

# Rocky Mountain bee journal. Number 23 Vol. 2, [No. 11] December 15, 1902

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THE ROCKY MOUNTAIN BEE JOURNAL.

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# Two Years for \$1.00

After a man succeeds in publishing a good journal, the next step is that of getting it into the hands of the people, of getting them to reading it, and becoming acquainted with its merits. This can be done by advertising, sending out sample copies, circulars, etc. All this costs money. I think I am safe in saying that for every new snbscriber I have received, I have paid out \$2 in advertising: hence I have often said that a publisher of a good journal could afford to send his paper one year free, for the sake of getting it into new hands. It would cost no more than other forms of advertising and would be very ef fective, but for obvious reasons, this plan could not be put into practice, but I am going to come as near to it as I can. T have between two and three hundred complete sets of back numbers for the present year, and as long as the supply holds out I will send a complete set, and the rest of this year free, to any one who will send me \$1 for the Review for 1903. For a few particulars regarking the numbers already published this year, read the follow. ing:

There is not room here to say very much about the back numbers for this year, but I will mention one prominent feature of each issue.

January is a Colorado number; six pages being devoted to a beautifully illustrated 'write-up," by the editor of that paradise for beekeepers. This issue also shows how to make a cheap hive cover that will neither split, warp or leak, in any climate.

**February** contains the beginning of a series of articles by M. A. Gill, who last year managed 700 colonies of bees, and produced nearly two car loads of honey. These articles are written from the fullness of his experience.

March has an article by S. D. Chapman, on "What Makes Bees Swarm," that I consider the best that I have seen on the subject It gets right down to the foundation of the matter. In fact, so thoroughly does Mr. Chapman understand the matter that he has so made up a colony that one half would swarm, leaving the combs deserted, while the other half would not budge.

April ushers in some typographical changes. The smooth, shiny glazed paper was laid aside for a soft, white paper that gives to printing a clean, tasty, tempting look. The frontispieces are printed in colors instead of soumber black. The cover is of Court gray printed in two colors—Umber and Milori blue.

May contains a five-page review of a book by E. A. Morgan, entitled "Bee-keeping for Profit.' It was rightly named, the author getting right down to basic principles, and giving the chit of profitable honey-production, particularly in the northern states.

June shows how a man may protically defy foul brood; how he may keep bees in a foul-broody district, all surrounded by diseased colonies, yet keep his apiary so free from it and its effects as to secure a good crop of honey each year.

July has an excellent article by Mr. Gill on the management of out aplaries for the production of comb honey, showing how the work must be generalized, yet systematic, and done just a little ahead of time.

August illustrates and describes the handiest and best beetent for circumventing robbers that 1 ever saw. It also has an article by r. Beardman on "shook" swarms, showing how we may practically take swarming into our own hands.

September illustrates and describes a cheap but substantial bee cellar, built something like a cistern with a roof over it. This issue also gives some of the best papers read at the Denver convention, together with a lot of interesting items picked up at that convention.

October gives a three page illustrated write-up of Dr. Gandy and his artificial pasturage. While on his way home from the Denver convention the editor of the Review spent three days with Dr. Gandy. using his eyes, ears and Camera, and this write-up is the result. If you want to know the truth of the matter read this issue.

Remember that each issue con ains dozens of interesting and instructive items aside from the ones mentioned.

Send \$1.00 and the back numbers for this year will be sent at once. your name put upon the subscription list, and the keview sent to the end of next year.

# W. Z. HUTCHINSON, FLINT, MICHIGAN.



VOL. 2.

DECEMBER 15, 1902.

WHOLE NO. 23.

## Telescope Covers for Summer and Winter Protection.—Other Idaho Notes.

BY E. F. ATWATER.

We have found that some protection to comb honey supers is very desirable, to protect the supers from our cool nights, which so often drive the bees into the brood nests. We are, therefore, testing a number of light telescope caps that are entirely different from any that we have seen. For the 8-frame hive the cap is 22 inches long, 15 inches wide, and 14 inches deep. Ends of 7/8 stuff, sides and tops of 3% stuff. Tops covered with painted tin or muslin. Now instead of resting on cleats nailed around the hive, which are always clumsy and often in the way, this telescope cap rests on two 7/8 x 14 cleats, which are nailed crosswise inside the top. To make all practically air tight we nail a long thin roll of burlap or other similar material around the bottom inside edge of the cap. Now observe the advantages:

1. Cap will slip down to cover hive for winter.

2. Cap may rest on and cover one super, also covering six inches of the brood chamber.

3. Cap may be raised so as to admit two supers, which will be completely covered.

We expect these caps to be a great advantage in the production of comb honey. A thin wire cover should be used in connection with it.

