives and other Supplies the finest in the Market. Writethe above Agencies for Prices.



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“Colorado’s Characteristics; the Advantages of Irrigation, and How Western Bee-keeping Differs From that of the East.”

This the title of a six page editorial in the Jan. issue of the **Bee-Keepers’ Review**. The editor spent nearly two weeks, last November, with his camera, among the beekeepers of Colorado; and this “write-up is the result.” It is illustrated by several pictures taken by the editor, showing the mountains, alfalfa fields, “ricks” of alfalfa hay, herds of cattle, apiaries, hives, etc.. Mr. M. A. Gill, who last year managed 700 colonies in Colorado, producing two carloads of comb honey, begins a series of articles in this issue. His first article is on “Hive Covers,” and is the best of anything that has yet appeared on that subject.

Send ten cents for this issue, and with it will be sent to other late but different issues. A coupon will be sent entitling the holder the Review one year for only 90c.

With these copies of the Review will be sent an offer whereby 12 back numbers of the Review may be secured entirely free; and the first few who accept this offer, will get, as those 12 back numbers, the volume for 1901 complete.

W. Z. Hutchinson,

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Pietermaritzburg, Natal, S. A., Nov. 30, 1901.

If you buy the Danz. hive you will find a ready market for your honey. Comb honey in Danz. sections has never yet been held because of "little demand."

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You will need good hives, smokers, knives, and most of all, a good honey extractor. Root's Cowan Rapid Reversible Extractors are used everywhere and always acknowledged the best. Be sure to get one of our make.

BEE SWAX.

You should have the best wax extractors, else large quantities of wax will be left in the refuse. See what one extensive and practical beekeeper says of the **Root-German Steam Wax-Press**.

For over twenty years past I have tried to render up old combs or cappings in large or smaller quantities, and my experience has been extensive, for I have tried faithfully almost every known method to get all the wax out, but have never succeeded to my satisfaction until recently. I got of you a German Wax Press, that comes nearer accomplishing that object than anything I have ever tried. I am more than satisfied with it, for, if used according to directions, there is little if any wax left in the refuse. Anyone used to the old methods will be astonished at the results obtained. In this press you have given those in need of it the best thing, to mind, that you have ever brought out, and I really believe all who try it will pronounce it a real treasure. There are other points of advantage that I could mention, one of which is perfect safety—no boiling over and setting fire to everything, and it can be left alone without care for quite a time, and everything can be kept neat and clean and it occupies very little room.

Belleville, Ill., Dec. 12.

E. T. FLANAGAN.

Root's goods are for sale everywhere. See list of jobbers and agents in the January bee journals. A full list of local agents sent you on request. We will also send you a little book, "Facts About Bees," describing the Danz. hive, and our catalogue, on request.

WANTED—BEE SWAX. Price 28c in cash or 30c in trade for pure, average beeswax, delivered here. We want also a car of white sage extracted honey, also large lots of **WHITE COMB HONEY** in Danz. sections.

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Has a 20-year lease on two fine tracts in the heart of the great Boulder Oil Basin. The first well is now being drilled. The second will be started soon. Electrical tests indicate vast bodies of Oil under these properties. Still a chance to get in on the ground floor, but you'll have to hurry.

$7\frac{1}{2}$ c Stock, $7\frac{1}{2}$ c

The first block of treasury stock went quick at 5c; the next advance, which will come in a few weeks, will be to 10c per share. When Oil is struck in the first well it will advance to 50c per share.

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In order to introduce our strain of Superior Long Tongued Italians we will give one **Warranted Queen free** with every dozen untested queens ordered in April, May and June. As workers we never saw their equal, and we have never had a colony of these bees to swarm in the past three years. Send for our catalogue of Bee Supplies and circular describing our Bees and Queens.

ALL QUEENS REARED BY THE DOOLITTLE METHOD.

PRICES.

UNTESTED—after May 1st.—\$1.00; 6 for \$5.00; 12 for \$9.00

Tested, 1.25 Best Breeders, 5.00

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100 Tested queens for early orders. Be quick if you want them. Orders booked now. Ten percent discount for cash now.

