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MAY 1891.



BEE-KEEPER PUBLISHING CO. UNIONVILLE, MO.

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ITS METHODS AND MANAGEMENT.

I am now engaged in writing and printing a book that is to bear the above title. It is to take the place of my other book, "The Production of Comb Honey." which will not be re-published. Although the new book will contain at least five or six times as much matter as "The Production of Comb Honey." yet the price will be only 50 ets. The book is already partly printed, and will probably be out some time in April or May. If any of the friends would like to "help me along" in meeting the expenses of getting out the book, they can do so by sending their orders in advance. Such orders will be most thankfully received and filled the very day the book is out. I will send the Review one year and the book for \$1.25. The Review will be sent on receipt of order (I have plenty of back num bers to send it from the beginning of the year), and the book as soon as it is out. ample of Review sent free.

W. Z. HUTCHINSON, Flint, Mich.

WANTS AND EXCHANGE.

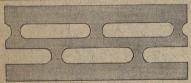
Advertisements of not over six lines inserted in this department at 7 cents per line, each insertion.

WANTED.—In exchange for Queens, a few pounds of bees. Will give one young tested GOLDEN or three band Italian Queen in June in exchange for every pound of bees sent me charges prepaid. These Queens are worth \$1.75, and if you want to get any Queens and can spare the bees send them at once. Any race, but no foul brood wanted as a gift. See my adv on another page. Drop me a card and send the bees without delay. Jacob T. Timfe, Express and postoffice address, Grand Ledge, Michigan. Reference, postmaster or express agent.

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Two Rowed Strips, each 2 cents per 100, \$1.75.

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Zinc for Alley Drone Trap, each 4 cents.

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Unionville, Missouri.

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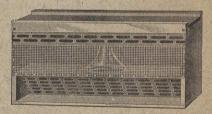
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Our 5-banded Golden Italians are equal to the best as Our 5-banded Golden Italians are equal to the best as honey gatherers, aside from being the most beautiful and gentle bees known. Won 1st Premium at Illinois State Fair in 1890. Warranted queens, May \$1.25, 6 for \$6; after June 1st, \$1, 6 for \$5; tested at least 3 bands. June and July, \$1.75, after July 1st, \$1.50; selected tested. June to Sept., \$3; breeders, after July 1st, \$5. Make money order payable at Cable, Ills.

1-6m S. F. & I. TREGO, Swedona, Ills.

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Made with Dr. Tinker's Perforated Zinc and Zinc Coated Wire Cloth. Price each, 50c; one half dozen in flat (one nailed, 7 in all) \$2.00; one dozen in flat (one nailed up. 13 in all) \$3.50; by mail, 15 cents each extra. Sample trap by mail and the Missouri Bee-Keeper one year, \$1.

Address, MISSOURI BEE-KEEPER, Unionville, Missouri.

6 Warranted Queens, \$5.00.

As good as the best. Bright, gentle and good workers. Circulars free. Address

> J. T. WILSON. Pink, Kentucky.

VOL. 1.

UNIONVILLE, MO., MAY, 1891.

NO. 3.

Communications.

PURITY OF ITALIAN BEES.

BY G. M. DOOLITTLE.

Beside me lies a letter in which I find this question, "Can pure Italian bees have more than three vellow bands?" The purity of the Italian bee has been, and still is, a question in which nearly every apiarist and queen-breeder is interested in, notwithstanding some claim that they care nothing for bees only for their honey-gathering qualities. It is but natural, to the most of us, to want something nice, or that which is the best: hence the labor and enthusiasm of the past in trying to make the Italian bee the standard of excellence, or "Apis Americana." In thus trying, most of those who were interested, have claimed that the Italian bee was a pure race, while some of our best writers have claimed that the Italian bee was only a variety or thorough-bred bee, the same as

the variety of sheep called Merino. or that variety of cattle called Devon: or with swine, the Berkshire variety. Those who belong to the part claiming that the "Italian" race of bees is pure, have lived to see the progeny of queens imported direct from Italy vary all the way from a worker whose outlines regarding yellow bands were so slim that they were scarcely discernable, to those best specimens which show the three yellow bands so clearly and distinctly that no one need make a mistake; while the same bee bred in this country has so deteriorated that it shows no bands at all, or has so far advanced over the bees as imported from Italy that the first four segments of the abdomen are one solid yellow, with the fifth segment showing as much yellow, on the best specimens, as is usually seen on the third segment of the imported stock. It seems to me that this should be sufficient to prove to any one that the Italian bee is not a pure race, but only a variety.

those who have watched this improvement as to color in the Italian bee, and fully taken it in, the words of Capt. Balstien, uttered in the sixties, come home in great force, where he writes from the "native home" of these bees and says, "No snow clad Alps or Chinese walls have kept the different races of bees from intermingling in Italy." [I quote from memory, not having time to hunt it up], and also the words of "Father Langstroth," which were written about the same time. "There is every reason to believe that the Italian bee is itself a hybrid." Those familiar with our earlier literature, also remember of the experiments made in crossing the black or German bee with the Silvery Egyptian, by which the fourth or fifth cross along that line brought forth a bee which no man could tell from the Italian. The fact that the Italian has been improved as to color, without in any way crossing them with any other race or variety, also shows that they are only a thoroughbred. If we take the German bee in its purity we find the queens and drones so constant in color that out of hundreds of specimens not one can be found having the least variation in color, so that in these bees we have queens which will duplicate themselves as to color every time. Without my taking time to describe the queens of the Italian

sant with them know that they vary from queens as black as any black queen ever seen, to those whose abdomen is a handsome orange vellow clear to the extreme tip. If these bees were pure why this extreme variation as to color of the queens and drones: for the drones vary fully as much as the queens. The most constant color in all yellow bees, is found in the Cyprians, the queens of this race nearly or quite duplicating themselves every time, so that if there is a pure race of vellow bees I should say that such was to be found in the Cyprians, hence I would name the Egyptian, German and Cyprian bees as the original races as far as I am acquainted with bees. Taking this view of the matter, (which view I am confident will be proved during future generations to be the right one,) our question will read, "Can Italian bees have more than three vellow bands?" To which I answer, yes. They can not only have three bands. but they can have six in a few years, if the improvement as to color should continue as great during the next ten years as it has during the past decade. Not only can they show what is termed six vellow bands, but the abdomen can become a solid vellow its entire length, the same as some of the best specimens of queens and drones now do. There is nothing impossible with variety, all who are at all conver- any animal or vegetable that is hy-

