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The Southland Queen



OCTOBER, 1901.

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THE SOUTHLAND QUEEN.

Published Monthly. Devoted to the Exchange of Thoughts on Apiculture. \$1.00 Yearly.

Vol. VII.

BEEVILLE, TEXAS, OCTOBER, 1901.

No. 6.

Proceedings of North, South and Central Texas Bee-Keepers' Associations.

HELD AT COLLEGE STATION, TEXAS,
JULY 24, 1901.

(Continued from September Number.)

Afterward the general subjects of the program were again resumed, and "Manipulating bees for a large yield of extracted honey," was handled by O. P. Hyde. The main objects were to have good, prolific young queens and large hives, not less than ten frames. Then tier up as soon as needed to three or four stories high, and as soon as filled and well capped over take out the honey. He also touched on the minor points connected with producing large amounts of extracted honey, the above being the main objects.

W. O. Victor read one of his articles contributed to the *Bee-Keepers' Review*, page — of the July issue, which, however, is too lengthy to copy, and the issue is not before me to make a summary.

"How can queens be forced to lay in queen cell cups," was told in a paper by H. H. Hyde. He does not claim to be responsible

for being assigned to that subject, and hopes no one will be disappointed if he fails to give a satisfactory solution of the question.

Has not much experience to prove or disprove this query, but cited an incident, where he puts his cell cups in top stories of good colonies before grafting, to have them polished by the bees. Distinctly remembers where in one case the queen laid an egg in such a cell and it was built out, and in due time hatched a queen. Went on to say that by placing cell cups conveniently in a hive of bees who wished to supercede their queen, such queens could be forced to lay into them. Also at swarming time queens can be forced to lay into cell cups placed conveniently in the hive. At other times it would not seem practical and hardly to be accomplished.

Mr. Stachelhausen thinks that it can only be done during swarming time.

Mr. Atchley spoke about how it could possibly be done by placing cell cups around and near drone brood, conveniently, and where the queens are mostly found after their regular season's laying has been at

its fullest, when the queens are almost worn out from the hard work of depositing worker-eggs. It is then that the queens are almost crazy to resort to depositing drone eggs, as it seems to be easier for them to do this than the laying of worker eggs. This, of course, like the other cases cited, will be about swarming time.

A paper from Willie Atchley about the "Importance of good queens" was read. Too much could not be said about queens. Good queens, good bee-keepers and good localities makes bee-keeping a success, and either of these essentials lacking, bee-keeping is a failure. It is highly essential that all apiarists look sharp to the prolificness of their queens and the working qualities of their bees. Give him good queens and a good location and he will turn out a crop of honey.

Mr. Weaver and others gave some of their experiences about good queens—a good locality, good queens and good management being a sure road to success. Some told about the difference of queens, some being large and fine-looking but almost worthless in other ways, while some of the smallest, sometimes called "stub" queens, have done wonders. This, however, is not the rule.

"How to Raise Good Queens"

came in following, and Mr. Davidson gave his methods, ways and modus operandi, which was given at previous meetings of the Central Texas Association, and appeared in the proceedings in the SOUTHLAND QUEEN. He recommends the Ally plan he has so long practiced, and with which he has been very successful.

H. H. Hyde spoke in favor of the Doolittle plan and method, and although the best queens can be raised with the Ally plan, with the Doolittle method good queens and more of them can be obtained.

"Experience in Moving Bees" was cited by several and fully discussed. O. P. Hyde had much and varied experience in moving bees, as they move bees nearly all the time. He has also had some fun connected therewith. On this account he went to studying to find out the best way to move bees and has been quite successful. To close the entrances he uses a device, the idea of which he obtained from a bee-keeper who knew no more about bees——. With this device he can close ten hives to one closed in the ordinary way by tacking wire cloth over the entrances. It is simply a piece of tin, two inches wide with a cleat or piece of board about half as wide nailed on the upper edge of one side, the whole being as long as the width of the

hive. The lower half of the tin is perforated with holes to give ventilation. Now with two 3d nails in the cleat just tack on to the entrance and it is done. Next the cover is tacked down with two more nails, one on each side. Two or more story hives are held together by strips of board nailed diagonally across the sides of the hives. In hauling one must have a wagon bed wide enough so two hives can be set end to end across the bed and other tiers the same way on top of these. For this purpose they have an Electric handy, low wheeled wagon with a wide bed that has low side railings on the outer edge. On this is set the back end of the hives to let the top of the hives slant toward the middle from each side. The second tier, when loaded on top, will thus easily stay in place. In this way they have hauled bees from thirty to forty miles and hardly a quart of bees lost.

Mr. Davidson has used wire cloth, but it is much trouble.

Mr. Atchley told about some of his experiences, as they move bees all the time. They keep a large share of their bees on the migratory plan. Sometimes it happens to rain heavily some distance from their apiaries and not any where the bees are. His country is a most wonderful one in regard to

the quick growth of honey-yielding and other plants. After a heavy rain flowers appear most abundantly in a very short time. It is then that they move whole apiaries from dry situations to the fields yielding nectar. For all this they are extra well prepared with bee wagons and about 200 regular shipping cases with wire cloth, provided with slotted cleats into which the frames are hung, with all the bees put in, closed up and are then ready to haul on the special bee wagons. The hives now being empty they prefer to haul on any other wagon, separate from the bees.

Mr. Victor makes large frames by ripping hive bodies into one inch square rims, on which wire cloth is tacked. This is nailed over the top of the hives after the covers are removed. Next sticks moss into the entrances, nails cleats, one on each side of the hive, and they are ready to move.

H. H. Hyde recommends the tacking on of cleats on the sides of hives diagonally across, and from opposite corners from the one on the other side. In winter or cold weather wooden cleats to close the entrances is sufficient.