PRESTON STORE & PRODUCE Co.

Dority, Preston County, W. Va.

Rocky Mountain Bee Journal.

For Colorado and the Great Inter-Mountain Region.

VOL. 2.

MARCH 15, 1902.

WHOLE NO. 14.

Stimulative Feeding.

By *W. Hickox.*

"Spring feeding" is rather an indefinite phrase, and may mean feeding to piece out the winter stores and prevent starvation, or feeding for the purpose of inciting the colony to greater efforts at rearing brood.

As to stimulative feeding, in our locality we have very little pollen stored in the fall, and but little can be gathered by the bees in early spring. For this reason we try to supply a substitute by feeding wheat flour, graham, corn meal or chop. We generally use a combination, as fine flour alone is liable to get all over the bees in their efforts to load up, and some will get drowned in it. We feed by placing the feed in covered boxes in several sheltered places near the apiary. To a limited extent we feed flour by taking an empty comb from a colony and with a flat stick, chisel or putty knife, place some flour over the cells and by drawing the tool over the flour it will be spread and forced into the empty cells. The comb is then placed near the brood; but near the side of the hive, as the queen will not pass it to lay eggs.

We do not practice stimulative feeding of honey or sugar syrup regularly, but whenever the weather will permit in the spring, we examine every colony, and if any are light, we mark them and equalize stores with them we find heavy. If we have sufficient honey for this purpose no other is used.

Beginning about April 15, we go over the yard about once a week—depending upon the weather, of course—breaking

the cappings more or less extensively on a comb of sealed honey next to the cluster of bees. The extent of broken cappings depends upon the strength of the colony, and is a matter that must be decided by the judgment of the beekeeper. Later, when we feel sure of continual warm weather, these uncapped combs are placed in the center of the brood nest, and the empty cells filled with brood by the next round.

This procedure is varied to suit the needs and peculiarities of each colony, and when the queen is crowding the capacity of each colony no stimulation is attempted. The success of all the various manipulations that go to make up what is termed spring management is almost wholly dependent upon the skill and judgment of the apiarist.

Berthoud, Colo., Feb. 27, 1902.



Spring Feeding.

By *E. H. Schaeffle.*

For winter stores, honey and pure sugar syrup, are the only feeds that will carry the bees safely through the winter. With the coming of spring the conditions change, the stores are now used as fast as they are brought in. In consequence anything sweet will answer. In some sections of California, where cull dried figs can be bought very cheap, the figs are placed in pans, boiling water poured over them, and the next morning the pan set out for the bees to clean up. The pan is refilled for three nights, when the figs are fed to the chickens and the pans filled with fresh figs. I have used the different entrance and inside feeders.

If you have but a few bees this method of feeding is to be preferred, as it enables you to give each hive the exact quantity required, but where you have 200 hives, or over, the large number of feeders required and the time consumed in refilling, makes the job a big one.

Early this season I fed up my weakest colonies with combs of sealed stores; later I put on a lot of uncapped sections that had not been finished the season before. That carried me along till the season was far enough advanced to start spring feeding. Owing to an open winter the bees have been flying all winter long and in consequence are lighter in stores and fewer in numbers than I have ever known them to be at this time of the year. In consequence they all need to be stimulated that they may build up in time for the first flowers of the season. Today, Feb. 12, it is cold and cloudy, but my bees are out as thick as though it was a summer day. This is due to the fact that I am giving them outside feed. I had in the apiary some half barrels that I had used in the summer season to feed my bees salted water. I cleaned out these same half barrels; I then placed a piece of gunny sack over the top, pressed it down in the centre and placed a stone there to keep it down. The sacking was drawn down over the outside of the edge and a rope tied around the barrel to prevent the bees getting in the inside and drowning. In the half-barrel was placed a float for the bees to light on and to enable them to crawl out, when they fall into the feed. I then mixed one-fourth honey with three-fourths water, and in the evening placed enough of the feed in the barrels to keep the bees at work till about noon of the following day. In spring feeding the bees want to be fed EVERY day, and not be fed all they will take, otherwise they will fill the combs with the feed and thus occupy the room that should be left for the queen to lay her eggs in, and so defeat the very end we are working for. These feeders are

distributed through the apiary, one to every 75 stands of bees.

