

## Rocky Mountain bee journal. Number 22 Vol. 2, [No. 10] November 15, 1902

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# TRocky Mountain Bee Zournal.

A Monthly Journal Devoted to the Interests of Western Beekeepers. Terma: Fifty Cents per Annum in Advance.

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Would you increase your profits? Then try the Danz. hive It is used from Maine to California. Read the following:

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Manager Northeastern Branch The A. I. Root Co.

The above unsolicited testimonial speaks for itself.

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The A. I. Root Co., Medina, O.



VOL. 2.

NOVEMBER 15, 1902.

WHOLE NO. 22.

#### Commercial Organization of Beekeepers.

#### BY R. C. AIKIN.

Every observant person cannot fail to see the trend of commercial organization and co-operation. The man who stays at home in some small agricultural occupation and does not take much note of the volume of business being done and the immensity of the plan and scheme upon which it is done, has little comprehension of its magnitude and effects. There was a day when every man dwelt "under his own vine and fig tree" and the family was a little world within itself. The day of small things is not much more than out of sight in the past, but they are in the past and totally eclipsed by the stupenduousness of the present.

Today it is specialism. That which was produced a few years ago all upon one farm and by one family, now is done by a dozen or more. This specialism makes us more and more dependent, brings us more and more into competition with each other, and gives power to the stronger and better equipped. All have heard the statement "competition is the life of trade," but it is false; competition has ground the life out of its millions. Ambition to honestly excell is commendable and productive of good, but competition that cuts the throat of a competitor or grinds him out of business simply because he is the weaker, does no good and becomes a boomerang. Live and let live is the principle that pays and builds up, and that is what beekeepers should strive to do. As it has been we have constantly tramped on each other's toes by cutting prices on each other and putting our product into each other's territory. How long will this continue?

Some will say that if we beekeepers band together and do our own business, that we are cutting out of business many middle men who now are getting their living out of the honey they handle. If the middleman is doing the business rightly and not putting honey producers out of business by crowding prices below a point of profit to the producer, nor so handling the business that the consumption is kept below what it should be, then he ought not to be superceded; but that the producer is not getting justice nor the goods being put into the hands of consumers as it should neither in the quantity or price, is without question. This being true, more people will be benefitted by a change than by continuing in the present way, and that which benefits the greatest number is the thing to do. Cooperation of beekeepers in marketing their produce will put the business upon a much more sure and solid basis and will facilitate the distribution so that the consumption will be largely increased, and the greater prosperity of the other classes will make more business for the displaced middle man in other lines.

I stand firmly on the ground that every kindred business should be under one general cooperative management, and that the price of every product should be above the cost of production. When this is accomplished, then these combinations should be made to harmonize, but in what way I will not say at this time. as it is not necessary to the discussion of the subject before us. However, we have but to observe the rapid rate at which various related lines are combining under vast capitalized associations so as to minimize the cost of production and by their power to keep prices above cost, to at once recognize that if we do not do likewise we are the losers.

Combination in itself is right, and the economic principle underlying all this combining is certainly correct. What makes us dread the combination is that it has so much greater power than the individual that we cannot stand against it, and the selfish spirit leads to abuses of power. There is not yet half enough cooperation in the world; we ought to work together and to each other's interests, and when we do so the governing power should protect and foster, but the combine that has for its purpose the crushing out the weaker and putting unjust burdens on those interested should be ruled with an iron hand. I am an advocate of high prices; the trouble is not that prices are high, but that they are unequal. Everything being equal and prices high there is a chance for everyone to get along, but when prices are at or very near the cost line then it takes such an immense volume of business to make any showing in gains that it is impossible for the weaker to arise. A simple comparison of high priced labor with the countries where a very few cents a day rules shows the difference.

What then shall we do? Our state ha

her Colorado Honey Producers' Association which is doing an excellent work even though hampered in many ways. Other of the far western brethern have their co-operative plans by which they are helping themselves, but as yet these are but a tithe of what they ought to be. The same work should cover our country and in one grand corporation. A move is being made to get the National Association into working order to take up the work on a much broader scale, and it is a right movement. I hope to see this matter pushed until the whole bee industry is combined and co-operating, and I want to see a start made now and some practical work done in 1903. I want to see our ranks so thoroughly organized and a system so complete that we can specialize still more, so that the poor widow with her five or ten colonies can as readily find a market as the man with his 1,000 colonies, and so the small producer can know that if he is able to produce that there will be expert salesmen and an organization that he can call his that will market his little crop as surely as if he had many tons. It can be so.