brid, or that will "sport." But the question naturally arises, are these vellow bees as good for honey gathering as the darker Italians? Where properly bred, I can see no difference in favor of either along this line. Admitting both to be alike as to honey gathering qualities; we find the reason why the yellower bees are so eagerly sought, in the thought expressed in the beginning of this article, that "most of us want something nice," and beauty is a thing to be desired, where we can have it without lessening other valuable qualities. Some seem to think that these vellow bees have been bred in-and-in more than any other bees, but this is, I think, a mistake. There were plenty of four banded bees as early as 1871 in an apiary near me. These bees were crossed with other four banded bees from apiaries in the west, and these in turn crossed with very vellow Italians in the south-west; and so the crossing of the vellowest bees in the United States has been kept up, till we have to-day bees in the New World whose abdomens are three-fourths a solid vellow, and yet so far as I can see they are just as good honey gatherers as those bees formerly called Italians, showing but very little vellow that would sting the "socks" off any man. The standard for queen breeders should be the same to-day as it was with the Rev. E. L. Briggs of bees, brood and all, including

no queens for breeding purposes but such as are fully up to the standard of excellence; and those who delight in handling this wonderful insect, may not only have the most beautiful, but the gentlest, the largest, the most fertile, and the most industrious honey bee known to the world."

Borodino, New York.

HINTS TO AMATEURS.

BY M. H. DEWITT.

Spring with all its beautiful flowers is once more here, and we can hear the merry hum of the busy little bees on almost every flower. May is the month we should give our bees the strictest attention. The bees now begin to work in earnest, and for the next two months the bee-keeper must pay the strictest attention to them if he would reap a good honey crop.

The surplus boxes may be put on the hives just as fast as the bees need the room, and after the 15th of May all the packing and winter fixtures may be removed. Fasten in your foundation and get a good lot of hives ready for your swarms. Patch up all your empty combs into frames and use them for the new swarms. If you desire increase more than honey, you should practice artificial swarming or dividing. A very good method for this is to lift out about five frames in 1870, when he said, "Send out queen, and put them into a new

hive, placing frames of foundation or comb in the vacant places. Now set the new hive where you wish it to remain permanently. A great many of the workers will go back to the old stand, but the new one has the queen, while the other one must raise the queen for themselves unless one is provided for it. It would be economy to give them a queen cell, but the greatest economy would be to give them a laying queen, which you can either raise or buy. If you let them raise their own queen, cut out all but one cell, as they may swarm if more than one is left. If honey is plentiful. it will not be long until you have two good colonies and may get some honey from them, yet if you are running an apiary for honey alone, let the bees have their own way and swarm naturally. only objection to this plan is, that it necessitates someone being in sight of the hive all the time.

Do not get all the tin pans, kettles, &c. and make a great noise. but let them have their own way and they will cluster together on some adjacent bush or tree.

While the swarm is issuing, station yourself by the hive and watch for the queen. If you see her and can catch her, do so and place her in a cage. Now remove the old hive and place a new one in its stead, laying the queen cage on the alighting board. The bees will return as soon as they miss the queen to hiving bees should be observed,

and will go into the new hive. soon as they are under headway. release the queen and she will go in with the bees. When they are all in, place the new swarm where you wish it to remain and put the old one back. If the queen escapes you, and the bees settle on a bush or tree, there are several ways of hiving them; if the limb on which they cluster is small or not valuable, the best plan is to cut it off and carry it to the hive which you have in readiness to receive them. Shake them gently near the entrance on the cloth which you have previously spread out in front of the hive. They will soon find the entrance and will run rapidly into it. Never put the bees into the hive from the top, as this is unnatural and they do not become settled and satisfied nearly so soon. If. however, the bees alight on a valuable tree or large limb, or some immovable object, such as fence posts, stumps, &c., then locate the hive near the swarm, and with a suitable basket in hand, jar or brush the bees into it and carry them quickly to the hive and shake them on the cloth. A great many bees will go back to the cluster, which necessitates this operation several times. If there are still a few bees that are persistant in going back. use a smoker on them and they will soon go with the others.

A few additional things in regard

viz: always smoke the bees before attempting to hive them, as this may save you many a sting. Place the new swarm in its permanent position just as soon as all the bees are in the hive. Never set the new swarm in the hot sun, but always shade them, for this is the most frequent cause of bees leaving. Keep perfectly cool and do not drop the basket or limb even though you do get a few stings. If possible, put the new swarm on foundation or old comb. If the bees seem dissatisfied and do not go to work, give them a frame of brood from another hive.

All who receive a copy of the Missouri Bee-Keeper should subscribe at once, as I will make these articles as interesting as possible. Success to the Missouri Bee-Keeper.

Sang Run, Maryland.

BEE KEEPING FOR PROFIT.

Dr. Tinker's New Hand Book. It gives his new system of management of bees complete, telling how to get the largest yield of comb and extracted honey and make the industry of bee keeping a profitable one. The work should be in the hands of every progressive apiarist. It is well illustrated. Price, post paid, 25 cents. For sale at this office.

Every subscriber to the Missouri Bee-Keeper at 50c a year can have a Golden Italian Honey Queen in June for 65c. Order must be booked now; pay when queen is ready.

PROCEEDINGS

Of the 4th Semi-Annual Convention of the Missouri State Bee Keepers' Association, held at Boonville, Mo., April 9th and 10th, 1891.

THURSDAY-MORNING SESSION.

The convention was called to order at 9:50 a.m. by the president, R. B. Leahy. To the roll call, 12 out of 88 old members responded. The following new members were enrolled: J. B. Stanclift, Andrew McNish, L. Z. Angert, Mrs. J. G. Banning, honorary, Brookfield; John Conser, J. M. Mason, Sedalia.

On motion the appointment of committees was postponed to 3 p. m. The Secretary's report was read and on motion received and his account allowed. An essay, "Should Bees be Taxed?" by E. R. Garrett, Appleton City, was read as follows:

SHOULD BEES BE TAXED?