Doolittle considers some sort of telescope cover of great value in the production of comb honey. Danzenbaker says that two protected supers are as good as three unprotected ones. Surely, the advantages must be even greater in such a climate as ours.

After extensive trial the tobacco smoke method of introducing queens has proved itself the best.

Pennington Bros. of 13-frame Draper Barn fame, are buying 10-frame L. hives. Score one for the 10-frame hive.

The Evans "shook swarm run-way honey-board" plan of comb honey production was not entirely successful in my hands. Nurse bees escaped too soon, leaving all unsealed brood to starve during the first few days after shaking and putting brood above the run-way honey board. More light, if you please, Mr. Evans!

Boise, Idaho, Oct. 30, 1902.

[The summer climate of Colorado, which is similar in most respects to that of Idaho, is characterized by intense noon day heat and cool, chilly nights. Both of these extremes retard work in the supers, and in some cases, when these conditions are especially acute, suspends it altogether. Many of us have long realized the desirability of equalizing this va-

riation in temperature, and the device described by Mr. Atwater seems to offer a cheap and practical solution of the problem. Something similar, but not identical, is being tried by some of our beekeepers. In our judgment it will pay in dollars and cents in an increased yield of honey, not to speak of the prevention of starters from melting down and other sundry annovances. As a winter protection it ought to about fill the bill for this arid climate where air tight sealing is always detrimental and often fatal. The burlap packing, while excluding direct communication with the outside air, would be by no means impervious to it, and would afford about the proper degree of ventillation to insure good wintering conditions.-Ed.]

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## UTAH BEE MEETING.

## Annual Convention of the State Association at Salt Lake City.

The annual meeting of the Utah State Beekeepers' Association for 1902 was held at Salt Lake City October 6th. The meeting was called to order promptly at 10 a. m., with President Lovesy in the chair. Secretary J. B. Fagg being absent in Europe, Mr. I. N. Elliott was elected to fill out his unexpired term as secretary. President Lovesy addressed the

## meeting as follows:

## PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS.

I am pleased to meet our beekeepers under fairly favorable conditions at this time. While owing to drought and grasshoppers in some localities, some of our beekeepers have not obtained a full crop the past season, the average crop of bee products in Utah has been equal to any other state. The average yield as reported ranges from 50 to 300 pounds per colony. Some reported it as the most prosperous season they had had in three to five years. In many localities the high grade of the product itself is proof of the excellence of the flow. We took some samples of honey on our late visit to the National Beekeepers' Convention at Denver, and some of it was equal, if not superior, to anything exhibited there. Some of these samples were presented to Governor Orman and other prominent citizens of Colorado.

We were treated so grandly by our Colorado and eastern beekeeping friends that we will ever look back to that trip as one of the pleasantest events of our lives. There were six Utah beekeepers at the convention, and all enjoyed their trip.

We gave the National Association a hearty invitation to hold their convention in Salt Lake in 1903, and if they accept the invitation we will try as far as our feeble efforts will prevail, to make their visit as pleasant and agreable as ours has been. We believe that if our beekeepers will take sufficient interest in the matter the Association can be induced to come here. Everybody wants, some time to visit Salt Lake, and as the National Irrigation Congress will meet here about the middle of September, 1903, the rates will be low. and we can conceive of no reason why our beekeeping friends should not meet with us. But very few of the prominent beekeepers of the National have ever visited Salt Lake and we hope they will not miss this opportunity.

As the question of a stronger organization is the order of the times, we hope our beekeepers will make an effort to get in line upon this question. There is great need of improved facilities for the collection of statistics of the amount of bee products produced each year, and when it has been ascertained that a good crop has been produced, it should not be rush-

ed on to an overstocked market at any price.

CONVENTION PROCEEDINGS.

Salt Lake City may get the next convention of the National Beekeepers' Association.

President Lovesy gave an interesting account of the recent Denver meeting, which he and others from the state of Utah had the good fortune to attend. They spent their spare time working among the members in the interest of getting the National to come to Salt Lake in 1903, and he thought their efforts might prove successful.

Favorable comments were made on this subject by many of the beekeepers present, after which a resolution was offered and unanimously adopted instructing the president and secretary to send a special and urgent invitation to the executive committee of the National organization to hold the next meeting in Salt Lake.

Judge J. L. Bunting of St. George, gave an interesting account of the industry in the southwestern part of the state. He said that the beekeepers in that section of the state had obtained more than an average yield.

Frederick Dart of Spanish Fork, and R. T. Rhees, of Weber county, gave interesting data relating to the progress of the industry in their localities. Mr. Rhees has over 1,000 colonies, and disposed of his products at profitable figures.