To start the bees to feeding at once, and to not have one of the hives miss, I have baited the bees. I simply took a cup of honey and some small pieces of cotton cloth. I dipped these pieces of cloth in the honey and laid one at the entrance of each hive. When I had about 15 baits out I started at the first and carried the bait and adhering bees to the feeder and gently placed them on the float. In about an hour 100 hives can thus be baited, and every hive be put to work at once. Should a storm come up before the bees have the location permanently located, it will be necessary to re-bait them. About the third day I began to increase the quantity of honey in the feeders until it is now about one-half honey. I have no trouble about robbing and with this system of outdoor feeding, I can feed 200 swarms of bees in five minutes time. Contrast this with inside feeding.

I have in my apiary a number of 10-frame hives. As I looked them over last fall, I was tempted to contract them to about six frames, but instead I crammed them full of combs of sealed stores, I expected I would have to extract some of them this spring, to give the queen room, instead I find these same hives very light in stores but in excellent condition, and if I knew that other seasons were to be as the past winter has been, I would commend the 10-frame hive as the only size that will store sufficient honey for an all summer winter. Feeding should stop when the supers are put on.

Mountain Bloom Apiary, Murphys, Calif., Feb. 12, 1902.

The grangers have succeeded in having a tax of ten cents a pound placed on all oleomargarine colored like butter. Why cant the beekeepers have a bill passed placing a tax of five cents a pound on all glucose sold as honey? Pass it along to the National Association.

Advantages of Spring Feeding.

By W. P. Collins.

Believing that the subject of early feeding is one of the most vital questions in connection with profitable beekeeping, and from the fact that there are some good beekeepers that are not only skeptical as to the advisability of spring feeding, but are actually opposed to it, I cannot resist giving a few of my reasons in favor of the practice.

In the first place it is a generally conceded fact among many good beekeepers that bees that are worked for extracted honey do not winter as well as do bees that are run for comb honey, although I must admit that the men holding the last named views are, generally speaking, correct, and during the early part of my experience, must admit that my bees run for extracted honey did not winter as well as the rest of the bees in the apiary. Still, at the present time, I wish to assert that there is no difference at all in the condition of a colony in the spring in my apiary, that has been run for one or the other class of honey, and I am as sure in my own mind, that I know the reason for their being equal, as I am of the cause of the rise and fall of the ocean's tide or the cause of the different seasons of the year. "Feed" is the word that sums it all up. If any apiarist that thinks that bees worked for extracted honey will not winter as well as bees worked for comb honey, will take the pains to just shift the bees from off the combs in the hive used for extracted honey, in the month of October, and put them onto the combs in the brood nest, of a colony that has raised comb honey; then put the bees from off the combs over which comb honey was raised upon, onto the combs from the extracting hive set these two swarms away for the winter and see if the swarm that was worked for comb honey is not the weak colony in spring.

Now, if this reversing of the colonies

will work such wonders, how much greater will the result be, from feeding the colony short of honey thin syrup during the four to six weeks prior to the commencement of the honey flow? The result invariably will and must be an increased number of bees that will be ready for work just at the time one needs working bees the most. The result will be that instead of having to build up a colony after the honey flow begins, the apiarist will have the pleasure of seeing a constant flow of surplus honey coming into his possession from the first day the flow begins.

I know of one good beekeeper in Colorado, one that is making good money out of bees, that said to me that he did not need to feed his bees, said that his greatest trouble was to get his bees to use up what feed they had in their hives each spring, that they had gathered the previous year. For such I have but one answer, and that is that I would see to it that my bees used up nearly all surplus honey in the brood chamber, during the spring, or just before the flow of new honey began, even if I had to hang the combs out on the apple tree limbs in order to accomplish my object. But hanging the combs out is a very slovenly way, uncapping and properly manipulating the comb will cause the bees to use all the stores they have, and mine use many pounds more to each colony while I am manipulating them so as to produce a good, strong force of bees in advance of the honey flow, and these extra pounds of sweet are like unto the "talents" that were used. They return ten—yea, nearly one hundred fold.