Yes, and the heavier the better for the practical apairist. This is a subject of great importance, as money is the center of every occupation in life. There is nothing worth having that can be had without this most powerful of all earthly interests. I was forcibly impressed with this thought by a question asked in "Gleanings" of January 15. There seems to be selfishness about thisthing. The apairist would seek help from the Government, and from the answer, I infer that the Government is seeking her own interest. Is it possible that our favorite pursuit is one upon which our Government has no claim? She claims an interest in our horses, cattle, hogs, sheep, &c., but places no value upon the bee. And when we ask her consideration of this industry, she treats it with lightness, as I judge from friends "Rambler's" and "Heddon's" remarks. Now I do not propose to treat this subject wholly upon philanthropic principles, but upon principles of self interest. Every year the assessor comes to us with his list. He wishes to know our worth in personal property; how many head of cattle, horses, &c. we have, and then wishing to be as liberal as possible, he asks if there is any other personal property not mentioned in his list. Our conscience smites us as we evade a direct answer; for by common law bees are taxable property, but by common consent they are not, and we are not benevolent so much as to pay taxes unless our neighbors are so minded. I have seen boys positively refuse to pick up chips for their mother unless their little brother or sister would go with them and help, and when at the chip pile they would insist on their little brother or sister picking up all the chips and then carrying them to the house. Our neighbors become much interested in apiculture when it does not cost them anything, and especially so during a good flow of nectar. Everybody wants bees, but it will not pay everybody to keep them. Apiculture is a profession in which success depends not only upon hard study, but a natural gift and natural love for the little creatures. Still they invest and flood the country with useless bees, overstalking the pasturage and spoiling the home market by selling their honey at the stores for just what they can get, eight and ten cents for section honey. Some sell honey with mashed up comb that brood has been reared in, perhaps for many years, and I find many people that think honey is honey whether it is mixed up with brood comb or in new, nice clean section comb. This is discouraging to the experienced apairist who is spending his time and money in trying to build up a respectable business, and is loosing precious hours of sleep by hard study, and is often defeated in his plans. Our meat markets without protection would be treated with the most shameful contempt, and we would be compelled, under the circumstances, to eat poor beef. The grocery stores would smell of bad beef, as their honey cans now smell of poor honey. Self interest actuated by purely selfish motives is wrong. As Americans, we are moved by a desire to advance our own interests, as it was with the Medes and Persians of old. It leads to dishonesty,

some to stealing, some to underhandness and others to henious crimes. Hum unity is full of purely selfish motives. Like Cane, they forgot their own calling and each views his fellows occupation with coveteous But when self interest is actuated by social motives, it is a benefit, and this is the greatest interest, both to the individual and his neighbors. Self interest as it relates to so cial economy, is right. The butcher pays a tax and that is used for the good of the community, and the community protects him in his business. Taxes levied from purely selfish motives are wrong. Whenever the produce of a tax is used otherwise than in the service of those who pay it, the tax is unjust and should not be tolerated. Our common wealth is not like a selfish monarch, but provides the best interest to its adherents in their respective pursuits. The tax we pay is used for our benefit. We need Government. without it a hasty return to barbarism would be the inevitable result. The Government participates in all production and is as much a factor in this creation of wealth as land. labor or capital. Therefore if it is a factor in the production of wealth, it is entitled to a share of the wealth produced. We pledge our possessions to support those whom we elect to enact and execute our laws. The Government in return pledges us protection. We conclude then that taxation is not of itselt an evil, but a blessing, and I think if bees were taxed the Government experiment station would be as liberal in this pursuit as they are in every other persuit. Then we would be entitled to our representative. and thus avoid the fears of friend Hiddon and others, and apiculture would become a pursuit into which the Government would delight to look and for which it would afford protection.

G. H. Ashworth thinks it perfectly right that bees be taxed.

W. S. Dorn Blaser thinks the industry cannot receive proper attention from state and county authorities unless bees are taxed.

John Conser thinks it would be satisfactory to have bees taxed and bee keepers would feel more independent.

R. B. Leahy would like to see bees taxed at a given rate per hive.

G. P. Morton don't know whether bees ought to be taxed, or not considered as property; let the government take the lead.

After some further discussion the question was referred to the committee on resolutions.

On motion a question box was established and the president appointed the following committee to answer questions: John Conser, G. H. Ashworth and E. R. Garrett.

"Queen Restricters" was the subject of a paper now read by G. H. Ashworth

QUEEN RESTRICTORS.

Mr. President and Brother Bee Keepers:-I believe that I agreed with Bro Rouse that I would say something on the subject of Queen Restrictors, or as I have named my device the "Queen and Swarm Controler." Experience has taught the observing bee keeper that it is necessary to reduce and control the amount of broad in the colony just on the eve of the honey flow, and I find by the use of the Queen and Swarm Controler that we can hold a colony on comb honey more successfully than by any other method yet tried, and by giving the queen worker comb in the controler we can reduce the drone progeny to a very small per cent, and for extracting it certainly, is just the thing that we all want. You have no brood in the comb and but very little polan, having the queen and brood in the center of the hive, we have pure honey on each side and no queen to look after. But one colony out of twelve attempted to swarm, the bees returned to the hive and went to work in earnest. Average 76 pounds comb honey for the twelve thus handled.

The subject was discussed at some length and condensed by Mr. E.

F. Quigley as follows: "As I understand the opinion of the convention, it is decided that too much metal in the hive is undesirable, and that there is danger of losing the queen by superceding if restricter is used too long.

Question:—What are the best methods for handling bees for comb

honey, with no increase?

Committee:-By controlling queen space, giving the queen just so much room as required for laying.

Question:—What effect will it have on swarming to exclude all the drones from the hive?

Committee:—It will tend to discourage swarming.

Recess to 1:30.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Convention was called to order at 1:45. A paper on "Economy in Bee Keeping," by S. Brantigam, was read by the Secretary, as follows:

GRAND JUNCTION, COL., March 25. 1891.

Secretary Missouri State Bee Keepers Association:—The topic that has been assigned me is "Economy in Bee Keeping." Why use economy in bee keeping? Because economy bears interest, and a person once knowing the value of it, will never do without it. For economy avoids all waste and extravagence, and applies money to the best advantage. To be economical, is to save unnecessary expense and waste.

How, when and where to use economy, is a question which must be considered by the apiarist or bee-keeper. Use it at the proper time by ordering your supplies in ample time, so that you may have everything ready and handy when your labor is wanted in the apiary. By useing the best hive for all purposes, by having young queens, by good managing in breeding up in the spring; by saving all

the scraps of wax, which will amount to quite a little bit for the time it takes to save it; by doing your work neat and good; by using full sheets of foundation at the proper time; by having your sections neat and clean, and well filled by taking good care of your combs during the winter, and by wintering your bees well with the least expense. Also by having a work-shop with sufficient room to work in, located at the most convenient place at the apiary, and by using your own judgment and not the supply dealers, for the supply dealers want to dispose of anything they have in the line of hives and fixtures; and a practical apiarist will never buy what the supply dealer wants to force on him, but will buy what he knows is best, which he knows by experience. A rigid economy is demanded in bee-keeping, as in most other occupa-Nothing must be allowed to go to tions. waste: all fragments must be utilized; such as peices, wax, comb, refuse honey, etc. Time is also a very important item. Another item that is often overlooked by the owner of bees, is the kind of help they employ in their apiary. If you have more bees than you can manage yourself, it will pay you well to hire a man to take charge of your apiary. One who is well posted in bee-keeping and has had experience. A great many imagine that any person can manage an apiary, and because they can get them cheaper, they think they are saving money by employing such, but they will soon discover that an unexperienced person is only a detriment to them. A good, sober and industrious apiarist will demand good wages and good treatment; for he knows what his labor is worth, and if the owner of the apiary knows what he is doing, he will never put an inexperienced person in charge of his apiary, because he will do more harm than good. As to the details of economy, each apiarist must be his own judge.