In the general discussions it was shown that with the exception of those places, and they are few, indeed, where drought, grasshoppers and smelter smoke prevailed, the beekeepers have harvested from a fair to good crop throughout the state. It is confidently hoped that the smelter smoke problem will soon be settled by the use of smoke consumers.

Of interest to housekeepers was

the assertion by Mrs. Mary A. Sorrenson, of Orangeville, that she had used honey to a good advantage in putting up fruit.

As an illustration of the possibilities of beekeeping in Utah, F. W. Young cited the case of a man in his neighborhood who had eight stands of bees from which he extracted an average of 300 pounds each, besides receiving several new swarms.

A resolution was offered and adopted thanking retiring Secretary Fagg for his long and faithful service in the interest of the association and also delegating him to represent the Association in England during his sojourn there.

Among the prominent beekeepers present who took part in the discussions were Judge J. L. Bunting, F. S. Dart, R. T. Rhees, Fred Schach, Mrs. Mary Sorrenson, F. W. Young, N. D. Jensen, N. C. Jensen, I. N. Elliott and Mr. Woodbury, of Southern Nevada.

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#### The Carno-Italians.

#### BY F. W. MUTH.

In response to a call for information concerning the Carniolan-Italian cross, will say, I have in one of my apiaries side by side five colonies in ten frame hives, representatives of their respective strains, each having characteristics of their strain, and I could not say which I prefer.

First in the row is the Buckeye 3 Banded Long Tongue, every bee alike, their superiors do not exist; next, imported Carniolan; next, the Muth Strain Golden Italian; then two Carniolan-Italians.

It was exceedingly interesting to closely study the nature of each during the last three seasons. Early this spring the first three mentioned started off with the Carniolan the strongest, the 3 Banders second, and Golden third. For a time neither of them seemed to increase, (owing to the unfavorable spring). Then, all at once the Carniolans began to increase rapidly; (just seemed to boom) it was not long until I gave the other two each a frame of brood and bees from them, to start them agoing, because it was getting late, if I expected any honey. You could see the improvement in the two very qiuckly.

The latter part of May I noticed queen cells in my Carniolan colony, and knowing their willingness to swarm. I quickly changed their minds by making two nuclei, and when it was time for mating, placed entrance guards in front of all hives except the 3 Banders, and I now have two, true to name, Carniolan-Italian Cross. Their bees resemble the 3 banders, though somewhat darker, and bands more narrow, with characteristics of Carniolans, gentle to the extreme, boil over when you open the hive, and as breeders, never had better. It was no time until these two nuclei were as strong as any in the lot. The only objection that prevents them from becoming popular in the hands of novices and apiarists having many colonies, is their swarming propensity. However, I must say I give them close attention and seem to catch them in the niche of time, as they never swarmed for me.

In the fall of 1901 I presented a friend of mine with one of my fine Carniolans, because he was taken with their gentleness, but last August he did away with them, as he said, "That colony swarmed only seven times in less than three months," so it seems I aveted their swarming impulse, and my friend failed to understand.

My Carniolan-Italians will always have my closest attention. I find they winter better and breed up better in the spring.

I helped strengthen my weaker colonies with frames of brood and bees from them.

Please remember my other strains have good qualifications that these do not possess.

I often thought, if I could combine only the good qualifications of these different strains, I would have a race, that might be christened "Eureka" bees.

Cincinnati, Ohio.

#### 36.36

#### Organization-Other Utah Notes.

### BY E. S. LOVESY.

I have read with considerable interest the able articles of Messrs. Aikin and Thompson and ye editor on the question of organization, and also the article of Mr. Rauchfuss on Mr. Aikin's reathe same subject. soning and conclusons are worthy of careful consideration. I am in sympathy with this idea of co-operation, and as I view it, the only road to permanent success is for the National Beekeepers' Association to get itself in shape to handle the bee products of the entire country. If an organization can be effected that will make it interesting and beneficial for our prominent honey producers to join it, it would soon become a national success, if appointing a committee and walkng up to the captain's and paying your dollar and letting it go at that would fill the bill. But that is not enough. We must have an organization better grounded financially, if success is to be expected.

If we look about at other lines of business and industry we will soon discover organized bodies that have accomplished grand successes, socially and financially, and many of these organzations did not have the permapent financial advantages that are enjoyed by the beekeepers. Then, why

not get into the harness and get into shape for business without losing too much time?

I have read with interest the able arguments of my old friends, F. L. Thompson, but I can hardly fall into his doleful view that the National Association cannot wake up and do something in this matter. unless friend T. can point out some way which ths matter can be made a national issue along other lines. As I view it, a permanent success cannot be accomplished along sectional lines. We cannot take the last two or three seasons as a criterion on account of poor crops. As a rule, any one having bee products to dispose of has been able to find a fairly favorable market, if the product was first class. But suppose larger crops become the rule-what could prevent a small association from being crippled, be they ever so well organized?

