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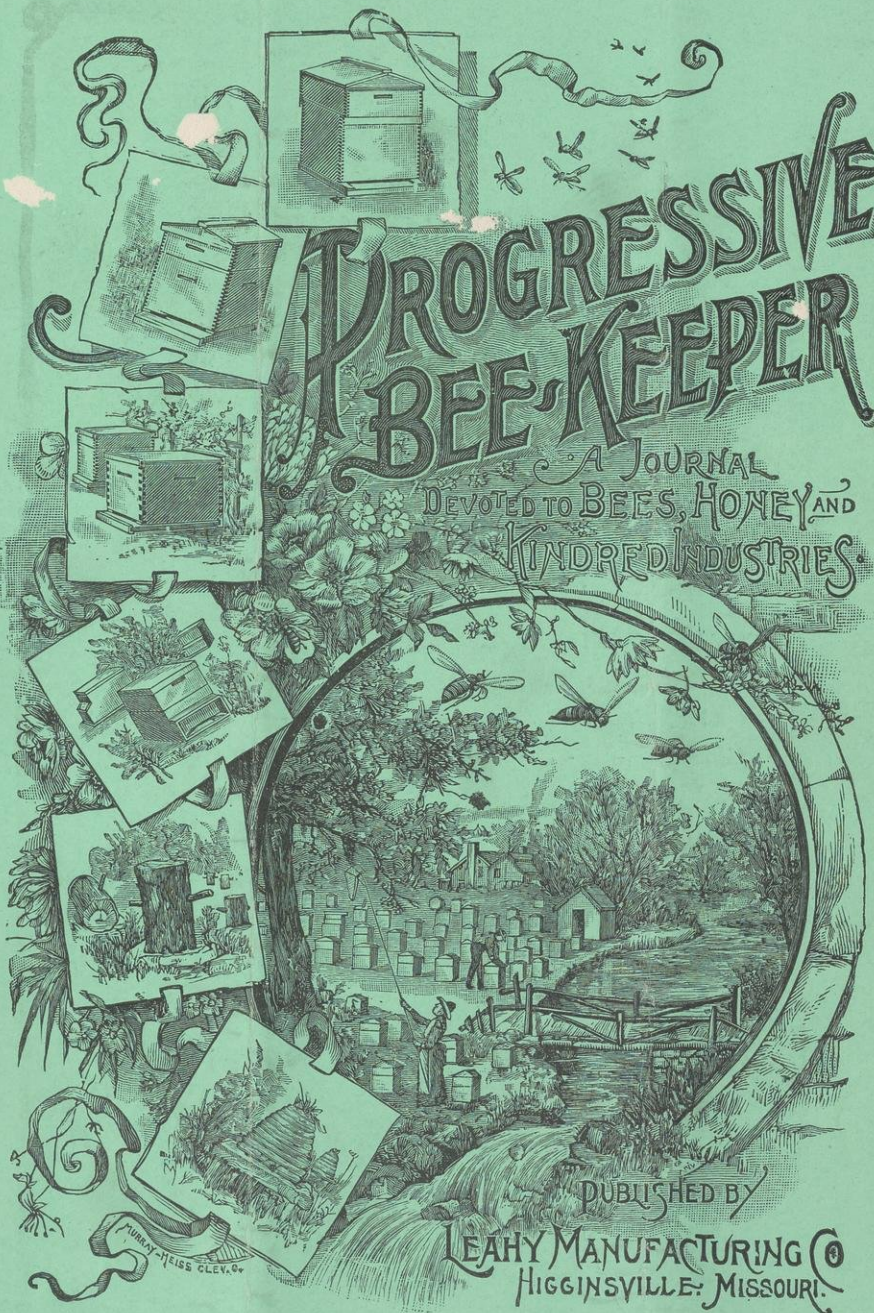
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PROGRESSIVE BEE-KEEPER

A JOURNAL
DEVOTED TO BEES, HONEY AND
KINDRED INDUSTRIES.



MURRAY-HEISS CLEY, O.

PUBLISHED BY
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HIGGINSVILLE, MISSOURI.



MAY 1905





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The Progressive Bee-Keeper

A Journal Devoted to Bees, Honey and Kindred Supplies

VOL. XIII.

HIGGINSVILLE, MO., MAY 1905.

NO. 5

GOOD THINGS IN THE BEE-KEEPING PRESS.

BY SOMNAMBULIST.

In March Review Mr. Sibbald of Claud, Canada, gave his non-swarming method, and Editor E. I. Root gives the same to his readers, accompanied with comments indicating his understanding of the plan. I now lay before the readers of the Progressive his version of the matter as perhaps I might leave out some of the minutes so highly important to the complete elucidation of the subject. His understanding, as in April 1st, Gleanings, is as I construed the meaning of the plan:

When a colony is discovered building queen-cells, Mr. Sibbald says we are to move it off its stand a little to one side. I understand he means to move it sidewise so that it will be a few inches to the right or left of the exact position where the hive formerly stood, the entrance pointing in the same direction. In the place where the old hive No. 1 stood, hive No. 2, just like it, is placed. It may contain empty frames; but Mr. Sibbald prefers that it have two empty combs and a few frames with starters of foundation. As the relative position of these two hives will be changed about in this general manipulation, we will call on the old hive with its combs, bees, brood and all, No. 1, while the new hive, now on the stand of the old one, No. 2. Be sure to keep these in mind in order that we may not misunderstand the process that follows.

Well, the next step is to take out of hive No. 1, or the old colony after the shift, a frame of brood with queen-

cells, making sure that we do not get the queen, and place it, with the adhering bees, between the two empty combs in No. 2, or the new hive on the old stand. In addition the supers and the bees which they contain on No. 1 are given to No. 2 on the old stand. In the two combs will be stored the pollen, thus preventing it from being carried into the supers. The result of this operation will be that the field bees No. 1 will go into No. 2 on the old stand. The field bees now in No. 2, having been robbed of nine-tenths of their brood and their queens, but with good prospects of soon having a new one, and having very little brood to care for, will soon lose their swarming-fever and go right to work in the supers. They are not likely to build much if any comb in the partly empty lower hive. There is no laying queen below, and no particular incentive to build combs for egg-laying, for the virgin yet to be hatched will not be laying for two weeks. The old colony having lost its field bees will not have any honey coming in; and the young bees will naturally conclude there must be a "famine in the land, or that the season is over," as Mr. Sibbald puts it. As a natural consequence, they remove the larvæ from or destroy every queen-cell. The swarming-fever of both colonies, 1 and 2, has been entirely abated, and for ten days or even a longer period there will be no danger that the fever will come back.