I think I have now said enough to start the discussion upon "Economy in Bee-Keeping." Yours Truly,

SIGEL BRANTIGAM.

The subject was discussed at some length by Messrs. Conser, Leahy, Garrett, Morton and others. A selection, "Difficulty in Rhym-

ing," was read by W. S. Dorn Blaser.

"Is Bee-Keeping a Suitable Occupation for Ladies" was the subject of the following paper, by Mrs. J. M. Null, of Miami, Mo:

Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen:-Is Bee Keeping a Suitable Occupation for Ladies? If I am to accept the precise wording of the text, then I must fly to Dr. Miller's stereotyped answer, "I don't know." But presumably in assigning me this subject our worthy secretary used the word "Ladies" merely as a term of complaisance and implied women of all grades, just so they had common sense for a foundation stone. there is room for expansion, and a fine opportunity of displaying my bright ideas. Who possessing such an exuberance as I, would fail to grasp the opportunity? Consider for a moment the great armies of women wage workers who are simultaneously a standing credit and a reproach to many of our large cities! Pinched by penury, worn out and shattered in health by unceasing application, still, at times, lifting the soul above and beyond the ever pressing present, when it is impossible to restrain the irrepressible heart-yearnings for a life amid even the free gifts of heaven. a superabundance of fresh invigorating air, pure cooling water, the all pervading revivifying sunshine, the cheery warbling of the birds, the rythmic hum of insects floating and flashing about like live jewels, the carress of the wooing winds stirring the silken flowrets into a thousand sweet perfumes. Oh ves. all these and much more are to be enjoyed unasked for, free and unlimited in a life in the country, but never in the stifling store, shop. fac ory or over-crowded schoolroom. Think you not bee-keeping offers to such a delightfully fascinating, healthful and lucrative employment? "Woman is the last revised addition of man, yet is a slave to fashion in dress, fine cooking and fancy work, and is constantly sacrificing herself for these luxur-The woman who never ranges beyond the heat of her own cook stove, can not rise to the full stature of womanhood and be the wise counselor of her husband and children

she was designed to be. Doubtless you have all heard of the woman who has toiled early and late, lo these many years, for the best interest of her lord and master, and is grudgingly allowed an occasional pittance for needful clothing. One of these live in my locality. Her husband, the owner of hundreds of acres, kindly granted her space enough in the orchard to set her ten hives of bees, but insisted that she was, on no account, to expect any assistance from him or his help. What she should do would be to dot that orchard with the white domiciles of her bees, claim the profits, and thereafter have in her history an independence day to celebrate.

Women are so constituted as to demand pets. From husband, children and friends, down through the long line of plants, birds, cats, dogs, &c. &c. Her pets are the constant recipients of caressing attentions. why not supplant the more unprofitable ones Bees for pets! by the busy bee? sting! Admitted, but let me assure you it is nothing like as hard to endure as the sting of unkind and cruel words from beings possessing intelects, and perhaps those from whom, above all others, we should have expected, oh so differently! Women love and caress cats and dogs. Bees never scratch nor bite and have never been known to transmit hydrophobia. Get women interested in beekeeping and there is no knowing to what heights their ambition will lead them. Do you deny them the attribute? Just wait until the spring bonnet has to be purchased and some of you who have the bills to foot will agree with me. Women have ambition, ves with quite a reserve yet to be heard from. "Doolittle" in one of his late messages says: "No one should follow any of our writers blindly, that is without having some thoughts of their own. This is a good reason for women becoming bee-keepers. They all have thoughts of their very own, to the truth of which assertion almost any benedict, who has been the recipient of curtain lectures. can testify. As managers, women excel. No business will give them greater scope for the exercise of this talent than bee-keeping. She who can out general decamping swarms when the air is black with masses of excited, determined fugitives, may well weep for oth- or else why should I be here, and since it is con-

er worlds to conquer. Custom does not rule that women shall put in day after day lounging around the country store or blacksmith shop, and time thus necessarily spent by the lords of creation could be utalized by the weaker sex in the cultivation of bees. the ambitious woman apiculturist has neither time nor opportunity to either hear or deal out gossip, and thus is happily kept out of many a muddle. How much superior is her position in her realm of usefullness and pleasure among the beautiful bees than in the crusade business, destroying others property. and laying herself liable to damage suits, the cost of which are far extending. Don't imagine I am taking the stand that bee-keeping can be run without labor or with but little brains unless, indeed, you wish to run it in the ground. But did you ever think of the amount of patience and endurance involved in the production of yards of crochet trim-Elaborate designs in embroidery, mings? wax-work and painting? Engage the same amount of perseverance, energy and concentration of mind in the apiary and note the grand results. And although Dr. Miller "don't know" about somethings connected with bee-keeping, he is satisfied he does know a woman is as good an assistant as he wishes

To be sure it is not a "flowery bed of ease," but who could desire it, knowing that those of other avocations must "fight to win the prize" and "sail through bloody seas." There are to be endured the bedragled skirts on dewey morns. The persistent efforts of the little pets to get beneath our attire and perambulate at random, taking sleeve, bust, and waist measure, and also their own time for making an exit. Then the long, hot days in June, when the mercury dances around one hundred and the prespiration just flows in sheets. But then what cosmetic is superior?

Woman's mate love of the curious, and beautiful, will at once be satiated in the pursuit of apiculture. The gold of the bees is never counterfeit. They never make false assignments nor move out in the night not paying for the place vacated.

Women are constantly seeking to elevate themselves, and as some of the brightest intellects are engaged in bee-keeping, certainly, fessed on all sides that women possess much more nimble, dextrous fingers than men, and as bee-keeping readily coalesces with house-keeping, being easily carried on in the dooryard, and as we are not asked to accept any less for the fruits of our labor, simply because we are women, pray tell me why bee-keeping is not eminently suitable to women? But it just occurs to me, with great force, that delightful as this harangue may be to myself, its length, breadth and depth may be just the least bit wearisome to you, so I will compress myself vigorously.

Worthy Secretary: As you are most certainly to blame for this sore infliction if the valuable time of this convention has been totally lost during the display of these scintillations, just detain the members after regular hours as much longer, and obliterate the memory of this essay from the annals of the Missouri Bee-Keepers Association.

Mr. Redmon, of the Republican, in behalf of the Mayor and citizens of Boonville welcomed the Association in an earnest address, which was responded to on behalf of the Association by W. S. Dorn Blaser.