I note your articles on the smelter smoke question. We have lost many of our bees again this season from this cause. It is the settling of the arsenic and sulphur on the blossoms that causes the trouble. There is considerable agitation now to have smoke consumers put in use, when it is hoped that the evil will be materially remedied, if not entirely cured.

I also note that considerable winter loss is already reported, the main cause for which in our state is in sealing the bees down air tight. Outside protection is all right if proper precaution is taken for ventilation, so that bees and combs will stay dry. For successful wintering they must be kept dry. If the bees and combs become damp and mouldy the air will be foul and the bees will be too weak to seek their stores and they will die in the cluster of starvation.

## Salt Lake City, Nov. 20, 1902.

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Your attention is earnestly directed to our clubbing offers on abother page.

## DISTANT CO=OPERATION.

### Branch Associations the Only Practical Plan.

## BY F. L. THOMPSON.

I was rather surprised that my article in the November Journal had pessimism read into it. I thought I stated pretty strongly that we were successful. I merely opposed the impractical idea that success in an enterprise means getting everybody into it.

The editor says on page 108, "The Association members have never publicly announced a plan whereby members could ship through the Association and avoid the payment of local rates to Denver, except by the organization of branch associations. This is not always practical and it also entails a great expense." Now, I take the ground that though branch associations may not be always practical, on account of the fewness of those who have horse sense in some localities, that it is the only effective solution of distant co-operation; and I don't see where the great expense comes in. Surely the editor does not mean to pay out ten dollars for a share of stock is a great expense. That is something that ought not to evaded by any producer who be counts on getting as great benefits as the Association gives. But there is no other chance for a great expense that I can remember as given in the plan for branch associations as proposed by W. L. Porter at the Longmont meeting of the State Association.

I don't take any stock in a plan of delivering at the car on a certain day. Too much is left to chance and irmethonsible parties. Suppose a local beekeeper does volunteer to oversee grading and loading. It costs him his time and energy, and whether he is paid for it or not, he ought to be paid for it: and if he is paid for it. why should he not be an authorized local manager of a branch association? But if he is not paid for it, and is not authorized and responsible. that is, does not formally represent the Honey Producers' Association. the grading may not be what it ought to be. But it must be up to our standard if we are to sell it as asso-It is only by close ciation honey. grading that our excellent carload been built up. Careful and exhaustive inspection is not compatible with the hurly-burly of loading a car. When I was at Montrose, the beekeepers delivered at the car on a certain day, but, mark you, the buyer had previously visited the honey houses of nearly every one, and done his inspecting before the honey was loaded on the wagon. That took time, and he took care that he was paid for his time, too, don't you forget it, as well as for his hotel bills and traveling expenses-all these things had their influence on the price If the Association of the honey. should send some one to inspect and grade the honey, instead of leaving that to a local beekeper, he would have to do the same way. The local beekepers would save nothing. The branch plan reduces all possible expenses to the minimum consistent with effective work, good grading and good prices, and if any locality thinks it can do without it, it ought not to have the benefits of our Association.

There should be very little expense connected with the rental of warehouse room in small towns, in the honey season. The warehouse plan is far superior to the plan of delivering everything on a certain day. It enables the grader to do his work on the most economical basis, without losing time and livery hire in chasing around the country. In a

places the warehouse need be open only on one or two days in each week to receive honey, and thus the expense of a local manager very considerably lessened.

Denver, Colo., Nov. 27, 1902.

(No, friend Thompson, we do not mean that the investment of a ten dollar bill in a share of stock in the Colorado Honey Producers' Association is a great or needless expense. It is an investment that pays a good aside from entitling dividend the holder to have his honey sold for him at net cost. The sole capital of the association is derived from the sale of its stock, and the lunatic asylum is waiting for the man whose demented brain would lead him to propose trying to operate such a business without capital.

From a merely selfish point of view it may not be desirable to issue a wholesale invitation to the beekeepers of Colorado to join the Association. or to spend valuable time and space in proving to them that they would be financially benefitted by becoming members. This journal is striving to work along the line of the greatest good to the greatest number with-out too much regard for selfish in-This is the spirit of the coterests. operative age, and must be regarded by co-operative bodies that would attain theh ighest degree of success-a success that is measured by the blessings they dispense and the good they accomplish.