"Importance of a Large Breeding Space," a paper by L. Stachelhausen, was read. The secret of successful bee-keeping is to have

the colonies at their fullest development just when the main honey flow commences, for which purpose it is necessary to use a different management, whether the main flow is early or late in the season. In most localities this honey flow is so early that we have to do all we possibly can to develop the colonies at the right time.

His and other bee-keepers' experience have taught that in their localities they can get their colonies developed to the most possible strength before the main honey flow without any work at all if they give them a large breeding space and large comb surface. This is the reason why Dadant recommends large frames and large brood-chambers. An experience of about 20 years has taught him that in his climate at least the division of the brood nest into two or more shallow stories is no hindrance at all for the development of the brood; the queen will pass these "sticks" without hesitation. On the other hand, the extension of the brood nest to another comb on the sides of the brood nest is much more difficult. This is easily explained. The combs on both sides of the brood nest generally contain a large quantity of pollen and cannot be used for brood until this pollen is consumed. To extend a brood nest of this character

to each side we are forced to remove these pollen-filled combs and to replace them with empty ones, or to set empty combs into the middle of the brood nest as recommended by Doolittle. All this has to be done at the right time, not only corresponding to the strength of the colonies, but empty combs should be given right into the place where the queen is laying, because even in this respect the bees keep the brood nest in wonderful order. For this reason the colonies have to be watched closely during the whole spring, causing a considerable amount of work, limiting the number of colonies a man could keep, especially if scattered in different apiaries. If in large brood chambers with a large amount of comb surface, all this work is unnecessary, because the development of the colony goes on without any work of ours, showing at once the advantages of such large brood chambers. More colonies can be kept with the same amount of work, and even if the honey crop per colony should be smaller, which is doubtful, as by other management the profit of the whole apiary will be larger. To get strong colonies in the spring, in such hives, it is necessary to always have enough honey in the hive, but not too much, with a sufficient number of empty cells,

or always enough more than the bees need at a given time. Another advantage of large brood-chambers is that swarming is reduced to a minimum, especially so if the bees are kept in large hives during several generations. In this respect the condition of the honey resources of certain localities are to be considered; in some localities swarming can be practically prevented by the use of large hives, while in others the number of swarms is reduced very much, and to prevent these few swarms other ways can easily be executed. Nobody disputes the advantages of large brood-chambers in early spring, but some say they have disadvantages during the main honey flow. It would seem reasonable to ask: "Why not use large brood-chambers in spring, as long as they are advantageous, and afterwards contract the brood-nest as soon as thought advisable." But this objection cannot be overcome in this simple way.

1. One objection is, when producing extracted honey and use an unlimited breeding space, during a very good honey flow the brood-nest will be contracted by the honey which the bees store around the brood. Contrary to a moderate honey flow, it is said that the bees will use the large space to breed extensively and will store

very little honey, and at the end of the flow leave a strong colony which are only useless consumers. This objection is especially raised in Germany, where small hives are used. If large hives are used all the year round, there will be strong colonies in the spring, which will develop much faster than weaker ones. When the queen has reached the limit of her egg laying capacity, which is 3000 eggs daily, it will be impossible to extend the brood nest any more; the queen will soon need a rest; the number of eggs laid daily is diminishing, and the now very strong colony will send out a strong force of field bees. On the contrary, if we have a weak colony in the spring, in a brood-nest too small for proper development, the queen cannot reach the limit of her egg-laying power; now the honey flow commences, and we give the supers, it is only natural that the brood-nest is extended into these supers, and a large part of the flow is used to raise these worthless consumers, so much talked about. This undesirable condition is caused by the small brood-chambers used in early spring. During the spring the queen could never lay all the eggs she would be able to lay for lack of empty cells at the right place.

(Concluded in November Number.)

California Items.

W. A. H. GILSTRAP.

Since the writer commenced taking THE SOUTHLAND QUEEN it has seemed that Californians do not venture among the spicy writers of the QUEEN. Why? We certainly have apiarists who stand in the front rank. The paper is too big to spend all its energies in a State like Texas.

Central California may not be the bee-keepers' paradise, but it is a tolerable safe place to produce honey. We have considerable honey to ship every year, which can not be said of many places that occasionally far outstrip us. Some years ago some chunk honey was put on the market. The extracted honey was sold in old coal oil cans. Some old style, bunglesome sections were used. Now all extracted is in new cans and all comb honey is in good bass wood sections. Hives are generally well made. Next I look for a decided improvement in stock.

That reminds me of a friend who has for years thought that all bees are about alike. He has had a few colonies for four or five years. Recently I took two cages of bees to his house with the full intention of convincing him there was quite a difference. He first noticed that the Italians had much larger wings

than the blacks. That pleased him. But when he saw under a magnifying glass that the tongues of the blacks were 17.100 of an inch from point of mandibles, in best specimens, while nearly all the Italians' tongues measured 21.100, and large in proportion, he became alarmed. He actually thought the bees sting with their tongues, and that the large tongue would cause more pain. When he was shown the sting on the "other end of the critter" he had less fears of Italian bees. But he had seen the point—the sharp point.

Now there is a point which I would be glad for the QUEEN to develop, or rather to reveal to the public. We want to know what is best in the way of in-breeding, out-breeding or line-breeding. The special point that I would like to know is what progressive bee-keepers who have developed fixed strains and have been successful with them for a decade or two, think of this phase of the question.

Mr. Hutchinson had a rare opportunity in his reach in the experience of his queen-breeder. Mr. M., or whatever his name is, could doubtless tell us the result of close breeding. As his stock is truly good, the details of how he produced them would be of special value. Mr. Ally may have had as good opportunity as any one, ex-

cept that he has changed stock so often. As it is, horse and cattle and cotton theories are saddled on the poor little bee. When we remember that very close in-breeding is impossible with bees, I wonder if the practical application of some of these theories would not surprise the theorists.