Our own Colorado association comes very near being in form what we should have. We want a general organization in which all can have membership, but we must not think that we each are THE organization and that every thing must be done as we think; it must be representative, the masses electing a board of directors who are to do the business. A few men who are familiar with business conditions and principle can do more in two hours than a big convention of sensible men with the best of intentions could do in months, and sometimes in years. Delegate your power and centralize your working members.

This article is already getting long and I will not go into all the minute details of . plans, but suffice it this time to mention the general plan as I see it. Here it is:

Let the National take up the matter. Drop the annual fee membership plan as now in vogue, and instead have a stock subscription membership as now in force in our Colorado Honey Producers' Association-then once a member we continue so unless out by death, mutual withdrawal or being turned out because of immorality. The money from stock sales to be the working capital, for there must be money to run the business. I refer to that part of it which requires the purchase of honey and other stock, for there will be many who must have spot cash out of their produce, for this there ought to be ample funds and we ought not to have to borrow. Let the operating expenses be paid by commissions and let the commissions be such as to make the funds ample. Better have a surplus left over than to have a shortage.

We want branch offices all over the country, and I suggest that the sub or branch managers be nominated by those whom they serve, and confirmed by the board. Ware, or packing houses should be in each producing district, and whereever there is enough honey in any neighborhood or district to get a car together at the most advantageous point for the producers concerned, let it be loaded and The board must at all received there. times be in touch with the producers to know the prospects and realizations, and as well with and the consumers with their wants and needs. This knowledge should be so complete that the general manager can at any time put his finger on the map and say that here and here are so many cases or cars of stock, and here and there so much is wanted or needed, and here is the railroad over which it should go.

Now don't say that this is a big thing, too big to be accomplished. Just as big things have and can be done, and it will cost by FAR less than we pay the way it is now. Don't say it is too hard a thing, say we can and will.

There, Mr. Editor, stir up the animals and let us have an awakening. I am ready and willing. I have enough good will to want to take all the brethern with me, but if all won't go some of us have to go without the rest. We must do it or be left in the woods to grub out a living. I should say an existence.

Loveland, Colo., Nov. 4, 1902.

[Does Brother Aikin mean to abandon the National Beekeeper's Association in its present form and convert it into a purely business organization? While as much might be inferred from the language of his article, we do not believe that he intends to convey that meaning. The National occupies a peculiar field and serves a general purpose that does not come within the scope of an organization whose specific office is to market the products of its members. There is plenty of work for both a national beekeepers' association and a national honey producers' association, and while the membership in each may be nearly identical, we feel that beekeeping interests in general will be better served by keeping them distinct as organizations.-ED.]

#### ۶۶ Here's A good model

#### For a National Honey Producers' Association.

The following, which we find in a late number of the far-away Canadian Bee Journal, directly answers a number of questions that have been submitted to us since the launching of the idea of a National Honey Producers' Association, at the recent Denver convention. With apologies to Mr. Rauchfuss and the C. B. J., we reproduce it and recommend that it be carefully read:

"In reply to your favor of recent date, would say that our Association was organized five years ago but did not incorporate until 1899. Our aim is to supply the members with their bee supplies as cheaply as possible, quality considered, and to sell their honey an dbeeswax at as good a figure as possible.

"To enable us to get our supplies at the right price, we must buy in carload lots and discount cur bills. By doing so we are also in a position to sell supplies to bee-keepers outside of our Association and make a small profit on them. We have a wareroom in the business portion of the city where we keep a large stock of supplies and store our honey until it is to be shipped out. With the assistance of a helper, I attend to the selling of the bee-supplies and the handling of the honey crop; I also attend to the bookkeeping and correspondence.

"All honey sold under the trademark of the Association must be graded according to the rules laid down by the Association, and to make sure that this is done every lot is inspected upon delivery; lots found detective must either be graded over or they will be sold, without our trademark attached to the cases, as mixed lots.

"We have now built up a splendid carload trade in comb honey, and, owing to our close grading, we are able to obtain better figures for our crop than others. We nearly always seli our honey on the terms of spot cash as soon as car is loaded. We have several houses that who send the money for a carload with their order and leave the selection of the lots of honey to us; this shows that we have the confidence of the trade.