At the end of this time the bee-keeper has the option of increase or no increase. If he desires the former he No. 1, is a few inches to the right or left of the new hive, No. 2, now on the spot that the old colony originally had.

For the sake of the clearly understanding the method we will suppose No. 1 is on the right. Now jump No. 1 right over the new hive, No. 2, so it shall be on the left side, facing the same direction, and the same distance away. In the ten days or two weeks that have elapsed, many of the young bees that were too young to fly when the first shift was made will now be field bees. These will naturally go into No. 2 is nearer the stand to which they have been flying, so that, again, No. 1 gives up its field bees to No. 2. If the apiarist desires to carry the process still further, in ten days more he can jump No. 1 back to the position it occupied after the first shift, or to the right of No. 2. Again, it, No. 1, will give all of its field bees to No. 2. So the process might be repeated until No. 1 would be weakened clear down; but I should conclude, in the absence of any statement to the contrary, that there would be only one or possibly two jumpings, at the end of which time No. 1 is removed to an entirely new location when again it will give its field bees to No. 2. It might then be little better than a nucleus, but would rapidly increase to a fair colony for winter, while No. 2, which has been receiving fresh invoices of field bees, would become strong, and pile in the honey.

The only question that arises in my mind is whether or not these fresh accessions of bees would not induce swarming in No. 2; and, still further, would these field bees always go into No. 2 rather than seek out their old entrance? The strain of bees would have something to do with this.

So much for increase. When increase is not desired, the following is the plan:

THE SIBBALD NON-SWARMING PLAN
WHEN INCREASED IS NOT DESIRED.

We now go back again to the point, ten days after the first shift was made,

when No. 1 was moved from its old stand a few inches to the right. It will be remembered that, ten days before, we had given No. 1 a frame of brood with cells on it. If the old queen is a good one and we do not care to let the one in No. 2 hatch out or lay, we destroy these cells or virgins, if hatched; and put the frame of brood back into No. 1. But at this point Mr. Sibbald does not explain what he would do with virgins that many have hatched prematurely. Cells five or six days old at the time of this first shift would be liable to hatch out a virgin before the ten days were up. As will be seen I have taken it for granted that he would dispose of them.

We will assume, in this case, at least, that the virgins have not hatched, and we have destroyed the cells and put the frame of brood back into No. 1. We take away hive No. 2 entirely, and put No. 1 in its place, or exactly the same place it had at the very start. The young bees and the brood will now have been added to the field force plus the old queen. Of course, the super should be taken off from No. 2 and put back on No. 1. No. 1, during the interim of ten days, has been under the delusion that there was a famine in the land, has destroyed its queen-cells, and therefore the swarming fever that had already begun to manifest itself ten days before has been killed out simply by a shift of hives. The cells in No. 1 that were left have been destroyed by the bees without any act on the part of the apiarist; there has been no interruption in brood-rearing, or practically none, except the small amount that might take place owing to the stoppage apparently, of the honey-flow; as soon as the young bees begin to go to the fields the queen would commence laying as before. One would naturally suppose that the swarming fever would come on again. Editor Hutchinson sug-

gests in his footnote that it may do so; but Mr. Sibbald says if plenty of super room is given it will not.

Once more, if the old queen is not desired, wait until the cell or cells hatch and virgin begins laying in No. 2. Kill the old queen and unite the two colonies as before directed.

The particular claim for this method over shook swarming is that it does away with all shaking of bees—an operation that is unpleasant, to say the least. In shaking combs I have found that bees will often fly up and sting. This is particularly so of certain strains. If they are shaken out in front of the entrance, one is liable to trample on them during the operation, or to get bees up his pants legs. New honey is liable to be sprinkled all over the bees and upon the grass. Of course this can be avoided by brushing rather than shaking.

Another claim for the method is that it does away with the destruction of queen cells by the apiarist or the chance of his missing some; for the bees do all that work themselves far cheaper than any human being, and without a miss.

I have thus supplied what are, in my estimation, the "missing links," for I am satisfied that many of our beginner bee-keepers would not understand the method just as Mr. Sibbald gives it in the Review. Perhaps I have not given it strictly correct; but so far as I can see it dovetails with his instructions.

The more I think over this whole plan, the more I am pleased with it; and I do not wonder that Editor Hutchinson felt that he had made a "good scoop" over the rest of us when he secured the prior publication of the method. We certainly shall give it a test in our own yards this summer; and if it proves to be simpler and quicker than the "shook" plan, which is regarded with so much favor by our bee-

keeping friends, Mr. Sibbald will, to say the least, prove a benefactor to his fellow bee-keepers.

He does not say that he would have hives exactly alike. This may not be essential; but it would be advantageous, I am sure; for the fresh field bees will be more likely to the hive nearest their old location if it has the same outside appearance as the old hive.

In April 15th, Gleanings Dr. Miller comments on the plan as follows:

The Sibbald plan, which so interests the editor, p. 358, is not likely to produce the same results in all places and all hands. Let me correct a mistake that may puzzle some readers. P. 359, first column, a little below the middle, "It will be remembered that, ten days before, we had given No. 1" should read "No. 2." You express the fear, Mr. Editor, that swarming might be induced in No. 2 by the fresh accessions. I don't believe there's the least danger, but I think your years in another direction are well founded. You fear that, when shifts are made to throw bees from No. 1 into No. 2, some will hunt up No. 1, the strain of bees having something to do with it. I doubt much difference from strain of bees; but surroundings make much difference. I judge from some experience directly in point. When No. 2 is first set with no queen and only one brood, you may count on the institution of a search for something more home-like by the bees returning to it. On an open plain, with no surrounding object of any kind, you may pretty safely count on the bees finding No. 1 and sticking to it. With plenty of surrounding objects by which to locate the old stand, there will be less danger possibly none. When the second shift is made, you may safely count that all field bees from No. 1 will go to No. 2; but if no surrounding objects, you may just as safely count, if the bees are like

mine, that the field bees of No. 2 will also go to No. 1. In other words, No. 1 and No. 2 will merely swap field bees. If No. 1 is moved to an entirely new location in three weeks from first shift, in many locations there would no danger of its swarming. In my location there would be danger. In the non-swarming plan, when, after ten days, the old queen and all the brood is back on the old stand as at the start, it may be that, in Mr. Sibbald's locality and in some other localities, the bees will have no further thought of swarming. In my locality they may be counted on to swarm in most cases. I know, for I have tried it many times. I'm not trying to throw cold water; only telling what to look out for. [Perhaps if I had substituted the word race instead of strains it would have been more exact. Some experiments we conducted a few years ago went to show that black bees would find their colonies, even when shifted around considerably, while Italians would hover around the old original spot until they died. A slight mixture of hybrid blood might defeat the Sibbald plan to some extent. It seems to me a good deal will depend on having the hives exactly alike, so when a shift is made the bees will go, say, to the nearest south, east or west side as the case may be—just as they had been doing before.—Ed.]

