

The progressive bee-keeper. Vol. XI, No. 7 July, 1901

Higginsville, Mo.: Leahy Manufacturing Company, July, 1901

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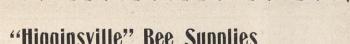
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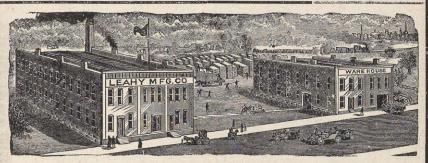
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Vol. XI. HIGGINSVILLE, MO. JULY, 1901 NO. 7.

Contents of this Issue.

Advantages	214
A Lesson from the Wax-Press	209
Bee-Keepers' Exchanges-Organiza	-
and Co-operation	213
Comments	202
Cost of Co-operation	.215
Convention Notice	.215
Experiences and Observations	.205
Good Things in Bee-Keeping Press	208
Improvement on Veil	.207
Longevity in Bees	.211
Miller, S. E.	.206
Modern Methods of Queen-Rearing	.212
The Outlook	207
Whom it Helps	.214



COMMENTS.

F. L. THOMPSON

"I have admitted that my friends who contend for a large hive where the flow is prolonged may be correct, but here is a man, Mr. M. A. Gill, who, I believe, once lived in Wisconsin, but now has his home in Colorado, that favors 8-frame hives even where the flow is as long as 91 days."—Bee-Keepers' Review.

But, gentlemen, a Colorado flow is not 91 days, as a rule; 51 days would be nearer to it, and that is divided into two portions of about 31 and 20 days, separated by about two weeks. Even ignoring the interval, the time from first to last surplus is not over 66 days. don't philosophize on a 91-day basis. Last year was only a remarkable exception. Mr. Gill says "I find it takes a good queen, even to her utmost, to keep an eight-frame hive well supplied with brood (as MUST) for that length of time." be sure it does; but what of it? is a matter of common knowledge that, with Italian bees at least, a flow of any duration, even the short white-clover flows, causes the amount of brood at the beginning of the flow to diminish considerably during its progress. I can't see why Mr. Gill should consider that an argument, nor why the Review should recognize it as such, unless because it is so anxious to present one side of this question as to give everything said on that side. What about room before the flow? where the question of size comes in. If there is more brood in the majority of ten-frames, at the beginning of the flow, than could be obtained

in eight-frame hives, is not that the crucial test? If the extra broodcombs in the ten-frame hives are later filled with honey instead of brood, what of it? Do not the bees hatched from them gather much more honey during the flow than would fill those particular combs? Mr. Gill says a good queen must keep her hive well supplied with brood during the flow, probably referring to the need for the supply of workers throughout the season. No doubt; but the idea that, given a GOOD supply of brood in either size of hive, its proportion to the size of the hive makes any difference DUR-ING the flow, does not seem to me founded in reason. After the bees have once occupied the super in force, they stay there. At the beginning of the flow, it is very true that it makes a great difference about entering the supers, whether the hive is well filled with brood or not; but that is another matter. If the average ten-frame hives ARE well filled with brood at the beginning, what more do you want? It has been my experience, with eight and ten-frame hives in the yard at the same time for several years, that the average ten-frame hive is as well supplied with broad at the opening of the flow, in proportion to its size, as the eight-frame, and I conclude that the eight-frame size restricts the queen too much at that time. Mr. Gill says nothing about that. I wonder if his locality has anything to do with it. I believe that Erie, where some of his bees are, is not so very far away from Broomfield. Broomfield is the place where all the hives are honey-bound before the flow, and the queens do not lay much because there is so much old honey in the way. But none of the localities where I have kept bees is as bad as that.

Mr. Gill does not bring forward

any more arguments; but resorts to assertions, thus: "I candidly believe that where a person intends to keep a large number of colonies, and where the season is as long as it is here, and where the owner intends to (and does) meet all the demands of the bees both fall and spring, and where there is female help, that, taking into consideration the cost of supplies, and the difference in honey delivered [what he means by this I don't know], THERE IS MORE REAL PROFIT IN EIGHT-FRAME HIVES THAN ANYTHING LARGER." Now. Gill may candidly believe things, and typographically italicize them; but until he says why they are, we won't be able to understand. It dimly appears, however, that he admits that when feeding is to be avoided, the eight-frame is not quite in it. But female help! My sakes! What has that to do with it? average bee-keeper is one MAN, and nobody else. Whether he has a family or not, is not the point. If he has, he has no right to expect his wife to do his work for him. The house-work is enough. Exceptional cases don't make a rule. And if the house-work does not take all her time, is he to be so grasping as to deny her the opportunity for individual and spontaneous activity, the most precious possession of humanity, simply because he does not have to pay her wages? If so, the days of slavery are not yet over.

In the foot-note, the editor of Gleanings, in the usual foot-note style, generalizes in the following fearful and wonderful manner: "With regard to the eight-frame hive, I noticed that it is used very largely in Colorado, although there was a tendency to use the ten-frame width; but the use of that size was confined almost exclusively to those who made the production of extracted honey a specialty." Neverthe-

less, there are a number of ten-frame comb-honey apiaries near Denver that escaped the eagle eye of this authority, and in Montrose County, which ships 50 tons of combannually, and little or no extracted, the ten-frame L. size is almost exclusively used. But as to the implication that mere numbers of different sizes in the hands of bee-keepers indicate the absolute superiority of the more numerous number, the editor of Gleanings ought to know better, and does know better. At a former Colorado convention, Mr. F. Rauchfuss, who knows something on this subject, said: "The prevalence of eight-frame hives in Colorado is not due to the choice of the bee-keepers, but to that of the manufacturers. The eight-frame hive is easy to man-Those who started manufacturing here advocated the eightframe hive. Being bee-keepers also, their judgement was largely follow-Then Root's catalogue advises beginners to use the eight-frame hive. There are many who would be glad to use the ten-frame, but they still continue buying the eightframe because they wish to avoid a change. If the matter was left to bee-keepers, there would be an equal or greater number of larger hives used. One can produce just as much honey with the eight-frame hive, but it takes more labor, and therefore costs more."

