



The Pacific bee journal. Vol. 4, No. 4

September 1, 1901

Los Angeles, California: Pacific Bee Journal Co., September 1, 1901

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P/119

Vol. 4

SEPTEMBER 1, 1901

No. 4

THE PACIFIC BEE JOURNAL

Application Entered at the Los Angeles Post Office as Second-Class Matter



THE IDEAL HOME OF RAMONA

CONTENTS

Wants and Exchanges.....	23	Co-Operation in Colorado	31
San Pedro Harbor.....	24	Bleaching Comb Honey.....	32
Pacific Gems.....	25	Bees and Pear Blight.....	32
Simple Wax Extractor	26	Mexican and Cuban Bee Keeping.....	33
The Father of Bees.....	27	Robert Wilkins.....	33
Splendid Yield of Honey.....	27	Honey Plants.....	34
Migratory Bee Keeping.....	28	Central California Association.....	36
Bee Diseases.....	28	Honey Markets.....	37
Stone Houses.....	29	Honey Buyers.....	37
Editorial	30	Advertising.....	Cover

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Published Monthly By

B. S. K. BENNETT, Los Angeles, Cal
Editor and Manager

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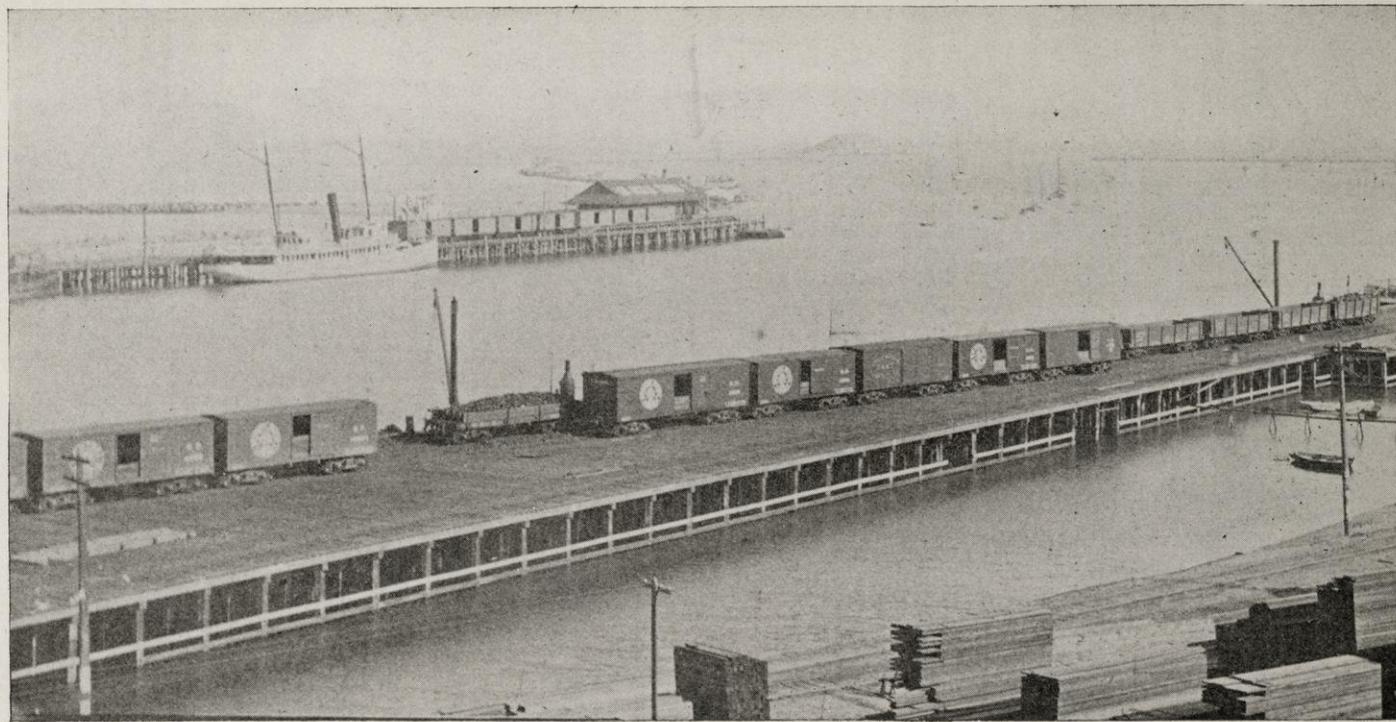
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The Jennie Atchley Co., are still leading in the queen business. Send your name and address for our prices, and a sample copy of the Southland Queen; a paper published in the interests of bee-keepers. Our catalogue tells all about queen raising, and has 15 lessons on how to keep bees successfully, it tells you all about it, free for the asking.

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SCENE IN SAN PEDRO INNER HARBOR

THE PACIFIC BEE JOURNAL

Devoted to the Profitable Improvement of Apiculture on the Pacific Coast

Published by PACIFIC BEE JOURNAL CO., 237 East Fourth Street, Los Angeles, Cal. \$1.00 per year

VOL. 4

SEPTEMBER, 1901

NO. 4

PACIFIC GEMS

BY B. B. BEES

RINCON.—L. L. Andrews and son of Rincon have sold 25 tons of honey for \$2,000.

