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JUNE 1903



PROGRESSIVE BEE-KEEPER

A JOURNAL
DEVOTED TO BEES, HONEY AND
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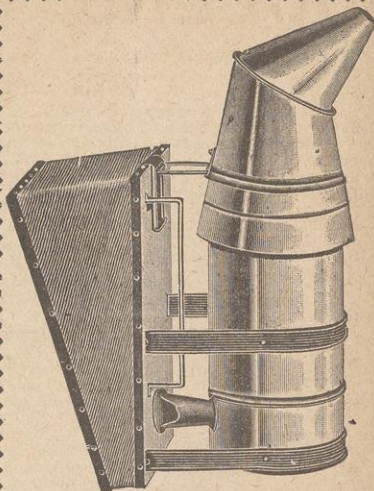
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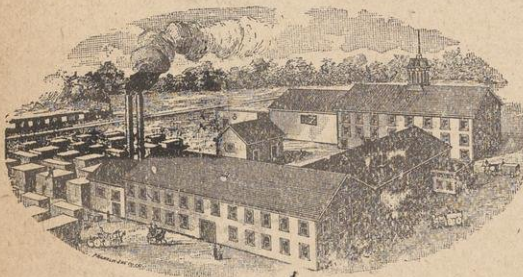
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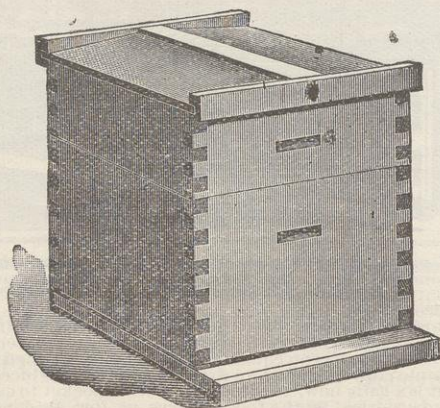
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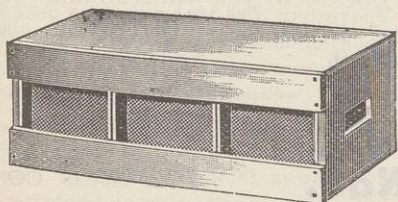
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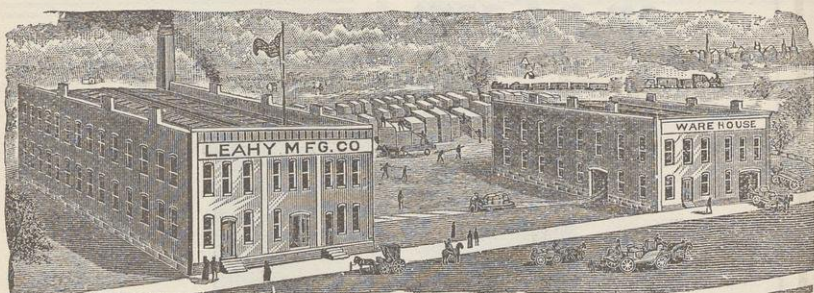
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BRUSHED SWARMS.

L. STACHELHAUSEN.

Page 129 of the "Progressive," Mr. Geo. Bockenbaugh says that he knows and used a much better way to prevent swarming as the shook-swarm-method, and right afterwards gets excited because the editor of "Gleanings" called me the pioneer in the shook-swarm idea. What is the use of this? I learned to make artificial swarms on the old stand as well as on a new one by shaking and brushing the bees from

the combs from Gravenhorst, who described the way in which he did it in 1872. I made brushed swarms for increase as far back as 1881, and published an article on such swarms in the "Agriculturalist" during 1884. I do not care whether I was the first one here in the United States who used this method or not. Editor Root thinks I am. Now, Mr. Rockenbaugh tells us that a bee keeper during 1895, made \$35,000 (?) in one season by using this method, and another one shall have described it about 1892, and this shall prove that I am not this pioneer, as Editor Root called me: at the same time Mr. R. says that this brushing and shaking business is no good at all. I can see no sense in all this talk. If Mr. R's method is so much better than the swarm method as he claims, the bee-keeper will very soon abandon the inferior method and nobody will want to be the first one who used it.

So many articles about shook-swarms have appeared in different bee journals that the whole thing is considerably mixed up in the memory of the different writers.

It is one thing to make shook swarms for the purpose to increase the number of the colonies, and it is another thing to make them for the purpose to prevent swarming, and to keep the whole

force of the colony together when section honey shall be procured. If we consider the latter we have as the second part of the plan some way by which the young bees hatched from the brood are given back to the swarm as soon as they are of any value to it. About seven years ago I used for this purpose Heddons' method of preventing afterswarms, and finally shaking all the bees in front of the swarm. Mr. Thompson and others claim to know a better way for this purpose. I mentioned this in the "American Bee Journal," page 245, and now Mr. R. comes on with still another plan. Probably they are right, but I can see no reason for throwing mud on me. At present I am not interested in these plans because I do not produce section honey any more as long as I can sell bulk-comb honey at a reasonable price, so I have no occasion to experiment at least as to what this second part of the different plans concern.

Of all the different methods to prevent swarming by making artificial swarms, I would use one where it is necessary to hunt up the queen, at least not if section honey shall be produced. Why? When the main honey-flow commences I want my colonies strong, occupying at least four of my shallow stories, (by the way, I use them nearly exclusively since more than twenty years, but these double brood chamber hives are not my invention.) These four stories have more comb-surface than twenty Langstrath frames. To find the queen in such in strong colonies often takes considerable time, more than all the rest of the operation. We cannot spend this time, as several hundred colonies must be prepared in a few days just when the main honey flow commences. This would be the objection to Mr. R's method but is to be considered in large apiaries only.

For the purpose to make the new

swarm, what I may call the first part of the operation, Mr. R. uses the old green and one brood comb, and catches all the field bees, while I use the shook swarm method. For increase I have used Mr. R's method many times since I kept bees. It has some advantages and some disadvantages when compared with the shook swarm. Such a swarm contains mostly old field bees, while the shook swarm is in the same condition as a natural first swarm in this respect, and the old bees are no good as comb builders, and no good as nurses. We may say the young bees *can* go down through this one inch hole and through three supers into the brood chamber (see p. 130), but they will not do so, they will stay in the chamber from where they have hatched until they are all old enough to hold a play spell. This objection we can easily overcome by shaking some of these young bees in front of the main hive at the proper time.

Mr. R. further concentrates the field force of two colonies in to one hive store section honey. In some localities and under some circumstances this may be an advantage. Here in Southwest Texas we are able to raise very strong colonies before the main flow commences, provided we can keep them from swarming; our honey flow is of long duration. Under these circumstances we would loose considerably by using this plan. I know this because I have tried these extremely strong colonies several times. At the end of the honey flow they are not as strong as any other good colony, and two of the average colonies have stored considerably more honey than this doubled-up colony. To avoid misunderstanding I will say this is so here in other; localities the advantages may be on the other side.