"We charge everybody, member or non-member, 10 per cent commission for all sales of honey, but if after the close of the year our books show a surplus, the same is then divided among the members according to the amount of commission paid by them. The year before last, when we had only a wareroom from July to December for the storing of our honey, our expenses were very light and it cost our members only one-tenth of 1 per cent to market their honey. Last year we fitted up our salesroom and commenced to carry a complete stock of supplies, and kept the store open the year through, therefore, our expenses were larger, but still it cost our members only 3 per cent to market their honey last season.

"If a member is in need of money we will advance him one dollar per case on all honey as soon as delivered at our wareroom. Every member has also a right to set a price upon his honey, but there are very few now that do this. We also have a way of securing reliable crop reports from all sections of the state, and other honey producing sections of the west, and, therefore, are in a position to estimate what the crop will be and to fix our prices accordingly.

"To enable an association to carry on a work of this nature without a large capital, it is necessary that they should have a fair proportion of its members that are willing to put their shoulders to the wheel and do their work in an enthusiastic and unselfish manner.

"The funds for carrying on our work are raised in the following manner: First by issuing shares of stock of \$10 each; we expect our members to subscribe for these according to the size of their apiaries. Second, by having the members deposit with the Association the necessary amount for the supplies they expect to use during the season. Third, if we need any money for making advances on honey, we secure this from members, and pay them a fair rate of interest for the short time needed.

"Members are not compelled to sell their honey through the Association, but you will see that if they do not

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tion, they are not entitled to any of the rebates, and all they will then get out of their membership is a dividend of \$1 per share.

"We are anxious to have every fair minded bee-keeper, who is willing to put up his honey in first class shape, join our Association, but people that are unreasonable, or likely to be dishonest in packing their honey, we would rather have stay out.

"I would like to describe the workings of our Association more in detail, but lack of time forbids. Hoping to see you here at the National Convention, yours very truly,

> F. RAUCHFUSS. Manager.

Denver, Colo.

#### \* \* COURAGE, THOMPSON!

#### The Stampede is Coming Our Way With Majestic Strides.

To talk about co-operation in a Colorado paper, as if it were something still to be attained, is like carrying coal to a coal mine. For some time I have felt that any further solicitation of bee-keepers to join the Colorado Honey Producers' Association would be an ungrateful taskthat those who had gumption enough to go in out of the rain had already joined, and we were getting along well enough, and it really didn't make any difference to us if there were some outside who were smart enough to know it all and more too. I suppose that is not quite accurate, and that those already in the Association would be a small fraction better off, from one point of view, if everybody were in it; but, it seems to me, that is a theoretical condition not worth while considering, for there must always be some know-italls in every occupation. We are at least nine-tenths as well off, from one point of view, as we would be in an impossibly perfect condition of State co-operation,

seli any honey through the Associa- and I think better off from other points of view, and we are certainly nearly twice as well off as we would be without any co-operation. \$2.75 to \$3.00 a case now, against \$1.70 a case a few years ago, tells the tale-or, rather, a part of it; for there are other advantages than those of price, such as storage at any time, advance payment of \$1.00 a case, absolutely no effort put forth by the producer in selling, etc.

> I suppose it is really true, however, that there are still a number besides the willfully ignorant who don't know the situation. It may be an act of charity to them to call their attention to the fact that the Honey Producers' Association is the only channel of sale in the state which sells their honey for them for the bare cost of handling it, if they become members. Others who buy up honey and sell by the carload put the difference between buying and selling prices into their pockets, and that is the end of it. The association returns that difference to its members, less the bare cost of handling. It does not make money off of bee-keepers, because it is composed of bee-keepers, who put the money it makes into their own pockets. As for slanders which have been maliciously circulated by interested parties, life is too short to notice them. Anyhow, they are to be expected whenever a middleman's profit is in danger of being cut off. Denver is not so far away from any honey-producing part of the state but what any producer with a sizable crop can afford to come and investigate matters for himself.

As to National co-operation in selling honey, the step already taken-the formation of a committee-reminds me of what used to be tried here in Colorado. The State Association tried again and again to take it up. The members always sat and looked on with big ears and little mouths, each waiting for everybody else to begin. Finally some few of us got tired of that sort of thing, and went ahead and organized on our own little reresponsibilities, and hey! presto! the thing was done. The State Association, with a big sigh of relief, went on with its legitimate duties, and so did the "Smile Producers' Association'' (as it was kindly dubbed by the editor of the American Bee Journal, who wanted to buy honey of it on tick and couldn't), and both were better off for not tackling everything. So it will be with the National Association. Honey marketing is not in its line; it had better keep its hands off. There is far too much inertia in a dollar membership association to tackle such things as carloads of honey and their cash equivalents. It would take several years to talk about it, and if it ever did start in, it would be in a timid and tentative style, quite incommensurate with the country's resources. It takes money to run a money business. The founders of the Honey Producers' Association did not put down one dollar a piece, but ten dollars a piece, and since then have invested more vet, the writer having fifty dollars in it at present, and others in proportion; though it is still true that ten dollars, without any addition entitles one to all the benefits.