HEMET.—It is estimated there are four carloads of honey to be shipped from Perris.

FALLBROOK.—Local apiarists are holding their comb honey for a rise, and expect to get 12 cents per pound for it.

CORONA.—T. O. Andrews and sons have just finished the shipment to the eastern market of nearly thirty tons of extracted honey.

CORONA.—Seventeen tons of extracted honey was shipped from Johnnie Anderson's apiary at Elsinore last week. The price obtained was four cents per pound.

SANTA PAULA.—The honey crop in the Piru valley is very large and of fine quality. Probably half of it having already been sold to Los Angeles and eastern houses.

SEVEN CARLOADS.—Of honey have been bought and sold by the Bennett Bee Hive Company at 4½c for white and 4c for amber, in the last two weeks, and 500 pounds of wax at 25c per pound.

RIVERSIDE.—Comb honey men in this part of the county are still holding their produce. The honey is unusually fine this year, and the

producers expect to receive as high as ten cents for first quality.

ESCONDIDO.—J. M. Hambaugh, county inspector of apiaries, reports the appearance of a new species of "fonl brood" in some apiaries, but is watching it closely and will see that it does not spread. Speaking generally, however, he says the bee industry of this county is in a healthy and prosperous condition.

LAS VEGAS, N. M.—Bees in San Juan are not making as much honey as usual. Various reasons are assigned as the cause. Some have thought that it was due to grasshoppers working on flowers and other plants, but sections that are not troubled with the grasshopper, as the La Plata, are making the same complaint as to honey production.

SAN DIEGO.—Henry Perkins made another shipment of nearly a ton of choice honey on Tuesday. His success is due in no small measure to the fact that he is constantly importing the highest grades of queens and so building up an apiary of great strength for production. J. S. Harbison is making weekly trips to San Diego with honey. He expects a yield of ten tons which will be shipped to Seattle.

5c HONEY.—Five car loads of extracted honey were sold to J. A. Buchanan & Sons, of West Virginia, at this figure through the assistance of the Bennett Bee Hive Co. Mr. Buchanan called on Mr. Bennett on his arrival in Los Angeles, looking

for 3½ and 4¢ California honey he had heard so much of in the east, but Mr. Bennett impressed him with the fact of our fine grades of table honey being worth all of 5 cents. Mr. Buchanan has a trade where he sells all this besides his own production in 6 pound cans at \$100 per can or 16 cents per pound.

SANTA ANA.—L. S. and Geo. L. Emerson were down from their Bee ranch in the Santa Ana Canyon today and left for Catalina to take a vacation after the rush of the honey season. The Emerson brothers probably have the largest apiary in the country round about here and they say that there has been an unusual activity among the "busy bees" this year in the production of honey. From the 900 stands which they own, 63 tons of strained honey have been taken during the season just closed. About half of this has already been sold at 4¢ a pound and they are holding the remainder for a better price. Figures like these indicate that bees and honey are a money making proposition this year.

VENTURA.—R. O. Holly, inspector of apiaries of the county has filed the following report with the Supervisors: The report gives the number of colonies of bees which I have examined, the number found diseased and disposition of the same: John Young, Sespe, 79 colonies; H. E. Peyton, Sespe, 80 colonies, (3 diseased, burned by owner;) Frank Atmore, Sespe, 26 colonies, (2 diseased and ordered burned;) C. O. Dickey, Buckhorn, 16 colonies; J. A. Conaway, Fillmore, 10 colonies; T. Brady, Fillmore, 5 colonies; H. S. Porter, Oxnard, 9 colonies; E. Archibald, Oxnard, 119 colonies; (1 diseased and burned;) J. F. Stewart, Santa Paula, 35 colonies; C. M. Ritchie, Fillmore, 69 colonies; Thos. Wileman, Bardsdale, 100 colonies; Geo Burson, Fillmore, 9

colonies; John Burson, Fillmore, 7 colonies; J. M. Coons, Fillmore, 20 colonies; Mary Phillips, Fillmore, 40 colonies.

R. O. HOLLEY,
Inspector.

SIMPLE WAX EXTRACTOR—STEAM HEAT.

In separating the wax from the comb, J. E. Routson has invented a simple and effective device with only a couple of gasoline cans and a good supply of ingenuity. Take a five-gallon gasoline can, about one-third of the way from the top fit in and solder to the inside a "V" shaped piece of tin; at the lower point of the V make a hole and fit in a small spout, all soldered tightly so that when the wax drops into the V it will not run out. Take a second can and punch some holes in the bottom; take a round tube of tin—a couple of long two-inch mustard boxes—melt the bottom out, so it is a tin tube instead of a box. Set this upright in the corner of the can you have put the holes in the bottom of, take some coarse burlap and crowd in the bottom of the can all around the tube, covering all the bottom of the can, which will compel the steam when you put fire under the lower can containing water below the V, to rise up in the tube. Put in your comb around the tin tube, and the steam melts the wax away from the comb; it runs down into the V and out of the spout. You have of course covered all so the steam does not escape. How, you ask, does the steam get from the lower to the upper can containing the wax to be melted? Why, you have a little opening in the upper part of the V, so the steam from the boiling water will pass up to the can above, which fits tightly over the lower can. It is a valuable, simple, home-made device, but will be appreciated by bee men.