In respect to the second part of the operation we have different ways. I used Heddons' method of preventing afterswarms and finally shaken all the

bees in front of the main hive. Mr. Root and Mr. Thompson use a somewhat different way, and in the "American Bee Journal," page 245, I mentioned still another one, which Mr. R. Ruehne described to me in a private letter. They all are certainly worth trying, and if they have advantages and prove to be better than the plan I used, I would accept them at once, certainly I would not object for the only reason that they are not my idea. As far as I can judge, without experimenting, I think Mr. Ruehnes' plan is the best.

Here down in Texas we had again an old fashioned swarming season, but by using very large hives and shaking the bees from the comb I was able to keep my bees from swarming, and to avoid all loss of swarms in the home yard and two out-yards with nearly 100 colonies in each. This can be done without increase, but this year I preferred the old well-known plan of making three out of two, and was quite successful, had no trouble with robbing, no absconding of shook swarms, no trouble of getting them too weak, no raising of bees set as mentioned in "The Progressive" for May. As I said, I am making forced (or what you may call them) swarms for twenty-two years, and never had any more trouble than with natural swarms. Why others cannot do likewise I am not able to tell.

In all these many articles about shook swarms one thing did not find any attention, and that is the fact that such swarms, if properly made, can be put on a *new stand* in the apiary. The brood-combs with some adhering bees are set into the old hive in the same order, and this is placed on the old stand and will receive nearly all the field bees, we may call it the parent colony. If a large increase is desired this is a very good plan. The parent colony may raise a queen from the brood, but in this case all queen-cells must be de-

stroyed on the ninth day, except one. I prefer to give a young textile queen or a queen-cell on the third day after the swarm is made; in this case no cutting of queen-cells is necessary. These swarms have mostly young bees, and in four or five days they are in better condition than a natural swarm of the same strength.

I know some other ways to control swarming if extracted or bulk-comb honey is produced, but I am of the opinion that here in Texas out-apiaries cannot be raised successfully without shaking of bees, except we hire a watchman during swarming time.

It may be not out of place here to tell of another plan which I used many years ago to prevent swarming when extracted was produced and no increase derived. The brood-comb, on which the queen is found, is set into a hive, the other space of this hive is filled with frames containing starters, full sheets of foundation or empty combs according to circumstances. This hive is set on the old stand. If the queen is not found soon I many times brushed all the bees into this hive. A queen excluder was placed over it with or without bees. This plan works quite well in this locality, but for comb honey in sections it *did not* work well because the bees stored too much honey into these old combs, which honey I wanted to go into the sections. This is the reason I tried the Heddon plan afterwards as mentioned above.

Convose, Texas.

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From the COTTON BELT APIARIES. I can promise you queens from three distinct strains: viz. Root's Longtongued or red clover strains, Imported or Leather Colored Stook and my strain of Goldens. My Goldens are as good as the best; the best bees for comb honey I ever saw. Try them and be convinced. Queens ready to mail now.

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TEXT BOOKS AND BEE JOURNALS.

S. E. MILLER.

I suppose that the majority of the more intelligent bee keepers take two, three or more bee papers and also have all of the most important text books that are printed in their native language.

But there are bee keepers and bee keepers, bee fanciers, bee cranks, practical bee keepers and imitation bee keepers. The latter class are those who have heard of some one making big money out of bees, or those who have a neighbor that has secured a good crop of honey and sold it at a fair price, and they imagine he is getting rich too fast, so they want some of it too. They imagine that all that is necessary is to procure a few colonies of bees and set them under the shade of an old apple tree, and after that hive the swarms and take away the honey in the autumn. They think that bees gather honey from the time the first flowers bloom in the spring until frost has killed all vegetation in the late autumn. Should any such bee keeper read this article I would advise him to do one of two things, either sell his bees to some one who understands caring for them or else make a thorough study of the business and make a practical bee keeper of himself. And I might add right here that he must not expect to do this in six months or a year.

There is evidently a mistaken idea among many would-be bee keepers—that if they take a single paper they are thoroughly equipped for the bee business so far as the knowing how is concerned. Others who possess a single text book on bee keeping, consider themselves equally well equipped. Both of these are mistaken ideas. The text book cannot take the place of the regular weekly, monthly or semi-monthly visits of the paper devoted to

bee culture. Neither can the bee journal take the place of the text book. The text book is something to be read and studied and re-read, and so far as is possible its contents should be permanently impressed upon the mind; but as we cannot remember all that we read it should be a book of ready reference so that any subject that we are in doubt can be found readily without having to read much that has no direct bearing on the subject we wish to refer to. In it the many questions of the beginner have been anticipated and fully and thoroughly answered.

The bee journal on the other hand is intended to broaden our views and keep us abreast of the times. In it we read the experience and methods of bee keepers, and in this way we can compare these methods with our own and possibly profit by abandoning our own and following their's. In each issue we have placed before us to a certain extent the knowledge of many of our most leared, progressive and practical co-workers. New ideas, new methods and new implements are continually being evolved, and the mission of the bee journal is to place these before its readers.

For a beginner to take a bee journal and not have a good text book on the subject of bees is about like a child being started to learn to read in the third reader before he has learned his A B C's for many of the questions that puzzle the beginner are fully answered in the text books, but are seldom ever referred to in the bee journals. Let it not be considered, however, that a single text book and one bee journal are sufficient for the progressive bee keeper, for no author of any book is infallable, and while he may cover certain subjects thoroughly, another author may handle some other subjects more ably, and the practical bee keeper has no time to waste on any method that is not the shortest and best way

of accomplishing the desired effect. On the other hand the bee keeper should not make a book-worm of himself. In the long winter evening, he may profitably read nearly all that appears in the bee journals, but in the busy time, when the bees are requiring his attention and he has many other things to look after, when the time between dark and bed time is short, he can not hope to read all, if he is taking several papers. He must be able to run through them and decide from the letters and head lines what will interest him the most. He will then probably miss much that would be of benefit to him, but better let it pass than to neglect the bees or some other important matter that requires attention.

The prospects here for a good crop of honey from white clover are better than for many years, but the prospects of having the bees to gather it are not so good. The cool backward spring has greatly interfered with brood rearing.

Bluffton, Mo.

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Selected untested.....	1 25	"	6 "	6 00	1 00	"	6 "	5 00
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2 frame nuclei with selected untested queen	\$2.75.							

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GOOD THINGS IN THE BEE-KEEPING PRESS.

SOMNAMBULIST.

The other side of the Cuban question is portrayed by Geo. Rockenbaugh in "The Progressive," and by Harry Howe in "The Review." The former discovered six full brood in all the apiaries visited, and wants to know the use of "foul brood inspectors in the states" while importing queens from said island?