The association would very seriously belie its name if it did not welcome into its ranks all Colorado beekeepers who would conscientiously work in harmony with its objects and conform to its established standards. There are a few black sheep in every flock, and beekeepers are no exception, but the majority of them are honest and conscientious and do

wrong only through ignorance. The former, when detected, can be kicked out, and the latter will make good and valuable members.

We are still of the opinion that branch associations are not practical in localities where there are only a few members. Take Boulder again. At the present as an illustration. time there are three members of the association living here. By next July there will be four and possibly five. The latter is the extreme limit, as only that number are engaged in the production of honey in commercial We do not know of a quantities. suitable storage room in the city that could be had for less than \$25 per month, and a competent manager would cost \$3 a day at least, for his actual time. The expenses of an inspector from the head office would not amount to more than \$5 per day at the most, and three or four days would certainly cover his necessary time at this point. Of course, we assume that the members are fairly honest and know something about grading.

For localities where there are sufficient members to support it, the branch association is, without doubt, the best. The former cases far outnumber the latter, and it is our desire to see the association serving the largest possible number at the least possible cost consistent with maintaining the high standard already established. All conditions must be taken into consideration, and plans adopted to meet their varied contingencies.

We should have infinite patience, friend Thompson, with those of our brethren who do not yet see the point as we do in regard to this matter of co-operation. Remember, it is our glorious privilege to lead them to the light, and we should never weary of well doing.—Ed.)

## A Boy Queen Breeder.

We have a boy here that will be thirteen years old in February next that is one of the best queen rearers we have anywhere. His name is Thomas Judd Holgate, and he will become a member of the N. B. K. A. after January 1st next year. Such boys should be praised and encouraged through all of our Journals.

Bees are in fine condition for winter. We have had some rains and plenty of snow in the mountains, which speaks well for a good honey crop next year. The coldest weather we have had is three degrees above zero.

G. W. Vangundy.

Vernal, Utah, Dec. 6, 1902.

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## HONEY MARKETS.

DENVER:—Owing to the approach of the holidays the demand for honey is very light at present. Prices range as follows: Well filled, strictly fancy white honey brings 3.50 per case. No. 1 white 3.00-3.25. No. 2 2.25-3.00. Extracted honey 7½ cts to  $3\frac{1}{3}$  cts, according to quality and color. Strained honey 6—7 cents per pound. Beeswax 22 to 26 cents. COLO. HONEY PRO. ASS'N,

## 1440 Market Tt.

CHICAGO—There is no special change in the honey market, prices remain as last quoted and the volume of sales are not large. The weather is such as usually prevails at this season of the year and the cold may induce people to buy more freely. Best lots of fancy white comb honey brings 16 cents per lb., No. I to choice 15 cents, off grades to to 5 cents less and not much demand for them. Extracted 7 to 8 cents for white, amber 6 to 7 centf, southern 5½ to 6 cents. Beeswax 30 cents. R. A. BURNETT & Co.

Dec. 8, 1902.

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THE continued heavy snows in the mountains guarantee a plentiful supply of water. To that extent a good honey crop is assured next season.

## The ROCKY MOUNTAIN \*\*BEE JOURNAL.\*\*

H C. MOREHOUSE, Editor and Pub'r.

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BIOT	Unless	otherwise	e order.
NOI	E. ed, the	JOURNAL	will be
sent to sul	bscribers unt	til all arr	earages
are paid ar	nd it is ordere	a stopped.	

SUPPLY dealers inform us that bee supplies have advanced about twenty percent over last seasons' prices.

#### 32.32

QUEER, isn't it, that President Roosevelt should have proposed just the antitrust remedy that all the trusts are heartily in favor of.

#### 36.36

SPEAKING of a race of bees adapted to the peculiar and difficult spring conditions existing in the alfalfa belt, Prof. Frank Benton in a private letter to the editor says: "I am quite sure that the more prolific eastern races, and also Carniolan bees, or any cross between these, would get their colonies in better shape for the early harvest than Italians or Italian hybrids. The Cypro-Carniolans, having the wing power of the Cyprians, as well as their prolificness and energy in collecting, would, I believe, be most excellently adapted to the conditions existing in your portion of the state. If you care to test them I shall be glad to send you some after the opening of the season next year." We certainly will thank Prof. Benton for the privilege of testing these bees and will be glad to make public announcement of the results when the test is complete.

## URGENT NEED OF A PURE FOOD LAW.

Now that the Colorado solons are about to start the biennial legislative mill, it is well to consider the advisability of making an attempt to secure the passage of a better and more effective pure food law. The present law bearing upon that subject is practically a dead letter. It is ineffective chiefly from the fact that no special officer is charged with the duty of ferreting out violations, and there is no appropriation for the purpose of securing evidence. The penalty imposed by the present law is only nominal and is far from being adequate.