THE FATHER OF BEES.

The Career of Frank Cox as an Apiarist.

Frank Cox is better known as a lawyer than as an apiarist, yet in a brief career in the latter capacity he gave as great promise of success as he does now of becoming chief justice of the United States supreme court. Mr. Cox cleared \$2,000 with his bees in a single season in San Diego county, and his fame was so spread abroad that he was overwhelmed with solicitations to become the major domo of all the bee ranches in Southern California. He may be said to be the father of the bees of the Salt River valley. There were, it is true, bees here before he came, but they were of an unregistered and mongrel variety. The bees brought by Mr. Cox were the descendants of those noble insects which swarmed in Campania, and still more remote descendants of those still nobler insects which flew over Hymettus. Every bee imported by Mr. Cox was a blooded one, and had a pedigree vouched for by the best known apiarists of Italy. There were 200 hives or stands in the shipment. The freight was prepaid, for the Southern Pacific did not know then that Mr. Cox would one time be one of its chief attorneys, and besides the bee industry in the Salt River valley was looked upon as an experiment quite distinct from the railroad business.

The bees were landed at Maricopa, and were to be hauled across to Phoenix in wagons. On the arrival of the train at Maricopa, the agent could not be found. Mr. Cox knew the bees were tired and wanted to stretch their legs. He opened the car and had the hives carried about half a mile from the station. He opened them and the bees swarmed out hot, hungry and looking for revenge. On his return to the station Mr. Cox found the agent, who was only a little less angry than the bees,

because they had been irregularly removed from the car. Mr. Cox reminded him that the freight had been prepaid. "That doesn't make any difference," said the agent, "You can't break into a car and take things out without the consent of the company. We got to do things according to rule. I'm going to have them bees back here and deliver them in regular order. I don't know who you are. Anybody else had as much right to break into that car as you had."

Mr. Cox admitted his error, and taking the agent almost within range of the hives, to go within 200 yards of which would have been death, he said "There they are, you take 'em back, and put 'em into the car, and then I'll take 'em out according to regular form."

The ridiculousness of this suicidal proposition was perceived by the agent who broke into a hearty laugh, and that night when the bees retired they were boxed up and transported to Phoenix, where they lived happily ever afterward and begat children.

SPLENDID YIELD OF HONEY IN TEMESCAL.

Isaiah Anderson, the veteran apiarist of Temescal, reports a splendid yield of honey in that part of the country. Messrs. Fifer, Anderson, Charley Compton, and Dawson all had large yields. Temescal shipped four cars of honey, ten tons net per car, this season, which is a splendid record for so small a place. Mr. Anderson says that for the first time since he has been in the business, over twenty-six years, they had pure bald sage honey, which stood the water test perfectly. Bald sage usually comes in in May and June, when other flowers are in bloom, but this year it came in March. The comb honey averaged a little over \$2 per case for all grades. Geo. Wilbur handled the entire crop.

MIGRATORY BEEKEEPING.

Three Crops a Season. 300 Colonies in a Crate.

C. I. GRAHAM'S METHODS.

California is an ideal home for apiculturists, and one of the most progressive bee-keepers, noticing that the activity of the insects depended upon the coming of spring flowers, conceived the idea of assisting them to set out earlier on their yearly campaigns. The orchards of the Sacramento and San Joaquin valleys burst into bloom some months before the southern sage brush, and to them Mr. Graham drove a wagon load of colonies late in January, 1896, says the New York Tribune, to which we are indebted for our information. The journey was an easy one, as the bees had not really aroused themselves. In February the fragrance of the trees stimulated them, and they set to work. As the blossoms faded in April, Mr. Graham turned southward again. He traveled by night only and reached home with practically full colonies, a honey crop of one hundred pounds to each hive, and the sage brush was still open before him. The following two years he moved two wagon loads of colonies, and he was able to obtain three distinct crops of honey, keeping the bees active during nine months in the year. Since 1899 Mr. Graham has shipped the bees by carloads from one feeding ground to another. He has had built from his own designs a wagon the size of a common flat car and a crate that exactly fits this wagon. At night he loads the colonies in the crate, about 300 in each, and at the railroad station slips the crate upon the flat-car. Then the wagon is taken apart and all are shipped to their destination. On their arrival, again under cover of darkness, the crate is slipped from the car to the re-adjusted wagon, and the colonies are wheeled off and established in their new feeding ground. Mr.

Graham scatters the bees around the fruit region in the proportion of about a hundred colonies in an area of five square miles, and pays a certain ground rental for the season. As the bees help pollenate the flowers and thus produce a superior fruit, the owner of the orchard is reaping an equal benefit with the apiculturist, if not a greater one. One raiser of alfalfa in Southern California estimates so highly the help of the bees that he invited the bee-keeper to locate permanently on his farm, sharing the profits of his hay. The partnership was continued for several years and both are well satisfied with the results.