On page 147 of the Progressive, Mr. Gill goes for me on a subject easy to spread one's self on. One can indolently crack any old joke on it, and raise a horse-laugh. I am at a disadvantage; but it is a poor rule that won't work both ways. The difference between Mr. Gill and myself is that while I prefer a quiet life, with a strong devotion to a high and worthy object, Mr. Gill would rather hustle and bustle about nothing in particular but to establish

a perpetuation of hustling and bustling. Isn't that ridiculous? Haw! haw!—So, there you are, Mr. Gill. I hope you appreciate the crushing nature of this rejoinder.

But if he really wants me to consider the irrelevant matters which he, not I, has chosen to hold up to the public gaze, I reply to his remark about "incentive," incentive to what? The size of the honey crop? Fiddlesticks. What good does money do after you get it, unless you use it right? If you never do anything but train to get money, will you be in shape to use it when it comes? Is this small daily stewing and fretting, with no outlook beyond, whether with or without a female partner, what life is worth living for? I wonder if it would be news to Mr. Gill that I have an "incentive" that cuts a bigger figure than anything he has yet mentioned. Yes, I do object to this everlasting advice to get married first of all, as if it were the most important thing on earth. It isn't. The most important thing is to devote one's particular powers, in that line of activity for which they are best fitted, to some specific, ennobling object for the betterment of humanity, of such an inspiring nature that one shall be as enthusiastic in the feebleness of old age as in the flush of youth. This is true happiness; this is the best provision for old age. Marriage gives no incentive to this. It has nothing to contribute towards it. Consequently, it is of secondary importance. Indeed, it more often than not, with the lazy disposition of mankind to seek happiness in a settled condition rather than in a striving for an object, actually destroys the true life. Perhaps it ought not to, but, under existing conditions, it does. But I am not talking against it, as Mr. Gill would make out; I would simply relegate

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it to its proper place.

"Some years these two states [California and Colorado] seem to be favored spots that produce large quantities of honey, and, if the rest of the country produces a short crop, there is then an opportunity for the bee-keepers of those two states, by combination, to secure good prices for their honey. Without organization nothing of the kind could be accomplished."-Bee-Keepers' Review.

Very good; but what is the matter with combination in those years when honey is everywhere abundant? What can an individual accomplish then? Is he going to get good prices? Is he going to sell at all, in fact, without difficulty? Scarcely. I cannot see into that idea that combination is only effective in taking advantage of other people's failures. Continuing, the same paragraph ends thus: there were some way by which we bee-keepers could know what the crop is as soon as it is off, and could then decide what prices ought to be, and would all stand by those prices, it would be accomplished. Sounds simple enough, but how can it be

So combination means cornering

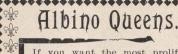
done?"

and speculating, does it? Then the Colorado bee-keepers have not combined. The only way in which our marketing association influenced the market by buying, was in buying up such honey only as unprogressive bee-keepers were likely to sell below market prices. It made no attempt to buy up honey as Mr. Leiter buys wheat, and does not intend to; and it has not waited for "all" to stand by fixed prices, but has gone ahead and benefited its own members anyway; and as for speculating, it has resolutely refrained. It has no intention of holding honey for a rise in the market which may never come, but casts about for sales as soon as the honey gets into its hands. Why persist in holding up combination as having none but speculative characteristics? Is not that view rather a gloomy one, anyway? Are there not scores of miserable failures on the part of granges and farmers' combines which tried the financiering act? Are there not solid, safe, legitimate lines of co-operation, of enough proved benefit to make commercial combination of bee-keepers pay in every bee-keeping state? What in the world is the Review putting them out of sight for? Denver, Colo.

EXPERIENCES AND OBSERVATIONS.

J. W. ROUSE.

We made some experiments during fruit bloom with our bees by covering the limbs that would bloom of peach, pear, plum and damson trees, and had intended also to experiment on apple bloom, but was away from home when they began blooming, so did not get to work on them. Contrary to expectation, on peach bloom there were some



If you want the most prolific queens, the best honey gatherers, the best comb builders, and the hardiest bees known, try my Albinos. Untested Queens, \$1.00.

J. D. GIVENS, Lisbon, Tex.

peaches that set, but not quite so many per bloom as on limbs with We also noticed bloom uncovered. more dwarfed fruit on the covered limbs than on those not covered, that of course will not mature. used mosquito netting. On the pear plum and damson limbs covered, there was not a single fruit set, so we conclude that bees help the peach some anyway, and that they or some other insect are necessary for pears and plums and have no doubt that apple trees are the same.

We noticed Friend Miller's article on the temperature for comb building, and the replys he had from others which proved interesting. But yet we do not know at what temperature his bees made that comb he speaks of. We can tell you to a dot, Friend Miller the temperature it takes to hatch poultry eggs because we have tried it with incubators as has also many others. placing a thermometer under a setting hen one can learn the temperature there, but with bees it is somewhat different, yet by the use of a thermometer we believe the temperature may be know. There is considerable guess in your experiment, Friend Miller; I suspect the most of that new comb was built at the highest temperature that you give namely 72 degrees.

There are some observations that we do not understand as well as we would like, one of which is the wintering of bees. We winter our bees in the summer stands, but place packing over the brood-nest

in a ten-frame hive, yet we lost quite a number of our bees the past winter. We observed bees around us that had no extra protection that were in common box hives or gums in many instances, came through the winter without loss. We are aware that condition, population of colony and many other things have something to do with it, but when we meet all these conditions to the best of our knowledge, we sometimes lose some bees. It is somewhat amusing to see the advice of a writer in the Journal of Agriculture, how to handle bees and successful wintering, but there is nothing in it that we did not already know, and while there is some good advice there is some that has been passed long ago.