Boulder, Colo., March 3, 1902.



Spring Feeding for Stimulation.

By J. B. Adams.

It is with some misgiving that I undertake the discussion of this subject, for, while stimulating the queens is all right for the experienced beekeeper, it is a

dangerous thing for the inexperienced to rush into blindly, as they will likely do more harm than good. Go slow at first and be careful until you gain the needful experience; then you will be likely to go about it in the right way at the right time, and will be benefitted instead of injured thereby.

1. Why I feed. It is generally known that when bees are handling honey they feed the queen more liberally than at other times, which stimulates her to lay more eggs. The object to be attained is to get all the hatched out worker bees and as many frames filled with brood as possible at the commencement of the honey flow, which with us is about June 10th.

2. When I feed. As the life of a worker bee (in the active season) is only about 35 days, I commence to feed 36 to 40 days before I expect the main flow.

Now, I want to say that it is worse than useless to stimulate the queen to lay three or four thousand eggs per day when she has only bees to care for only three or four hundred. It will use up the vitality of the queen and she will be liable to fail just when she is most needed later on. I want a young, vigorous queen in each colony, as a long flow taxes the queen to the utmost. An old queen cannot stand the strain and will likely be superseded during the flow, which would leave the colony with few worker eggs during the superannuation of the old queen and before the young queen has reached her full laying capacity. An old queen lays more drone eggs, which will incline the colony to swarm. The weather, also must be taken into account, when determining this question of when to feed. During a warm spell the bees will spread the brood. If this is followed by a cold snap the bees are compelled to contract their cluster, and we have a lot of stores used up and nothing but a lot of chilled, dead brood to show for it.

3. What to feed. I hardly feed exactly the same feed twice. It depends

upon what I have at hand to feed, and how many of my neighbor's bees I have to feed, and other conditions. In all my manipulations of the bees I try to follow nature. Her way is to stimulate with nectar from the fields. I can get the best results by feeding them sugar syrup or honey thinned down to about the consistency of raw nectar from the fields. I feed outside the hive, except in some individual cases. In every hive I want at least about five pounds of stores at all times until the main flow is coming on, when I want them to feel their poverty enough, without actually suffering, to make them hustle. At all times before that I want that they can draw upon their stores freely without danger of running short. I feed sealed combs, beet or cane sugar syrup, but prefer syrup and honey mixed, and thinned as stated above. Never feed foul brood honey. Boiling will kill the germs, but the spores have been known to grow after two hours of hard boiling, and how are we to know that there are no spores in the honey if there was disease in the hive it came from?

4. How I feed. If feeding for replenishment of stores, exchange empty combs from hives short of stores with heavy colonies for full combs, or feed syrup in upper stories. There are many ways to stimulate by making the bees handle honey. You can uncap sealed combs over at the side of the brood nest. Some reverse frames in the middle of the hive. This brings the ends of the combs containing honey near the entrance. The bees want brood there and the honey away from the entrance, so they will move it back. Let us note the conditions. We have placed frames of cold honey in the back end of the hive, practically making two brood nests, so there must be more or less brood chilled unless the weather is warm and the colony strong in bees. I know several beekeepers that recommend this plan, but a far better way is to reverse the entire brood nest by raising it

from the bottom and changing ends. This will incline the bees to extend the brood across forward, with far less danger of the brood being chilled.

You can feed in an empty super above the cluster. This is a very good way for a few colonies, but too slow and involves too much work for out-apiaries, or a large number of colonies. A better way, all things considered, is to feed a thin syrup of honey and sugar well mixed. It will not candy, as pure honey will in cold weather. If fed thin the bees will take it faster and are compelled to handle it more in order to evaporate it down to the consistency of honey. To avoid feeding your neighbor's bees, feed just before night in any sort of receptacles that will hold syrup. Put in corn cobs, broken sections, hay, gunnysacking, or anything that will keep the bees from drowning. Give plenty of room for all, or they will fight and get cross and sting any animal in reach. Give just what they will clean up that night, so they will be quiet the next day. About a quarter of a pound per colony is a good starter. Watch closely and you will probably be surprised how quickly they learn when to expect the feed, if you feed regularly, and the neighbors bees are just as quick to learn.