Stachelhausen of Converse, Texas, in April Review gives objections to the plan and says "The swarm with one frame of brood, a few queen cells and mostly old bees is very dissatisfied. As they miss the old queen they keep hunting for her, and if the old hive is near by will find her and return to their old home."

This depletes the force to such a degree as to render the new swarm a weakling. Another objection he advances is the necessity of looking for queen cells several times.

On page 113 the editor of the Review

gives several adverse criticisms which are as follows:

Mr. Thorne, Ottawa, Canada, fears that the bees will swarm from the hive on the old stand, when the first young queen hatches. Mr. Sibbald says not, and I should not expect it, as they have lost most of their brood, and recovered from the swarming-fever.

Mr. J. A. Green, of Colorado, says: The only flaw that I can see in the Sibbald plan is that unless the queen cell given the old stand is already sealed, a poor queen is likely to be the result, unless a greater number of young bees is given than will be found on one comb. Whether the bees will work as well in the supers as under the ordinary plan is a little doubtful; that is something that must be learned by experiment.

Morley Petit, of Canada, says: Sibbald's idea is a good one, but I prefer to manipulate the brood chamber so as to avoid dividing the force at all, and, in working for extracted honey, I can do this to a large extent.

Another countryman of Mr. Sibbard writes me quite a long letter on the subject. I am not sure that he cares to have his name appear, so I will withhold it. Here are some of the things he wrote:

With yourself, I am inclined to doubt whether the re-united colony will stay cured of the swarming-fever. With a young queen at the head of the united colony, I should expect no more swarming, but, if the "old lady" were left with a brood nest somewhat crowded, I should be "suspicious." Digressing a little, I would say that in the production of extracted honey, a similar plan works well when shook-swarming is practiced. Five or six days after shaking, destroy all queen cells on the brood combs, and place them as an extra super over the colony on the old stand. All the force is thus

united, and there will be no more swarming. The brood combs, when filled with honey, are excellent for winter-stores where one does not wish to extract the honey on account of some of it being dark. For two or three years I treated some colonies in exactly the same manner as Mr. Sibbald treated his, but I hadn't brains enough to see its possibilities. However, I found one serious objection to it, and that is, that, in some cases, the old bees would find and join the old colony; and, when the working force did stay at the old stand, the strength of the colony was not nearly so great as by the shaking process.

"Swarthmore," of Pennsylvania, says he has practiced the Sibbald method for several seasons, and found it O. K. The bees not only tear down the queen cells, but they also dig out every bit of drone brood and dispose of every live drone.

W. E. Flower, of Pennsylvania, wishes to know if Mr. Sibbald contracts the brood nest in the new hive on the old stand. I think not. If I am not correct, Mr. Sibbald can correct me.—Ed. Review.

I am very glad of all this criticism. If the system is not practicable, if it has more disadvantages than advantages, the sooner we know it the better; and that is exactly the reason why I urged Mr. Sibbald so hard to allow me to publish it, and that it might the sooner be tested and tried. My advice to all is to try it on a modern scale and see how it works.

I hope the plan will be generally tested here in Missouri and not only tested, but results reported to the Progressive that its readers may reap the benefit. It was so thoughtful in the editor of the Review to get this before the public in time for all to have a chance to make a trial of it, and all

should show their appreciation by investigating the same. By the way the return to the old color of the back of the Review is a pleasant surprise to the old readers, Ye editor terms it a "golden rod color," but as golden rod so seldom yields honey in those parts and spanish needle so bountifully rewards the efforts of the honey producer, and besides our honey being such a very great favorite as regards body aroma, and flavor we prefer to think of it as a spanish needle color. As such a large majority of the human race are born kickers and as the editors certainly understands human nature, I am expecting to have my own way in this matter. I imagine him smiling good naturedly and passing along quietly over this little difference of opinion, due largely most undoubtedly to "locality."

As I have culled so exclusively of the practical in this month's work I am going to digress for a change and rest and give a ludicrous article taken from Kansas City Journal.

BEE LAW IS A HUMMER.

Tom McNeal and a few other Kansas editors are saying slightly things about Bill Kinnison's bill, passed at the last session of the legislature. The bill provides for county bees inspectors. Whose duty it shall be to inspect all bees; separate the busy bees from the drones; execute the drones; quarantine bees afflicted with tuberculosis, appendicitis and other contagious diseases; and to send to the rockpile the bees which refuse to be inspected according to the statutes made and provided. McNeal and his associate critics say such law is useless; that bees are more apt to inspect the inspectors than the inspectors are to inspect the bees; that if each bee has to take a day off to be inspected it will result in a decrease of the supply of honey and prices of the supply of honey and that prices

of product will soar higher than the bees which made it. These, in effect, are their chief objections.

But the trouble is McNeal and his crowd of critics have knowledge of the practical working of either the law or the bees. They only come in contact with the political bees. They don't get down among the grass roots and mingle with the busy little honey makers or they would soon learn the urgent necessity of the law and the great good the bees hope to accomplish under it. In the past bees have been anarchists in a way. They have struggled along without any law. About all they have done is to gather honey and sting people. They want to be civilized, and it was through the earnest effort of their leaders in Kansas that Bill Kinison agreed to give them some legislative regulation.

Since the law went into effect most of the bees have settled down, joined the Republican party and are carrying full dinner pails. They hooked up with the Republicans because they like to associate with people who do things. However some of the bees in the rural precincts have not heard of the law and are still cavorting around keeping people guessing where they are going to light next. And right here an incident of the practical working of the new law is given for the benefit of Editor McNeal et al. Rago is the junction point of the Santa Fe branch roads in Kingman county. Four passenger trains meet there at a certain hour every day and the people of the whole town are always out to meet them. A few days ago a farmer shipped a stand of bees from Kingman to Englewood. The bees had to be transferred from one road the other at Rago. A reckless express agent upset the hive on the platform. Unaware of the new law, the bees in their true anarchistic style, got busy. They began to

do some inspecting themselves. Whenever they could catch up with some fleet footed cohort they would brand him with their self-branding iron, which is always hot. The trainmen, passengers and loafers all took to the alfalfa. The bees had everything their own way. They inspected the engines, filled the water tanks, cleaned out the coaches, sampled the 'JohnDoe' packages in the express car and opened mail and read all the postal cards.