We of course like to know the experiences of others, and while our methods may not always suit others and the methods of others may not always suit us, yet "in a multitude of counsil there is wisdom."

Mexico, Mo.



An editorial in May issue recommends a putty knife as a handy tool about the apiary. Somnambulist in June issue, says he does not wish to detract from the honors of a putty knife, and then suggests a small trowel with the edges sharpened. Now I do not wish to detract from the honors of either the putty knife or the trowel, for both are useful articles in their places. The shape of the putty knife is all right but not large enough for use in the apiary; you need an overgrown putty knife, one about four times as big as the ordinary kind.

I use in the apiary is about as follows:

Made of about one-sixteenth inch steel, $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches broad at the sharp end, tapering to about $1\frac{1}{4}$ inches 6 inches from end or where handle commences. The handle is made of two half-round pieces of wood riveted on each side, the same a handles are put on butcher knives or table knives. It is ground alike on both sides so that it does not matter which side is up when I go to use it.

When I get this blade between two bodies or a body and cover and begin to pry, it has got to come, no matter how much propolis. tool being large and strong, (nearly a foot long) gives a great leaverage and no great effort is required in using it. I can take it slow and steady and bring two bodies about without a snap. It will take the burr comb from two top bars at once. handy to clean bottom boards, queen excluders and in fact almost anything where scraping is needed. I frequently use it to dig with when leveling up hives.

Smoker, veil and scraper are my tools in the apiary and if I had to give up one of them I think I would about as soon give up the veil as the scraper.

Not long ago at an out apiary I was disappointed to learn that I had forgotten my scraper when I left home. I went to the house near by and got a hoe which I used to scrape burr combs off the frames. I hope the editor will excuse me for placing a hoe in competion with his putty knife, but I believe the hoe will do the work the quicker.

Brother bee-keepers, have a tool made like the one I have described and after you have used it a month you would not part with it for a free ticket to the show.

IMPROVEMENT ON VEIL.

Take a piece of about No. 12 wire or lighter and bend into an oblong square about 9x12 inches, (a circle might be just as good). Sew this to the face of your veil, stretching the face of the veil across the square as you sew it on. Instead of slipping the lower end of veil under the suspenders, put a drawing string at bottom and draw around the neck. This applies to the No. 1 or 2 veil commonly shown in catalogues of bee-keepers' supplies. The wire keeps the face of the veil from falling in folds before the eyes; and thus obstructing the view, and being fastened at the neck gives a more free use of the arms and head.

Try it and be convinced. It will do you more good than a bottle of Swamp Root.

THE OUTLOOK.

White clover has done fairly well but could have done better, and is now beginning to fail to yield nectar. We had no rain worth mentioning during all of May. Basswood will bloom soon. Hope it will help things along.

Sweet clover is coming on a pace and will help to keep the bees out of mischief after basswood is past. All I have against sweet clover is that there is not enough of it around here, but it is on the increase and is covering a little more territory each year.

Long may it wave! over neglected fence corners and road sides that are not thoroughly cultivated by the overseer who is supposed to improve our public roads.

Bluffton, Mo.

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"We all know how to respect the buzz of the hungry bee, and admire the sweet disposition of the one that has just finished a sumptuous repast. Ah, how rare are family jars when the pantry is ever full! It is Nature's law, all the same."

What a prolific text on which to base an almost unlimited sermon. How frequently are we painfully shocked at the mad rush of the young and uninitiated into the matrimonial state without the least fore thought as to the future. Preparations for the "changed conditions." Oh, that is a thing of the past too, "old Fogy" to deserve a passing thought in these rushing times. To be sure, and just such hastiness precipitates many. Oh, how many, on to the divorce court?

But lest I tickle the ribs of some solitary self-satisfied old bachelor or draw a smile of contempt from some forlorn old maid, I desist and proceed to the more legitimate, for these pages, and give you some of the many good thoughts in this same article written for the American Bee-Journal by Dr. James Mc-Lean.

"Honey has two physical elements that make it particularly a medicine, namely: First, an aromatic irritant imparted to it by the stomach of the bee. Second, its ready transformation into fat without those complicated physiological operations necessary to transfer other saccharine elements into this ma-These make at once both a local and a constitutional remedy. Locally it is an irritant, sedative, emollient, detergent, antiseptic, resolvent, rubefacient and a parasiticide. Constitutionally it is nutrient, demulcent, laxative, deobstruent, alterative, restorative, tonic, expectorant, febrifuge, and antaphrodisiac, as well as containing poisonous properties manifested peculiar circumstances.

When we say that honey is both an irritant and a sedative we mean that its first effects may irritate, and be followed with a sedative effect. All liniments work beneficially on this principle; the same with the most of eye-waters, etc. The solution of honey as an eye-water proves particularly beneficial on account of its antiseptic, absorbent, or resolvent properties. It cures in-flammation of the eyes in the way a solution of boracic acid does, that is, mainly by reason of its antiseptic and sedative properties.

The irritant properties of honey are, in a great measure, destroyed by dilution. Therefore, as a topical irritant where we wish to favor resolution by counteraction it is used in a pure state or in conjunction with more active irritants. It is its irritant or rubefacient effect, joined with its emollient nature, that precipitates local inflammation into suppuration, and is, therefore, a suitable remedy for abscesses, boils, whitlows, carbuncles, etc. Therefore, woe to one who applies a honey plaster over an inflamed eye in place of the solution. As a rubefacient and absorbent it makes an excellent local application in glandular swelling, and chronic tumefaction, particularly when joined with iodine, iodoform, or mercury.

On account of the temperature of the body it is difficult to keep pure, undiluted honey on the surface. This can be remedied to a certain extent, by saturating layers of canton flannel, and applying them, changing frequently.