Harry Howe says that bee-keepers must travel when the roads are seas of mud, and work when the air is so moist that everything either rusts or molds. The out-door worker must have his feet wet half the time. "The summer too is the season of the mosquito, for scorpions and tarantulas, and we find them at other times when we are not looking for them. Malaria prevails and no sanitary conveniences among the common people. One man went from 800 colonies to 40 in three years. The nectar producing flora is being displaced by sugar cane and destroyed by general farming. Thieving and murders are common." He thinks that banana and cocoanut honey are myths for the reason that the former is not comestible by bees, and on the latter he has to see bees gathering honey. The honey country not already exploited is so far from market as to be unprofitable in the way of honey production. He, too, says, "one of the best known beemen in the United States spent a month traveling over the island, and then went home in disgust because he could not find things as he wanted them." From all of which we conclude that in spite of our many ups and downs we still have a few things for which to be appreciative.

One of our downs this season was our cold April preceeded by a warm March. Brood-rearing was started in fine shape, during March and April it was bleak

and wintry, robbing the bees of all the chance of gathering nectar, these conditions following a hard season last year.

In "Gleanings," J. A. Crane, Mari- on, N. Y., tells an interesting story: "This county stands fourth in the United States as an apple county, and we knew it last fall, whether the orchards will blossom this year or not, and also that if the weather is favorable and our bees in shape, we shall get honey.

"In 1901 I extracted from three hives (supers and brood nest) three times in ten days, taking from each, at each extracting, a twelve-quart bucket full of honey. Ripe? Yes, it weighed 12lbs. 3 oz. to the gallon. It candied solid the next January, and was pure white, and nearly 100 pounds per colony. My whole yard averaged 50 pounds per colony. Such crops cannot be expected every year, but he has had four yields of apple blossom honey to three of basswood. As to quality he says, "when a customer has once had apple blossom honey he will always call for it again." Of catnip honey he says, "I don't want any more, I can't sell it, can't eat it, wouldn't give it way, going to make bees of it." Here is a difference of locality for you, bee-keepers of this section rarely get any benefit of the apple and other fruit bloom of the same, owing to weather conditions it being so frequently cold, high winds prevailing, or rainy, or all three combined. I have yet to see the first surplus apple blossom honey. We are only too thankful if there are a few bright, inspiring, nectar-producing days while general fruit blooms remain with us, and enough is secured to encourage the keeping up of brood rearing, and this, too, in a country which is literally both white and pink with bloom in season.

Year after year those conditions prevail so that if our bees get anything from fruit bloom we are sure to be

grateful for the treat, and this so much milder more than New York.

Rockenbaugh's methods as given in "Progressive Bee-Keeper," page 129, some interesting reading as well as instructive as are Gill's in the "Rocky Mountain Bee Journal," and between all the plans that are offered one can try the one seemingly best adapted to his locality and circumstances and most probably with but a few variations will succeed in securing a practical plan for himself and his peculiar conditions.

Under the caption of "economical work," learn to decide upon and perform only work that is profitable," editor Hutchinson has at once paid F. L. Thompson a compliment, and laid emphasis on this all-important subject. (a subject that is getting more consideration than of yore, and one that cannot be over-discussed) by copying an article which appeared in "Progressive" for last July. "The greatest amount of honey with the least amount of labor," is or ought to be our motto."

The retail business in bee-keeping is fast giving away to wholesale systems in which the curtailing of labor is the ever present subject

Oat, rye and cornmeal together with wheat bran and shorts, and even wheat flour, have at various times been recommended as artificial pollen, and in the "American Bee-Keeper" John M. Hooker gives the other side of the question as follows: "This feeding of artificial pollen, if done at all, must be done with great care. The bees will work with a will and carry it into the hives and store it solidly in the cells in great quantities. If this is not required for immediate use it becomes very hard. The bees later on, being able to get pollen in the natural way, which they can manipulate more easily, and it is allowed to remain in the hive partly filling numbers of cells which otherwise would be used for brood. I tried the feeding of pea meal in Eng-

land, where at one time its use was advocated by many, but only in exceptional districts is it now used where little or no early pollen can be obtained in the natural way until much later in the season. It was found that many of the combs were half filled with this meal, honey being placed on the top of it and sealed over, having both the weight and appearance of being full of honey. In going over the colonies in the autumn the bee-keeper is lead to believe the store sufficient only to learn later on that the weight of the combs was not all honey, and that his bees have suffered in consequence."

W. W. McNeal in the same number discourses on the use of old combs, he says: "One of the nice points in the management of bees is to make them show a willingness to enter the supers. Unless the apiarist is a master of this he holds a very uncertain hand. But the trick is easily learned by the use of these old blackened combs so assuring to the younger bees. There can be no question as to the superiority of such combs for this purpose. The bees recognize in them greater warmth and protection, and having been the cradle of bees gone before, the wax-working element of the colony feel right at home while working upon them. Give a colony a super of combs made up alternately of old and new combs, and in nearly every instance the bees will seek the former, storing the first honey in them that is carried above. I admit that newly made honey comb looks more tasty, but that the honey stored in it is really superior I am not so certain.

Honey taken from black combs containing large quantities of pollen and brood in all stages of development can not help being inferior in quality. But there is no necessity for such a state of things in the extracting supers. Combs made black by usage may be entirely free from everything save the thicken-

ed linings of the cell walls. This I do not believe at present to be sufficiently detrimental to warrant their exclusion as extracting combs. Better compromise the matter by keeping about one-half of each kind, using the old early in the season to coax the bees above, and then the others when work is well agoing in the supers.

The fear that black combs will discolor honey is usually much greater than the facts will bear out. While of the discoloration which comes of soaking old combs in water is due to the residue of pollen and refuse not present when honey is stored, this simple test should not be taken conclusively. The action of water on old honey combs is such as to cause disintegration of its parts. It penetrates, loosens and breaks down the structure of the walls of the cells and eventually rots them away from the base that is composed of pure wax or the foundation of commerce. But not so with honey. It may be held stored in the comb in solution for years without weakening the structure of the combs. We see the same difference when the honey is put into a barrel, instead of entering the fibers of the wood as water would do causing the staves to expand, it draws out what little moisture that remains, causing the wood to shrink and the barrel to leak.

The rapidity with which old combs may be handled in extracting is another point in their favor.

If inclined to feel "blue" in regard to bee keeping, just read a few items of N. E. France, found in American Bee-keeper.

"Beekeeper's investment in Wisconsin." "In Reedsburg are two residences, costing respectively \$1,200 and \$2,000 belonging to an aged keekeeper. Each was built with the returns of one season's honey harvest. At Dilley is a \$2,500 residence from two years harvest. At Monroe a barn 40 by 60 cost-

ing \$1,580. Another in Sauk county, each built with the returns of one season's honey harvest. In Clark county a little farm and 400 colonies of bees worth \$10,000 paid for by 16 successive honey harvests.