I have examined a colony several times this winter that has been fed sealed stores to see what effect it would have. They have had brood in four to six frames all winter, have kept very strong and have seen no chilled brood. They had six frames pretty well filled with brood during our coldest weather. I have not opened them for two weeks, but will the first warm day. I cannot tell at this date what effect this feeding will have upon next season's crop. I will watch them closely, and if you desire, will report results next fall.

Longmont, Colo., March 3, 1902.

[By all means let us have a report of this colony.—Ed.]

IN A NUTSHELL.

The Swarthmore System of Queen Rearing Explained by Its Inventor.

By "Swarthmore."

[A number of our readers have asked for further light on the Swarthmore system of rearing and mating queens. In response to this demand for a clearer elucidation of these methods we have engaged Swarthmore to write a series of articles detailing each successive step, from forming the cell cups to the young queen, mated and laying. Read these articles carefully, and then if you think this new system is worthy a trial, order a sample outfit and test it during the coming season. The next article will describe the adjustment of the fertilizing boxes.—Ed.]

First of all the "shells" are filled with wax heated just above the melting point to prevent air holes. Then after thoroughly cool queen cups are pressed into the center of the wax plugs by placing one shell at a time to the gage of a Grace "cell compressor."

A colony of bees is now prepared for cell starting in the following manner:

Remove one frame of capped brood, no queen, from a strong colony, and place it in an empty hive. Then remove full colony to a new stand and place empty hive on that stand to catch returning bees. After hanging combs containing honey and pollen on each side of the one containing brood close the hive. Now place a bee guard at the entrance of the new colony and shake before it a goodly number of young bees from the old colony, smoke them in to make sure no queen is with them. Do this work late in the afternoon and in the morning the bees will be prime for cell starting.

Fill the holes of the "cell-starting bar" (or bars, according to the number of cells desired) with compressed cups and after grafting a select larva into each cup fit the bar in the "holding frame" and

place all in the centre of the brood nest removing the one frame of brood. Dislodge the bees and dispose of the brood by placing it in another colony.

Split a sheet and adjust the halves over the tops of the frames, covering all but the row of shells from end to end in the holding frame thus allowing freedom for drawing the shells without opening the hive proper again.

Toward evening examine the cups by drawing one at a time and marking any that have failed. Return each shell to its respective hole and the next morning regraft any cups that may have been marked. In this way the full complement of cells can be secured.

If honey is not coming in by all means feed the cell-building colony using a slow feeder for this purpose—an inverted Mason fruit jar, for instance. This sugar syrup flavored with a little honey makes excellent feed for cell-getting.

When the cells are about ready to cap, simply jump them over one at a time into a "Swarthmore Nursery Cage" for incubation. The nursery joins a part of the holding frame and when in place its top bar comes level with the cell bar, both joining a continuous bar, from end to end, through which the $\frac{3}{4}$ -shell holes are cut, one inch apart.

Previous to the hatching of the cells the fertilizing boxes should be gotten ready to receive the young queens for mating. Several days before clean brood comb has been fitted into the little section frames and brood has been secured in each by placing them in the centre of a small colony; fixing them into the bottom of any frame in any colony will also secure brood or you may transfer any old comb, containing brood, directly into the miniature frames. If foundation is preferred use full sheets and make sure it is properly drawn and well brooded in time to be of use in the fertilizing boxes. A small colony forced to occupy two or three holding frames filled with small combs or foundation will generally give

all the brood needed without much trouble.

There is two ways of preparing the fertilizing boxes and supplying them with queens. One is by inserting the cells through the top lids a few times previous to their hatching; the other is to allow the cells to hatch inside the nursery cages after which they are run into the fertilizing boxes.

Queen cells are quite easily handled when constructed upon removable interchangeable shells and perhaps you may have colonies in need of new queens, if so, place the cells at once in such hives—simply pinch the shell between the frames near the centre of the brood nest, and they will be well cared for.