As a queen never mates with her father, son or full brother or uncle, we can build up some very interesting ideas independent of plants and animals which resemble bees so little. But better, far better, is the cold facts from those who know.

Grayson, Cal.

Queens and Breeders.

FOR THE SOUTHLAND QUEEN.

News going around through northern bee papers gives the impression that queens from the south are no good. I find it otherwise, as all queens that came to me from the Jennie Atchley Company were alive this spring and doing fine. I want to say here that last season I got quite a number of queens from different queen breeders in the north, all of which did very well up to the time of putting them in winter quarters. But this spring they refused to lay an egg, and as a consequence they dwindled away, thus some thirty colonies have gone out of eighty. All the

eighty wintered fine, with plenty of bees. The trouble, it seems to me, was in these high bred, scientific queens. They have no vitality to stand our winters. Then again, some of the breeders are not honest. They send out old, worn-out queens and virgin queens—a dishonest practice, I should think.

For one instance, some eight years ago a noted bee-keeper advertised that he had the red clover bees with long tongues. He writes for the bee papers muchly, and his stories seem plausible, so much so that I ordered of him twenty queens, paying him \$20 for young, tested queens. The queens arrived some twenty days after ordering, and at such a time that I saw I could form twenty nuclei with my old queens. So I divided up the colonies and introduced his queens to the bees on the old stands, moving the nuclei just ten feet back, thus making forty good, strong colonies to winter. I had in this yard 140 more colonies, thus making 180 in that yard at C. At W. I had 96; at S. 42; at T. L. 106; at S. Hill 132; at T. Valley 35.

Now to return to the forty queens I purchased from this chief of bee men. The next spring I treated the forty colonies made from the nuclei of last year just the same way. My twenty old queens built up fast and gave me an average

surplus of extracted honey, 106 pounds each. The honey I obtained from the next twenty queens averaged but sixteen pounds. The new queens could not keep the hives full of bees, so you see it was a swindle pure and simple. He no doubt sent me twenty old queens that he must have known to be worthless. I wrote him about the results, and of my disappointment that he should do such a mean trick. His answer was still more astonishing, for he said the queens were not of his rearing, as my order came so late in the season he had no queens on hand, but had purchased the twenty queens from a queen-breeder in Southern Virginia. Afterwards I learned from his assistant, with whom he had some difficulty, that he helped look up the queens from his home yard. There is integrity for you. These are days when it pays to be honest. The principle of honesty is as old as the hills, but there has been a time when it paid a better revenue to be honest than in these very days. Men, and even queen-breeders, who have made it a practice to be dishonest are being left in the rear, while at the front are marching the great army of young bee-keepers who have learned instinctively that dishonesty can never pay at any point in bee-keeping life.

And when we analyze as to what the principle is we can understand at once why this is so. The idea of dishonest action is out of harmony with anything that is pleasant. The man who is untidy in his home and sits down to his meals in his shirt sleeves is not entitled to a place in the parlor. It is for the same natural reason that we place dishonest men (queen-breeders) outside our circle of associates. No argument is necessary to suggest that he should be there; he takes his place there by his own act just as does the felon, who continues to rob and murder. The instinct of those about him is to avoid him, and if dishonesty were a natural thing this would not be the case.

We like the bee-keeper and queen-breeder (a la Atchley) who brings brightness to us; who walks up to us with a smile that has sincerity behind it; who shakes one's hand with a grip that means something more than a wily hand-folding that the hypocrite unconsciously puts forth as his effort in greeting.

The queen-breeder of integrity is like a rock. The bee-keepers know them. Their word and queens are as good as a bond. What an uplift is in the very thought of his integrity. It is worth striving for from the day the young man enters

the queen-rearing business to the day when, as an aged man, he bids farewell to earth.

This world wants men (queen-breeders) and it is going to have them. If there is a queen-breeder who thinks that he can forge his way to the front by trickery he may as well come to his senses now, for it cannot be done.

The Almighty God made this world for honest men, and honest men are going to have the choice places in it.

J. W. TEEFT.

South Wales, N. Y., Sept. 9.

Mating Queens in Confinement.

When this subject was first broached several years ago, it received a great deal of attention, but trials with it have not proved satisfactory, says the *N. E. Homestead*. However, a Georgia bee-keeper has continued experimenting, and last year was successful in mating 100 queens. His method was to build an enclosure thirty feet high and thirty feet in diameter, covering it with mosquito bar. Long poles were set in the ground and well braced, the tops being tied with heavy wire before covering with the netting.

Colonies of bees, well supplied with drones of the right sort, were placed close up against the wall of the tent on the outside, each colony being allowed two entrances. One

entrance opened outside the tent and was contracted so as to permit the egress and ingress of only the workers. The entrance to the tent was made large enough for the drones and queen, and was kept open only two and one-half hours in the middle of the day. For a few days it was closed until the workers became accustomed to going in and out.

In a few days, after the drones became accustomed to being confined and were quiet and reconciled to fly in the tent, the queens were turned in and mated almost at once. The success of this plan lies in having a large tent and in getting the drones accustomed to it before putting in the queens. If this plan can be followed by other bee-keepers, it will do more to bring about improved strains of bees than any other plan which has heretofore been practiced. At the present time it is impossible to control the mating of the queen, and all efforts looking toward an improvement and breeding up depended largely upon luck.

Some experiments were made in 1887 and 1888, by Prof. M. W. McLain, then in the employ of the U. S. government, in mating queens in confinement, but the enclosure which he used was much smaller.

Only a few drones were put in, and the queens then liberated. The drones appeared anxious to get out and persisted in flying against the wire-covered sides and only one queen in six was fertilized in one trial, and three in six in another instance.

To Control Robbing.