In addition to the outfits for transferring the bees Mr. Graham takes with him a regular camping wagon and all the apparatus for extracting honey from the comb. When the combs are full the equipments for straining are placed in the camping wagon. The honey is strained, and shipped to the market from the nearest railroad station. Among the fruit blossoms and the spring wild flowers the bees take about fifteen days to fill their combs, and during that season they produce about a hundred pounds of strained honey to the colony. In the sage brush the combs are filled within ten days, and each colony gives about two hundred pounds in the season.

BEE DISEASES.

BY PROF. A. J. COOK.

Copied from *The Cultivator*.

I have received three specimens of diseased brood of bees during the last week. One is from W. Paxton, of Orange, the other two from H. G. Nutter, of Covina, and James Hornbock, San Jacinto. Mr. Nutter writes: "I send you by this mail a sample of brood. Will you please tell me if it is foul brood. It has appeared in several of the colonies." We have in

these specimens two kinds of diseased brood, which, I think, are quite common all over Southern California. The one from Orange is undoubtedly foul brood. This is very evident; first, from the odor of decomposition, which is very characteristic of this disease; second, from the brown glue-like mass, and third, from the way it strings out when we insert a pin head in the rotting mass in the cell and pull it out. In this latter case, when the pin lets go the decayed brood will fly back with quite a spring. In other words, it is elastic. I have received several samples, however, mostly from the San Joaquin region, during the past month, which somewhat lack this energy, and fall gently, rather than spring back as the pin lets go its hold. I have no doubt but this latter is foul brood, though it is somewhat modified in its character. This is a bacterial disease, is very contagious, and it behoves all our bee-keeper to make use of the most energetic measures to eradicate this from all our apiaries. Our efficient bee inspector, Mr. Ferree, is working hard to aid us in this good work.

The other disease illustrated in the sample sent from Covina, is not foul blood, but is what is usually known as "pickled brood." In these samples there is no odor, as the disease is not bacterial, but, as Dr. Howard of Texas has shown, is the result of fungoid attack. The larva or brood in this case does not decay, and so it retains its form, and does not put on the salvy form always seen in foul brood.

When the bee first dies, the dead larva is white, after which it turns yellow and finally dark. The bees do not puncture the capping as they do in foul brood, and also in another bacterial disease known as black brood, which is quite common in New York state, but which, so far as I know, has not appeared in our vicinity. Fortunately, pickled brood,

so-called because the juices of the larva become sour as a result of the presence of acetic acid in vinegar, and so, as Dr. Howard says, "The larva's pickled in its own juices," is not as destructive, nor is it as persistent, as is either black or foul brood. With active storing or generous feeding, it is very apt to disappear. Dr. Howard thinks it spreads through the use of the old pollen or bee bread in the hive.

The remedy is the same as that for foul brood. Mr. McEvoy's method has been very successful with foul brood, and I doubt not, would be equally so in the case of pickled brood. He shakes the bees onto starters, and after two or three days again onto full sheets of foundation, and then finds the disease to have entirely disappeared. The old combs should be melted up by long boiling in water. Mr. McEvoy says it is perfectly safe to use the hives. I presume it would be equally so in case of pickled brood. The black brood, which gives no such concern in New York, is cured in the same way.

STONE HOUSES EASILY AND CHEAPLY MADE.

All bee keepers have the cheapest material, and often the spare time to build good honey and storage houses. The vastness of the work and the great quantity of stone to be hauled, has no doubt stood in the way.

The writer last winter stumbled onto a great scheme where an old man was putting up a lot of sticks, these sticks were in reality a light frame for a building to which the old man bolted boards, to act as forms in which he laid his rock and over the rock placed his mortar of 1 part lime, 10 parts sand and 10 parts small stone; this, when finished, made a fine wall from six to eight inches thick and the building stands today with walls fifteen feet high, and only cement on the outside and in the arches—not such a big job.

EDITORIAL COMMENTS

BY B. S. K. BENNETT

200 SAMPLE COPIES of this number go to the eastern Honey Markets and to Europe.

HONEY is moving much better—sales are being made every day, though prices are about the same.

BEES have increased quite rapidly, and another year will see California with about her stocks of 1896.

OLD SUBSCRIBERS want the paper. They write "To be sure that they get it," and although they get a copy, write again. This interest is appreciated.

A HONEY STORE, one to be opened soon. Honey in any quantity, honey candies every kind. Fruit preserved in honey. Butter and eggs. More about this later.

THE NEWSPAPERS have done one good thing? Have got many people interested in bees. We have had several inquiries daily at our office of late for bees, in fact, the demand exceeds the supply considerably, and good prices, too, you bet.

A RECORD BROKEN. Your editor loaded a car of honey last week, with 223 cases, weighing 30,694 pounds, in one and one-fourth hours, loading and moving a hand truck of 400 lbs. of honey from rough-floored warehouse into car—one ton every five minutes.

CALIFORNIA BEE MEN have woke up surely, and the way the subscriptions are coming in is a big surprise to ye editor. The advertising is the best I have ever known, and we don't have to talk at all to get a card—only just show the paper. Have'nt much time to spare either. One bee man, from whom I bought four tons of honey last week, remarked "what

time do you get to turn out the paper?"

THIS PAPER is here to stay, don't you feel any alarm on this score. We are going to have good years now, and "there's lots back of it—yes sir."