What position does the supply dealer occupy in apiculture? Is he a benefit and a necessity? This was the subject of an essay by W. S. Dorn Blaser now read to the convention as follows:

WHAT POSITION DOES THE SUPPLY DEALER
OCCUPY IN APIACULTURE? IS HE A BENEFIT AND A NECESSITY?

The position of the supply dealer in apiaculture, in my opinion, may be compared to gun-powder. This may be a forcible and seemingly strong assertion, but let us examine the two and then draw results.

Guns are manufactured articles seperate and distinct from the powder, and the gun can exist, and, with care, its natural condition can be maintained without powder. So the bee keeper can exist, and with proper care his natural or original condition can be maintained without retrograding. He is

seperate and distinct from the supply dealer, just as much so as a gun is seperate and distinct from powder.

I say a gun and a bee keeper can be maintained in their original condition without retrograding, but it requires care, and occasional polishing. You will say the bee keeper can get his polishing from the journals. I want to ask how many journals are published independent of the supply business? I know of one—the Review. Oh! the Review!!

Says Bro. Hutchinson to Bro. Heddon: "I have a scheme. I want to start a new journal independent of the supply business, to cover new ground and occupy a new field, and call it the Bee Keeper's Review."

Says Bro. Heddon to Bro. Hutchinson: "I have thought of the same thing for some years and since I am too busy to undertake it myself, I would rather see it in your hands than in those of any one else, and I will lend you my list of customers to send sample copies to, and I will contribute some towards the paper—and puff up, my patents." And Bro. Hutchinson last year sold queens a little better than anyone else could produce, and received enormous prices. No, he is not in the supply business.

But you will say gun powder wont polish a gun. No, but if you fire a charge of it out of a gun it is polished much easier afterwards, and so a bee keeper, after contact with a supply dealer, is polished much easier afterwards. And what a development there has been in guns, but you would not know much about it, but for the powder to test and recommend them. So with bee supplies, but you would know but little of them but for the supply dealers to test and recommend them.

The New York bee keepers have used fixed frames, and Ernest Root happened to see them. He read a paper on fixed frames at the International Convention last fall, when a long, lean bee keeper popped up, fished out a hive he had on exhibition and said he had been using fixed frames for fifteen years. Nobody ever knew of it before, and we might not know of them now but for Ernest Root's accident last summer. Now, fixed frames are manufactured and recommended from the Atlantic to the Pacific.

Improvements in gun powder? Yes, we have what is known as the "Shultz" powder. It produces no smoke. I know a man in Higginsvil'e who, last fall, ruined a \$125 gun with one charge of it. This powder may be compared to the patent supply dealers. Like Shultz powder, they sneak out of their lair, and with a grand crash leave the bee keeper ruined. Speaking of patents, and as these Shultz powder patents are generally combinations, I wonder why someone has not taken out a patent on that aggregation of combination—the mule.

I don't know whether you can tell from this whether supply dealers are a benefit or a necessity. If you can, let's hear of it.

After brief discussion the convention took a recess for fifteen minutes. After recess the president appointed the following committee on resolutions: Mrs. J. M. Null, W. S. Dorn Blaser, G. P. Morton.

Question No. 3 was taken from the box—How many can recommend the Golden Italian Queens as workers? The committee was divided as between leather colored and golden, and the question was left to the convention; four voting for leather colored and none for golden, balance not voting.

Question:—Has any one had any experience with closed end or fixed frames? If so, what is it?

Committee: Two say "no," one says they are recommended for out apiaries in moving. The question was discussed at some length and discussion condensed by W. S. Dorn Blaser as follows: They are desirable for out apiaries, moving and comb honey, but undesirable for extracted honey.

A communication from the Turkey Hill Bee-Keeper's Association was read, asking this Association to memorialize the St. Louis Fair Association on the question of premiums and exhibit space. Moved that the communication be referred to a committee of three for examination, correction if necessary, and report with memorial. Carried. The president appoints C. F. Barham, John Conser and W. S. Dorn Blaser.

Question:—How can we make the exercises of this convention interesting?

Committee: By being interested and by each one taking an individual part and interest in the discussion of the questions presented.

Question:—The kind and size of sections; also the best size and shape of foundation to put in, same to insure well filled sections and straight combs.

Committee: $4\frac{1}{4}x4\frac{1}{4}x1\frac{3}{4}$ one piece sections well filled with foundation.

Question:—What effect will a caged queen have on the storage of honey?

Committee: It will rather reduce the energy of the colony unless released five or six days after taking away cell.

A recess was taken to 7:30 p. m. NIGHT SESSION.

The convention was called to order at 7:30. "The hive I use and Recommend" was the subject of

the following paper by G. P. Morton:

WHAT HIVE DO I USE AND RECOMMEND.

The average bee keeper, in speaking of modern progress in bee keeping, is almost sure to place stress on the "hive" as the highest point to be attained in the art of bee keeping. That a certain amount of time and talent should be used in this direction, will be agreed to without argument. But to bend every energy in this direction, I think is a mistake. When we investigate the subject, we find that practical bee keepers are succeeding equally well with the many different makes of hives. This fact alone indicates that good management and adaptability to the business over balance everything else. A hive to facilitate labor should be simple, easy to manipulate, and of reasonable price. these points combine they will be almost sure to produce a popular hive. I use the simplicity hive improved, nine frames, or eight frames and a division board, fill the brood chamber, use one depth section crates with break-joint honey board and section support combined, and follow the tiering up plan, for comb honey. For extracted honey use same size brood chambers with perforated zinc queen excluder, and tier up two or three stories high with empty combs, nine combs to the story above the brood chamber.

In taking up second proposition of my subject, I will be governed by what branch of honey production I want the hive for. I were working for comb honey exclusively. I would possibly adopt the eight frame hive, but I don't think I would. I don't like a small hive, especially for the general bee keeper. They need closer attention; will furnish more destitute colonies in the fall, and more and smaller swarms than hives of larger capacity. If I were running for extracted honey alone, I would without hesitation, recommend a large hive, the only point of limit would be convenience in handling. But for both comb and extracted honey from the same apiary, I have adopted a size of hive suited equally well for both kinds of honey, and of uniform size, viz: the nine frame simplicity single wall hive, with chaff hive for winter and early spring protection. In conclusion, I want to be liberal; I want to be found broad in my make up. And I recommend to the beginner and to those who have not got a movable frame hive, to secure some reasonably good movable frame hive with crates to hold one pound sections and learn to succeed with it. It makes me tired to talk to a bee keeper who clings to the old box hives and the old cast away patent moth proof frauds of twenty years ago I am manufacturing and using a good hive, and I am succeeding with it, but I shall not use this occasion to try to persuade you to buy it. You will trade with me when you find it to your interest to do so.