I do not know just when I have seen an article in the bee papers relative to the annoying catastrophe of bees robbing each other, and as there are constantly those coming on the field of action or into the bee field with little or no experience with robbing, I thought it nothing amiss to drop a thought or two along this line. There are many suggestions to prevent bees starting to rob each other, such as contracting the entrances, keeping the yard clear of bits of comb with honey in it, allowing no honey to be dropped about the yard or hives when robbing, then not allowing the bees to approach you when robbing them, etc.

The above rules are indispensable during a honey dearth, and should be closely adhered to by all apiarists, both great and small, but what shall we do when robbing is at double fever heat when discovered? That is the question I am trying to answer just now. I suppose it can best be done by way of illustration and action in the apiary.

Early a few mornings ago while sitting in my room I noticed two or three bees making violent and excited efforts to enter the house through the screens. I lifted my eyes to the little whelps for a mo-

ment and remarked to my wife: "There is something wrong in the bee yard." Their actions were too familiar to me to mistake. I knew that robbing was their business.

Immediately I hastened to the apiary, and to my expectations saw two stands of bees at the highest point of robbing. The stand was literally black with robber bees and two inches deep in places. At the lids they were piling up and falling off in great lumps. The heavens were full of bees, the greater density being at the hives. A pretty state of affairs, wasn't it? I kept cool and reduced them to their normal state in thirty minutes and saved both stands. I knew what to do, and here is my plan of action:

I made all possible haste to get my hat and smoker, some wire cloth, tacks, hammer and rags. I approached the hives with my outfit and shot the smoke to them in clouds, both at the entrance and tops, removing the lid, of course, being very careful that the smoke penetrated the hive thoroughly. Now, as robbers are more sensitive to smoke than the bees belonging to the hive, they will of course be the first to take wing. Smoke both entrance and top, allowing no bees to enter either place for a few seconds. Now close lid down tightly so that no bees can enter, smoking

the entrance enough all the while to allow no bees to enter. When the lid is on and everything ready make a cloud of smoke among the bees flying around the entrance of the hive, all the while allowing no bees to enter, i. e., no more than can be helped. After a bit—say one minute—of smoking, then step to one side just a little bit, say a few seconds, and allow many of the bees belonging to the hive to enter, as they will be the first to do so. Now apply the wire cloth quickly to the entrance, allowing no more bees to enter or escape. Be sure that no bees can enter or escape, and in thirty minutes or one hour all will be normal again and your colonies saved. Keep the bees shut in until just about sundown, then remove the wire cloth and all the robbers will go home and all the bees belonging to the hive will enter. Keep the wire cloth applied for a day or two, or until all signs of robbing are absent at that hive. I have been successful in saving hives that way every time when I would find them before they were too far gone, and in the latter case I smoke and brush all the bees off the combs, both robbers and home bees, finding the queen if possible and caring for her in the proper manner and introduce her again. I take the empty combs to the house and put them away and

leave the empty hive in its place. At sundown or a little after take the combs back and put them in the hive. When all the bees belonging to the hive have been left alone the robbers return to their respective hives. I now close the bees up as stated above and keep them so until all danger of them being robbed is over. By these methods I have saved many hives, being unsuccessful only one time. Robbing is more often started in my yard from warm weather breaking tender combs during a honey famine. I would like to say more on this subject but space will not permit.

T. P. ROBINSON.

From North Carolina.

I have been in the bee business for thirty odd years, and have had fair success. My standard number of colonies is about eighty. I have as good a strain of bees as can be found in any country. They are gentle, hardy, prolific, good honey gatherers, and for non-swarmers can't be turned down. There is not much sale for honey here any more, for nearly everybody is keeping a few colonies for their own use. I will give you a list of the honey yielding plants and timber soon.

A. J. MCBRIDE.

Mast, N. C., Sept. 2, 1901.

SOUTHLAND QUEEN, \$1 a year.

The Bee Man.

FOR THE QUEEN.

What kind of a man is he?
Well, now, just let us see.
He's the sweetest man on earth—
 Why so?
Eats honey for all it's worth,
 You know.

What kind of man is he,
That stands the sting of busy bee?
A man of nerve and brain—
 My pet,
Who never toils in vain,
 You bet.

What kind of a man is he
That has no fear of the busy bee?
Sells his honey by the ton
 For cash!
Gets his share of royal fun—
 Not trash.

What kind of a man is he,
That wants the busy bee
With extra length of tongue,
 Bright, yellow?
His mind is all unstrung—
 Poor fellow!

What kind of a man is he,
At the home of the honey bee,
With a two hundred dollar queen,
 By Joe!
He must think people are green,
 You know.

How on earth can he glean
For his journal so neat and clean?
He should be ashamed to be seen
After putting such a price on a queen.

—A. G. ANDERSON.

Waring, Texas, July 30.

We offer 25 cents per pound, in trade, for good bees-wax laid down at Beeville, prepaid, until further notice.

Texas Branch of the A. I. Root Co

The demand for our goods in Texas is increasing so rapidly that we have concluded to keep a large and complete stock of bee-keepers' supplies in San Antonio, which has such good shipping facilities. You will do well to send in your estimates for next season's supplies. Nearly all of you know our goods, so we will let you do the praising. Honey and beeswax wanted.

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HONEY TRUST FORMING.

Many improvements in process of development. Send for copy of **Pacific Bee Journal**, \$1 a year, 20c for 3 months' trial. 237 E. 4th st., Los Angeles, Cal.

A New Field.