The writer and buggy have been over the country north of Los Angeles—visiting the bee men and buying honey, and finds that Ventura is really selling honey for San Francisco delivery at five cents on the water front of Ventura county.

These trips, and other information, lead to the belief that 100 car loads will be held (for the price is much above the market), and that 100 cars have been marketed, leaving less than 100 cars of honey for the next three months' business. I see no reason, therefore, why we should not have a material advance in prices, when the large Eastern consumers learn these conditions. This year's production is not quite 300 cars, and we consume also a few hereabouts.

A MAMMOTH HONEY TRUST!

BY B. S. K. BENNETT.

Yes, why can't we have it? The time is ripe. The bee men have the capital, and the cash is their's for the asking.

Big meeting in Los Angeles in October.

Bee men do not generally realize the capital they have in bees and honey, and very few know this capital can be turned to account. By utilizing the principle of all big combinations—that of uniting or pooling their interests, forming a copartnership that would command the cash for managing and controlling this great industry.

There is no other business, for the capital invested, that gives the same returns in the short space of time like bees and their product, still the industry is the least managed and protected of any business.

The honey crop (when we have it) is always overestimated or decried, while buyers and consumers combine to set a price low enough to protect themselves from the expected flood of honey that does not materialize, but only gains for us producers the narrowest margins and the dissatisfaction of a waiting market, while we might, through combination afford protection with better prices to ourselves, and protection also to the large consumers against the *supposed flood of low-priced honey*, the consumers would be better satisfied with an assortment of grades and guarantee.

The bee men of California are in the best condition financially—many have taken up other pursuits. The past dry seasons have taught their lesson—"depend not on bees alone."

The established law of supply and demand does not rule prices in honey, for, with this year's small production of comb honey, the price is very low.

California bee keepers are more than willing to form an association. I have the promised support of thirty-five persons, who own and control 10,000 colonies of bees, whose production this year is 500 tons, valued at \$50,000 per annum.

These bee men will form an association, by pooling their bees and interests, receiving a share of stock—(par value \$5.00 for each colony of bees represented.) There are to be on dues or assessments, the business must pay its way. The stock will be for sale at \$5.00 per share for those who wish to invest, and this will furnish all the working capital necessary for buying all lots of honey offered and which will be stored for a ready market.

The association will have a bee and honey expert, whose duty it will be to examine all apiaries and honey, placing the association's seal on honey at time of packing.

We would like to have all bee men of California interested, and we could then combine our interests with Colo-

rado and Arizona. The Pacific Coast states are the honey producers of the world and can control prices.

The meeting will take place in October, time and place to be set later. "Invitation Notices" will be sent to those of the readers of the JOURNAL who desire to take part on application to the undersigned,

B. S. K. BENNETT.

CO-OPERATION IN COLORADO AND ARIZONA.

SPECIAL ARTICLE.

Only a few short years ago, these States were little known as honey producers, but since the large water development and extensive pipe lines have been placed in shape, large acreage have been put in to alfalfa, the bee men of other states were not slow in learning that small average yield each year, were better (at least to figure on) than dry and good years as we had in California.

The Bee business is on a steady increase in these states, and to make a safe and profitable business, we find co-operation has taken a hand, with the result of organizing two Model Honey Exchanges that are working in perfect harmony, that exalts the eastern consumer to depend on what he wants and on having the supply at the time of his needs. Of course he pays better for Arizona and Colorado honey, and this is the reason the eastern consumer is (speculating) a bit on California, looking for bargains in cheap honey, for Colorado and Arizona he knows will have the honey when he wants it, but he has an idea that big yields in California give him a splendid chance to speculate.

Arizona and Colorado Bee Keepers by their method of co-operation can market their crop and do their own business independent of the Exchange but at all times have the Exchange to fall back on for protection and support.

Bleaching Comb Honey

BY B. B. HIGGINS.

In reply to yours, requesting me to write an article for your valuable Journal in regard to the process of bleaching comb honey, I would suggest that the dimensions of the frame of the bleaching house be 10 by 16 feet. This size will be found very convenient, and will hold about one hundred cases. You can have a lumber or a dirt floor, whichever you like. For my part, I prefer a dirt floor, as it can be sprinkled with water and thus kept cooler than a lumber floor. As a protection from ants, a lumber floor is preferable; but I have not had any trouble from ants, as they do not injure comb honey that is sealed. If house has lumber floor, use 2x4 inch plates, and 4x4 legs or underpinnings, set in cans, to hold water or coal oil, to keep ants away. For frame I use 2x3 inch lumber for say eight feet in height. For walls and ceiling use thin muslin or house lining and a shake roof, to keep sun from shining on honey, also an awning on south and west side of house, to keep the sun from melting honey. Use 1x3 pine for shelves to put comb honey on, fastened on main frame, and have about five inches in between shelves all around building.

Have kettle containing sulphur inclosed in a box on outside of bleaching house, say four feet from house, and have a pipe leading from box on outside of building to sulphur box on inside where you have your supers, so as to keep the heat from the sulphur pot from melting honey. You can sulphur honey in supers as taken from apiary. I stack them about ten high. You can have a large box that will hold two or three tiers, but over ten supers does not sulphur well; half-hour is long enough to leave them on sulphur box, then take honey from supers and place on shelves, and leave for three or four days and then turn them, as the light tends to

blacken them. You will find this process to be a great help in the sale of comb honey, as it makes the combs look so much whiter.