In another sense, however, the National may well consider the matter. The founders of the Honey Producers' Association were all members of the State Association, and in a true sense one may be said to have sprung from the other. In that sense, the National may yet be the parent of a National Honey Producers' Association that will amount to something. If instead of a committee, as at present appointed, of the National Association itself, those members of the National Association, and those alone, who really mean business, get together and organize independently, then something of significance can and will be done right now; otherwise not.

In either state, local or National organizations for business, one item of prime importance is to do away with the idea that to make a success, everybody must be included. Experience has proved that this is not at all necessary to success. In fact, the more I think of it, the more I doubt whether, even if it were possible to include all, it would be desirable. Some would do an organization more good by staying out of it than as members.

On page 173, the editor seems not to have heard of the great epidemic of 1896, that rendered almost all apiaries worthless for the season within a radius of ten miles around Denver, and in fact destroyed some apiaries almost completely, and greatly reduced most of them. One apiary at Manhattan Beach, and a few farmers' hives here and there, were the only ones within that radius that completely escaped. The theory advanced at the time was smelter smoke; not alone, however, but in connection with the deposition of moisture, in the form of dews or fogs. This view was strengthened by a similar loss, for which the same theory was advanced, in one region in Germany; not the one referred to on page 172, however. This loss occurred here in May. At Salt Lake the loss occurs after the flow and during winter, and has not been attributed to anything but the dry smoke. It occurs only on the east side of the Jordan river, which tends to corroborate the theory of the smoke being the cause, since the prevailing winds blow the smoke almost altogether on the east side of the river.

#### F. L. THOMPSON.

#### Denver, Colo., Nov. 6, 1902.

[The view taken by Brother Thompson savors strongly of pessimism. He evidently has small hopes that any considerable number of the beekeepers of the nation will ever be organized into a co-operative honey selling exchange. He is impelled to this view from the fact that so inconsiderable a number of the beekeepers of Colorado avail themselves of the opportunity of co-operation afforded by our State Honey Producers' Association and also from the farther fact that there are some even in our ranks who are opposed to it and who do everything within their power to cripple its usefulness and prevent it from attaining the worthy objects for which it was organized. We do not wonder that Mr. Thompson regards it as "love's labor lost" to further elaborate the beauties of co-operation before an audience of Colorado readers, but there are two things he should stop to consider.

I. New ideas, no matter how meritorious they may be, seldom attain sudden popularity with the masses. The men who first bring them to public notice are reviled and spat upon and their names made a by-word and a hissing. For illustration, there were "Sockless" Jerry Simpson, "Whiskers Peffer" and our own "Bloody Bridles" Waite, yet the principles for which these men wrought and labored and bore the shafts of calumny and vituperation are gradually being engrafted upon our institutions, and their final triumph is only a question of time and evolution. It has always been so. A decade ago the man who had the extreme temerity to propose the government ownership of public utilities was denounced as a crank and a dangerous man-yet at the present ratio of progress in that direction another decade will scarcely pass before the industries upon which the people depend for life, health and happiness will be largely owned and operated by the government at cost for the benefit of the people. This is the universal history of all new things of whatever character. The writer can well remember when some people regarded a moveable comb hive as a contraption of the evil one.

2. The ware-room of the Colorado Honey Producers' Association is a long ways from some of the honey producing sections of the state. Freight to Denver, in some instances, is nearly as much as freight to the great centers of consumption and distribution. So far as we remember, the Association members have never publicly announced a plan whereby members could ship through the Association and avoid the payment of local rates to Denver, except by the organization of branch associations. This is not always practical and it also entails a great expense. If it is announced that arrangements can be made at any point in the state to consign cars of honey through to final destination without having to stop and unload for inspection in Denver, we believe that the Association would immediately enjoy a phenomenal and substantial gtowth. Here is a local case for illustration: Boulder is 29 miles from Denver. It is too far to haul a large crop of honey by wagon, and the car rate is \$35. This makes the ware-rooms of the Association practically out of reach of the Boulder honey producer. What. then, is the remedy? At the close of the honey season each member of the Association at Boulder can report his number of cases of honey to the manager and that he is ready to deliver at the car. When the manager sees a market for this honey he can call for it to be delivered at a certain day, and if there is no one among the Boulder members proficient enough in the art of grading and loading, he can send some one who has had this training to inspect and receive the honey. The car can then be consigned directly from Boulder to the eastern market and the local charges to Denver avoided. The plan is feasible for any railway station in this or any other contiguous state, and places the association at the service of every beekeeper in the state, no matter where he may be located.-ED.