Respectfully, G. P. Morton, Prairie Home, Missouri.

The question was briefly discussed and was followed by the following paper on "Which is the most Profitable—Natural or Artificial Swarming?" by R. B. Williams, of Winchester, Tennesee:

NATURAL OR ARTIFICAL SWARMS.

Having had from twenty-five to a hundred and forty colonies for the past twelve years, and having had considerable experience in artificial swarming, I have long since abandoned it. I consider it unprofitable compared with natural swarms. Nature has so nicely arranged her laws that they are very hard for man to equal, and especially is this true with the bee swarm. When a swarm issues it seems to be a perfect May day picnic to all hands, and puts new life in the whole colony immediately after they have been hived, all go to work with a vim; have never seen the work of a prime swarm equaled by an artificial one, no matter at what time it was made nor how strong in bees. Haven't you noticed the inactivity of an artificial swarm for several days after it was made, they are slow to begin work. I have made artificial swarms at the same time that I had natural swarms and in every instance the natural swarm out-striped them in gathering honev. as well as in brood-rearing and comb-build-With me the natural swarms has always proved the most profitable. tried making artificial swarms from colonies that had made all preparations for swarming.

Have taken as much as two-thirds of the bees and given them the old queen and in no instance did they give the result that they would have given if let alone. I would prefer a weak natural swarm to a strong artificial one. Perhaps some have been more successful than I have been. In breeding queens for the market, of course we are compelled to make small artificial swarms. We are then working for queens and not honey or increase. This is the only way I could be induced to divide a colony until after it had swarmed. I then remove the old hive and put the new swarm on the old stand, remove sections from parent hive and place on new hive, or if working for extracted honey, I place second story containing combs on new hive the fifth day after swarm has been hiveed. By waiting four or five days the queen has commenced to deposit eggs in new comb as it is built. By working this way the queen will rarely ever go above. If you use excluder it is better not to place second story on until the second or third day. Seven or eight days after swarm has issued, I remove all queen cells except one, thereby putting a stop to farther swarming. The old colony treated in this way with me always builds up in time to be ready for the lin bloom, and very often veilds quite a nice lot of comb honey. If by chance the swarm is a late one they will get in good shape for wintering well. R. B. WILLIAMS, Winchester, Tenn.

Question:—What time of year is it best to ship comb honey?

Committee: In October or November, before cold weather, when the price suits.

Question:—Shall we contract hives in the commencement of the honey season, when we get surplus from fall flowers?

Committee: No. Let the bees have late crops for winter; give the queen room to keep down increase.

Question:—Are we ready to throw aside the break-joint honey board?

Committee: Two say, no, not so long as we have burr combs to contend with. One says, I have no use for them.

Selections, "My Garden," and "Mary's Little Lamb," were read by W. S. Dorn Blaser, and the convention adjourned.

FRIDAY--MORNING SESSION.

The convention was called to order at 9:15 a.m. The World's Fair was discussed at some length. Moved that a committee of two be elected by the Association to use their best efforts with the Legislalature's World's Fair Commission with a view of securing an appropriation of not less than \$5000 and that this Association pay the committee's expenses to Jefferson City, if necessary. The committee to report next meeting. Carried. R. L. Moore, Boonville; J. W. Rouse, Mexico: Mrs. J. M. Null, Miami; P. Baldwin, Independence; W. S. Dorn Blaser, Higginsville, and A. A. Weaver, Warrensburg, were placed in nomination. Mrs. Null was elected on second ballot and W. S. Dorn Blaser on fourth ballot. On motion the location for next meeting was fixed as the special order for 1:30 o'clock after which a recess of fifteen minutes was taken.

"How can we increase the membership of our Association and make it so interesting as to insure its success?" was the subject of a paper by P. Baldwin, of Independence, now read by the Secretary.

In response to the kind invitation of the Secretary asking me to prepare a paper on the following subject, I do it with some misgivings, knowing that I shall have to write to the point, as you all know.

"HOW CAN WE INCREASE THE MEMBERSHIP OF OUR ASSOCIATION AND MAKE IT

> SO INTERESTING AS TO IN-SURE ITS SUCCESS."

There are so many things which have to be put together in making np an association like ours, in order to have it a living and growing body, that, if murtured properly, might develop into a full-grown organization that could be beneficial to a large number of the bee keepers of our state.

I shall not take time, nor space, to speak of all the things that are necessary for such development, but will mention a few points which seem to me to be the most important. God's word says, "How can two walk together except they be agreed," and therefore I think that one of the most important elements in building up and perpetuating an organization like this is harmony and good feeling one toward another. Let each try to please and benefit others, putting self and selfish interest out of the way. Let us love one another, work for their welfare and thus lift them up to a higher life of usefulness.

Another way of sustaining and keeping alive our association is by the discussion of live, interesting and practical questions in bee culture; not so much for the benefit of the "old heads," as for those who are learners in the pursuit, always remembering that "It is more blessed to give than to receive." What I mean by practical questions are those which relate to every day experience in the apiary, with which the novice can go home and apply them for his own profit, thereby helping him in his chosen pursuit, and not those points that are only gained by long study and experiments.

In keeping up our association I think it advisable and practical to advertise it as extensively as possible through the papers, journals, and with cards and letters, thereby gaining a good attendance which is always a means of enthusiasm and encouragement, and in order to do this it is necessary to have a fair fund in the treasuary and live, energet-

ic officers. I would like to speak of one or two things which are practiced in our association which has a tendency to destroy its usefullness and to keep many from attending its gatherings, and that is, that members belonging to it make the meetings a time and place to vend their wares and fixtures, thus occupying the time which might be more profitably employed in the discussion of some vital question that would be elevating to all concerned. Do not understand me to claim that such things ought not to be exhibited at such places, but when the minds of those that ought to be the instructors and leaders of the association, are so much employed in disposing of their wares and working for personal aims, instead of for the good of all, it is my opinion that the association with such an ugly sore on its body, has only to have a little time given it when its life will be eaten away and it dies an untimely death. There is also another trouble connected with the perpetuation of our association, and that is the principle of rule or ruin policy that we sometimes meet with in our fellowship with mankind, especially in organized bodies. It brings to the surface in human nature that element of character that is narrow and selfish, instead of that broad and enobling trait of character that seeks and loves to labor for the welfare of others. There is another thought that presents itself to me that might be of some help in building and keeping alive our association, which is to get the statistics of as many of the bee keepers of the state as possible, to publish in the reports of its meetings. This might have a tendency to draw them out to our gatherings, and being represented in the transactions of the association, they would feel somewhat of a responsibility in its welfare.

I would suggest that the bretheren think on these things.

Hoping that all the members present will have a pleasant, profitable and harmonious fellowship, I remain,

Yours Respectfully, P. Baldwin, Independence, Missouri.