"In 1875, Adam Grimm received \$10,000 for honey and bees sold, reserving 400 colonies. Four hundred thousand pounds is the total amount my bees produced in 16 successive years."

The Rocky Mountain Bee Journal announces the death of Mrs. A. J. Barber, the most extensive woman bee-keeper in Colorado, if not in the world. In speaking of her the Journal says:

"Mrs. Barber was well known to the bee-keeping fraternity, not only of her own State, but of the United States. In her experience as an apiarist, she had evolved some original ideas of great value to bee keepers, which she freely imparted to the craft whenever the opportunity presented.

"She was a pioneer of the early days of southwestern Colorado—days when gore-thirsty Ute was never off the war path. Her first husband was killed many years ago in an unequal battle with that tribe. She is spoken of by those who knew her familiarly, as a remarkable woman—naturally refined, sympathetic, and kind, yet, when occasion demanded, could be as brave as any heroine of fiction. Notwithstanding nearly her whole life was lived amid the turmoil, hardships, and meager advantages of the Western frontier, she acquired a splendid education, and was always recognized for her superior intelligence and modest worth."

A gem among women—an honor to her sex, long will her memory live and may the silent influence of her life-work be far-reaching.

NOTICE, BEE-KEEPERS.

Daniel Worth the Queen Specialist of Tenn., has removed and permanently located at Karnes City, Tex. where he will be better than ever prepared to serve his many customers. I have both three banded and golden Italians. Price, untested 75c, tested \$1.00, breeders \$3.00. Reduction in quantities. All queens by return mail. Address, **DANIEL WORTH, Karnes City Tex.**

DEATH OF JOHN NEBEL.

John Nebel, aged 69 years and 6 months, died very suddenly of rheumatism of the heart, at his home in High Hill, Mo. Tuesday morning May 5, 1903. Mr. Nebel was born in Bavaria, Germany, on Oct. 16th, 1833, came to America landing in Philadelphia, in 1855, and one year later came to Missouri where he settled at High Hill. In 1860 he was married to Miss Matilda Rosenberger who with four children, Emil F. Hon. John V., Thresa M. and Matilda C. Gekkeler survive him. One son Chas. W. having gone to Alaska in 1898 and died while in search of gold in the fields of Klondike. He also leaves three brothers and one sister who live in Europe. He was a prominent and highly respected citizen of High Hill, the leading lumber dealer and also conducted a lumber yard at Jonesburg, Mo. He dealt extensively in bees and beekeeper's supplies, being an active member of the North American Bee-Keepers Association since its organization. Mr. Nebel first commenced with bees on a small scale in 1870; in 1880 he went into the business in an extensive way, uniting the supply department with it in 1883; had at times as many as 300 colonies. He took 16,000 lbs. honey in 1886 from 123 colonies, spring count, and increased to 183 that year besides selling many queens. On April 21, 1903, he went to Moberly where he assisted in organizing the Missouri Bee-Keepers Association, being elected its president. He took sick while at Moberly. On returning home he took to his bed where he remained until his death. He ate breakfast on the morn-

ing of May 5, after which he lay down to sleep from which he never awoke. Funeral services took place at Mt. Pleasant cemetery near High Hill, Wednesday, conducted by hisson-in-law Rev. George Gekkeler under the auspices of the A. F. & A. M. Lodge of Jonesburg of which he was a prominent member.

Thus High Hill has lost a good citizen, the bee keeping fraternity a friend, a wife a kind husband and four children a loving father. But let us not criticise the hand of Divine Guidance.

The Best Honey Queens on Record are those prize winners reared by The B. & H. Co. They have taken off the first prize in New York State at the Dutchess county fair held at Poughkeepsie, N. Y. Sept. 23 to 26, 1902. They have also carried off the medal and first prize at the Worchester fair held at Worchester, Mass., Sept. 1st and 2nd, 1902. They have produced some of the largest honey yields on record in California and Texas the past season. Untested queens from these races, 3 and 5 banded Italians, Cyprions, Albinos, Holy Lands and Carniolians, bred in their purity from 5 to 35 miles apart; February and March, \$1.00 each or \$9.00 per dozen, all other months, 75c each, 6 for \$4.25, or \$8.00 per dozen. Tested queens from either race from \$1.40 to \$3.00 each; breeders from \$3.50 to \$10.00 each. I guarantee safe arrival and perfect satisfaction. A trial order will convince you.

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HOMER H. HYDE, Editor Texas Dept.
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Nearly all orders for bee supplies go out the same day orders are received.

Our readers will note in this issue that Will Atchley, the Beeville, Texas, queen raiser, has been succeeded by the Bee & Honey Co., Mr. Atchley remaining as the manager. The customers of this house will receive the same courteous treatment they have always had.

A PURE HONEY LAW, the only one of its kind, has been in force in Colorado since April 11. What's the matter with Colorado? We have also had an efficient foul brood law for some dozen years, and a spraying law for six years, besides getting our State convention reports printed at the State expense; and we have had a State Bee Keepers' Association for twenty-three years. The other States will have to get a move on to keep us in sight. No wonder Missouri is stricken with an acute desire to do something or other. By the way, it is not generally known that there was a test case of the spraying law three years ago that serves as an important precedent for the bee-keepers' side. A fruit-grower declared he was going to spray when he pleased, and no lot of bee-men was going to stop him. He carried out his threat of spraying in full bloom, and the next morning seven colonies of bees belonging to a near neighbor were nearly all dead. By the advice of some prominent bee-keepers the

owner of the bees consulted the prosecuting attorney, and the outcome was that Mr. Nicely Come-up-with was arrested, plead guilty, and was fined \$1 and costs, the whole amounting to \$70, and has since been very careful to spray at the proper time.

The following is a synopsis of the pure honey law:

"No person shall sell any adulterated or imitation honey or beeswax, unless prominently labeled with the percentage of its ingredients, or labeled "Imitation," and unless the seller informs the purchaser; nor shall such goods have any standing in law, nor shall the word "Honey" be used as part of the trade name of any article unless honey is really a part of it; and the executive of any State office regulating any food products shall cause samples of suspected goods to be analysed, and prosecute violations of the law in the name of The People of the State of Colorado; and on conviction, the goods shall be confiscated, and the offender fined \$20 to \$500 and costs."

SUCCESSFUL BROOD-REARING is chiefly promoted by moisture, not warmth, says Mr. James Heddon, according to the American Bee-Keeper.