#### \*\*

Frank Rauchfuss, at 1440 Market street, Denver, will receive membership dues and receipt for same for the Colorado State Beekeepers' Association. All members who have not yet done so are urged to renew for the coming year.

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Read Barteldes & Co's. new advertisement on the last page of cover.

#### The ROCKY MOUNTAIN \*\*BEE JOURNAL.\*\*

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

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#### PLEASE NOTICE.

The patrons of the ROCKY MOUNTAIN BEE JOURNAL, when they happen in Denver, can renew their subscriptions by paying their money to Frank Rauchfuss, 1440 Market street, or to Barteldes & Co,. 1521 15th street. These parties are our authorized Denver agents, and we will honor receipts for all moneys paid to them for us.

H. C. MOREHOUSE, Publisher.

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#### THE OUTLOOK HOPEFUL FOR CO-OPERATION AMONG BEE-KEEPERS.

People act, as a rule, according to their intelligence, so it may be regarded as certain that when bee-keepers, as a class, become intelligent enough to co-operate, we will have co-operation. It is useless to expect it before that time or under any other circumstances. Some. 110 doubt, who have accepted these advanced ideas, and are the direct beneficiaries of their practical application, grow impatient and discouraged at the apathy of their brother bee-keepers and their indifference to a matter that so vitally concerns their well-being. It should be remembered that all progress is slow, as measured by the flight of years, and that time is the essence of all mundane achievements. So, the man who said that "all things come to him who waits," was not very far amiss of the truth.

Intelligence is an absolute, universal unit-it is the mind of the Infinite. All ideas have their fountain head in this eternal source and germinate spontaneously in the minds of those prepared to receive and nourish them. The success of those bee-keepers who first preceived and adopted the idea of commercial cooperation is the leaven that will prepare other minds for the reception and growth of these ideas, and finally will lift the minds of all bee-keepers to that plane of understanding wherein co-operation will be easy and natural and come as a matter of course.

But the leaven must have time to work.

The working of the leaven of thought in human minds is governed by laws that man did not make and cannot change. Hence, the teacher must have the patience to await the full fruition of his labors.

That the leaven of co-operation among bee-keepers is working throughout the world, is attested by the many movements in that direction that have recently been inaugurated. In Ireland, Australia, Jamaica and California, (not to mention Colorado) substantial progress has been made, and lastly, the National Bee-Keepers' Association of the United States, a body noted for its conservatism, has taken up the idea. Surely, this is no time to sit in the shadows and nurse discouragement.

In this issue we are pleased to present articles from Messrs. Aikin, Rauchfuss and Thompson, which show succinctly and conclusively what commercial cooperation has done for the bee-keepers of Colorado. In addition in has done much for the bee-keepers of all the Rocky Mountain states, but vastly more for those who are members of the Association.

As stated last month only a small proportion, perhaps not over a fifth, of the active bee-keepers of Colorado belong to the Honey Producers' Association. Boys, isn't it about time to "come in out of the rain" and cross-fire of competition? Havn't you "bucked" each other about long enough? It seems useless to further multiply evidences—they are absolute, all point to co-operation as the next great stride in economic advancement. This includes not only beekeepers but all other lines of industry.

Bee-keepers, arouse! The time has come for action.

#### 36.36

THIN, sour, unripe extracted honey is worse than glucose.

#### 36,36

THE way the snow is piling up on the mountain ranges makes us smile.

#### H.K

CLOSE attention to details at the right time helps to bring success in beekeeping.

#### 3. 3

Production is the easy side to successful beekeeping. Distribution is the harder task.

#### \*\*

COMMERCIAL co-operation marks an epoch in beekeeping no less important than the invention of the movable comb hive.

#### \*\*

RAUCHFUSS BROS., of Denver, are installing a plant for extracting the residue of wax from slum gum. They propose to work it on the share basis.