After long discussion it was moved that we invite exhibits of apiarian implements and honey at our future meetings. Carried unanimously.

Recess to 1:30.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The convention was called to order at 1:30 and the question of location for fall meeting was taken up as the special order. Sedalia and Appleton City were named and a ballot resulted:—Sedalia 24, Appleton City 3. The selection was on motion made unanimous. The time for holding the meeting was, on motion, fixed for October 10 to 20. Moved that the President appoint some competent member to deliver a lecture to beginners at next meeting. Carried. The President appoints G. P. Morton.

A paper on "My Idea of a Best Convention," by A. O. Calhoun, of Victor, Missouri, was read by the Secretary.

MY IDEA OF A BEE CONVENTION.

Victor, Mo. March 1, 1891. The object of assembling ourselves together at this time, if I understand our position correctly, is to counsel with and advise each other that we may, by the wisdom thus gained, be the better enabled to carry into execution the injunction of our Father, delivered on the sixth day of creation. We find that after He had made the earth and all things therein for the use of man, He created man and, commanded him not only to propagate his species, or to be fruitful, but enjoined upon him the necessity of multiplying and replenishing and subduing all things placed here for his use and enjoyment. In proportion, as we see this command obeyed, do we see the human family enjoying the necessities, comforts and luxuries of life. Take for example, Cains profession as he walked forth to till the fields. He found them covered with the thorn, crab-apple and wild oats. In these were

possibly the bare necessities of life, but to day we see these subdued and replenished with sweet-clover, maidens-blush and smooth headed corn, multiplying, some sixty and, some an hundred fold. The stockmen of to day would see much to praise God for if they could look backward to the flock of Abel. Tubalcain's profession in the hands of a Corliss turns out engines instead of trinkets. Fire and flood have courted, and out of that courtship have come forth the legitimate child of steampower that is doing more for the human family to day than the lost art of the pyramid age. The astrologers and magicians of Egypt are supplanted by the Hicks and Edisons of Gods Isreal restored, and last, but not least, the honey bee is no longer left to build in the carcass of dead animals and so vicious that the traveler is in danger passing by, but a beautiful, practical house is furnished her and help in time of need in the way of food in famine, shelter in winter, legal protection in time of ignorant ire and she is so pleased with this treatment that she has become the harbinger of man and helps him to multiply and replenish the earth with fruits and grain charging them their richest of nectar which she yields up to man, for his kindness to her. Now therefore that we may multiply and replenish and subdue the honey bee more to the welfare of herself and the human family and thereby obey the command of God have we met in counsel. A. O. CALHOON.

After some discussion a selection, "The Closing Business," was read by W. S. Dorn Blaser, and a recess of fifteen minutes taken. After recess a suggestion that the use of tobacco be ruled out of the meeting of the Association, by an absent member, was read and moved by the Secretary, and seconded by Mr. Marshall, of Arrow Rock.

The President suggested that all persons using tobacco and intoxicating drinks be excluded from membership.

By a unanimous vote the motion was laid on the table indefinitely.

The committee on resolutions presented the following report:

We, your committee on resolutions beg leave to present the following:

Resolved, That the thanks of this convention be extended to the citizens of Boonville for their kind consideration of the claims of the Association, for their hearty welcome, earnest encouragement and open hearted hospitality.

Resolved, That the thanks of the Convention be extended to the County authorities for the use of the court house and their kind and considerate attention.

Resolved, That the thanks of the Convention be extended to the newspapers of Boonville for their kindly interest, and to the Missouri Bee Keeper for its generous offer to publish the proceedings of the convention.

Resolved, That every effort of the Association as a body, and by its members as individually interested be used to secure an adequate appropriation to secure the best possible exhibit at the World's Fair at Chicago, and that a special committee be appointed to present the claims of the Bee Keepers of Missouri to the Legislature's Committee, and urge the importance of the subject to that committee and the bee keepers with a view to getting

the co-operation of the bee keepers in the exhibit.

Resolved, That this Association favors the taxing of bees by the state and county authorities by the levy of a fair equitable tax per hive, founded on present basis of taxation to the actual value of a colony of Italian bees on the 1st day of June.

Resolved, That in view of the fact that there is now a bill pending before the legislature of Missouri, forbiding the manufacture and sale of all vinegars, except pure cider vinegar, and if passed, would debar the apiarist from making vinegar from the odds and ends of his apiary, and that we, the bee keepers of Missouri, will use all the means in our power to have honey vinegar included in the bill, as we deem it the finest and purest vinegar made.

Mrs. J. M. Null, G. P. Morton, W. S. Dorn Blaser.

The report was received and the committee discharged.

Moved that these resolutions be adopted as a whole. So ordered.

The committee appointed on the Turkey Hill Association's communication then presented the following report: Be it

mittee be appointed to present the claims of the Bee Keepers of Missouri to the Legislature's Committee, and urge the importance of the subject to that committee and the bee keepers with a view to getting of the industry of apiculture, that

the St. Louis Fair Association should suitably encourage the representation of said industry by devoting a more extensive and suitable place for apiarian exhibits and offering premiums in proportion to the importance and magnitude of the business.

And, further, that we would take the liberty of suggesting the following list of premiums to the consideration of the officers of the said Fair Association, as being such as would most likely conduce to the calling out of a display, creditable alike to the state, the fair and the bee keepers of the country at large. We would also beg leave to suggest that the awarding committee be composed of practical bee keepers of, at least, five years experience.

of, at least, five years experience.		
· PREMIUMS.	1st.	2d.
Best sample Italian bees with queen, two frame nuclei	\$40	\$25
Best sample of Carniolan bees with queen, two frame nuclei	40	25
Best collection of Italian queens, alive	20	10
" " Carniolan " "	20	10
Best bee hive for all purposes, made by exhibitor	50	30
Best specimens comb foundation, made by exhibitor	20	10
Best crate of honey in comb, not less than 12 lbs., produced by exhibitor	- 30	18
Best specimen of extracted honey in glass, not less than 12 lbs., produced by exhibitor	30	18
Largest and best display of samples of comb honey, of different kinds	50	30
Largest and best display of samples of extracted honey, of different		0.5
kinds	50	30
Best specimen of beeswax	5	2
Largest, best and most attractive display of honey, all kinds	50	30
Largest, best and most attractive dis- play of Apiarian supplies, made by		
exhibitor	50	30

DIPLOMAS.

Best Comb Foundation Machine.

Best Machine for Piercing Frames.

Best Wax extractor.

Best Bee Smoker.

Best Honey Knife.

Best Shipping Crate.

Best Queen Cage

Best Bee Veil, or Face Protector.