In desperation the trainmen called upon the county bee inspector. He came down with a mosquito contraption over his head and a copy of the bee bill in his hand. He summoned the bees in conference and read them the law. They all looked surprized.

"Your honor," said the queen bee, after the inspector had finished, "this is all news to us. It is so sudden. You see we didn't know this law had been passed. We lived in Kingman county at that time. So we are now regulated by statute, passed by a reform legislature? Wouldn't that put your stinger to bobbing? Well if that is the law we will obey it—something that some citizens of Kingman don't do."

She then led her subjects back to the hive and subsided; the trainmen and passengers returned and traffic on both roads was resumed. Still McNeal says the bee bill is a farce.

If this effusion is in the least degree offensive, try and look at it in the light of the principle "Tis better to have loved and lost than never to have loved at all." In other words, possibly more good will accrue by being ridiculed than not to have had any notice whatever. Here is another item taken from the same source:

BEES MUDDY HER WASHING.

Butler, Mo., April 17.—A queer suit was filed in the circuit court here today which will determine the rights of bees to run at large. Abraham Hauf,

living a few miles northwest of here, has several stands of bees. His neighbor, Mrs. Alstrum, claims that Hauf's bees come into her yard on each wash day and walk on the clean clothes with their muddy feet. She therefore asks the court to perpetually restrain Hauf's bees from wandering.

'Tis said "Satan will some mischief find for idle hands to do." Evidently he's stirred up some mischief here which may mean work for the earnest defenders of the pursuit all over the land. Wonder what such a woman wouldn't ask of any one? And a great er question is, how is that court going to grant her request? Come, "fess up," don't it slightly excite your curiosity? Don't claim you have none, for the gratification of this self same attribute of times constitutes the chief charm of bee-keeping.

BEEES CROWDING TO THE SUPER CENTER.

BY S. T. PETTIT.

On page 616 (1904), Mr. Hasty writes: "S. T. Pettit will think I'm queer, but I doubt if he can abate much the inclination of bees to crowd into the center of a super. Even if he puts a thin septum below and makes all the bees go up front, rear and sides, I should doubt still. Bees dont seem to regard a thin septum if it is entirely surrounding with bees. They know where the center of things below is and as a matter of preference, prefer to be exactly over it."

I want to say that I never used, nor suggested the use, of thin septums, nor any other kind of septums for the use as stated by Mr. Hasty. Those belong to the late Mr. Golden. I use long wedges at the right time and condition of the bees to enlarge the entrance, and also to cause many of the

bees to go up at the sides and toward the rear end of the hive.

He says: "They know where the center below is, and as a matter of preference prefer to be exactly over it." There may be something in that, but experience says not much. Mr. Editor, if ever a bee crawls into one of your ears, it is not because it prefers to get nearer the center of your cogitating machinery, although a fortuitous observer might think so. It is suffering from the cold, outside air, and crawls to get warm. In that case don't injure that little pet, even if it does emulate the roaring of a train of cars. Just go into a warm room and in a short time it will be against a window-pane. You see it is not all preference for the center of things, put very largely conditions that govern.

Take a strong colony in a hive not too large. By some means keep the super snug and warm, so that the temperature of the interior is right for comb building; and depend upon it in almost all cases in a good honey-flow, work will begin nearly simultaneously in all parts of the super. They don't seem to care much where the center is if only the heat is right day and night.

In this connection I want to say that many bees congregate where the field-bees go up. If they go up at the center, the center will be congested; if they go up at the sides, the congestion will be abated, and they will have elbow room to work—a very necessary condition for rapid work. So there is much—very much—in having them go up right; and also in having them provided with properly made dividers at the sides of the supers. I think that Mr. Hasty and I are not so very far apart, after all, for farther on he says, "In cool weather there would be a gain in throwing warmth into the outside of sections." Exactly so, and as in almost all localities there is "cool weather"

two or more nights in every week of the year, the argument is conclusive, that there would be a gain in conserving and distributing the heat from the time of giving sections.

A divider like the Root fence, with two exceptions, will give good results. First, the spaces between the slats should be $\frac{1}{4}$ inch; and, second, they should be spaced 5-16 to $\frac{3}{8}$ inch from the super walls. In many cases the sections show ridges opposite the spaces, but I never had a customer object to them on that account, nor would I.

Bees can not acquiesce, cluster and feel free and easy in a space only 1-6 of an inch. They never make that kind of spaces for themselves; they can not in such cramped quarters, glide into the contented comb-building mood; nor is there room for a cluster to keep up the necessary heat for comb-building.

I can not conceive that it is fair and just to say that such dividers are practically as good as that are properly made and spaced. I prefer those with holes, but slatted dividers, properly made and spaced, give good results. Here we are again right in front of the manufacturer's view point.—American Bee Journal.

Ontario, Canada.

POPULAR TALKS ON LAW.

[Copyrighted 1905 by William C Sprague, President, The Sprague Correspondence School of Law.]

THE LAW RELATING TO LANDLORDS AND TENANTS.

Few landlords and perhaps fewer tenants realize the extent of their rights and obligations, even where they have agreed to the term of a lease and affixed their signatures thereto. Perhaps a still smaller number of tenants who occupy leased premises on verbal terms, or upon practically no expressed conditions, understand the law governing the

relation existing between them and their landlords.

Nearly every one is either a landlord or a tenant this, together with the fact the questions arising between the two are many and various, makes some plain talk on the subject desirable.

There are two terms usually found in leases that perhaps needs simple definitions before proceeding to use them. These terms are "appurtenance" and "easement." An appurtenance is that which belongs to something else; something accessory to something else. It is always something of less importance than that to which it appertains or belongs, as, trees are appurtenant to the soil. An easement is a right or privilege which one has in the estate of another, distinct from the ownership of the soil, as where one owns a right of way over land of another man's stream.