The Jennie Atchley Company:

Your kind response to my request for sample copies of your paper leads me to write you more at length regarding this section, and it may be that something will come of it. This is a new field as regards bees, there being none here except a few colonies of common bees that I have. On the Sacramento river, thirty miles from here, there are some bees kept in crude ways, and where they make quite a quantity of inferior honey. I have succeeded very well so far this season and have secured such delicious honey that the whole country is

growing 'bee mad. They look on me as the missionary in the faith, and I wish to lead them along the true path. One year ago I knew nothing of bees, but as I cannot do anything in a half-hearted or indifferent way, I at once set out to learn. I sent for Root's A. B. C., Dadant's Langstroth, Prof. Cook's Guide and Quinby's. I made many mistakes and have much to learn yet, but at least I succeeded. Let me say right here that for the average small bee-keeper, your catalogue will take the place of all those books. Your magazine is beautiful and in good taste in all particulars. I wrote you that I thought I could obtain a list of subscribers. I am more sure of it since I have seen it. Here is the only trouble: This is a wheat and fruit country, and we are in the midst of both harvests, which means that every dollar we can get is absolutely needed to pay labor and make the harvest. Banks are not indulgent to us until we get our goods in the warehouse, and then they are very smiling, indeed.

I am just in the midst of my apricots, and it has dragged me terribly to put them through. I say all this to explain why I cannot send you a subscription list until after harvest, as my case is that of all my neighbors. As I said, I want them to go on the right way,

and while there is lots I don't know, I do know that none can succeed without modern appliances, implements and perfect hives. In any case we must send a distance to get our hives, etc., and I thought, in case I can make the club list large enough to warrant it, to make up a club and send for a car load to you. Will you give me some idea of what number of hives it would take to make the load and about what the car would cost to this place. It might be that I could keep them on hand and establish a small agency for your goods for these people are in earnest and are going to try it. I need four queens badly, and wish I could send for them at once, but it is as I tell you. I think your select untested, five band stock will be best for me at present. When I get a little easier as to money, I will want the very best you have, for as you say, "The Jones' are the best people in the world." I am proud to know that grand old Texas can show up such a progressive establishment as yours. I am a southern man, thank the Lord, and I feel proud when I see our people can hold their own with their northern brethren.

When dear, beautiful Galveston fell my wife and I went out and did all we could. I lived there once and loved it.

With best wishes, I am very truly yours, HENRY B. JONES.

Arbuckle, Cal., July 10, 1901.

Honey! Honey! Honey!

We wish to buy all the honey we can get at reasonable prices. Please write at once. Sample preferred.

Toepperwein & Walton,

438 W. Houston St.,
San Antonio, Texas.

A Poor Outlook.

To the SOUTHLAND QUEEN:

We are not in it this year. We have not had a good rain since last September, nearly twelve months. How is that for a drouth? Some bee men have lost all their bees. I have lost fourteen colonies out of 126. It is the dryest time I ever saw. If it don't rain soon all the bees will die and most of the cattle.

I have been watching bees work foundation for several years, and have decided we don't need deep cells. In every case that I noticed the bees worked down the cells to the base, and if the base was very thin the foundation would sag. In the future I expect to make my foundation with as little cell wall as possible. I expect the deep cell foundation men will be after me red hot, but I can't help it. I expect to tell things as I see them, and not to suit some big gun. Deep cell foundation will never be a success. No use to worry your brains about it. Bee-keepers would not buy it, even if it was perfect, and the bees would accept it. It is

too expensive and too hard to ship.

Can bees foretell a drouth? It seemed like my bees knew that there were hard times ahead, for the most of those that swarmed this spring went back home after they were hived. Some one will say they were queenless, but this is not the case in this instance, for I saw their queens. I never had bees do that before. They very often come out and go to the woods, but never knew them to go home before, queen and all. I would like for some one to tell me why they acted in that manner.

L. L. SKAGGS.

Llano, Tex., Aug. 10, 1901.

Toepperwein and Davidson's Travels.

On September 5th Mr. Davidson and I secured our tickets to Buffalo, and at 11:10 o'clock we found ourselves in our office in San Antonio getting things ready as quick as we could. In a few minutes we were again at the hotel, but now we forgot some of our papers in the office which we wanted to take along. "Mr. D., tell the motorman to stop; I've got my ticket in my other coat." "Your ticket, Udo! We are going to miss that train and lose our tickets." "I can't help it. Oh, maybe Sam (the darkey) took it back to the

(Concluded in November Number.)

OUR SCHOOL.

Mrs. JENNIE ATCHLEY,
INSTRUCTOR.



The Jennie Atchley Company:

As I desire to get acquainted with Cyprian bees, I would be pleased to get any information you can give me as to how to manage them.

LEO A. BATES.

Highwood, N. J., Aug. 22, 1901.

Friend B.—Cyprian bees can be handled with as much danger from stings as other races of bees if one has the proper experience. It will not do to smoke them as much as other bees, but just enough to stop them from rushing out, as the more they are smoked the harder they are to conquer. Handle with care and caution and but little smoke is needed when honey is coming in, and when no honey is being gathered they are worse to fight. The Cyprians are very fine honey gatherers.

* * *

What would you consider fifty pounds of section honey per colony? Would it be a fair, full or half crop? Do you consider the Carniolan bees better than Italians? What are their better qualities?

JOE S. WISE.

Hazlehurst, Miss., Aug. 17, 1901.

Friend W.—We would consider fifty pounds of section honey an average yield in most localities. We think that Carniolans are better for this locality than Italians

on account of their strong breeding quality, and this enables us to have a good force of workers on hand at all times to catch any honey flow that comes along, while the Italians crowd out the queen and reduce the brood space. This answers your last question.

* * *

When would be the best time to transfer, and what would be the best method? The hives are home-made and of various sizes, though all have movable frames. Would I have to cut the combs out and wire them in the frames. Can any one tell by looking at a queen if she is getting too old to be serviceable? If not I will have to keep all of them and watch to see when they weaken or quit laying.

W. H. FERGUSON.

Cedar Creek, Tex., Aug. 11, 1901.