He says brood-rearing is favored rather by cool than by hot weather, if the humidity is right. This is indeed news; but, of course, by reason of Mr. Heddon's authority in apicultural matters, deserves respectful consideration. We here in Colorado should come out about even, according to this; for although we may be too dry for successful brood-rearing, we are certainly cool enough. Why couldn't we tilt back the hives a little, pour in some water on the bottom-boards, and just revel in the solid sheets of brood? Well, what are you laughing at?

THUS SAITH THE LORD is a common idea in apicultural writing truth we bee-keepers seem slow to recognize, especially when applied to lines, we are never quite assured of not reaching

conclusions on insufficient premises. For this reason it ought to be required of every authority, without any exceptions whatever, that he give the data on which he bases his conclusions. This invariably required in the advancement of the higher sciences.

ANOTHER DICTUM OF MR. HEDDON is that bees will breed up one-fourth faster in shallow hives than deep ones. I have now had an apiary in Heddon hives for three years, and in spite of recognizing that Mr. Heddon is a genuine authority on very many points, my experience has lead me into a conditions of pretty complete scepticism on that one. The bees are loth to extend the boundary of the brood-nest beyond one section of the Heddon hive until after they have reached and passed a fairly respectable degree of strength. My hives have the regulation $\frac{1}{4}$ inch top and bottom-bars, too, and plenty of burr-combs, so that the artificial obstacles to passing from one hive section to the other are reduced to a minimum. Locality, no doubt, is the explanation. The bees here start breeding very early, and becomes very week in the latter part of April. It may be that most of the cellar-wintered colonies of Michigan, not breeding until late, do not fall below the requisite degree of strength to breed easily in both stories soon after beginning. But then, why should there be any possible advantage, even in Michigan, in having the brood-nest space cut in two? I strongly suspect this is all talker-talker. In other ways the shallow hive-sections are convenient; but for breeding, we want proofs before we can believe.

FORMALDEHYDE GAR FOR SAVING COMBS now gives much promise of success. If it fulfils expectations, it will be indeed a boon. Drawn combs have a much greater value than sull sheets of foundation (not to speak of the labor of melting, cost of foundation, and

labor of putting in and wiring), for building up nuclei and weak colonies and replacing drone comb, because for so long a time during the year the conditions are not favorable for drawing out foundation. Not only could actually diseased combs be treated, but also all extra combs not in use, thus forestalling and preventing any possible infection in changing combs, instead of waiting until it has occured.

GOOD IDEAS OFTEN FALL FLAT. Six years ago, in the Bee Keepers' Review, I reported the experiment of a German Bee Keeper named Peterson. He moved every trace of mould from a room in a locality ravaling Florida for moisture, by fumigating it with wood alcohol which had absorbed 60 per cent. of formaldehyde gas, together with a small proportion of menthol. He also found that a colony of bees placed in that room was not injured in the least. It seems probable that anything that would kill germs within a hive would kill the bees first. But if we have the true scientific temper we shall neither need to believe things nor not believe them, nor accept or reject them before testing, and shall test not merely to satisfy preconceptions, but also to discover new things, or even facts that may have no apparent use at present. Another case of possibly valuable idea passing unheeded is that of the experience of Mr. C. Davenport, given five or six years ago, in the American Bee Journal. He fumigated some combs exceedingly rotten with foul brood with the vapor of bisulphide of carbon, then squeezed some of the rotten stuff, after fumigation down over the top-bars of a healthy colony, and put the cover on. The colony did not take the disease. Why this case should have been allowed to drop unregarded, when its possibilities are so valuable, has always been a mystery to me. I am afraid it is true that bee-keepers, as a class, are neith-

er very scientific nor very practical

TO MAKE UNPROFITABLE COLONIES is not a question, seemingly, that much agitates the minds of most bee-keepers. If a large proportion of the hives in the yard have but two to four combs of brood, and a corresponding number of bees, when the honey-flow begins, and do nothing more throughout the season than clog up the brood-chamber with honey, while leaving the supers severely alone, it is to be regretted, of course, but nothing can be done—you can't make bees do things. Perhaps not; but you can give them a chance to do things. (How like our treatment of the rising generation—we content ourselves with such platitudes as "Diligence always brings success," "Always room at the top," and never think of providing the motive for diligence. I used to wonder at the frequency with which the so-called golden rule of bee-keeping "Keep all colonies strong" was repeated, and how on earth it was done, and how you are going to make a colony strong that isn't strong. I am wondering yet, but, while wondering, make a stagger at doing something by utterly abolishing those two-by-four colonies that ought to do some perceptible work, but don't. I take away enough bees and brood to reduce them to the condition of nuclei, (not before the honey-flow begins, though). Then they have to do something, to build up by fall and they almost always do it. The strength which they are made to give up, in the shape of bees and brood, I give to those colonies which are already in shape and inclined to do super work, thus increasing their strength; and though by this plan all colonies are not kept strong, as the aforesaid impossible rule demands, yet they are all made to exert their strength.

LITTLE ORPHAN LUCY.

BY MISS MAY CAMPBELL.

Little orphan Lucy lay in the long ward of the children's Hospital, on a beautiful white bed. There were nine other white beds in the ward upon which nine restless little heads tossed in pain or lay quiet, soothed by the gentle hands of the good nurses.

All of these little patients had relatives or friends who came to see them, bringing beautiful picture books, toys and things that children love—that is all except Lucy. She, poor child, was a stranger in a strange land. All day long she would lie quietly watching the other children while they made merry with their gifts and her thoughts would travel back to that beautiful home in the land where it was always summer and she was happy, and her mama and papa were both alive.

What fun she used to have romping with Rover, her pet dog. When they were tired of play, they would sit in the shade of one of the big trees in the garden.

This garden was filled with flowers of every color, and Lucy loved them all but most of all the rose bush which each summer was covered with white roses. Her papa planted the rose bush the very day that Lucy was born, and they grew up together and when she was old enough to understand, her mama told her about it and it was her especial delight to water the rose bush and care for it. When it was covered with the lovely white blossoms, she would clap her little hands and cry, "My rose bush!"

One day her papa was taken sick, and not long after, her mama took her into the room where he lay stretched out in a big black box. Her mama cried and told her he was dead and held her up to kiss him for the last time, but the touch of his cold face frightened her and she hid her face on her

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mother's shoulder and they cried together.

After this, though they still lived in the old home, they always sad and wore dismal black clothes and everything was changed.

Her mama was changed most of all, and would lie all day on the couch by the open window looking into the garden, with eyes that seemed to see nothing. Then Lucy would throw her arms about her neck and cry "mama, speak to me." Her mother would say "yes dear," and fondly stroke her hair.

One day she said, "Lucy, we will go to Scotland and uncle Malcolm, he will be a father to my little girl, when I am gone."

In a short time they began the journey to Scotland. When they reached London Mrs. Bascome was so ill she was taken to a hospital and died there, leaving Lucy alone.