Now, we will be understood when we say that whatever is appurtenant to leased land goes with it; so that, if one rents a piece of ground, and nothing is stated to the contrary in the lease, everything appertaining to the soil, goes with the soil, as houses, barns, fences, trees, shrubbery, etc; but not things of a temporary nature, not belonging to the soil, as agricultural implements, domestic animals, etc. Then too this is in the case of a sale or a lease, whether the lease or deed so state or not. A mere verbal lease, not specifying the appurtenant, will be sufficient to entitle the lessee to their possession and use. Under no circumstances may the lessor, after the lessee has taken possession, enter to remove appurtenances, and his attempt to do so makes him a trespasser and lays him liable to an action for trespass. Where one has leased premises to another and fails to give him possession of all the premises leased, including the appurtenances, the

lessee is under no obligation to accept a part, but may abandon all without liability for damages.

The cases that have arisen have grown out of the difficulty in determining what is appurtenant and what is not appurtenant to the soil. For instance: A man leased a mill. There was no approach to it from the highway, being excepting over other property belonging to the lessor. The courts held that an approach to the mill from the highway being necessary to the use of the mill, such rights of way, or easement, passed with the mill. In another case, where a mill was leased and the lessor owned other property adjoining through which the water passed by which the mill was run, it was held that the lessee of the mill had, as an appurtenance to the mill the right to a sufficient head of water in the dam upon the adjoining and belong to his lessor.

The tenant is entitled to natural accretions to the premises as where, by a change in the course of a river, ground was added to leased premises which fronted on a river.

Where one leases a house, he is entitled to the lot, outhouses, fences trees and things of a like nature, appurtenant thereto. When one leased a portion of a tenement house. it was held that he was entitled, unless he had cut himself off by an agreement from claiming them, to the conveniences of the houses, such as the use of the front door and doorbell, the customary places for drying clothes, the water closets, etc.

The question has arisen as to the right of one renting premises in a business block to use the outer walls for signs, and the courts have held that where he has not restricted his right by agreement, he is entitled to such use of the walls

Many landlords are not aware that

unless the provisions of the lease be broken by the tenant, they have no more right to enter the premises of their tenants than have strangers. A landlord who enters and attempts to remove a plant or make alterations, even though the alterations are to his mind beneficial to the premises or to put up signs, is guilty of a trespass where under like circumstances a stranger would be guilty.

If the tenant abandons the premises before the expiration of his term, the landlord has a right to re-enter. But where the landlord claims there has been forfeiture for the non-payment of rent, he must, before a re-entry, be sure to comply with all the formalities of the law, as by making a demand for the amount of rent due, on the last day on the premises, and at a convenient time before sunset. If the tenant has agreed to pay taxes and has not done so, before the landlord can re-enter he must demand the payment of the taxes within the period required by law. In other words, the landlord, before re-entry to a breach of contract, must be careful to comply with the statutory and common law requirements in his state. The landlord may enter to make repairs when he has agreed in his lease make them, or he may enter to demand rent that is due. In a Kansas case it was held that if after the tenant had refused to pay the rent and had begun to move, the landlord moved out the rest of the tenant's things and took possession, the tenant had no cause for action.

Where one has given a lease to another without excepting any rights or privileges to himself other than the payment of the rent, he has practically sold and conveyed the premises to the tenant for the time stated in the lease, and he has no more right to interfere during the term of the lease with the tenant's peaceable enjoyment of the premises than he would have to enter the premises of one to whom he has given a deed.

In our next we shall discuss the tenant's right to make alterations, and the matter of his use of the premises for purposes other than those agreed upon.

To be Continued.

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THAT VETO.

S. E. MILLER.

The editors of the bee journals have nearly all taken a turn at Gov. Folk for his veto of the Missouri foul brood law. Editors Root and Hutchinson have each expressed themselves in a firm but dispassionate manner. In my write-up for the April Progressive I tried to pay my respects to the Governor and was perhaps not so mild in protest as Messrs. Root and Hutchinson.

I might mention here that the April Progressive has not yet come to hand so I do not know how my comments look in print. It seems to have been left however, for Brother E. T. Abbott of the Modern Farmer, and Busy Bee, to pile it on heavy and rub it in and he has done it without gloves.

As a rule I do not believe in severe criticism, but in this particular case it seems to be warranted and I think Mr.

Abbott has not been down any too hard on his pen in expressing his views on pages five to seven April Modern Farmer and Busy Bee. If every Editor will send Gov. Folk a marked copy of his paper containing the criticism and he can be induced to read the articles, probably when the same measure is up to him two years hence he will be better posted in regard to the bee and honey industry of Missouri and will then not withhold his signature. After all we are partly to blame ourselves. We knew that the Governor was not a bee keeper and should have seen to it that he was properly informed regarding this law. On the other hand we had no reason to believe that he would veto the bill after it had been passed in the legislature.

ARE PRICES TWO HIGH?

On page 410 Gleanings April 15, E. R. Root puts up a strong argument to show that Supply Manufacturers are not charging exorbitant prices. I did not read the article to which Mr. Root's editorial is a reply, but he has certainly handled his side of the argument with ability and has shown almost conclusively that the price of hives and supplies have not advanced in prices in the same rates as have the price of material and wages. I have no idea that manufacturers are working for glory and that they are not making a little more out of the business than is required for their daily needs but on the other hand competition is close enough that a man having little knowledge of the business and not familiar with business methods is likely to go to the wall if he embarks in it.

PUTTING UP HOFFMAN FRAMES.

In this article I shall not attempt to argue the merits or demerits of the Hoffman frame. but shall go somewhat into details in attempting to tell how the frames should be nailed together.

As there is some difference in the Hoffman frames on the market today and those that were sold a few years ago I will mention that I am now speaking of the Regular Hoffman Frame having short ears or projections and end-staple-spaced.

First of all I want to tell you that there is one right way and two wrong ways besides the manner of driving the nails, which are often driven in the wrong way. The best way that I can think of to tell you when a frame is put together right is this: Take an empty frame that you have just nailed up. Grasp one end bar in each hand and hold it out before you with the top bar up, just as it hangs in the hive. If you have nailed it up properly you will hold in your left hand the end bar having the V edge toward you and in your right hand the end bar with the flat or square edge toward you. Better get a frame and try it while you read this over and be sure you understand. If your frame is not that way change it until it is just as described. Then hang the frame away for a pattern and whenever you nail frames put them up so that they are all just like it.

I am going to call this one a right-handed frame because it is put up right. Remember the right-handed frame will give you the square edge of the end bar toward you in the right hand. One of the wrong ways of nailing is to have a V edge on each side but exactly opposite or contrary to the one first described.