Swarthmore, Pa., Feb. 13, 1902.



A Beginner's Lesson In Spring Feeding.

While admitting that stimulative feeding is a two-edged sword (as some have called it), liable to cut the wrong way, if carelessly handled, it is exceedingly poor advice to advise beginners to "let it severely alone," as did the American Bee Journal in a recent issue. In localities where the main flow is preceded by a dearth, or a very light, intermittent flow, some sort of stimulative manipulation is absolutely essential in order to have our colonies populous enough to begin storing in the supers at or near the beginning of the main flow. Loss of time in having colonies ready for the first alfalfa flow means loss of money, hence one of the most important lessons for beginners to learn is the art of stimulating brood production at just the proper time to have an immense force of young bees ready to enter the supers with the first opening of the alfalfa blossoms.

To accomplish this requires great tact and some foresight, but the beginner can only acquire this by experience, so my advice to him is to learn from others all that he can upon this subject, and then

go at it for himself, with both eyes and ears open. Mistakes will doubtless be made at first, but that is better than never to learn at all.

In Colorado or any other locality where natural sources of pollen and honey are not sufficient to cause the production of bees enough to take care of the early flow, feeding will undoubtedly pay, and pay big. As soon as the bees begin flying in the spring begin feeding rye or wheat flour or graham. I prefer graham, as they do not get it all over them so bad. This takes the place of pollen, and should be continued until the pollen supply from natural sources is sufficient to satisfy them. The best way to feed graham is to distribute it through the apiary in shallow boxes.

Some warm day in April go through all your colonies and equalize their stores. This is done by taking combs of honey from those that have a plenty and giving to those that only have a little.

In this climate stimulative operations should not begin before the first of May. It is then 40 to 45 days before alfalfa begins to yield, and that is about the length of time necessary to rear a force of new bees and have them ready when the flow begins. If there is some honey in all the hives, begin operations by uncapping three or four pounds per week. This will cause the bees to move it. In moving it they feed the queen with greater liberality, which stimulates her to lay eggs more rapidly. When the bulk of this left-over honey has been consumed begin to feed. Feed about a quarter of a pound of honey or sugar syrup per colony daily, made almost as thin as water—in fact, have it just sweet enough to induce the bees to work on it. As a beginner, you will, of course, only have a few colonies, and your best way to feed will be in some kind of shallow receptacle placed on top of the brood frames in an empty super. Before pouring in the feed throw in a handful of alfalfa hay to prevent the bees from drowning. Continue the feeding

until the honey flow starts, or until the hive is well filled with brood and bees, and when you stop, if honey is not coming in freely enough to supply their daily needs, be sure there is sufficient food in the hives to carry them along until the yield begins. A little stinting or starving at the latter end will result in the undoing of all the good that has been done, and greatly injure the colony.

Put it down as an axiom that there is no danger in spring feeding provided it is done in the right way and at the right time. To determine the way and the time adapted to the individual needs of the individual colony, the beginner must keep his think shop in order and use his brains. If you feed too early in the season you will rear a lot of useless bees that will be consumers instead of producers, and besides, if you begin in cold weather, a cold snap may come on and kill half of your brood and leave the colonies so weak in energy and vitality that spring dwindling will finish them. Learn how, go slow, use your best judgment and you will come out all right.

X.

Boulder, Colo., March 10, 1902.



Southern Utah.

Up to the present time bees have wintered well. My colonies have quite a lot of brood and are carrying in a great deal of pollen. We have had some fine rains and I think the outlook is good at present. The queen I received of you late last fall is doing very nicely; she has lots of brood, and the nice yellow bees are beginning to come out. There has been but few days that bees could not fly this winter.

R. A. MORRIS.

St. George, Utah, March 8, 1902.



The Northern Colorado Beekeepers' Association held a meeting on the evening of March 11th at the residence of Phillip Large, near Longmont. After a bountiful supper, for which Mrs. Large is so noted, the following officers were

elected and installed: J. E. Lyon, secretary; Philip Large, president, M. A. Gill vice-president, Mrs. M. A. Gill, treasurer. After committees were appointed and the other necessary business transacted, the association adjourned to meet on Thursday evening at the residence of M. A. Gill. A cordial invitation is extended to all beekeepers to come and have a good time.