Friend F.—It would not be necessary to wire your frames. Just cut out the combs and tack thin strips of wood across frames sufficient to hold combs in, on both sides, and when the bees have fastened the combs to the frames, the sticks can be removed and your combs are straight in your new frames much the same as if they had been built there. The best time to transfer is when there is a slight honey flow beginning and before the combs are too full of honey to handle well. About fruit bloom is usually a splendid time to transfer. Yes, an experienced person can usually tell when a queen is old by her looks. The bees will supersede old queens, as a rule, when they begin to fail too much to keep up a good colony.

The Jennie Atchley Co., Beeville, Tex.:

Dear Sir—Our honey season is about over now, but the bees are gathering considerable honey from bitter weed, and it is bitter, too, so bitter that we cannot eat it, but the color is beautiful. Do you have this weed in your part of the country? I shall take advantage of this means to have some more nice brood combs built. I shall take from each good hive two frames of honey and in their places put frames with full sheets of foundation, which will be drawn out and used. I shall use the frames of honey to make an upper story of some good hives, and by this means have them filled with honey for wintering or feeding purposes. What do you think of the idea? How do you get combs finished out to the bottom of frames, or do you get it done? What do you think of inverting the hives and leaving them inverted a few days? Would any of the honey drip out? I think I could invert mine now and get all of the combs built out to bottom of frames. Would the advantage in space for brood-rearing be very much? Now for a few questions about queen-rearing. I have twenty-three colonies of pure Italians. West of me a half mile are twelve colonies of blacks, south the same distance are six colonies of blacks, and a mile north are twenty-five colonies of blacks. There are no bees in the woods nearer than two miles. I shall place near the center of the brood-nest in each of my colonies a comb with plenty of drone cells so I can have plenty of drones flying early. I want to raise a few queens for some of my friends. What per cent do you think I ought to get purely mated? How would you suggest raising a few good queens? Would it be best to wait until they swarm and use the cells which they made then? In looking over the colony whose queen came

from you I notice that they have a frame of drone brood sealed. I am almost sure all the black drones in the country are killed by now. If I should remove the queen from the hive now would the bees let all of the drones hatch out and be saved until they could raise a queen? If this was true could I not remove her and a queen from another colony and get some few good queens. I should let her hive produce the drones and the other one the queens.

JOE S. WISE.

Hazlehurst, Miss., Sept. 15, 1901.

Friend W.—We do not have the bitter weed here, or at least not enough to make any difference. Yes, you can utilize your bitter weed honey in building combs, and your plan is a safe and profitable one. We do not worry about getting combs fastened to the bottom bars. We have tried to quit bothering about little things like this that cost more to remove than it brings in return. We do not think it will be profitable to reverse either hives or combs, as a rule. If you carry out your plans as laid down you should get at least 75 per cent of good queens purely mated. Swarming time is the best time in the world to get good queens easily and no time lost in raising them. Yes, the bees will keep the drones and preserve them till they die of old age if made queenless. Certainly you can get some good queens by your operations in your warm locality at this season of the year.

The Jennie Atchley Company:

Tell me how I may find the black queens in my hives, as it seems very difficult to get them out.

WM. REEVES.

Midlothian, Tex., Oct. 12, 1901.

Friend R.—A good plan to find queens with the least trouble, and to be *sure*, is to place a piece of queen excluding zinc over the entrance of the hive and shake the bees out in front and let them run in through the zinc. When the bees are all inside you will find queen outside with a small bunch of bees. This can be done at nightfall if you are short of time to watch them, and by morning they will all be in and queen easily found.

* * *

The Jennie Atchley Company:

My bees deposit a substance on the alighting boards that looks like glue, in little lumps, about the size of pin heads. Is this a disease or diarrhea, or what is it?

MRS. LAURA SMITH.

Wildomar, Cal., Sept. 25, 1901.

Mrs. S.—The substance you speak of is a glue gathered by the bees for the purpose of closing up cracks, and glueing the frames and filling holes about the hives, and is no disease at all. Our bees gather much the same kind of glue here, from mesquite trees, and drop particles of it on the alighting boards, and some years a considerable amount of it. The bees load heavy, and portions of their loads fall off as they touch the

alighting boards, the same as pollen does, and they seldom remove it.

* * *

Will you please advise me a little. I have thirty-seven 8-frame hives, all in fair condition. I will use the Dadant hive next year. Would it be best to unite them, making eighteen 16-frame hives and transfer in the spring. You see, it takes fifteen of the small frames for ten of the Dadant brood frames. I will transfer comb from small to the large frames. I find the Dadant hive best for me here. I have five in use, and they gave me from twenty-five to one-hundred pounds of surplus this fall, while the dove-tail, 8-frame, three story hives contained mostly brood.

Respectfully,

F. C. JOHNSON.

Paragould, Ark., Sept. 9, 1901.

Friend J.—We think your plan of uniting your small colonies will work all right, but, if your eight-frame colonies are strong in bees and have stores for winter, it will be best to winter in their present hives and next spring set them out into your large hives and allow them to build up. This will give just about as good results in honey per colony and not decrease your numbers. Of course, if you do not desire increase and wish to decrease, your plan will be all right. In some localities the large hives are much the best.

THE SOUTHLAND QUEEN will be sent to any address in the United States one year for \$1.

THE SOUTHLAND QUEEN.

PUBLISHED MONTHLY.

E. J. ATCHLEY, - - Editor and Business M'gr.

..ASSISTED BY..

WILLIE, CHARLIE AND AMANDA ATCHLEY.

MRS. JENNIE ATCHLEY, Editress and Manager
of School for Beginners.

Entered at the Post Office at Beeville, Texas, for
transmission through the mails at second class rates.

BEEVILLE, TEXAS, OCTOBER, 1901.

Terms of Subscription.

One year, in advance, - - -	\$1.00
Three months, trial trip, - -	.25
Three back numbers, all different, -	.10

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" " " year, - - -	10.00

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General Instructions.

Send money by registered mail, P. O. order, express money order or by bank draft. Do not send private check under any circumstances. One and two cent stamps will be accepted for amounts under one dollar—must be in good order. Our international money order office is Beeville, Texas, and all remittances from foreign countries must be made through that office.