As a result of the laxity of the law and the difficulty of enforcing it, a great deal of adulterated food is sold in this state notably, syrups and honey. Impure syrups of all kinds are on sale in almost every grocery. Honey, of the packing house vintage, is on sale in the large cities, and about all of it is largely mixed with glucose. Other articles of food bear unmistakable evidences of adulteration.

The Colorado State Beekeepers' Association will try to take up the matter, in the interest of the honey producers of the state. The bill has not yet been determined upon, but it will probably be modeled after the pure food laws of other states. It should provide for a pure food commission and carry an appropriation, not only for the salaries of the commissioners, but to enable them to collect evidence through chemical analyses, and otherwise.

Right now the Colorado State Beekeepers' Association is in need of the assistance of the beekeepers of the state. It has a hard fight before it, if an attempt is to be made to secure such a law. All old members in arrears should pay up their dues and as far ahead as possible, and all beekeepers who are not members should immediately join. Beekeepers, if such a law is worth anything to you, now is the time to strike for it. The associa-

## THE ROCKY MOUNTAIN BEE JOURNAL

tion needs both your moral and financial support.

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#### WHO'S GUILTY?

Members of the National Beekeepers' Association, who believe in fair and unprejudiced elections, are justly indignant at the electioneering matter in the interest of the candidacy of N. E. France, printed on the official postal card ballot. Notwithstanding the fact that there was another regularly nominated candidate for general manager, but one name appeared on the ballot, which carried the false assumption that Mr. France was the only candidate. Either the names of all the nominees should have appeared or else none of them.

The JOURNAL desires to hereby record its EMPHATIC disapproval of such tactics. We want no sharp (?) political practices in the conduct of N. B. K. A. elections. The misguided zealot who conceived the scheme will find that the trick is a boomerang. We have received a number of letters from members, saying they had intended to vote for France, but would now vote for Mr. Abbott.

In taking this view, we cannot be accused of partisanship, as we long ago decided, for purely impersonal reasons, to vote for Mr. France.

In our opinion, the ballot is illegal, and the election, however it may result, should be declared void.

In our further opinion, the person who is responsible for thus seeking to elect Mr. France by unfair means, ought to be exposed and severely reprimanded.

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A FEW months ago we made the statement that there was no bee supply factory in operation in the Rocky Mountains. Now we will have to retract every word of it. J. W. Priest & Co., of Boise, Idaho, inform us that they have been manufacturing a full line of beekeepers' supplies for a number of years.

## DR. A. B. MASON.

About the time the last issue of the JOURNAL was ready for mailing, we received the sad intelligence that Dr. A. B. Mason, the venerable ex-secretary of the National Bee-Keepers' Association, had met with a distressing accident that resulted in his death on the morning of November 12th. To those of us who met and learned to admire the good doctor at the Denver convention, as well as those who have known him for years, this news came with a sickening shock. About a week before his death he entered his summer kitchen with a lighted lamp. The room was filled with gas that had escaped from a leaking pipe, and a fearful explosion followed, in which the doctor received fatal burns. He was 69 years of age, having been born at Wales, N. Y., in 1833.

While not an extensive beekeeper he always took great interest in apiarian matters, and was one of the founders of the now defunct Norh American Bee-Keepers' Association, which was finally merged into the National Bee-Keepers' Association. He served the latter society continuously for a number of years as its secretary, and it is needless to say that his absence from its future sessions will be regretted as much, if not more, than any other prominent member.

## 2.2

THE old couplet, "to trust is to bust," should be slightly rearranged to suit these times. To not join a trust is to surely bust, now-a-days.

#### 3.3

THE Executive Committee of the National Beekeepers' Association should carefully consider the claims of Salt Lake City as a meeting place for the association at its next annual session. This point is central for the beekeepers of the Pacific coast and all the Rocky Mountain territory, and is a place of peculiar interest and attractiveness to eastern people, as well. As to rates, the National Irrigation Congress will meet there about the middle of September, and it is safe to assume that they will be low as the lowest. Holding the last session at Denver resulted in a large augmentation of the membership and the same result would undoubtedly flow from holding the next session at Salt Lake. The Utah State Association has promised to go the Colorado Association several better (a hard proposition) in the matter of entertainment if the Honorable Executive Board will appoint the next meeting at the City of the Saints.

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## CHATS WITH CORRESPOND: ENTS.

On page 200 of the JOURNAL for November I find: "Thin, sour, unripe extracted honey is worse than glucose."