#### 20,20

A PIECE of parchment paper (the paper that is used for butter wrappers) placed over the top of a Mason jar before screwing down the cover will prevent the honey from oozing out under the rubber band. CATNIP has one very important advantage over other honey plants—when once established it will stay for years without renewing or reseeding.

#### 30,30

COLORADO grown catnip seed (raised in the vicinity of Denver) is on the market. This refutes the theory that it cannot be successfully grown in Colorado.

#### 30,30

COMPETITION in the great industrial lines, has practically ceased in the United States. The trust, a wickedly selfish form of co-operation has taken its place.

#### 2.3

THE scarcity and high price of comb honey is increasing the consumption of extracted honey. See to it that only good, well ripened goods are placed on the market.

#### 2,2

THE pint Mason jar makes a convenient and handy package for retailing honey to the city trade. People do not object to paying for the jar, as it has some utility when emptied.

#### 2.3

A HONEY plant that would grow above ditch on our arid lands would be quite an acquisition. Such an one seems to have been dsscovered in the California carpet grass. It seems to be worthy of trial.

#### \*\*

EXTRACTED honey weighing less than 12 pounds to the gallon is not fit for table consumption, and if it is allowed to remain on the hive a couple of months after sealing, the quality will be vastly improved.

\*\*

DON'T be backward about sowing the seeds of the various honey plants that are known to thrive in the west (and this includes about all of them adapted to the temperate zone). Every little helps, and in time our honey resources may be vastly improved.

#### PREPARING FOR WINTER.

The time of year is at hand when colonies should be prepared for their winter rest; November is the month usually chosen in Colorado, though many defer this important work until December. It is better to be too early than too late, and it is already too late to do satisfactory feeding, if some of the stocks are lacking in stores. These preparations are of the simplest character, and may be grouped under three headings.

- 1. Plenty of stores.
- 2. Plenty of bees.

3. Provision for upward ventillation. To carry a vigorous colony from November to June requires 20 to 30 pounds of sealed stores. If any at this date are found deficient in stores, the addition of two or three frames of sealed honey (more or less, according to their needs) will carry them until the warm days of late April, when they may be fed thin syrup, and thus the double purpose of supplying food and stimulating brood rearing will be accomplished.

A colony that on a frosty morning is clustered on four to six frames, fairly covering them, will winter, provided other conditions are equal. Smaller colonies had better be united until the requisite strength is secured. There must be a sufficient quantity of bees to generate enough heat to keep old Jack Frost from invading the cluster.

Chaff cushions, saw dust, or other thick packing is not needed. Simply two or three layers of gunny-sacking spread over the frames with an empty super above or a cover having a dead air space, is all that will be necessary. It should be remembered that sealed covers, in this climate, often prove fatal to the colony. The packing must not be so thick as to cut off upward circulation of the air, nor so thin as to allow a draft. Three thicknesses of sacking are about right.

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Please invite your neighbor to subscribe.

#### NATIONAL NOMINATIONS.

Candidates for general manager of the National Bee-Keepers' Association, so far as we are advised, have been nominated as follows:

E. France, Platteville, Wis.

E. T. Abbott, St. Joe, Mo.

There will be three vacancies in the board of directors of this association, and the following names have been put forward as candidates:

G. W. Vangundy, Vernal, Utah.

W. A. Selser. Philadelphia, Pa.

Wm. McEvoy, Ont., Canada.

Udo Toepperwein, of Texas.

To be perfectly fair to all concerned, this journal will not express its preference for any of the above named candidates. Study the merits, or demerits, of each and then vote as you please. One thing, however, should be borne constantly in mind—a harmonious and useful future for the association is paramount to the claims of any individual candidate, however just and meritorious they may be.

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INTERESTING communications from E. F. Atwater, the boy bee-keeper of Idaho, E. S. Lovesy, and others, are crowded over to next month.

#### 38.38

IF you are producing extracted honey, take the advice of this journal and in the future let your honey ripen on the hives. Its quality will thereby be increased fully one hundred per cent and you will have the satisfaction of producing goods that will give uniform and perfect satisfaction wherever they may be placed.

#### 32.36

THE lower valley of the Bear river in Routt county, Colorado, has immense acreages of alfalfa, but no bees to gather the tons of nectar that now go to waste. There is a good local market for honey, and beekeepers seeking new locations would do well to investigate. It is on the line of the Moffatt railway, now building from Denver to Salt Lake.