This one I will call a left-handed frame. For curiosity you might nail up one or two left-handed frames and place them in a hive with right-hand frames. You will see the result quicker than I can tell you. You might have all of your frames put up left-hand and so long as you do not exchange with some fellow that is using right hand frames all will go well but if you should

exchange a part of your frames for a part of his you would both think things that would never be printed. This of course is quite likely to happen when one buys or sells bees or hives already made up.

We now come to another wrong way and that is the frame having both V edges on the same side. If I wanted to name this I suppose I will have to call it a two-handed frame. This is possibly the worst way of all of putting up frames. They would work all right if we never exchanged ends, which is often desirable and if they never came in contact with either a right or left-hand frame, but in either of these cases we will have V edges in contact with V edges and square edges against square edges.

Now if we happen to get right-hand, left-hand and two-handed frames all in the same hive we will have a pretty mess indeed.

I think I heard some one say, this is making a big fuss about a simple matter, and that any one knows how to put together Hoffman frames properly.

If any one thinks that way he is off his base. Only about a week ago I bought a job lot of bees and with them I received a lot of supplies, which are mostly of no use to me except for kindling wood, but among this lot and the most valuable part of it was some thirty Hoffman frames that were nailed up but had not been used. The frame stuff had been well made. In fact they were of the most approved pattern. But in putting them up the party from whom I purchased them had put both V edges on one side and instead of driving two nails through the end bar and into the shoulder of the the top bar, he had driven only one nail down through the top bar and into the upper end of the end bar. This part was fortunate for me, for it was not nearly so hard to pull them apart as it would

have been had they been properly nailed. The end-spacing staples he had omitted entirely. This too, was a man of more than ordinary intelligence, being a practicing physician and a well informed man only he was not well informed on the subject of bee culture, and particularly on nailing up frames.

Always put your frames up right-handed. If every one will do this there will be no trouble where frames are exchanged even if one party to the trade lives in California and the other in Maine. I have dwelt some what at length on this one subject because if heeded it will save much confusion and vexation in the future.

HOME MADE HIVES.

Above I have mentioned that I recently purchased a job lot of bees. The party said in his letter offering the bees for sale that they were mostly in patent hives. I purchased the bees without much palaver as he offered them cheap, but as to the patent hives? Two, I think were in Higginsville telescope hives, several others made with a saw and hatchet, probably a square end plane had also been used, a part of them had been nicely painted, others were in boxes of various sizes. Some have frames but I have not made a thorough enough examination to say what kind of frames, as I bought them mainly by heft. Among other things I got several comb honey supers, scarcely two of them alike. Some of these contained $4\frac{1}{2} \times 4\frac{1}{2} \times 1\frac{1}{2}$ closed top sections, something I think I have never used and probably never will.

This is beating the devil around the bush but I am coming to the point right now. Had these hives been first class factory made and all painted and the supplies been of the same class, they alone without the bees would have been worth considerable more than I paid for the outfit, and with the bees and combs they would have been worth

at least three times what I paid. Before the bee keeper decides to make his own hives he had better know that he is somewhat of a mechanic and have first class facilities, such as a buzz saw and other necessary tools. Even then after he has made a dozen or two of hives he may change his notion and conclude to buy factory hives. Possibly if he has spare time to put in at hive making he may make them cheaper than he can buy them but the chances are ten to one that if he ever concludes to sell out he will be reminded of the fact that his hives are yet cheaper than the factory made hives. I speak from experience for I am using hives of my own make, along side factory hives in the apiary at the present time, and I am not such a slouch with tools either, if I do say it myself, besides I have a good factory made foot power buzz saw. Some of the fits I have seen on home made hives fit like a nigger's shirt. Don't touch anywhere.

THE HONEY PRODUCERS LEAGUE.

In the latest issues of the Review and Gleanings appear the prospectus and contribution of the Honey Producers League, a recently organized association, and along with the contribution a number of anticipated questions are answered.

The question is, if I should join the league and tender my fees in what quarter of the U. S. would my contribution be spent in advertising? Will it be likely to increase the demand near home for my honey at an advanced price or will it only help in a general way? Probably this question can be solved satisfactorially to all concerned, but I have an idea it will require some hard thinking.

Bluffton, Mo. April 24, 1905.

CALLED AWAY.

Mrs. Mary Alice Rouse, the wife of J. W. Rouse, departed this life April 29 after a lingering illness of several months. She was taken with La grip early in November last, and it set loose some dormant troubles that she had for a number of years. Everything possible was done to save her life, but it seemed that it was so ordered for her to come up higher. She lived a triumphant christian life and died that way. Her dear body was laid tenderly in the grave, but her spirit had already gone to Glory. There was a host of most kind friends beside many relatives that ministered to her wants in every way possible and then to offer words of consolation to the bereaved husband and children. She was born in Monroe county, Mo., and was 51 years old at her death. She left seven children; hers being the first death in the family.

Mr. Rouse is president of the Missouri State Bee-Keepers Association, and has many friends who join us in extending our sympathy to him and his family, in this their hour of bereavement.

THE HARRIMAN LINES.

In the year of his reign Edward H. Harriman is youngest among American masters of transportation. It is scarcely more than six years—February 1, 1898—since the reorganization of the Union Pacific was completed and Mr. Harriman and his friends took final and formal possession of it. Within that time he has risen to the very first rank of the powers in American railroading.

What, however, is of more vital matter, the record is that Harriman railroading has been uniformly good railroading. It will be difficult to

point a case in which, in Mr. Harriman's hands, a railroad or its public has suffered hardships, and the instances are marked in which the immediate benefits of his control have been, to both, enormous.

It is not, then, merely that Mr. Harriman is the owner of seventeen thousand miles of railroad—it is, rather, because every mile of road he owns stands for good railroading—that he is worth estimating. He took over the "Alton" when it had aged like puff-ball and was ready to dissolve into dust. For years it had been famed as an earner, and where seven and eight per cent dividends were treasured as an annual return. Alton stock was ranked with things celestial. Unfortunately, these really unusual distributions were effected by indefensible economics. Railroading should occupy at least as high an industrial plane as farming, and a farmer that would strip his land yearly of its total produce and give nothing back to the soil would hardly rank as a thrifty husbandman. Good farmers keep up their machinery, buildings, and fences; they fertilize occasionally but the Alton fertilizing was put wholly into dividends, and Mr. Harriman bought a road that had not alone let bridges, tracks, and rolling stock run down, but had even sold terminal rights, while distributing eight per cent to stockholders. Without delay or hesitation, he set about making of the Alton the best possible road of its class, and its class is the first. He has overhauled the system completely, and put it physically a little in advance of every competitor. To instance: For thirty years the Alton had been strong in a territory possessing the richest coal deposits in Illinois, and not until the Harriman forces took hold of the road had it ever developed a coal business. Not

only has the new Alton been equipped with what it never before had, cars and motive power to handle this traffic, but its engineer in rebuilding the line show the lowest maximum grades from the Illinois coal fields into Chicago. Beginning with nothing, the new owners have within five years developed a coal traffic that already ranks second in volume among the soft coal roads of its territory.