I speak of it as a parasiticide not only in connection with the theory of the pathogenesis of diseases as advocated by Pasteur, Cohn, Koch, Klebs, and others, who have investigated the bacteria, but even those who created several skin diseases, well known to almost every one. Take honey for the destruction of the bacteria, because of its anticeptic, tonic and laxative effects. Its daily use would disarm every dire and malignant disease of its destructive force. Cholera, yellow fever, smallpox, scarlatina, and diphtheria, may run their course as before, but comparatively in such a mild form as to afford but little, if any, anxiety. I speak of honey only as a preventive of malignancy in these diseases, and not as a curative agent.

The constitutional effects of honey can not be fully understood and appreciated, except it be studied from its medical properties, as represented above. All scientific investigation of remedies are made in like manner. It is the text to a long and complicated sermon. Every physician will read in it such a multiplicity of applications as would astonish the uninitiated.

As a nutrient I will not speak of it as a food, but in connection with its properties which serve to arrest certain diseases, particularly consumption. The important features of the medical properties of honey lie in the nutrient, expectorant, deobstruent, and restorative effects in the management of consumption, and its allied diseases.

Now, let us go back to a fact that exists in the process of making honey. No honey could be had if it were not for its ready metamorphosis into oil, or in other words, in the making of wax. as stated. The great object in the treatment of consumption is to arrest waste. Therefore we resort to the use of oils, or remedies that will readily make fat in the system. But the great difficulty in the way is to get the system to accept these remedies and effect their assimilation. Under Liebig's authority we give sugar freely to make fat, but the system often refuses it. This alone gives us a great advantage in giving honey to stay the waste caused by disease, that we have in no other remedu.

In being assimilated honey is disposed of in three ways. What is not deposited in the cellular tissue as fat is consumed by the liver, and its volatile principle is eliminated by the lungs, This elimination is a matter of the greatest importance as a remedy in all pulmonary disorders. But the most remarkable feature of honey as a sedative is in administration by atomization and inhalation. The spray arising in extracting has been proven to exert a very beneficial effect upon cough and dyspnœa, thus revealing its curative

tendency.

The most effective and enjoyable way to benefit from the general use of pure honey is to have in every home a ready supply, diluted with, say one pound to a quart of water, placed in a suitable glass or porcelain vessel-metal must not be used-from which about one tablespoonful put into a cupful of warm or cold water and taken at each meal, would benefit one a thousandfold more than the stupidly conventional decoctions with which we daily clog and seriously disarrange our physical and mental machinery. Let any one who suffers from kidney or bladder trouble try this simple and pleasant

None But the Best Queens

are good enough for anyone. You cannot afford poor queens from poor stock. Your orders for choice tested Italian queens will be filled by return mail, for \$1.00 each. Safe

arrival and satisfaction guaranteed. Send for price list..... J. W. K. SHAW & CO.,

Loreauville,

Louisiana.

substitute for one week, and then faithfully report the wonderful results. Blind, indeed, must mankind be to reject one of Nature's very best diseasepreventing remedies, in order to temporarily relieve perverted appetites!

^^~~

O, that we would learn seriously to feel and honestly to say, with the Psalmist of old: "How manifold are Thy works Lord, God, Almighty, in wisdom Thou hast made them all"cluding the divinely inspired honeymanufacturing bee.

Let me conclude by suggesting a trial of one tablespoonful of pure honey, dissolved in about half a glass of cold water, and one teaspoonful of tineture of myrrh, for the cure of indigestion."

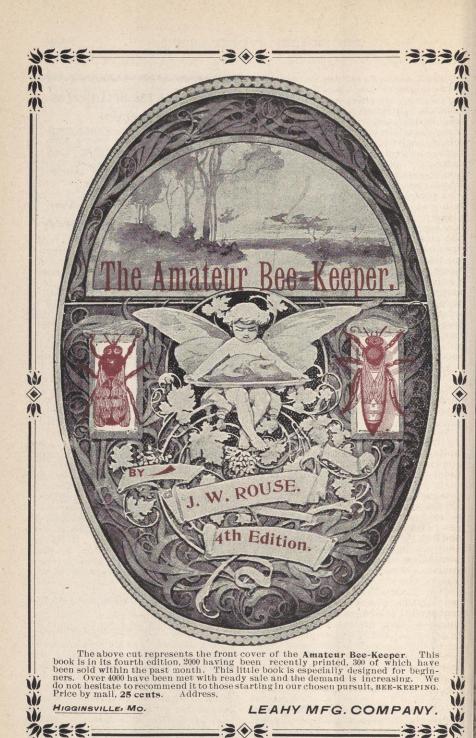
Prof. Cook tells us that:

"In all of these species of Mimulus the lower lip of the flower, where the bee alights, and which must sustain the insect as it pushes in to reach the nectar, is strengthened by two prominent ridges, which, from both their form and position, must tend marvelously to give strength to the thin petals, or lower part of the flower-tube. If Nature does abhor close pollination, as some one has said, then surely these interesting plants are well fashioned to prevent it."

He also treats on economy in this wise:

A LESSON FROM THE WAX-PRESS.

I am sure we have all been interested in the new method of extracting wax where the press is used, and where great saving of time, and a much larger quantity of excellent wax are se-What a valuable lesson Christ taught the world at the time of the feeding of the multitude. It was a great occasion, and any one less than Divinity would hardly have thought of the fragments. Yet the blessed teach-



er of Nazareth asked that the fragments might be gathered up and nothing be lost. Many a man to-day is in comfortable circumstances because the fragments have been gathered up. Many home circles all over our land rejoice to-day in numerous home comforts, not to say luxuries, because in early childhood the builders of these homes were taught the little economies which are not only helpful but really give pleasure in their practice. It certainly cannot be beneath any person's dignity to form, or to teach, habits of economy when the Divine Master put the stamp of his approval upon this very habit. I have always been thankful that my dear father and mother taught me to make a thin paring as I peeled the apple, and to reduce the core to the minimum before it was thrown aside. So I am always glad when I see anything like these wax-extractor improvements, and rejoice that our friend, Mr. Hatch, and others, has given us the press that we may glean more, and more easily.