Bonsall, Aug. 27, 1901.

BEES AND PEAR BLIGHT—WHAT PROF. PIERCE SAYS.

The following letter, which was a part of the report of the Horticultural Commission made to the Board of Supervisors of Kings county, will be of interest:

I herewith give the main facts upon which are based the claim that bees take an active part in spreading the disease of trees variously known as pear blight, fire blight, etc.

1. Pear blight is a bacterial disease which affects pear, apple, crab-apple, quince and related trees. It is induced through the action of a specific micro-organism belonging to the bacteria and known as *Bacillus amylovorus*, (Burrill) De Toni.

These facts have been demonstrated by many scientific workers by careful inoculation experiments conducted with pure cultures of the bacillus. The cause of the disease has therefore been well known for many years.

2. The identity of the blight of pear trees in the Clow and Taylor orchards near Hanford—these particular orchards are only cited for the sake of accuracy, as there are many others affected—with true Eastern pear blight, has been demonstrated at this laboratory. *Bacillus amylovorus* was isolated in pure culture by the plate process from blighted branches from Mr. Clow's trees, and a young and thrifty pear tree was inoculated and died to within a few inches of the ground of true pear blight. A control tree treated the same way as the inoculated tree, except that the bacillus was not introduced, remained perfectly healthy.

M. B. Waite, assistant chief of this division of the department, has kindly supplied the following additional facts bearing on this matter:

3. The occurrence of the blight on the blossoms in great quantities and the great rapidity with which the disease spreads from flower to flower indicates a normal and very effective method of distribution.

4. The germs were found growing freely in the nectar of the blossoms.

5. Bees were seen repeatedly visiting the infected flowers, and some were caught taking infected nectar, and by means of plate cultures the pear blight germs were isolated from their mouth parts.

6. By covering parts of the trees with sacks of various kinds of material and then artificially infecting certain flowers on the tree, the blight was observed to spread very freely over the uninjected and uncovered blossoms, but was entirely absent in the blossoms covered by mosquito netting.

7. Blossoms were infected and at once covered with sacks, and the blight in such case was retained in the infected blossoms.

8. Pear blight germs died very soon after being dried up, and lived for only a brief period on exposure to weather conditions out of doors; hence they cannot live in dust and be blown around to any great extent by the wind.

9. Pear blight virus, particularly that which occurs on blossoms, is a very sticky substance, and is readily carried by insects, birds or other animals, but cannot be blown by the wind.

This brief presentation will, I believe, furnish your Board with the main facts needed to show the connection existing between the visits of bees to pear flowers and the spread of pear blight. **NEWTON B. PIERCE,**

Pathologist in Charge.

Santa Ana, April 23.

MEXICAN AND CUBAN BEE-KEEPING.

SPECIAL ARTICLE.

Many large bee keepers have gone to Mexico and Cuba, down about

Guymas, Mexico, is a bee keeper of 400 stands, in Harbison and Merriam hives. A Mexican, F. C. Aguiler by name, who probably took his first lessons from the men whose names the above hives carry. Mr. Aguiler is doing a wonderful business in honey on his big cattle ranch in Mexico, and is fast increasing his apiaries.

Mr. Coggshall, an eastern bee-keeper, we learn is planting many apiaries in the famed honey sections of Cuba, and is introducing modern methods into that slowly developed honey country. Mr. Coggshall's apiaries in Cuba and this country number many and his colonies number in the thousands. Cuba in the past used barrels of honey packages, now cans and cases of the states are coming into use.

ROBERT WILKIN.

"We find in *Gleanings in Bee Culture* an account of the late Robert Wilkin, of Ventura county, from which we take the most striking statements about this veteran California bee keeper. He came to California in 1875 with a carload of bees, and subsequently settled in the Sespe valley. His first experience with them was in helping to prepare a shipment of bees for Mr. Harbison, who was then about to leave Pennsylvania (where he was residing) for California. This was sometime in the early '50's; and the result of this venture, and how Harbison subsequently came to be the great bee king of California, owning and operating at one time some 6000 colonies, are matters of history.

"Mr. Wilkin began keeping bees while he was at Westminster College, Pa. The next we know of him in connection with bees was at the county fairs of northern Ohio. On these occasions he astonished the natives by having a swarm of bees

hanging from his hat and beard. This series of remarkable feats was accomplished by having a queen caged under his chin; and as long as she remained, the bees continued to hang from his head, to the wonder of the aforesaid natives. It is not told that he was ever stung, except on one occasion, when he says he very foolishly attempted to put some of these gentle, fly-like bees in his mouth. The incident resulted in his being stung in the throat, and from that time on he never attempted thefeat again.

"At that time Mr. Wilkin's home was at Cadiz, Ohio. From this point he attained considerable celebrity as a bee master; and so many were the questions that were plied him that he finally, to answer all, wrote a book o 100 pages, entitled *Hand-book on Bee Culture*, which at the time, 1871, had a considerable sale.