Be it resolved, that the Secretary of this Association forward a copy of these resolutions to the Secretary of the St. Louis Fair Association, and also to the St. Louis Globe-Democrat and St. Louis Republic.

The resolutions were unanimously adopted.

R. B. Leahy, by special request of a number of members, explained the construction, advantages and adaptibilities of the Leahy Telescope hive.

W. S. Dorn Blaser asked unanimous consent to present the interests of the Missouri Bee Keeper, which was granted, and in a short address the paper and the reasons why the bee keepers of Missouri should support it were presented.

The Question box was then emptied of the following:

Q.—Will artificial pasturage pay?
A.—Alsike clover will for nectar

Mr. Conser—Sweet clover also pays.

and hav.

Mr. Garrett—Buckwheat pays for nectar and seed.

Q.—What is the best method for emptying honey crates?

A.—Use bee escapes or drive the bees down with smoke.

Q.—What are the prospects for a large surplus of honey in the localities represented, for the coming season?

Prospects were reported from medium to excellent.

Q.—Is not the expansion of the "Long Idea Hive" more practical than the storyfying or tiering up plan in production of extracted honey and controlling of swarming?

Committee—Two say, no; it is too bulky and not favorable for comb building; one says, yes, I think for extracting I would have a one-story hive say 18 to 20 frames and spread from center using division boards until hive is full.

Q.—Shall we lay awake nights studying new methods of appliances in the apiary and give the same to the public without remuneration?

A.—The laborer is worthy of his hire; give the fraternity the benefit of all we know or happen to find out in the future.

Q.—Can more honey be secured from a non-swarming colony of bees than a colony swarming, with increase?

A.—Yes, properly handled, giving room for surplus and keeping down sulking.

Q.—Will green painted wire have a bad effect upon a caged queen?

A.—Not so far as practical use is concerned.

Q.—What is the Royal Jelly composed of?

A.—It is supposed to be honey and pollen partly digested.

Q.—Do the bees ever eat the eggs of the queen?

A.—Yes, when the queen is superceded and the bees about to raise queen cells.

Q.—At what time in the season is it advisible to Italianize an apiary to the best advantage?

A.-Just after the honey season closes.

Q.-What is the best time, fall or spring, to double up or unite colonies for the purpose of getting the benefit of the early honey flow? If spring, what time?

A.-Spring, just before honey sea-

son opens.

Q.-What is a bee gum?

A.-A hollow log.

Q.-Are bees a benefit to fruit-growers?

A.-Yes, they fertalize the bloom.

Q.-What is beeswax made of?

A.—It is a honey secretion caused by good feeding, as the tallow on the beef.

Diseases among bees were discussed after which the convention adjourned to meet at Sedalia in October. W. S. Dorn Blaser,

Ass't Sec.

"How I Produce Comb Honey," by Geo. E. Hilton, is a neat little book of 16 pages, nicely printed and illustrated, giving his methods of producing comb honey for the market. A copy can be obtained at this office for five cents.

Missouri Bee-Keeper

ISSUED MONTHLY BY

BEE-KEEPER PUBLISHING CO.

Unionville, Missouri.

ONLY 50 CENTS A YEAR IN ADVANCE.

A DVERTISING RATES.—A limited amount of advertising will be received for publication in the BEEKEEPER at the following rates: \$1.50 per inch single and \$50 double column. 15 per cent discount on contracts running three months. 30 per cent for six months and 40 per cent for one year

E. F. QUIGLEY, Editor.

The Bread and Butter Series No. 2 is before us, by Geo. A. Stockwell, Providence, R. I., giving his double hive non-swarming system. Price, 25 cents.

Read S. F. & J. Trego's ad. in another column. Their queens are surely worthy of a trial. Don't forget to mention the Missouri Bee-Keeper.

Our sample copies have been delayed waiting for our permit to mail as second class matter. This is why, friends, you have not heard from your order sooner.

We had a very pleasant time at the convention of the Missouri State Bee-Keeper's Association at Boonville, April 9 and 10. We were sorry that more of our bee-keeping friends were not present.

The editor of *Gleanings* in commenting on some statements found in the Missouri Bee-Keeper regarding closed end frames and propolis,

asks the friends how it is further south. We are in the north part of the state, propolis is no worse here we think, than in any other state. While at the convention at Boonville, a bee-keeper asked us if ants would not get behind the uprights of the closed end frame and cause trouble. We have had no trouble from that cause. Has any of the bee-keepers using such frame had any trouble with ants? If so let them report at once.

We think the article on Italian Bees, by G. M. Doolittle in this issue, should settle the question of Golden Italian Bees. Our experience so far agrees with friend D. But friends, don't forget the bread and butter question while you are breeding these nice looking bees.

A sample of the Porter Bee-Escape has just been received. It is a fine thing and as Bro. Porter says they will fully guarantee it to work satisfactory, the bee-keepers need have no fear in taking hold of it. The price is reasonable enough, 20 cents. Will give one as a premium for two subscribers to the Missouri Bee-Keeper.

At the convention, there was representatives of six different supply factories. They were all friends, and everything passed off pleasantly. Nearly all the members expressed a desire to have hives and implements at the conventions, so you may expect a nice display at

the Sedalia meeting. If you have anything new bring it along. We all can get ideas from seeing other people's goods, that will be of value to us.

We make the following special offer for the months of May, June and July. To increase our subscription list, we will give a fine select tested Golden Italian Queen, worth \$5, for the largest list of subscribers sent in by one person; list to close July 15th. Queen shipped August 1st. Notice will be given in these columns of the successful party. Send along the subscriptions.

Subscribe for The Missouri Bee Keeper. Only 50 cents per year.

PORTER SPRING BEE-ESCAPE

The bees pass out between two delicate springs which partially closing behind them prevent their return.



Size of body, 2\frac{3}{4} in. long, 1\frac{1}{8} in. wide, \frac{1}{2} in. deep

The Porter Spring Bee-Escape is a simple, durable and inexpensive devise, which, when fitted in a suitable board and placed between the surplus apartment and the brood chamber of a hive of bees, cutting off all means of exit from this apartment except through the escape, permits the bees to pass down through it into the brood chamber easily and rapidly, but prevents getting out ever of prevents their relationship to the surplus apartment and the brood clagged with dead only a bee space when not in use the little storage room it is universally editoral column.)

their return, thus reducing the labor of harvesting the surplus honey on the hive at any time to merely that required in adjusting the escape-board and removing the honev after the bees have passed out, and dispensing entirely with that most disagreeable and vexatious of all work known to the apiary—getting bees out of supers of honey by the old methods when robbers abound. Besides these advantages, the honey is at all times secured in perfect condition, its delicate flavor being untainted by smoke and the beautiful cappings uninjured by the gnawing of the bees.

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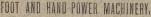
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