From quite a comprehensive article on "small neglects affecting apiarian profits," by W. Z. Hutchinson, we offer some of the concluding remarks:

"We all know that the profits of an apiary can be entirely wasted or destroyed by little neglects. What is the cause of this neglect? In some cases it is simply a combination of indolence, procrastination, and a sort of belief that things will come out all right of them-Then there is the neglect that comes from having too many irons in the fire. If you have so much business that you can only half attend to it, that something must be neglected, two courses are open: hire some one to help you, or else dispose of part of your bus-iness. There is more pleasure and more profit in a small business well managed than in a large business that must be neglected."

On the title page of June 13th, there appears the picture of a Washington apiary. There is one objection to this picture, that tree so heavily laded with fruit takes some of the shine off the bee-yard. The owner in introducing himself says:

"I am 70 years old, and have always led an active and laborious life. Sever-

al years ago I gave up the ranch to my two sons, and that left me nothing to do, which I consider a bad thing, even for old people. In looking around for some sort of employment suited to age and acquired habits of life, bee-keeping seemed to be the thing. First, because I dearly love it, and, second. because it would make me financially independent."

In another number a Texas lady expresses her opinion of work as follows:

"I think if more women would work there would not be so many bankrupt men. Of all things, a lazy women is the worst. The bees teach us such good lessons. For 20 years my health has been so bad every spring that if I didn't use a tonic I was bedridden; but the little bee is the best tonic. five years we have kept them, and I am out almost all day with them. I do not need a drop of medicine now. I tell many women if they would keep off the streets and stay at home, get a few colonies of bees, watch them, and read bee-books instead of novels, they would be better wives and mothers. They say, "Oh, the bees will sting." Well, if they do it will not last long. I would rather be stung trying to make something than to be stung for the want of something." MRS C. R. WEST

She might have extended her little sermon very materially had she introduced the principle, Satan, that grand adversary of man, "will some mischief find for idle hands to do."

Allen Latham illustrates the importance of longevity in bees in these thoughts:

LONGEVITY IN BEES.

I am glad to see a word from Mr. Doolittle in regard to long-lived bees. Prolificness at the expense of strength has been too long the vogue. We have all had a colony occasionally that had its frames packed with brood. We have fondly looked for great results. They did not come. The colony failed to gain in numbers though the frames were kept full of brood. All the honey gathered went into more bees—more short-lived and worthless bees. On the other hand, we have seen a colony with only five or six frames of brood. We have turned from it in disgust. Behold that colony a month later. Still only five or six frames of brood. But where

did all those bees come from? They crowd the hive and they have stored two cases. Those are long-lived and the right-kind of bees. Let us rear that kind. I do not mind if they have ten frames of brood, but let the bees be long-lived.

I scarcely need to say more in favor of long-lived bees, but will offer a few more words. It is easy to see why these bees are of so much more value than short-lived bees. First of all they winter well, coming out strong in the spring, and do not spring dwindle. A single bee is worth two or even more of the other kind. Why? In the working season let the short-lived bee live six weeks, the long-lived one nine. Each costs the same to rear. One works from two to three weeks, the other from five to six. The short-lived

bee is a *provider* about one week; the long-lived bee is a *provider* about four weeks. Do we not find the secret of a honey crop right here?

I have a colony that has bees which winter and then give noble aid in filling the first sections. I honor those

bees. They are my pets.

The journals just now being much disposed to discussing the length of bees' tongues, length of life etc., makes one question to what lengths bee-keepers may next be driven? The crumb of comfort in it all is, that these lengths are, possibly, but cross cuts, or short cuts to success.

Naptown, Dreamland.

MODERN METHODS OF QUEEN-REARING Progress Made During Late Years.

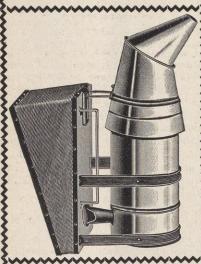
W. H. PRIDGEN.

Since the dawn of modern apiculture there has not been a time when there was the same interest manifested in queens and queen-rearing as now. The tendency on the part of the honey-producers is, to a greater extent than ever before, to rear their own—not only because a larger per cent of those reared at home give better results than those transmitted through the mails, all else being equal, but because the essential conditions necessary for the production of those of the highest type are more generally understood.

The cardinal points were given to public years ago by men who spent much time and talent in experimenting; and by their persistent efforts the foundation was laid, not only for the most fascinating branch of our pursuit, but the most promising field in which to spend our thoughts and energies.

Bees are no longer looked upon as bees without considering their qualities; but each progressive beekeeper is continually on the lookout

The "Higginsville" Smoker.



THE "HIGGINSVILLE SMOKER."
A Good Smoker for a Little Money.
THE HIGGINSVILLE SMOKER A DANDY.
"The 'Higginsville' Smoker is a Dandy with a big D." J. M. Moore, Holden. Mo.
Price 75c; by mail, \$1. Address

LEAHY MFG. COMPANY, Higginsville, Mo. for superior honey-gatherers and other desirable traits shown by individual colonies.

The ability to rear our own queens from the best mothers, and control their mating to some extent by weeding out and preventing the production of objectionable drones, and thus, step by step, make permanent improvements in the working qualities of our bees, not only increases our profits, but lends enchantment to pleasure.

We are indebted to Messrs. Doolittle and Alley for the fundamental principles of what is termed artificial or scientific queen-rearing, who differ in some of the minor details.

For instance, Mr. Doolittle uses artificial queen-cups to which he transfers the larva with a toothpick, while Mr. Alley prefers strips of worker comb containing eggs ready to hatch, over which the bees fashion the cells to their own liking.