The ROCKY MOUNTAIN BEE JOURNAL.

H. C. MOREHOUSE, Editor and Pub'r.

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Advertising rates made known on application.**

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Office of Publication with the Colorado Representative, 1021 Pearl Street.

NOTE. Unless otherwise ordered, the JOURNAL will be sent to subscribers until all arrearages are paid and it is ordered stopped.

Do not overlook the new advertisements in this issue.

❀❀

THIS issue of the JOURNAL is given up almost entirely to correspondents—hence the derth of editorial matter.

❀❀

ALL subscribers whose number on the printed address tag is less than 14, the number of this issue, are in arrears. Be good to yourselves, as well as us, by taking advantage of our clubbing offers, which see in another column.

❀❀

THE question has arisen in some quarters as to whether this journal is edited by a practical bee man. That depends. If running 300 colonies for comb honey constitutes a practical apiarist we hope to be legitimately included in that list.

LAST season we recorded the first pollen of the season as being gathered on March 2nd. We can go this report several better this time. On February 23d both pollen and honey were being gathered from soft maples in the vicinity of Boulder.

❀❀

THE Rauchfuss Combined Section Press and Foundation Fastener is a world beater. We advise its use by all comb honey producers using the 4¼ x 4¼ section. It has more than double the capacity of any other two machines and does better work. We are surprised to learn that its merits are not more generally known outside of Colorado.

❀❀

Calls Stanley's Bluff.

I notice an article in the JOURNAL by I. H. Stanley, of Manzanola, Colo., in which some astonishing statements are made, and as the JOURNAL editor has always been on the side of right and justice, I feel that we should all hold up his hands in every way we can, and acquaint him, as well as the readers of the JOURNAL, with the facts as they actually exist.

I can only speak of the valley north of the river. We have an organization here as he (Mr. Stanley) very well knows. He speaks of 500 colonies that were moved into this (Ordway) settlement and says that the effect of this increased number of colonies was not noticeable in the yield, and adds: "these things the writer knows to be true." If this is a fair sample of the truth of his article we cannot place much dependence on it. The facts of the case are the bees within a radius of two miles from these 500 colonies produced barely half the honey they did the year before, in spite of the fact that we had more water than usual. One of our members who lives two and one-half miles out had a yield fully equal to last year. Moreover the man that moved these 500 colonies here was very glad to

sell them to these same Stanleys, who practice what they preach with disregard for prior rights. His views, so boldly expressed upon that vital question, mark him among fair minded beekeepers as a relative of that individual whom Editor Root spelled H. O. G. His article was evidently meant to be crushing, but it was not based upon the right principle to enlist the sympathy or approval of beekeepers in general.

WM. BROADBENT.

Ordway, Colo., Feb. 15, 1902.

[Editor Root, of Gleanings, has been very prolific of his praises of Colorado "bee paradises," but, be it said to his everlasting credit, has always added this word of timely warning: "The field is already pretty thoroughly occupied; do not crowd in with more bees. Buy out some established apiary, or stay away—otherwise you will incur the ill will of the beekeepers already there, and there will be unpleasantness." A sample of this "unpleasantness" is already on tap in the Arkansas valley. This is one of the localities visited by Editor Root and pronounced already well occupied. About a year ago an eastern firm dumped several carloads of bees into this territory. That these were not welcomed by the resident beekeepers, goes without saying. But later, when it was found that the influx of so many bees had materially reduced the yield of surplus honey, they felt that they had a great big "kick a coming." The JOURNAL does not blame them, but the remedy is hard to see. Under our deplorable economic system the only apparent way is to fight it out, and the best man wins.—ED.]



Pioneer Beekeeping.