Did vou or any one else ever see such honey produced anywhere west of the 100th meridian and east of the Coast Range of mountains? If not, why speak about it? To do so may give some an impression of our honey that it does not deserve. Years ago I sent a sample of our honey, produced about 30 miles from my present location to a number of bee experts. It was extracted in mid-summer from unsealed combs, and the attention of these parties was called to that fact, but all liked and praised it. Mr. Kretchmer said: "I would like such honey for JAS. H. WING. my own table."

Carlton, Colo., Nov. 20, 1902.

In reply to Mr. Wing we will say that we have seen just such honey in Colorado as the paragraph quoted describes. The discovery of several jars of extracted honey of that character in a grocery in the city of Boulder bearing the label of a well known honey producer, was the direct inspiration of not only that paragraph, but of several others along that line in the November JOURNAL. The groceryman said he had sold some of it. but it had come back on the plea that it was adulterated. This is an exceptional case, the worst, in fact, that we ever saw, and we are sure that but very little of such honey ever gets on the market in Colorado. But it is true that some of the extracted honey that is produced in Colorado and Utah is not as good as it might be if it were properly ripened and handled. If proof is desired of this statement, write to Frank Rauchfuss, manager of the Colorado Honey Producers' Association, Denver, Colo. He is in a position to give expert testimony.

In some seasons, our honey, so far as its consistency is concerned, is ready for extracting almost as fast as gathered, but the fact that honey is white and thick, is no guarantee that its flavor is what it might be.

It is generally conceded that in order to attain its finest flavor, honey gathered during the summer months should not be extracted until September or October. It takes more work when extracting is done so late, but the product is superior in every regard.

The proposition that the JOURNAL suggests to beekeepers is that, while we are about it, why not strive to produce the best?

I. I have three colonies of bees that I am going to move a distance of 60 feet. How shall I move them so that none of the bees will go back to their old location?

2. If a queen is caged in the fall and hung between two frames in the center of a colony will she live through the winter until spring and be good for next season? A. W. GUSTAFSON,

Cherrelyn, Colo., Nov. 25, 1902.

1. At this time of year, when bees are not flying every day, they might be safely moved the entire distance, provided their relative positions were not changed. During the flying season, moving them a few feet every day would soon accomplish the

22I

desired change without any of the bees becoming lost.

2. We cannot speak from experience, but our surmise would be that the queen would die of confinement and fretting in trying to get out. Do not try it with a valuable queen.

I notice in your October number, page 299, it is advised exchanging colonies in case of robbing. Would not that cause each queen to be killed? I am a beginner in beekeeping and I have had several cases of robbing, but stopped each by narrowing the entrance; then, as the robbing entirely ceased, I enlarged the entrance from day to day, as necessity prompted.

JOHN WATKINS.

Calumet, Mich., Nov. 3, 1902.

Your usual procedure is the best in mild cases of robbing, and usually effects a cure, as has been the case in your experience. We would recommend exchanging colonies only when it has become very bad and the weaker colony is unmistakably getting the worst of it. The sudden change so mystifies and discoucerts the robber bees that they soon give up all thought of pillage. We have never lost a queen by that method, yet it might occur, and it might be well to cage her, if she is especially a valuable queen.

I recently discovered a mild case of foul brood in my apiary. The colony has plenty of stores and is strong in bees. What would you do? J. R. C. Eaton, Colo., Dec. 12, 2902.

Contract the entrance to just room enough for one or two bees to pass out at a time. Watch them closely and see that there is no robbing and that they do not die. Give them the usual treatment at opening of the alfalfa flow. If conditions are as you state you will probably save them.

### Annual Report of The General Manaser of The N. B. K. A.

To the Members of the National Beekeepers' Associaton:

The past year has been a busy one for the General Manager. Beekeepers seem to have more trouble with their neighbors than formerly. When the country was sparsely settled and life was not so strenuous as at present, it was a rare case when neighbors sought to restrict the acknowledged right of the beekeeper and honey producer. But severe competition in all lines of business and the crowding of people into towns and cities has developed a selfish spirit which crops out on many occasions.

But with one exception no serious legal conflicts have occurred. The past decisions of courts establishing and confirming the rights of beekeepers are of great importance whenever threats are made or actions begun to determine the legal rights of our members. Many of these decisions have been briefed and printed in pamphlet form for use in just such emergencies. Whenever a member gets into trouble because of his bees and is threatened with damages or ordered to remove them, the printed matter we have is sent to him or his attorney, and in a majority of cases the matter is dropped without further proceedings. It has been my practice not to encourage litigation. If I have reason to believe from the statement of a case that the beekeeper is at fault, that he has so managed his bees that they have annoyed his neighbors needlessly, I do not encourage resistance to reasonable authority, but endeavor to have him reform his methods and avoid trouble. Bee-keeping is respectable, and I would have it respected through a proper system of management and the high character of its followers.