While in a legal sense, a railroad may be quite within its rights in declining to provide for the handling of such traffic, deeming it of small profit, and may legally decline to expend earnings in reducing grades and maintaining rights of way—in a word, in improving its facilities for doing business—the public dependant on such a road for transportation will feel, rightly or wrongly, that they are entitled to industrial opportunities as good as those enjoyed by more fortunate neighbors; that their railroad should be kept in the front rank just as their homes and streets and farms are kept; and the attitude has a show of reasonableness. These are points which meet, and that is local public appreciates the effort is shown by the steady development of industries of every sort along its line. Out of a very heavy passenger traffic on the Alton 90 per cent originates in its local territory. Under Harriman management bridges have been eliminated, curves cut out, heavy steel rails laid, new car equipment provided and motive power has been made to conform to the highest standard. Mr. Harriman has made of the Alton practically a speeding track across Illinois and Missouri, and some conception of the undertaking may be had when the fact is stated that to do this has cost him \$19,000 a mile—more money, mile for mile, than has gone into improvements on any other

portion of his railroad holdings. What this means to that public which must depend on the Alton for its railroad facilities is a part of the Harriman railroads record. Alton shippers can get rates that put their products on an equal basis in competitive market because the road can do business against all comers.—From "Strategy of Great Railroads," by Frank H. Spearman. Published by Charles Scribner's Sons.

WHAT TO DO WITH TEN TONS OF EXTRACTED HONEY—IF WE GET IT.

BY C. W. DAYTON.

On page 134 of the American Bee Journal for Feb. 23, 1905, Prof. Cook says "I think however, that it is generally best not to extract until the bees commence to cap the honey."

Now from my standpoint and in consideration of the present condition of the honey market, I call the above a pretty "tame" way of expression. I should say that it should not be extracted before it is capped all over, both sides, and clear down and around the bottom of the combs. And even then it should be left in the hives a few days longer until the bees have time to build a pretty good supply of brace and burr combs and fill them with honey. Even then, after it is extracted, it should be left for several days to farther ripen in the tanks. In the tanks there will be a considerable portion that is thin and will rise to the top and will require several days to become sufficiently ripe to be put in cans. But even then I would not dare seal it up in 5-gallon cans, for I know from experience that some of my trade would suffer. I put all in 600 pound tanks. These are thoroughly waxed with two coats inside and painted on the outside.

When it is buried in a bank of earth that is composed of one-fourth lime. Keep all sand away from it. Either tin or galvanized iron is fit to store honey until they are thoroughly waxed. A bee keeper may think if his 5-gallon cans keep the honey until he disposes of it at the R. R. station or wholesale house that is enough. Well, it may be enough to suit him, for he may be contemplating going out of the business, but I entered the vocation of keeping bees twenty five years ago and never expect to go out of it. And we must care for our product in such a way that it will be rich, ripe and thick when it comes to the consumer's table. Damp sand or earth or air will and moisture through galvanized iron rot and if the honey does not sour it will be greatly injured. The lime takes up all moisture from the outside and beside absorbs any moisture which may still escape from the honey.

Again the changes of temperature is very conducive to granulation also. By the above plan we have no granulation, even if the honey is kept five years. I can go to any tanks any time and draw just as or even more limpid and crystal clear than when it was extracted from the hives two years ago. I began putting honey in tanks in this way in 1882 and have never sold to dealers but one barrel in 1895 to C. F. Muth and two 125-pound kegs sent to Kansas City in 1896. We never try to teach people any notions about honey.

When I was at Florence a few days ago a new customer came to my apiary and said he had waited for days to catch me to buy some of my honey. Then he gave me the name of a friend at Los Angeles and insisted on my taking a 5-gallon can there. First I went to the place without the honey to be sure they really wanted to buy honey. To be sure, they said, if it was satisfactory." It was a boarding house and

the landlord and several boarders, some of them lately from the east, gave me a perfect jumble of stories about machine comb honey and glucosed extracted. I gave no answer. It would have made my case worse if I had. When I brought the honey the next day they gave it the highest praise from the start. Now this was not first class, water white but it was a medium grade of amber in a high classed boarding house. And they insisted on having my name and address to get more. In the first twenty-four hours after I arrived in Florence fourteen 5-gallon cans were sold to persons who found out that I was at the apiary and they came there for honey. I can find customers about Florence who have bought honey regularly, every two weeks for seven years, without a miss; unless we neglected taking it to them as per order.

I am not arguing in honor of our methods or salesmanship any farther than it conforms the natural way of treating honey. There is another big crop almost in sight and the question is what effect it will have on the present "dull market." I expect that the price will go pretty low. I will not be very active in the market until the storm has gone over. Seven cents per pound for amber and eight cents for water white will be our figures. Most of our old customers will stay "with us" as they have done before. The storm will be mostly over by December or January. It costs eight cents per 5 gallon to store honey in tanks. Each tank takes one sheet of 30x96 in. galvanized iron, and another piece 24x24 in. off another sheet. I have just enough time to make one tank while my wife is repairing breakfast. And one tank is sufficient to hold one day's extracting. The caps to the 600 pound tanks are arranged so that moisture can continue to escape for two or three

months through the hot weather; then the caps are screwed down and the tanks buried in the lime earth about a foot over their tops, to await orders. When I receive an order I go with a clean 5-gal can or other receptacle and draw from the bottom of the tanks. Only unearth one tank at a time. I do not use any expensive honey gates but a special gate which is to be soldered on the side of the tanks.