As these veterans differ on some of the less essential points, so also do others differ with them, and consequently the subject is kept alive—short cuts devised, and modifications made by the lovers of the art.

In some of the manipulations, as much is accomplished in a few hours now as was formerly done in as many days; but what works perfectly in the hands of those who conceive new ideas and adopt measures to carry them into effect are often considered to be failures by others who have become proficient in more faulty methods with which they are acquainted; and hence the diversity of opinion as to the best or easiest way to accomplish certain ends.

Without these differences of opinion and failures that lead to investigation, new ideas or the different ways of accomplishing the same thing, would not come to light; and in going over the ground that has been covered by those who have

contributed toward the success of modern queen-rearing, the object is to lend a helping hand towards a further advancement of the industry.

As a rule, the reader cares but little how, when, or from whom the writer gained his information, but generally prefers the part relating to the object in view; and inasmuch as it is generally known who advanced the different ideas that make up our queen-rearing system, in complying with the request for a more elaborate treatise on the subject these explanations will be omitted to some extent, without any intention of doing any one an injustice.—Gleanings.

Bee-Keepers' Exchanges—Organization and Co-operation.

Written for the Wisconsin State Bee-Keepers' Convention held at Madison.

C. A. HATCH.

We have so often heard it said, "In union there is strength," that it has lost its power to affect our understanding. A single straw would not be much to match against a man's strength, and yet if that single straw be increased by numbers enough it can defy the strength of the strongest man.

An army would not accomplish much if each soldier were allowed to go and do as he pleased regardless of every other soldier; but it is only when the soldier ceases to be an individual, and becomes a unit of the whole, that it becomes an army and ceases to be a mob, that effective work can be done, and it becomes a power.

ORGANIZATION.

Concentration and organization are the effective means of progress in the beginning of the new century. Unorganized labor is being pushed to the wall by organized. The manufacturer who is not in a syndi-

cate, trust, or something of the kind, has a hard row to hoe. He may may make just as good an article, and may be able to sell it for the same price as the trust article, but then comes in the item of freightrates which is sure to down him if nothing else will. The large concerns have larger quantities to move, and therefore can ship by car or even train load, thereby getting lower rates, to say nothing of treaties with railroads whereby special rates may be obtained.

WHOM IT HELPS.

The small bee-keeper with only a small output is the one that an exchange can help most. He is one of the small straws that are to be bound together to make the strong rope. Ten men having one-tenth of a car-load each, by organizing, can have almost the advantages of him who produces a car-load himself. The large producer gains by having small lots where they can be controlled, and not put on the market at ruinous prices, to demoralize all prices.

Bee-keepers are of necessity more or less isolated, and hence can not avail themselves of the help of organization as readily as some other callings. But even these difficulties

can be overcome.

ADVANTAGES.

The advantage of lower freight, both on goods shipped by members and goods shipped to members, is one of the advantages of bee-keepers' exchanges. Also the difference between buying at retail and in carlots or large quantities is another advantage. This will apply to all supplies used by the members, as, for example, hives, sections, foundation, cans, and barrels.

Another of the advantages of a well-managed exchange is in the uniform grading of the bee-keepers' products. Few men are capable of grading their own honey in a proper manner, for they are either too partial to their own production and grade too high, or they are too diffident of their own success and modestly put it too low, and yet others are downright dishonest and think anything they can work off is all right; whereas, an honest, capable grader has none of these influences to draw him one side and warp his judgment, and therefore can give a uniform and honest grade. One of the trials of a dealer is in not getting a uniform quality from different producers, owing to their different ideas as to grading, and if an exchange could do nothing else this one thing would pay for all the trouble.

Not every bee-keeper, however good he may be at producing good crops of honey, is a good salesman, many a bee-keeper losing heavily in mismanagement in selling what has cost him so much hard labor.

In an exchange one can have the advantage of the concentrated wisdom of all the membership in selling, by selecting one of the best business

men for business manager.

Uniformity of packages for both comb and extracted honey is another of the benefits of an exchange; being all bought at the same time and place, of course all would be alike, and, therefore, many of the trials over tare on packages would be overcome, dealers would become familiar with the packages used, and know just what shape it would come to them in. In fact, uniformity is the word that expresses most of the benefits. Uniformity of products as to grading, uniformity as to packages, and, last but not least, uniformity of price.

One kind and grade of honey would always bring the same price, no matter from what part of the State it came, and not as it now isone producer competing against another producer, or even against his own products, as would be the case were shipped to two dealers in the same city.

COST OF CO-OPERATION.

Everything in this life costs time, labor, or money, and a honey exchange is no exception. It will cost both money and self-denial to accomplish anything worthy of the name. Postage, paper, and some one to carry on the correspondence, must be paid for; a room large enough to store a car-load of honey in, at some central point in the State, would have to be secured, and also the services of a salesman. But in my experience with honey exchanges, which has been quite extensive and varied, all these obligations of the members are more easily met than the self-denial required to say our honey is not a little nicer than neighbor B's, our opinion is of a little more value than any one else's.

If an exchange is to succeed, there must be a full and complete surrender of individual opinion to the rule of the majority. We must think our honey just what the grader makes it, and no more. Be honest yourself, and give others the credit of being the same, and half the troubles of organization will vanish.

There are other advantages in an exchange not mentioned in this paper, and on account of its length the plan of organization has not been mentioned, although much is to be said on that subject; but if there is enough interest to start one in Wisconsin, there will then be time enough for plans of organization.

Richland, Co., Wis.

++++ Convention Notice.

Editor Progressive Bee-Keeper: Please say in the next issue of the ProGRESSIVE that the next annual convention of the National Bee-Keepers' Association will be held in the audience room of the Buffalo Society of Natural Scienes, in the Buffalo library building, corner of Washington and Clinton sts., Buffalo, N. Y., on the 10th, 11th and 12th of September next, beginning on the evening of the 10th.