The sad pale face of the little orphan touched the kind heart of the superintendent of the hospital and he took her to his home. She was there a week or so, but could not feel contented with the brood of healthy, noisy children, who filled the whole house with their clamor, and falling ill at the end of this time, it was thought best to take her to the childrens Hospital.

So in the long ward filled with little white beds she passed the weary days and restless nights. The nurses all adored her, made a great pet of her and did everything in their power to make her well and strong again, and though Lucy felt grateful, her sensitive child's heart was too hardened with grief to be comforted.

Her own particular nurse was Miss Alice, a tall stately young woman, with soft brown eyes and great masses of brown hair tucked away beneath a white cap. The first time Lucy saw her she thought she was an angel.

Awaking in the middle of the night

in a feverish dream, she saw this beautiful white robed figure, standing by the bed, looking down on her. Seeing that her patient was awake, Miss Alice stooped down and kissed her and Lucy saw that the soft brown eyes were full of tears.

These two became fast friends, and it was to Miss Alice that Lucy whispered the secret of the beautiful dream which so often came to her. She dreamed that an angel, looking just like Miss Alice, came in, bringing a rose bush, which was covered with white roses, and she cried aloud as she had often done long ago. "My rose bush," and stretched out her hand for a blossom when they faded from her sight and were gone.

Dear Miss Alice held the thin little hand while she listened to this, and all the recollections which eight-year-old Lucy had of the home in the southland, her mama and papa, the rose bush and the strange Uncle Malcolm McGregor.

Seeing that Lucy's mind constantly traveled back to the happy scenes of the past, Miss Alice felt sure that if she could reproduce any part of that past it would do the child more good than anything else.

The mother and father were gone beyond recall, the home was far away but could she not get a rose bush which was covered with white blooms?

To Dr. Wilson, one of the visiting physicians, she told the pathetic history of little Lucy and asked his advice. Dr. Wilson was a kind hearted young man, was much interested in Lucy, and devotedly attached to Miss Alice, so he at once agreed to help her.

It was no easy matter to find just the right kind of a rose bush. There were pink, red and yellow roses, but not a white one could be found. He did not despair, however, but each day, while on his round of visits, searched for the rose bush.

At last in a suburban hot-house he

found a beautiful little bush which was literally covered with buds of purest white. As he did not wish Lucy to see it until it was in full bloom, he left it in the green house for a few days.

One morning as Lucy lay down on her little bed half asleep and half awake, a white robed figure came through the open door of the ward, bearing in its arms a rose bush just like the one she had so often seen in her dreams. It was placed beside her and she stretched out her hand, thinking of course the vision would fade away, but when her fingers closed round the stem of a real rose, she gave a little cry of delight, and sitting up in bed rubbed her eyes to make sure she was not dreaming.

No, it was a real rose, and beside it stood dear Miss Alice, smiling through her happy tears.

After this Lucy began to get well and was soon running about the ward and taking care of the rose bush. All of the children became very fond of the rose bush and it was Lucy's delight to pick a flower and give it to some little patient who was unable to leave her bed.

Kind Dr. Wilson's good efforts in Lucy's behalf did not stop here, but remembering to have met Mr. Malcolm McGregor while on a hunting tour in Scotland, he wrote to him, telling him of the sad plight of little Lucy Bascome and asking if they were related.

He discovered that Lucy's mamma was Mr. McGregor's sister. She had made a runaway match and had not written to her family since she left them, so they had lost all trace of her.

One lovely spring morning a carriage drove up to the Childrens Hospital, from which alighted Dr. Wilson and Mr. McGregor. Lucy, dressed in a beautiful new dress, stood on the steps, holding tight to Miss Alice's hand.

This was her last day in the hospital

for she was going to Scotland to live with uncle Malcolm. This big hearted uncle Malcolm could not take Lucy away without first making a grand treat for all the little patients, so the white beds in the long ward were gay with bright hued blossoms: there were presents for each one and everybody was happy. At last the gay doings were over, the good byes all said, and Lucy and Uncle Malcolm entered the carriage to be driven to the train. The rose bush, which had not a single flower left on it, was to go with Lucy to be planted in the garden of her new home.

As the horses started into a brisk trot, Lucy turned for a last glimpse of the hospital. There at the upper window was the groups of pale faced little patients waving their little hands. On the front steps stood Miss Alice, her pretty brown hair blown all about her face, while close beside her stood Dr. Wilson.

And thus she lost those two dear friends, but often in fancy she saw them again, standing close together, just as they stood that day.

Higginville, Mo.

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Floresville, Texas.



N. B.—All subscriptions from Texas should be sent to me direct. All matters relating to advertising should you desire space in the Progressive, should also be sent to me. I am the Texas agent and representative of the Leahy Mfg. Co., for their excelent paper, the Progressive. We ought to have 500 subscribers from Texas, so come on with your subscriptions.

EDITORIAL.

Probably the best article on shook swarming and one that contains probably the best possible effort of the writer is the article on shook swarms in this issue by that veteran L. Stachelahusan. It would be well for every reader to study his article carefully. Shook swarms is going to be the method of the future in controlling swarming and at the same time secure a big crop of honey. Again in its many modifications the apiarist may keep down all increase or he may increase 50 per cent. each spring just as he prefers. We are experimenting thoroughly with this method this year and expect to be able to give our readers the results later on.

Late spring and cool cloudy weather is just the condition we have been having in southwest Texas this year. Catclaw was knocked sky high by a cold spell we had in the last days of April. Other honey plants have not yielded nectar on account of the cool cloudy weather and therefore up to date no great amount of honey has been harvested in any part of Texas. It is to-day fairing up and if we have warm,

clear weather, we expect to have a big honey flow in two weeks time from Mesquite which is just now budding. While we are certainly very much left out so far, there is chances of a big honey crop in Texas yet this year.

Some experience in nuclei making is what we have been having lately. During the month of April we made about 300 nuclei drawing two frames or brood from full colonies that were threatening to swarm. We started queen cells in advance and gave each nuclei as made one ripe queen cell in a cell protected. We gave each nuclei a new stand and closed the entrance with green grass stuffed in just as tight as we could stuff it. Two days later we would go and remove the grass from all hives that had not already pushed their way out. About the time we got the nuclei all made we had that cold spell above refered to and lo! and behold, feeding was soon the order of the day and we had to keep it up with the nuclei for two weeks which was quite a job. We lost quite a few before we discovered they were in need and gained a few others from robbing. Quite a few lost their queens which caused us considerable loss and trouble, so that all in all our nuclei making for increase this year was a tough job. However our nuclei are now all making a living, have laying queens and will make good colonies by fall.