"Just what induced him to go to California is not stated. Possibly the success of Harbison, who had preceded him, had much to do with it; but after he had gone to the coast in 1875, with his family and a carload of bees, and had produced those enormous yields of sage honey in his now celebrated Sespe Apiary, his celebrity, which had hitherto been only local, was made world-wide. Here he produced honey by the carload, and sold in the London markets for years.

"His largest yield was in 1884, when he produced from his Sespe apiary 60,000 pounds of honey. The largest number of colonies he had in his yard at one time was 700. Such a number managed profitably, in one apiary, seems to an eastern keeper almost incredible. But to one who has just come from the location, with its green mountains on every side, and the orange groves in the valley, the number does not seem so impossible of belief after all. Indeed, to see is to believe.

"In later years, the Sespe apiary has been occupied by his son-in-law,

J. F. McIntyre; and during all the years this location has supported on an average of 500 colonies.

"Mr. Wilkin, even up to the time of his death, retained a deep interest in bees; and though his success in life had been such that it was no longer necessary for him to work, yet at the time of his death he was managing an apiary at Newhall, Cal., of some 400 colonies.

"Although well advanced in years, when most old men lose interest in the business of a lifetime, Mr. Wilkin retained all the enthusiasm of youth. His love of bees seemed to be as strong as ever; and even up to the last days his mind seemed to possess all the vigor of his earlier years. Mr. Wilkin was twice elected president of the California State Bee Keepers' Association, and in all the doings of that organization was a prominent and conspicuous figure."

HONEY PLANTS.

Value of Long-Tongued Bees.

Mr. G. M. Hawley, El Cajon, writes me concerning the Grevillea robusta as a honey plant. He says that the flowers are fairly swimming with nectar. By shaking the tree he can wet the ground with the sweet liquid. He remarks that he never saw anything comparable with it before. The bees have left white sage and buckwheat entirely, and are swarming on the Grevillea blossoms. Mr. Hawley also comments on some very white comb honey which some of the bees are producing. These are from a certain queen which he imported from the east last season. The honey from the other bees is much darker. Examination shows that the first bees are gathering entirely from black sage, while the others are gathering their nectar from flowers that yield a darker honey. This black sage is from two to five miles distant. I have often noticed what Mr. Hawley has discovered, that different strains of bees often gather from different

sources. I have no doubt but that that the vigor of the bees and the relative length of tongues may account for this. Mr. Hawley says these new ones are elegant bees, light colored, great workers, practically non-swarmers—indeed, the ideal bee for California.

I have also noticed that the Grevillea is a very excellent honey plant, while all of our sages furnish honey that is unexcelled in excellence of color and flavor.

Central California Bee Keepers' Association.

HANFORD, CAL., Aug. 27, '01.

THE PACIFIC BEE JOURNAL,
Los Angeles.

Gentlemen:—Inclosed you will find \$2.00, for which you will send your Journal to the following for one year: J. F. Flory, Lemoore, Cal.; F. E. Brown, Hanford, Cal., and oblige,

Yours respectfully,

F. E. BROWN.

P. S.—Our honey crop is the lightest up to date that has been known for the past ten years. Bees as a rule are in the poorest condition for this season of the year that I have ever seen, and we will not have more than $\frac{1}{4}$ of the usual yield. What little we have we are storing, not offering anything to the market, as the price is too weak—believing that as soon as the buyers find out the true condition of the output that prices will be restored to a reasonable rate.

F. E. B.

LARGE BEE HIVE.

The largest bee hive in the West is claimed by Lexington, this county. Crowds are being attracted to the long bridge of the Alton railroad over the Mackinaw River, where a great colony of the busy insects have established quarters.

The hive is in the main span, which is 120 feet long, and the stretch of comb is fully that length. Unnum-

bered millions of the insects, it is supposed, are engaged in gathering the honey and the spectacle is unprecedented in Central Illinois.—*Bloomington (Ill.) Correspondence New York World.*

The Beekeepers' Review

Has several points of superiority. 1st. It gives the reports of the Michigan Experiment Apiary—gives them each month, as soon as possible after the work is done, while they are fresh and of newsy character, and can be of some benefit. 2nd. It gives Hasty's monthly three-page review of the other bee journals. 3rd. F. L. Thompson, a practical bee keeper and thorough linguist, reads twelve of the leading foreign bee journals, and each month, furnishes the gist of what he finds in them that is valuable. There are other points of excellence possessed by the *Review*, but these three are to be found in no other journal. The *Review* is \$1.00 a year. Ask for a sample, or send 10 cents for three late but different issues.

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G. J. LYNN, 1207 E. 28th St. 140 Colonies.
2 story 10 F hives. Full sheets, Fd \$4.00.
Others at \$3.00 per Colony.

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2 Lines Free to Subscribers of this Journal. 5 Cts.
Per Line for extra Lines, Each Insertion. This
Paper Goes to All the Honey Markets.

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S. E. PERRISH, Toluca. \$2.50 and \$3.00
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HONEY MARKET REPORTS.

NEW YORK—*Honey*—Fancy white in demand; Receipts light. We quote as follows: Fancy white 14; No. 1 white 13; No. 2 white 12. Sales of extracted, reported at 4½ to 6. Beeswax light demand at 27 to 28.