I should have mentioned that the pipe from the extractor leads to a tank large enough to hold a week's extracting. I suppose those many-hived, short-cut bee men will adhere strangely to anything relating to big tanks full, but there are four requisites in the production and disposal of a crop of honey. First is quality and ripeness; second is price; third is full weight; fourth, always keep it on hand. The failure in any one of these things will bring any market "to grief." The price should not be too low nor yet too high. I read of some bee keepers retailing their honey at 12 to 15 cents for extracted. I call that an exorbitant price. There is a limited market which will buy it at that. We have a few such customers as that and by going to a great deal of trouble to look up only such we might sell it all that way. But it takes a great deal of labor to hunt up such trade. We like that trade best that will hunt for us. With sugar from five to seven we find that honey will rest easily at seven to nine cents. At this the laboring class and most of the well-to-do will buy it, and buy it often and with regularity. It might suffice for an occupation to tide over a poor year to sell at the high price. But the level price from year to year comes out best. Customers, or at least steady customers who have any economic intentions become suspicious of fluctuating prices, and when prices go up they will think they are

about to be cheated and when the price goes down of course they take it for granted that they have been cheated all along.

Another ingredient that is almost or quite as important as any of the four mentioned above is time. It takes time to show people that honey is ripe, is full weight, etc. The second, third and even more times it may require to convince customers that there is no variation. Then often they have learned it, keep right on "mailing them." Confidence thus gained is worth more than half of the crop that is to be sold. In fact the bee keeper who has a confidential line of customers is as well off as if he had already harvested a considerable crop even before his bees are out of winter quarters. It is making one crop sell the next. And eventually his crops will sell themselves. If you are going to cheat go far from home to do it. But even then it will not pay where it is likely to be drifted, back into your locality again; as might be the case with honey. It might not identify your conduct to your neighbors but you will suffer from it nearly as much as if it did.

I used to produce and sell as much of comb as extracted honey. After a customer bought once or twice and thought of the lower price of extracted and tasted and considered they invariably decided to take extracted and continued to call for it. As one customer did another did. I never put in a word in favor of either kind. Now after twelve years he would not sell one case of comb honey to ten tons of extracted.

It would be impossible to turn them back to honey in the comb. If I kept bees for fifty years I could find no reason to run one hive to its production. My customers would not accept jars of extracted with chunks of comb honey floating in it as some bee keepers put it up. They prefer the clear extracted at the same price. Many have said that they want the honey to eat, not to look at. And by paying strict attention to this before mentioned requisites it found a position in their culinary departments that nothing else can displace. We have just three things to look after in our apiary management viz: Good queens, "elbow grease" and tanks.

Chatsworth, Calif.

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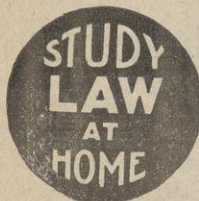
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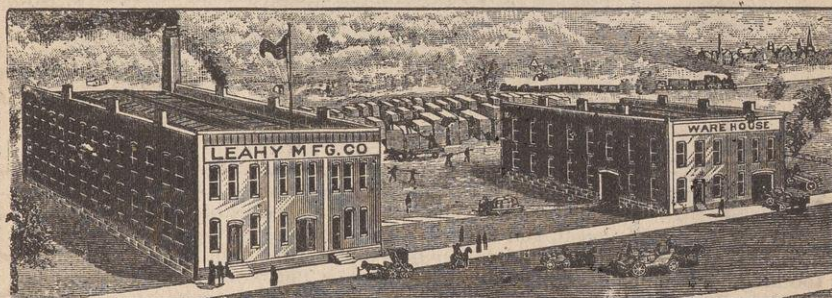
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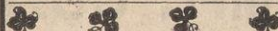
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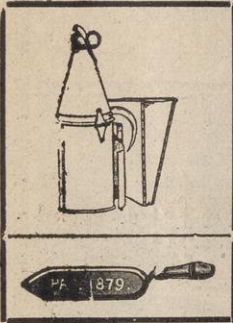
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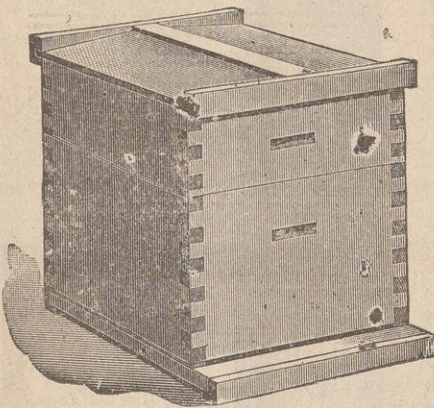
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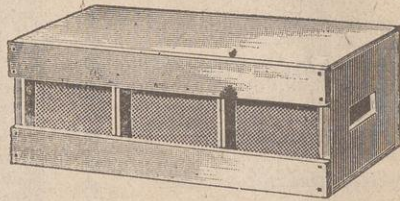
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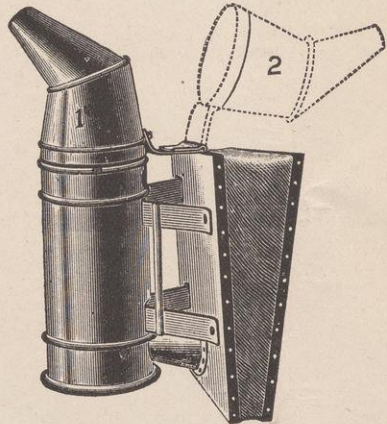
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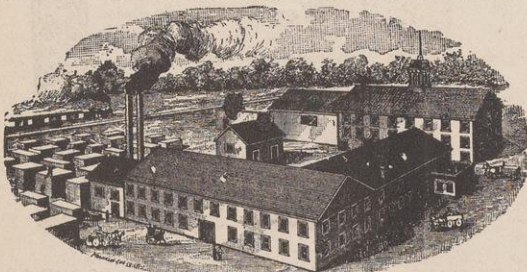
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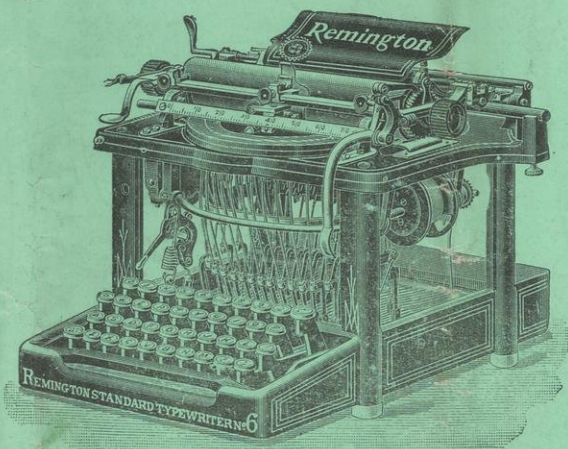
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