The most important case which has been referred to the General Manager during the past year was one from Minnesota. Mr. V. Shebat of Wabasha wrote me in July that he was likely to get into trouble on account of his bees, stating the case in a very clear, business-like manner. I sent him such advice and help as I thought necessary. In a hotly contested case which followed, he was triumphantly vindicated. He was so grateful for the assistance rendered that he wrote the following to the American Bee Journal, which I hereby copy, as it states the matter fully and is of enough importance, perhaps, to warrant the use of the space it occupies.

#### STATEMENT OF MR SHEBAT.

"I desire to say a few words through the American Bee Journal to the beekeepers of America.

I have been a member of the National Beekepers' Association for 12 years, and for more than 13 years have kept about 60 colonies of bees on a lot that I own here, and have never had any complaint made to me about my bees doing any damage or being a nuisance until this summer. A large church is situated on the

corner opposite the lot on which my bees are located, but no complaint was ever made that they annoyed or d any one. This summer a church-school for girls was injured any one. large commenced on the lot adjacent to mine, and a city ordinance was manipulated through our city council declaring it a misdemeanor for any-one to keep bees in our city, 'within 600 feet of any church, school house or other public building, or within 300 feet of any dwelling in said city.' This ordinance was pass-ed in the latter part of July and with-in a few days thereafter two actions were begun against me under said ordinance, and one under our state law which declares, "any act or omission which injures, annoys, or endangers the comfort, repose, health or safety of any considerable persons, a public nuisance." These were all criminal actions, and I was arrested in each case.

The case under the state law was virtually abandoned for lack of evidence and I was declared not guilty, but the case under the new city ordinance was prosecuted with bitterness and venom. The trial was in our recorder's court, before a jury. and lasted the whole of one day.

and lasted the whole of one day. My attorney, Col. J. T. Bowditch, defended me on the following grounds, viz.:

ist. That the ordinance was not authorized by our city charter.

2d. That the city council had no

power to make a nuisance of any act by passing an ordinance against it, unless the act itself was in fact a nuisance.

3d. That the ordinance in question resulted in taking and damaging property for public use without just compensation to the owner, contrary to the Constitution of the United States and of this state; that it abridg ed the natural rights of private citizens, that it was unreasonable unjust.

4th. That if the keeping of bees contrary to the terms of this ordinance was a nuisance at all, it was a private nuisance, for which all persons injured thereby had their redress in the courts, and was such a nuisance as could not be regulated by any general ordinance or law.

These were the main points of my defense, but, of course, each was greatly elaborated by my attorney.

1 am happy to say the jury returned a verdict "Not Guilty," and I have since received the congratulations of many beekeepers on the happy ending of the vicious fight that was made against me.

My chief object in writing this communication is to thank the National Beekeepers' Association publicly for the valuable aid it, rendered me in this fight, and to impress upon all beekeepers the benefits to be derived from belonging to such an organization.

In the beginning I informed the officers of the association (the General Manager) of the passage of the ordinance and the danger threatened. They at once forwarded to me valuable briefs for the use of my attorneys and suggestions how to proceed if I should be arrested. My attorney says the briefs furnished were of the greatest assistance in preparing my defense, that, in fact, they lightened his labors fully one half.

After the case was decided, I sent to the General Manager, Eugene Secor, a statement of the costs against me and also a statement of the costs I had incurred in defending myself I at once received a check for \$40 to pay a part of the expenses I had been put to. Surely this is an association worth belonging to. and it seems to me we ought to do all in stitution that does as much for us as the National Beekeepers' Association."-V. Shebat.

Quite a number of other appeals for help and advice have been received, but none of them required any financial aid. The printed matter and letters were all that they required.

The correspondence and the routine work of the office are considerable. Indeed the duties have been more burdensome than I felt like carrying, considering the unjust criticism of a few ambitious members. In my last annual report I asked to be relieved, and, later, tendered my resignation, but was prevailed upon to serve out the present year. I now repeat by the voting membership.

elect my successor.

In severing my official relationship with the association, perhaps the friends will allow me space to call attention to some things that have been undertaken or accomplished during my incumbency.

When the association was organized in 1806, it commenced business without funds and without prestige I was its first and only General Man-Through the hearty support ager. and indefatigable labors of many loyal and influential friends it has grown fro zero to nearly a thousand members; and although a good deal of money has been spent in defense of beekeepers and to advance their interests, the financial statement subt mitted herewith shows its healthcondition. It is no boast to say it the largest and most influential beekeepers' society in the world and is doing work that no other association attempts, since the voluntary withdrawal of the old "Beekeepers'

under the leadership of that successful manager, Thos. G. Newman.

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