MILWAUKEE—*Honey*—As the winter season approaches we expect a large demand. This market is favorable for shipment of good honey. We quote Fancy white, 16 to 17; No. 1 white 15 to 16; amber, 12 to 14; extracted, 7 to 9; Beeswax, 25 to 30.

DENVER—*Honey*—Fancy white, 12; No. 1 white, 11; fancy amber, 6; white extracted, 6; amber, 5. Beeswax, 25. We are having a good demand for fine brand of extracted honey.

BOSTON—*Honey*—Fancy white, 16 to 17; No. 1 15 to 16; white extracted 7 and 8; amber, 5 and 6. Beeswax, 25 and 26. Lighter demand owing to warm weather. We want a strictly No. 1 article. Full supply of extracted honey.

DETROIT—*Honey*—Fancy white, 14 and 15; No. 1 white, 12 and 14; fancy amber-8 and 9; No. 1 amber, 7 and 8; white extracted, 6½ and 7½; amber, 4 and 5. Beeswax, 26 to 27.

SAN FRANCISCO—*Honey*—Fancy white, 10 to 12; No. 1 white, 9; fancy amber, 7; No. 1 amber 9; fancy dark, 5; No. 1 dark, 4 to 5; extracted white, 6; amber, 5; dark, 3 to 4. Beeswax, 24 to 25. Estimate of crop 150 to 300 cars.

LOS ANGELES—*Honey*—Fancy white, 12 to 14; No. 1 white, 10 to 12; fancy amber, 9; fancy dark, 5 to 6; dark, 3. Beeswax, 21 to 23. Grower and dealer far apart; expect much trading later.

CINCINNATI—*Honey*—No 1 white, 12 to 13; No. 1 amber, 11 to 12; No. 1. dark, 10; Extracted amber, 5 to 6. Beeswax, 22 to 25. Demand fair for beeswax,

KANSAS CITY—*Honey*—No. 1 white, 10 to 12; No. 1 amber, 9; No. 1 dark, 8; extracted white, 6; amber, 5 to 5½; dark, 4 to 4½; Beeswax, 25. Market fair.

CLEVELAND—*Honey*—Fancy white 12 to 13; No. 1 white, 11 to 12; No. 1 amber, 9 to 10; extracted white, 6½ to 7; amber, 5½ to 6. Beeswax, 26.

CHICAGO—*Honey*—Fancy white, 12; No. 1 white, 11; fancy amber, 8 to 9; No. 1 amber, 7 to 8; fancy dark, 8 to 10; No. 1 dark, 7 to 8; extracted white, 5 to 7; amber, 4½ to 5; dark, 4 to 5. Beeswax, 25 to 27. Stocks light. Markets bare of comb honey. Choice comb will sell at top prices.

PHILADELPHIA—*Honey*—Fancy white, 13;

No. 1 white, 11; No. 1 dark, 5 to 6; extracted white, 5 to 6; amber, 4 to 5; dark, 3½ to 4. Beeswax, 25. Market dull on honey. Beeswax always in demand.

ST. LOUIS—*Honey*—Fancy white, 12 to 13; No. 1 white, 11 to 12; fancy amber, 9 to 10; No. 1 amber, 6 to 9; fancy dark, 7½ to 8; No. 1 dark, 6 to 7½; extracted white, in cans, 5½ to 7; amber in barrels, 3 to 3½. Beeswax, 22 to 23½. Extracted honey especially slow; as a rule it goes to bakers and manufacturers. Choice white comb honey in good demand. Extracted goes well in October.

HONEY BUYERS.

LOS ANGELES, CAL.

Johnson, Carvell & Co., 251 San Pedro St. Haas, Baruch & Co., 320 N. Los Angeles St. M. A. Newmark & Co., 141 N. Los Angeles. The J. K. Armsby Co., 121 W. Third St. Germain Fruit Co., 326 S. Main St. Elwin Syrup Co., Boyd and San Pedro Sts. Roth Hamilton, 122 West Third St.

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R. E. Burnett & Co., 163 S. Water Street.

KANSAS CITY, MO.

C. C. Clemons, 423 Walnut Street.

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CLEVELAND, OHIO

Williams Bros., 80 and 82 Broadway.

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A. V. Bishop & Co.

ALBANY, N. Y.

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S. H. Hall & Co.

DETROIT, MICH.

M. H. Hunt, Bell Branch, Mich.



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Room 304

—LATE—

This number of the P. B. J. is somewhat late, on account of Mr. Bennett's rush in the Honey business.

The October number will surpass previous issues. We could hardly expect the subscriptions to come in better than they are at present, but surprises will happen in the best of "families."

OCTOBER NUMBER

Organizing the Honey "Trust"
The Honey and Candy Store
A Cultivated Sage Ranch
The Tall Sections, or Not?
Long Tongued Bees

California Bee Journals "Way Back"
Irrigating the Mountain Flower
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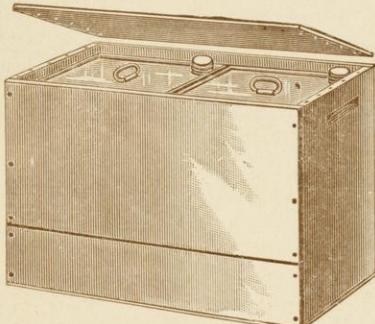
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