Address all communications to
THE JENNIE ATCHLEY COMPANY,
Beeville, Bee Co., Texas.

If possible some of us will be at the San Antonio Fair, and expect to meet a great many bee-keepers while there.

R. W. Rogers, of Hutto, Texas, writes under date of September 25th: "We have a nice honey flow on now from cotton and broom weed. We expect it to continue for a month."

We love to learn of these good crops and good sales. It not only stimulates the parties who raise these crops, but those that read about it also.

We have learned that the northern and western portions of our State have been almost total failures in honey production this year. It is reported that bees are starving to death, and great loss is feared this coming winter.

Good honey crop in California this season. Mr. T. O. Andrews, of Carona, Cal., writes, September 16th, thus: "Our honey crop was good this year, about thirty tons of honey and of fine quality; sold twenty-five tons to one party, cash f. o. b. our station."

Bees at this writing, October 15th, are just closing our fall honey flow. A cool spell a few days ago stopped the flowers from secreting nectar. If we have a refreshing shower we will likely get some scattering honey along until frost, which will be about Christmas or New Year.

We are shaping our bees for winter, and we hope to get them in fine shape by December 1st. If we succeed in doing this we think we will be ready for the first honey flow that comes in our way next spring.

Beeswax is only worth 20 cents cash or 25 cents in trade, delivered at our railroad station, and likely this price will hold good until next spring.

On the 10th of October the writer, E. J. A., R. S. Booth, C. B. Bankston and John W. Pharr left Beeville for a three days' outing, with our guns ready to shoot at any old thing that wore hair or feathers. We reached Lapara late in the afternoon, collected the telephone toll at that point and pushed forward for our upper Pugh bee ranch. On our way we killed quail enough for supper and reached the bee yard just before sunset. We quickly dismounted and struck camp, as it was then too late to reach our headquarter ranch at Dinero. We hastily looked over some hives of bees and Mr. Bankston decided that they were gathering some honey. After supper Mr. Booth called up his home, Rockdale, Texas, some 300 miles away, over the 'phone, and told them where he was, but failed to tell them that our beds that night

were to be stove wood and prickly pear. While we were in conversation with Rockdale we heard a noise away out in the darkness, and as it neared the camp we discovered that the noise was caused by three young ladies and two young gentlemen, who were coming to make us a visit and send a message over the 'phone to Beeville, fifteen miles distant. We carry our portable telephone set with us and can attach to the wire at any point. After our messages were through we had a pleasant chat around the bright burning camp fire until time for sleep. Just about 9 o'clock that night our 'phone rang out and told us that it was raining in Beeville, then you ought to have seen us scrambling around devising some means whereby we could keep dry. We raised up the tongue of one of our buggies and stretched a blanket over it and tacked the edges to an empty bee hive and kept reasonably dry. Pharr and Bankston wallowed over the ground, talked and laughed all night, changing their beds from one place to another. Bankston had a gunny sack for a bed, and he would roll it up and put it under his arms, turn around a few times and lay down again. After breakfast we hitched up our ponies and started for our Dinero ranch.

THE SOUTHLAND QUEEN contains reports of three bee-keepers' conventions. Now is the time to subscribe.

SAN ANTONIO INTERNATIONAL FAIR

**OPENS OCTOBER 20,
Closes November 2, 1900.**

The Bass, Mole and Gopher Trap.

Absolutely the very best Mole and Gopher Trap ever devised. It is a combined trap, either for Moles or Gophers. Full directions accompanying each trap. Ten for \$2.00, by mail prepaid.

S. L. WATKINS,
Grizzly Flats, Cal. viii:niv

NUCLEI FOR SALE.

One-frame, bees, brood and queen, \$1.75. Two-frame, \$2.50. Three-frame, \$3.00. Discount on larger lots. All queens from imported mothers. I will also sell full colonies. Write for prices.

FRANK L. ATEN,
Round Rock, Texas.

7-9

Please mention THE QUEEN.

New York Quotations.

The market for both extracted and comb honey is rather dull. We quote:—
Fancy white comb, 15; No. 1, 14; No. 2, 12; Buckwheat, 10; Buckwheat extracted, 5½; Beeswax, 28.

FRANCIS H. LEGGETT & Co.,
Franklin, West Broadway & Varick Sts.,
Feb. 18, 1901. New York City.

EVERYTHING NEEDED.

W. H. White, manufacturer of bee-keepers' supplies. Catalogue and price list free. Make known to me your wants and let me make you an estimate.

Address, **W. H. White,**
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The Modern Farmer and Busy Bee.

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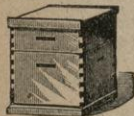
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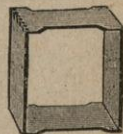
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in car lots—wholesale or retail. Now is the time to get prices. We are the people who manufacture strictly first-class goods and sell them at prices that defy competition. Write us today.



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You learn all about Virginia lands, soil, water, climate, resources, products, fruits, berries, mode of cultivation, prices, etc., by reading the VIRGINIA FARMER. Send 10c. for three months' subscription

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WANTED---HONEY AND WAX.

If you have any bulk comb honey to offer write us and give prices wanted. We also buy extracted honey. When you have wax to sell you may ship it to us without notice and we will pay the market price of it or the ruling price here. Put your name on box or sack and tell us how much you send.

The Jennie Atchley Co.,
Beeville, Texas.

LARGE Apicultural Establishment

(Established in 1860)

for the Rearing and Export of queen bees

PURE SELECTED ITALIAN KIND

Cav. Prof. PIETRO PILATI,

Via Mazzini No. 70,

Bologna, (Italy.)