Securing good cells and at the least

expense of time, bees and patience is one of the hard problems that confronts the large bee keepers. Our method is this, we select a large populous colony, remove the queen by setting her aside in another body on a frame of brood and bees, we then shake off all the bees we possibly can from the remaining frames of brood on to a new set of combs containing honey but no brood, giving the naked brood to the queen and set them aside, stopping up part of the entrance if robbers are bad or the nights cool. Soon the naked frames of brood will have hatched out and the colony will be apparently as good as before. As soon as the queenless and broodless bees on the old stand discover their plight which will be in from one to three hours, we give them a batch of prepared cups, giving them all the way from 15 to 40 cells to build out, owing to their strength and conditions. It is a mistake to wait 24 or even 12 hours before giving the cells. Just as soon as the bees show their loss is the right time to give them and they are built out better and fed better if given then. A good plan is to give the queenless bees the cells to polish up at the time you do the shaking so that when you go to graft the bees will have the cells polished up and have the smell of the bees doing it so that there will be more cells accepted and accepted prompter. When we want to take off the batch of cells we either return the bees to their queen or leave them one of the cells.

Say, bee keepers, this is likely the last call to you before the meeting of the T. B. K. A. at College Station in July next. Let me urge you one and all to attend that meeting. I am sure you will derive great good from it. You should take a lay-off once in a while and this is your chance to go to the meeting and help make it a success. However, if you don't go, be sure

and send that dollar of yours to Louis H. Scholl, Hunter, Texas, and thus become a member of both the Texas Association and the National. The T. B. K. A. is fighting your battles in Texas the National is fighting your battles in the nation, so come on and get into the fray. You cannot fail to realize the fact that great good has resulted from both of these associations, therefore don't be selfish but join our association.

Among the many things the T. B. K. A. has done for Texas bee keepers is to secure the passage of a foul brood law, the text of which is given in another column. Through the fault of a representative who had the bill in charge no appropriation was made so that the law remains inoperative until the next legislature meets so far as a general application is concerned. However, all people who have the disease may get it treated and cured by guaranteeing the expense money to the state entomologist or his assistants. Again if its found out that the disease is in your locality, two or three of you can foot up the expenses and have all the bees in your locality examined, and if found infected, treated. At the next legislature we will get an appropriation and we will then be ready to go ahead sure enough. Under the present law we do not anticipate that the disease will be allowed to spread on account of the wide-awake nature of the bee men of Texas.

Floresville, Texas, May 25, 1903.

TEXAS FOUL BROOD LAW.

AN ACT

To provide for the protection of honey bees against foul brood and other contagious diseases, and providing that all bee keepers report to the State Entomologist when infectious diseases exist; providing for collecting the expense of eradicating

the disease, and fixing the charges upon the owner of the bees; providing for the extermination of all contagious diseases; and providing penalties for the violation of all this Act.

Section 1. Be it enacted by the legislature of the state of Texas:

If any owner of, or any person having control or possession of any honey bees in this state, knows that any bees so owned or controlled are affected with foul brood, or any other contagious disease, it shall be and is hereby made his duty to at once report said fact to the state Entomologist, setting out in his said report all the facts known with refecton. The state Entomologist shall have full power in his discretion to order any owner or possessor of bees dwelling in hives without movable frames, or not permitting of ready examination, to transfer such bees to a movable frame hive within a specified time. In default of such transfer the State Entomologist may destroy, or order destroyed, such hives, together with the honey, comb, frames and bees contained therein, without recompense to the owner, lessee or agent thereof.

Section 2. The State Entomologist shall prescribe such rules and regulations as may in his judgment seem necessary for the eradication of all contagious diseases of bees, if at any time the Entomologist finds, or has reason to believe, that the owner or keeper of any bees, or the owner of any apiary, has refused or is refusing to comply with all or any such rules and regulations. then in that event the State Entomologist is hereby authorized to inspect said bees, and, if necessary, burn diseased colonies, appliances and honey and do any and all things necessary in the premises to eradicate foul brood or any other infectious disease of bees.

Section 3. When any owner or possessor of bees shall fail to carry out his instructions of the State Entomologist as set forth in Sections 1 and 2 of this act, the State Entomologist shall carry

out such destruction or treatment, and shall present to the owner of said bees a bill for the actual cost of such destruction or treatment. In the failure of the owner or possessor of such bees to pay said bill within thirty days after the delivery of same to himself, tenant, or agent, or within thirty days after mailing same to his usual postoffice address, the State Entomologist shall certify to the county attorney of the county wherein such bees are located, the amount and items of said bill, and the county attorney shall file suit for the recovery of said account. All moneys recovered by the county attorney for such destruction or treatment shall be paid into the hands of the county treasurer, to become a part of the fund for carrying out the provisions of this act.

Section 4. If any owner or keeper of any diseased colonies of bees shall barter or give away any infected bees, honey or appliances, or shall expose any other bees, to the danger of infection of the disease, or shall refuse or neglect to make report as provided in Section 1 of this act, he shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction thereof shall be fined in any sum not exceeding two hundred dollars.

Section 5. The fact that the season when young colonies of bees will have the mother colonies is near at hand, and that there is no existing law properly governing colonies affected with foul brood, creates an emergency and an imperative public necessity, requiring the suspension of the constitutional rule which requires bills to be read on three several days, and the same is so suspended and this act shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage; and it is so enacted.

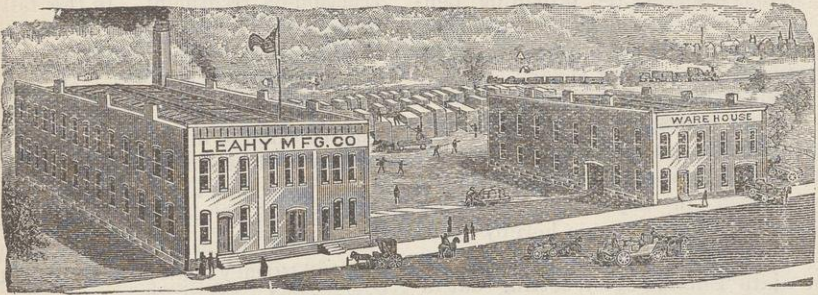
PAT M. NEFF,

Speaker House of Representatives,
Geo. D. Neal, President Senate.

Passed House March 20, 1903, ayes 112, nays . naught.

Passed Senate March 30, 1903, yeas 25; nays naught.

PUT ME OFF AT OMAHA
MANY IMPROVEMENTS THIS YEAR.



We have made many improvements this year in the manufacture of bee supplies. The following are some of them: Our hives are made of one grade better lumber than heretofore, and all that are sent out under our new prices, will be supplied with separators and nails. The Telescope hive has a new bottom board, which is a combination of hive stand and bottom board, and is supplied with slatted tinned separators. The Higginsville Smoker is much improved, is larger than heretofore, and better material is used all through. Our Latest Process Foundation has no equal, and our highly polished sections are superb indeed. Send 5c for sample copy of these two articles, and be convinced. The Daisy Foundation Fastener—well, it is a *daisy* now, sure enough, with a pocket to catch the dripping wax and a treadle so it can be worked by the foot. Prices as low as conservative, consider the big advance in raw material. If you have not received our new catalogue, send for it at once. Sample copy of the PROGRESSIVE BEE-KEEPER free. Address,

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BELGIAN HARES.