#### MOTHERWORT US. CATNIP.

I. H. Wing, of Carlton, Colo., writes: "I infer from reading the last number of the ROCKY MOUNTAIN BEE JOURNAL that some one" (that must have been the editor) "has catnip on the brain. If you can make it do any good in the Arkansas valley, you can beat me. Why not grow motherwort (Leonurus Cardiaca)? It is, in my experience, very much superior as a honey plant to not only catnip, but to anything else that I have ever tried. It has this fault, I can't make it do any good in Western Kansas or in this part of Colorado, even with irrigation. Probably with proper irrigation it would grow all right.'

We are glad of the opportunity to record this experience-the first attempt, as far as we know, to cultivate catnip in Colorado. Its failure to grow in the Arkansas valley, or that portion of it, must be another "peculiarity of locality." During the present season several clumps of catnip have been under our daily observation. To our best knowledge the seeds from which they sprang were not planted there by human hands. It grew in situations under ditch, but where irrigation was sparse and infrequent. It bloomed all through the dry summer and up until it was laid low by frost. Early and late it was covered with bees, and the persistency with which the little toilers "stayed with it" certainly indicated a We feel certain good yield of honey. that a hundred acres of it within reach of an apiary would show phenomenal results. If motherwort vields a good quality of honey, by all means sow it, if it proves adapted to our soil and climate. The improvement of our honey pasturage is a legitimate field for enterprise and development, and one that will yield an increasing profit as the years go on. A little attention to this matter now will lay the foundation for bigger crops, even with closer crowding in the future. Here is a chance for the beekeeper to not only help himself and his lineal successors, but to be a public benefactor, as well. Bee-keepers, this is a theme well worth your earnest thought aud consideration.

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IN view of the princely tribute (profits) exacted by the modern trust system, it is a hard matter to convince people that the trusts are all right and are playing an important part in the drama of civilization-yet it is true. Judas was a necessary factor in the tragic scene on calvary, and none the less are the great capitalistic combines of the present day necessary, in that they are teaching the people the beneficence of co-operation. These very exactions will at last force the people to combine for their own protection and institute a new economic order based upon that broad christian and humanitarian principle that, "the injnry of one is the concern of all

#### 2.2

A COMMENDABLE bit of enterprise on the part of the American Bee Journal is the addition of a ladies' department. This ought to increase the popularity of the "old reliable" with the fair sex.

#### 2.%

#### Out Apiaries for Comb Honey.

#### [Read at the Denver convention by W. L. Porter.]

The out apiary is the invention of the specialist, i. e., the beekeeper who devotes his whole time to bee culture, depending upon it for his income. In a country where the honey producing plants are scattered, he finds it necessary to keep more bees than one locality will furnish flowers for. In order that he may have a full crop of honey he seeks a new and more favorable location.

In an out apiary three things must be considered: First the location; second, the stock of bees; and third, the method of manipulation.

In seeking a location it is important that the beekeeper keep in mind that, first, there must be an abundance of honey producing plants; second, his location must not be already stocked by other beekeepers, and, third, a favorable place to set the hives must be found. The land should slope gently to the south, with shade on the north, and protection from the wind.

After a suitable location has been found, it should be stocked with bees which have been bred with special reference to hardiness, to insure good wintering; strong wing power for long flights and to resist the wind. They should have energy and good comb building qualities. There should be colonies enough in a place to make work for a whole day in one yard, for the bee-keeper and his assistants. Say from 100 to 150 colonies. It is necessary to have a bee and mouse proof building large enough to hold supplies for a year's crop of honey and increase.

In winter the bee-keeper should make visits from time to time to prevent the robbing of weak and queenless colonies; especially those weak or dead with foul brood. In spring the out yards need watching for colonies that need feeding, and, later, all need stimulative feeding that they may be in full strength for the honey flow. Before plants or trees bloom wheat flour may be fed to be used in the place of pollen, and the honey in the hive may be uncapped and combs of honey given.

A very important problem which presents itself is the control of swarming. Many methods are used by different beekeepers. Some make a practice of clipping the queens' wings and allow natural swarming. Others dequeen the hives. Whatever methods are employed, two things may be profitably considered: First, that shaded colonies, having plenty of storage room are less apt to swarm than those under opposite conditions. Second, that a stock of bees may be carefully bred which is not predisposed to swarm.