Railroad rates will vary in the different passenger association territories, from one cent a mile each way to one and one-third fare for the round trip. The rates can readily be learned on in-

quiring at the station.

The Buffalo bee-keepers' will try to provide entertainment at reasonable rates for all attending the convention, who will notify Mr. Sydney S. Sleeper, Holland, N. Y., by Sept. 2nd, of their wish for entertainment. In a letter just received from Mr Sleeper he says, "We want all to come who can, for we wish to make the Buffalo meeting the most pleasant and instructive one that was ever held in America. We will have the co-operation of all the sciences as well as the school board." and names some professional men who are interested that will be at the convention to help. Mr. Herrhiser in closing a long letter says, "Call upon me for whatever further assistance I am able render, and Mr. Penton, an ex-president of the Erie County Bee-Keepers' Society, and others, have offered to do all they can to provide for the comfort of those attending the convention.

As stated in my previous convention notice in the PROGRESSIVE, there will be no fixed program and no papers, and the time will be occupied in asking, answering and discussing questions, except that on Thursday evening there will be a joint session of our association with the American Pomological Society to discuss the mutual relations of Bee-Keeping and Fruit-Growing, Prof. Beach, of the N. Y., Agricultural Experiment Station, and Prof. Fletcher, of the Central Experimental Farm, of the Dominion of Canada, will help talk for the bees at that session, and it is hoped that much good will result to fruit-growers and bee-keepers from

this joint session.

If any bee-keeper who can not be at the convention has any questions, knotty or otherwise, he would like to have answered at the convention will send them to me and I will see that they are presented to the convention.

A. B. MASON, Sec., Sta. B. Toledo, O.



A journal devoted to Bees, Honey and Kindred Industries.

TERMS: Fifty cents per year, in advance

G. M. DOOLITTLE & R. B. LEAHY

.....Editors.....

We have just had published 2000 copies of the little book for beginners, the "Amateur Bee-Keeper." We recommend this book to those just starting out. The price is low, 25 cents, or we will send the PROGRESSIVE BEE-KEEPER one year, and this 90 page book all for 65 cents, post-paid.

Mr. O. P. Hyde is in Southern Texas buying honey—we presume to drown that "Elephant" in that he proposed to drown in Williamson county honey. But, alas! Williamson county did not produce honey knee-deep to the elephant. But Mr. Hyde did produce some of the finest long tongued queens to be had anywhere.

Wax seems to be plentiful now, and we have all we will need for this season's use. But we will continue buying for next season's use at the following price:—F. O. B. cars here, 24½ c cash; 27c trade. Dark wax from 1 to 2c per pound less. Put your name on the package when shipping it so we will know from whom it comes.

Every bee-keeper is interested in how to rear good queens, and we know of no better work on the subject than "Scientific Queen-Rearing" by G. M. Doolittle. The price of this book is \$1.00; but for the next month we will offer this book and the PROGRESSIVE BEE-KEEPER one year for the price of the book alone, \$1.00; post-paid.

Not an inch of rain has fallen in this county for the last two months. Corn will be a total failure and the pastures are burnt brown from the sun, yet the bees did well on white clover for a week or ten days during the first part of June. We have about half a crop of the finest white clover honey we ever saw or tasted. It surely was evaporated before the bees gathered it.

About the 1st of August, I, R. B. L. expects to take a month's vacation and will visit Colorado and adjoining states and territories. Now, right here I want to say, please don't feel sorry for me, as the Irishman said: "Its not me health I'm going after, but a good time I expect to have," and if you would see some of the invitations I received from some of the big-hearted bee-keepers out there, it is you that would want to go too.

The Root Co., announces that they will have a ball-bearing Cowan honey extractor on exhibition at the Pan-American Exposition. Surely there is nothing new or novel about a ball-bearing Cowan honey extractor? We have made several of them, and one will be exhibited by Messrs. O. P. Hyde & Son. at College Station, Texas, July 24th, when the Farmers' Congress and the Texas bee-keepers' associations will meet in joint session. This extractor will be of our best production, ballbearing, cut gears, and nickel plated. It goes as a prize to the best exhibit of bee-keepers' supplies, ourselves or the Messrs. Hydes not competing. What is the use of giving something away and then trying to win it back.

BEES were taken from the cellars April 15 to 20th, owing to the lateness of the spring, and it would have been just as well to have left them longer, as it was generally cold up to May 1st.

ABOUT THE FIRST OF MAY we had a few warm days which brought out the elm and soft maple bloom, and brood rearing started up well. This weather lasted for about ten days, when it began to rain, and the bees were confined to their hives quite a large share of the time, though we had no heavy downpour of water.

FROM MAY 10TH TO 15TH hard maple and willow were in bloom, and whenever the sun showed itself the bees were out and at work as best they could under the circumstances, securing about as much nectar as they consumed, so that brood rearing rather increased, and by the 15th some of the best colonies had from five to seven frames of brood.

FRUIT TREES commenced to bloom on the 15th, but the weather turned worse, it raining more with colder weather. But the bees got out some, occasionally, till the 25th of May, and so brood rearing continued, though at a slackened pace. The best colonies went up to eight frames of brood, but weak colonies hardly held their own, the very weakest not getting above two combs of brood.

FROM MAY 25th to this date, June 3, it has rained a large share of the time, with the mercury but little above the freezing point quite a little of the time, the ground is so soaked with water that streams are up to "spring freshet" tide, and brood rearing is at an entire standstill. Such a state of affairs as this, at this time, means much to the beekeepers in this section, but they are not so blue as the farmers, who have not been able to get nearly through their sowing and planting, which is usually all over, fully a week earlier than this.

WHY this stopping of brood rearing at this time means much to the beekeepers in this section, is on this wise: Our basswood, the trees of which are generally loaded with blossom buds, blooms about July 4th to 10th, and the far-seeing bee-keeper looks ahead to the basswood as his chief return from his bees, for there is nothing here at the north which gives such a yield of nectar as does the basswood. And this basswood honey, being so very white, and of such excellent flavor, brings the highest price in the market of any honey. In fact, the quoted "white clover honey" of commerce, comes very largely from the basswood bloom.