The Belgian Hare is the finest meat in the land, tender, white, transparent, juicy, and delicious in flavor, is easily raised, sells dressed at from 25c to 40c per pound. The Hare is wonderfully prolific and herein lies the great profit to be derived from their culture.

One Doe has been known to be Mother, Grand Mother and Great-Grand Mother to a family of 150 Hares in one year.

The offspring from one Doe will produce more meat in one year than any other animal. The Belgian Hare will no doubt solve the meat problem—as any family with a back yard can easily raise their own meat. But as the demand for breeding stock at good prices is now greater than the supply, very few hares are sold for meat. Breeders are getting rich. Some extra fine specimens have sold for as high as \$300. But the business is now getting down to a Meat and Fur basis—and the field for new breeders is very promising. Two boys made \$800 last year from a \$30 investment and many others in this section have done equally well, send for our free list and Booklet telling all about this new industry.

Shady Grove Stock Farm,

Warrenton, Ohio

Foul Brood May Come

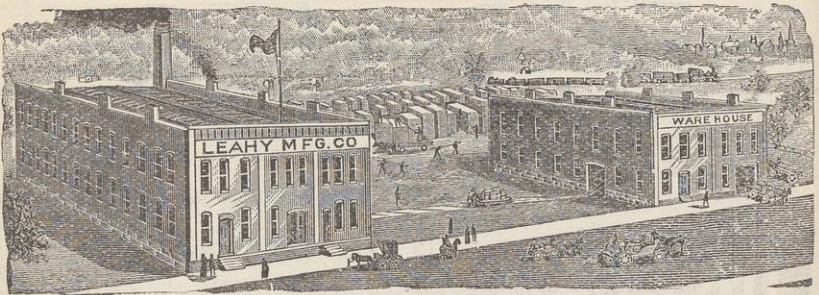
into your apiary when you least expect it. The sooner you discover its presence, the less difficult and expensive will be its eradication. If you know exactly what to do when you discover it, much valuable time may be saved. No better instruction and advice on these points can be found than that given in a five-page article written by R. L. Taylor, and published in the February Bee-Keepers' Review. It is comprehensive yet concise. The description of the disease, the instructions how to detect it are the best and most complete of any I have seen. No one need be mistaken in indentifying foul brood after reading this article. Mr. Taylor then goes on and tells how to hold the disease in check, prevent its dissemination among other colonies, bring all of the colonies up to the honey harvest in a prosperous condition, secure a crop of honey, and, at the same time, get rid of foul brood.

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

W. Z. Hutchinson.

Flint, Michigan.

MANY IMPROVEMENTS THIS YEAR.



We have made many improvements this year in the manufacture of bee supplies. The following are some of them: Our hives are made of one grade better lumber than heretofore, and all that are sent out under our new prices, will be supplied with separators and nails. The Telescope hive has a new bottom board, which is a combination of hive stand and bottom board, and is supplied with slatted tinned separators. The Higginsville Smoker is much improved, is larger than heretofore, and better material is used all through. Our Latest Process Foundation has no equal, and our highly polished sections are superb indeed. Send 5c for sample copy of these two articles, and be convinced. The Daisy Foundation Fastener—well, it is a *daisy* now, sure enough, with a pocket to catch the dripping wax and a treadle so it can be worked by the foot. Prices as low as conservative, beside ing the big advance in raw material. If you have not received our new catalogue, send for it at once. Sample copy of the *PROGRESSIVE BEE-KEEPER* free. Address,

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Higginsville Bee Supplies at Kansas City.



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You will save freight by ordering of me. Write for Catalogue.

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SPECIALTY OF

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Being located in the great **BASSWOOD** timber belt of Wisconsin; admitted by all to be the best for making sections.

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In stock, and at prices with the times. Write for Catalogue and prices, Free.

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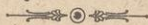
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Scientifically correct, practically perfect.
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Double and packed walls.
Perfect regulation of heat and ventilation.
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Please mention the "Progressive."

Cheapest and the Best

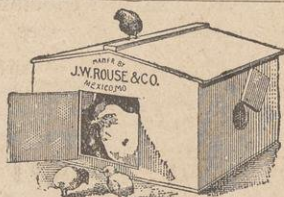
queens can be had at the lowest price—Long Tongue, Leather Colored, 5 Banners and Carniolians, at all seasons. Untested 50c; tested 75c. Satisfaction guaranteed.

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RAT, CAT AND VARMINT PROOF.
One nailed, and four packed inside, making 6 coops; ship at low rates. Price, \$3.50.
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Smokers, Bee Veils, and all
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Made of sheet-brass, which does not rust or burn out, should last a lifetime. You need one, but they cost 25c more than tin of the same size. The little pen cut shows our brass hinge put on the three larger sizes. No wonder Bingham's 4-inch Smoke Engine goes without puffing, and

Does Not Drop Inky Drops

I have used Bingham Smokers ever since they first came out. Working from three to seven hundred colonies twelvemonths in the year. I ought to know what is required of a smoker. The Doctor 3 1/4 inch just received fills the bill.

Respt., O. W. OSBORN.

Mt. Pleasant, Mich., 7-7 1896.

Dear sir—Smokers came O. K. They are the best I have ever seen; sell like hot cakes.

Respectfully, W. M. BAMBU.



The perforated steel fire-grate has 381 holes to air the fuel and support the fire. Prices, Heavy Tin Smoke Engine, four-inch Stove, per mail, \$1.50; 3 1/2-inch, \$1.10; three-inch, \$1.00; 2 1/2-inch, 90c; two inch, 65 cents.

BINGHAM SMOKERS

are the original, and have all the improvements, and have been the STANDARD OF EXCELLENCE for 22 years.

With a Bingham Smoker that will hold a quart of sound maple wood, the bee-keepers' trials are all over for a long time. Who ever heard of a Bingham Smoker that was too large or did not give perfect satisfaction. The world's most scientific and largest comb honey producers use



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is one that will not disintegrate quickly, but form a hard, durable coating as impervious to atmospheric influence as it is possible to make a covering of this character. THE BEST BEE HIVE PAINT MADE.

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meets all these requirements perfectly, as it is made from the best carefully selected materials only. It may cost a few cents more per gallon, but considered from the standpoint of DURABILITY and SATISFACTORY RESULTS, it is by far the most economical article that can be used, and its intrinsic worth is bound to be appreciated by all careful and painstaking bee-keepers.

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One quart.....\$.55
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One gallon.....\$1.60
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