At the home of the beekeeper there should be a commodious workshop, welllighted and heated for winter work. Here all hives and supers should be prepared and sections filled with foundation. As fast as these are ready they should be moved to the buildings at the out-yards. Thus everything is made ready for the rush of the season. As fast as the honey is finished it should be taken off the hives and stored in a warm, dry room. There the sections should be cleaned, the honey carefully graded and crated. The earlier this is done the better prepared is the bee-keeper to meet the demand for early comb honey at the high prices.

Managing out apiaries for comb honey is not easy work, but it is continuous work the whole year. It has some disadvantages over having all one's bees at a home vard. Much valuable time is lost each day on the road to and from a yard. But there are great advantages. In one locality from one or another cause the bees may dwindle badly, or the flowers may fail there, if all one's bees are there a complete loss follows. At another vard perhaps only a short distance away, conditions may differ so that there is a full crop, and some profit is realized. Different parts of the country vary so that in one state it may be advisable to concentrate one's stock; at another to scatter it widely. Each beekeeper must study and adapt himself to his own conditions of environment. There is one principle which applies to all localities. To get good results in comb honey it is absolutely necessary to have all hives full of bees at the time of the honey flow.

Denver, Colo.

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#### Bean Straw for Winter Packing.

What do you think of making a frame of lath two feet square and setting it over a hive and filling the space in between frame and hive with bean vines, leaving the entrance side unpacked and facing the south? J. S. WILLARD.

Rocky Ford, Colo.

[We see nothing objectionable in that style of packing, yet, we doubt its necessity or even utility in this climate. What seems to us of more value is an outer case made to telescope over the hive, with a dead air space between. Dead air affords dryer and better protection than any kind of absorbent packing, at least that has been our experience in Colorado. This outer case can also be used in summer over the supers, rendering them cool in daytime and warm at night. (See article by E. F. Atwater next month.) ED.]

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#### HONEY MARKETS.

DENVER—We quote No. 1 comb honey at \$3.25 per case of 24 sections; extra fancy No. 1 \$3.50; No. 2 \$3.00. Extracted, white in 60<sup>th</sup> cans  $8\frac{1}{3}$ c; amber grades  $7\frac{3}{4}$  to 8. Beeswax, 22 to 26.

COLO. HONEY PRODUCERS' ASS'N.

1440 Market St.

Nov. 12, 1902.

CHICAGO-Prices remain steady but the demand is small. We are not selling the quantity that we have done ordinarily at this season of the year. The advance in price has checked the trade, in addition to which retailers have got the impression that honey is going to be very scarce and they are not pushing its sale. Fancy white comb brings 15 to 16 cents, with travel stained from one to two cents per pound less: Amber honey brings 12 to 13c according to size and style of package. There is very little call for the dark and amber buckwheat grades. Extracted honey, white, sells at 7 to 8 cents per pound; the dark and ambers bring 6 to 7 cents, with southern honey slow at about 51/2 cents. Beeswax sells upon arrival at 30c per fb.

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Nov. 7, 1902.

FOR SALE—About 70 8-frame brood chambers, including covers and bottoms, complete excepting frames. Made for the standard Hoffman frame and dovetailed super. About half are painted and all are nailed together. Owner offers them for sale on account of having adopted a larger hive. A bargain at 40 cents each. Call on or address, H. C. Morehouse, 2501 Bluff St., Boulder. Colorado. 22-tf

FOR SALE—Fresh Catnip seed by ounce or pound. Address, L. M. Russel, Berlin, Ontario, Canada. 22-2t

A GOOD INVESTMENT-The editor of the Rocky Mountain Bee Journal has under lease to Nov. 1, 1903, an apiary consisting of 128 colonies of bees and fixtures. These consist of 325 supers, 65 empty hives, and a number of miscellaneous articles of equipment. This apiary is rigged for the honey harvest of 1903 with the exception of shipping cases and 1,000 to 2,000 sections. The owner has removed to Portland, Ore., and offers the apiary for sale subject to the lease. The price is \$700, part cash and part time. If next season is an average one they ought to make neary \$700 worth of honey and increase to 150. This is a good investment and worth investigating. Address, H. C. Morehouse, Boulder, Colo.

FOR SALE -- Fresh, Colorado grown Catnip Seed, 15 cents per ounce post paid.

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Cleome Seed 10c per oz. post paid. Wo Buy and Sell Honey and Beeswax. COLORADO HONEY PRODUCERS' ASSO.

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THE ROCKY MOUNTAIN BEE JOURNAL.



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