By *Dr. E. Gallup.*

I sold out in Wisconsin and moved to Mitchell county, Iowa, and selected an excellent location for bee-keeping. Burr oak opening on the east, and prairie, with heavy timber, on the west. The

openings were covered with wild fruit plums, thorn apples, crab apples, cherries, etc., and the timber contained abundance of bees' wood, elms, rock and soft maples; three different kinds of golden-rod in their season. Part of the 'bees' wood grew on the upland and part on a creek bottom, or lowland, which prolonged the season of bloom. The country was new and no white clover. But I always carried a pocket of seed and scattered it wherever I found a spot that the cattle had torn up the sod, and on the roadside in every direction, and had the country well stocked with it in two years in every direction for at least two miles. Well, the next was where to get the bees to start with, for I could find none for sale at any price. But finally found an old colony in a box hive that had not swarmed for two seasons. The hive contained not over three quarts of bees and the combs were old and black. The old lady would not sell them, but she finally let me have them on condition that if I succeeded in making anything out of them I was to return her a good Italian colony in a moveable comb hive in two years. The Italians and moveable combs she had never heard of before, and my description excited her curiosity wonderfully.

I moved them on top of a load of lumber in February [45 miles), set them in the cellar bottom up, and in March there came a real warm, sunshiny day, and I carried them out and let them have a good purifying flight; set them back into the cellar, and in April set them out for good. I commenced stimulating them by degrees, and gave them wheat flour for pollen.

By the way. I must tell how I made that discovery. I noticed when in Canada the bees, early in spring, gathering fine particles of sawdust and packing it away for pollen, and one day I accidentally spilled about two quarts of flour in the mill yard and a while after found the spilled flour literally alive with bees, car-

rying their baskets loaded with it to the hives. So I have always fed flour in the East until they could gather natural pollen the entire year.—Pacific Bee Journal.



\$1,000 for a Pound of Honey.

E. H. Schaeffle, a honey producer of Murphys, Cal., says he will give \$1,000 for a pound of complete comb honey made by man or machinery. This challenge was elicited by a published interview which declared that artificial comb honey was now made and sold. Mr. Schaeffle says:

"Beekeepers use what is known as comb foundation. This is a thin sheet of pure wax, with the impressions of the base of the cells impressed on the same. This is used to direct the course of the bees in comb-building. Beyond this base man has not been able to go."

Mr. Schaeffle says California's honey crop for 1901 was 2,208,000 pounds. This was gathered by about one-half the usual number of bees and from small favored localities. With the number of bees now in the state, should the condition be favorable, the output for this year will be in excess of 5,000,000 pounds.—New York Price Current.



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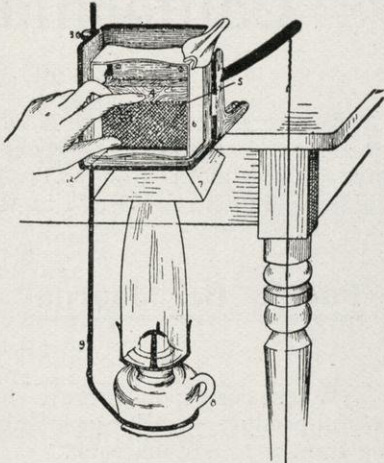
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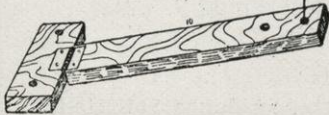
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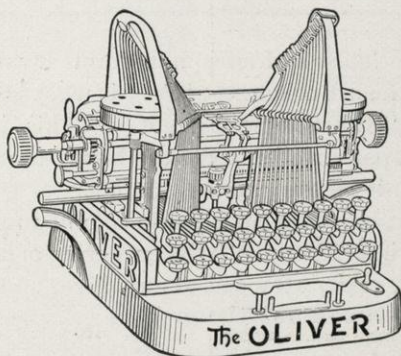
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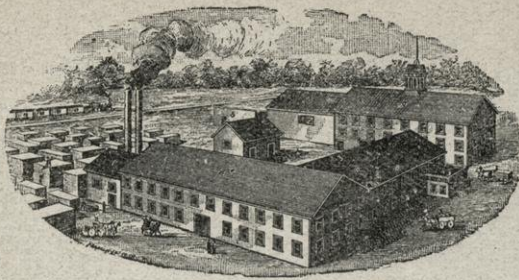
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