THE EGGS FOR THE BEES to work on any given bloom must be deposited in the cells, by the queen, at least 37 days before that given bloom opens, for when any colony of bees is in a normal condition we find things thusly: Three days after the egg is laid by the queen it hatches into a minute larva, so small as to be hardly discernable with the naked eye. This larva is fed for nearly six days on chyle and chyme, during which time it obtains its larval growth. The cell containing it is now sealed over, remaining thus for twelve days, when our larva of twelve days agoemerges a perfect bee. It now stays in the hive for six days, when it goes out to take its first "airing," doing the labors of the hive from two days after emerging till it becomes sixteen days old, at which time it goes out as a "field laborer."

FROM THIS it will be seen that as our field laborer must be in the egg form 3 days, in the larva form 6 days, in the pupa form 12 days and an inside laborer for 16 days, that the egg for our field laborer must be deposited in the cell 37 days before the opening of the bloom which gives our main honey flow, if we are to secure the best results from that flow. And as OUR main honey flow

comes from July 4th to 10th, by going back 37 days we see that in order to meet this flow in the best possible shape, the queen should be "doing her biggest" from May 25 to June 5th. And right now, from May 28th to June 3rd, the queens are doing nothing, or little of any account, and the few eggs which she does lay are not hatched into larva by the bees. And this says, that at just the time we should have the most laborers among the basswood bloom, we cannot possibly have them, owing to this dearth of eggs and larva during the last of May and the first of June. Therefore, no matter what the flow of nectar from the basswood flowers, nor how good the weather at the time these flowers are secreting their nectar, it will be an utter impossibility for the apiarists of central New York to secure a MAXIMUM yield of honey/ during 1901.

BUT I think I hear some one say: "Why don't you stimulate in some way so as to secure the larva at this time." I am glad this question was asked. During all the past we have heard much of stimulative feeding, with no hints that such might be a failure at certain times, but from past experiments and experience, I find there are times when feeding, or other stimulative work brings no adequate returns. The queen only lays as she is fed stimulative food by the workers, and the workers will only feed her this stimulative food when there is some reasonable prospect for a successful outcome. And while feeding will bridge over three or four days of bad weather, or even a week, yet there comes a time when they seem to lose hope and settle down on the firm determination that they will make no further efforts at "expansion" till they see some sign that there is to be propitious weather in the future. And during such long continued cold, wet spells, as the present, I have found that the colony which was fed every day, had very little, if

any more eggs or larva in the hive at the end of two weeks, than did the one having a reasonable allowance of stores, which had not been fed at all. But when we have fairly comfortable weather, but a dearth of nectar, from no flowers being in bloom, or those in bloom not yielding any nectar, then good results can be obtained in feeding. or other ways of stimulating. I have thought best to dwell on this matter at this time, so that some of the younger readers of the PROGRESSIVE might understand how to know when they may expect the maximum yield from a certain flow of nectar, and how to know when only a minimum yield can be secured, no matter how favorable everything may appear at the time the flow is on.

G. M. DOOLITTLE, Borodino, N. Y.



ALL EMPLOYES

In the operating department of the "Alton Road" are required to pass mental and physical examinations calculated to secure absolute safety to passengers and freight. Fidelity, promptness, and accuracy are rewarded by the merit system, the result being that one of the safest railways in the world is

"THE ONLY WAY"



GEO. J. CHARLTON, GEN'L PASSENGER AGENT, CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

QUEENS.

Improved Golden and Leather Colored Italian is what H. G. Quirin rears......

We have one of Root's best red clover breeders from their \$200 queen, and a golden breeder from Doolittle, who says, if there is a queen in the United States worth \$100, this one is, these breeders have been added to our already improved strain of queens; for the coming season.

J. L. Gandy, of Humboldt, Neb., wrote us on Aug., 15th, 1900, saying that the colony hav-ing one of our queens had already stored over 400 pounds of honey. (mostly comb) he states that he is certain our bees work on red clover, as they were the only kind in his locality and apiary.

A. I. Root's folks say that our queens are extra fine, while the editor of the American Bee Journal tells us that he has good reports from our queens from time to time. We have from our queens from time to time. We have files upon files of unsolicited testimonials. After considering above evidence, need you wonder why our orders have increased each

Give us a trial order and be pleased, we have years of experience, in rearing and maling queens, safe delivery will be GUARANTEED. Instructions for introducing sent with each lot of apeens.

Prices after July 1st.	1	6	12
Selected	\$.75		\$7.00
Tested	1,00	5.00	9.00
Selected Tested	1.50	8.00	
Extra Selected Tested, the bes	st		
that money can buy	3,00		

FOLDED CARTONS

on hand; so long as they last we will sell them with your address printed on in two colors, at \$4, per 1000, or 500 for \$2.75.

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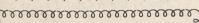
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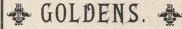
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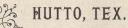
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The Bee-Keepers' Review for 1901 has turned over a new leaf, taken up new lines, and entered a broader field. While it continues to give methods in detail, it is striving to arouse and encourage bee-keepers; to inspire them; to awaken them; to set them to thinking, to lead them to change the uncertainties of a few bees in one locality for the certainty of many bees in several localities; to organize and co-operate; to rise up in their might, and sweep contagious diseases of bees out of this country; to work for the improvement of their stock, and to comprehend that the conditions of bee-keeping are constantly changing; and that, in order to succeed, they must keep up with the times. Even old bee-keepers, those who have kept bees and read journals for years, are aroused to enthusiasm by the reading of the last few issues of the Review. Several have written that it seemed to them that the last two or three issues contained more practical, solid, condensed, valuable information than they had ever before found in the same number of issues.

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