PRICE LIST

	March April May	June July August	September October November
1 tested Queen	Doll. 1.75	Doll. 1.25	Doll. 1.00
6 " Queens	" 9.25	" 7.00	" 5.75
12 " "	" 18.00	" 14.00	" 10.00

The ordination must be united with the payment which shall be effected by means of post-money-orders.

The addresses and the rail-way stations are desired exact, and in a clear hand writing.

If by chance a queen-bee dies upon the journey, it must be returned accompanied with a Post-Certificate and another queen-bee will be sent immediately in its stead.

We have been pleased with all the queens purchased from Prof. Pilati. Ed.

Please mention THE SOUTHLAND QUEEN in answering this advertisement.

Now is the Time to Order



*Don't wait until your bees are
HANGING ON A LIMB
to order your hives and sup-
plies, but order them now, and
be ready for them when.....*

THEY DO SWARM.

Remember

THAT we carry a full line of Bee-Keeper's Supplies, and everything in the Bee-Keeper's line, such as Hives, Frames, Extractors, Smokers of all kinds, Foundation and any thing you may want in the Bee line. Bees and Queens. Catalogue free. Read the following testimonial—such we are receiving:

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:—I want to say, in justice to The Jennie Atchley Company, that I have been doing business with them for three years, having bought a number of queens from them, also a number of other articles, such as hive fixtures, swarm-catchers, smokers, bee-veils, etc., and everything has come up just as represented. I take pleasure in recommending them to any one who wants to purchase apiarian fixtures.

H. L. ROWLAND, Leo, Texas.

The Jennie Atchley Company,

Beeville, Texas.

Forced To Rise.

We have been forced to rise 10 per ct. on hives and frames for 1901. Lumber has advanced and the rise we have made is very slight considering the advance on lumber. All articles that we have advanced on will be mentioned in THE QUEEN and 1901 catalogue. Bees and queens remain as for 1900.

1901 Prices of Queens and bees.

CHEAP QUEENS AND COMPETITION.

We are often asked why we do not sell queens as cheap as Mr. so-and-so. To this we will say that we do not enter into competition with any one in the queen business. We think we have been in this business long enough to learn what is a "live and let live" price, and we think you will agree with us when you note our prices given below. We must place a guarantee upon all queens sent out, and we try to send nothing but good ones, and after all dead queens are replaced, cost of food, cage and mailing comes off there is only a small portion left for our work, and if we should sell queens at less than cost we fear we would not hold out another 22 years in the business. We try to send you value received when you order anything of us. Untested queens, either from imported Italian stock, Carniolan, Cyprian, Holyland, or our best 5 band strains, February, March, April and May, 1 dollar each, 5 dollars for 6 or 9 dollars per dozen. June to Nov. first, 75 cents each, \$4.25 for 6 or 8 dollars per dozen. Tested queens, three-band, \$1.50 each, of other races, \$2.00 each, at all seasons of the year. Fine breeders, from previous season's rearing, 5 dollars each. We will select you a queen from any race or strain for 50 cents extra to prices given. Bees by the pound, 1 dollar; 10 or more pounds, 90 cents for each pound, and untested queens to go with them, 75 cents each. If you wish a large lot of bees and queens write for wholesale prices.

The Jennie Atchley Co.,
Beville, Texas.

Job Printing for Bee-Keepers.

Did you know that we are well fixed to do printing for bee-keepers? White wove envelopes, good and strong, also neat, printed \$2.00 for 500, or \$3.50 for 1000. Letter heads, same price. You pay express or postage, or they can be sent along with other goods. We get out cards, circulars and catalogues as cheap as the cheapest. Prices quoted on application, as we would have to know the size before we could make a true estimate. Give us some of your printing.

The Jennie Atchley Co.,
Beville, Texas.

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Scientifically correct, practically perfect.
Non-explosive metal lamps.
Double and packed walls.
Perfect regulation of heat and ventilation.
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6-8

Please mention "The Queen."

Queens. ❁ QUEENS! ❁ QUEENS!!

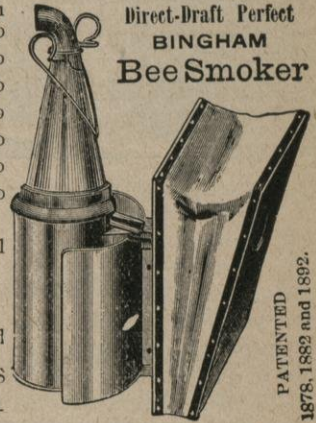
FRIENDS:—I am now better prepared to supply you with queens and bees than ever before, as I have more bees now, and double my regular number of queen rearing yards. I can supply you with queens and bees of almost any kind, the different kinds of which I breed in separate yards, from six to twenty miles apart. Three banded Italians, five banded goldens, Holylands, Cyprians, Albinos and Carniolans. Untested queens of either race from now until further notice, 75 cts. each, \$4.25 for six, or \$8.00 per dozen. Tested queens, \$1.50 each. Fine breeders, from previous season's rearing, \$5.00 each.

WILLIE ATCHLEY, Beeville, Texas.

PRICES OF Bingham Perfect BEE Smokers and Honey Knives Patented 1878, 1882 and 1892.

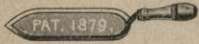
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4-inch stove { er made } \$13 00.	Mail, \$1 50		
Doctor, 3½ inch stove	9 00.	"	1 10
Conqueror, 3 "	6 50.	"	1 00
Large, 2½ "	5 00.	"	90
Plain, 2 "	4 75.	"	70
Little Wonder, 2 "	4 50.	"	60
Honey Knife,	6 00.	"	80

Direct-Draft Perfect BINGHAM Bee Smoker



PATENTED 1878, 1882 and 1892.

All Bingham smokers are stamped on the metal



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The four larger sizes have extra wide shields and double coiled steel wire handles. These SHIELDS and HANDLES are an AMAZING COMFORT—al-

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Fiteen Years for a Dollar! One-half a Cent for a Month!!

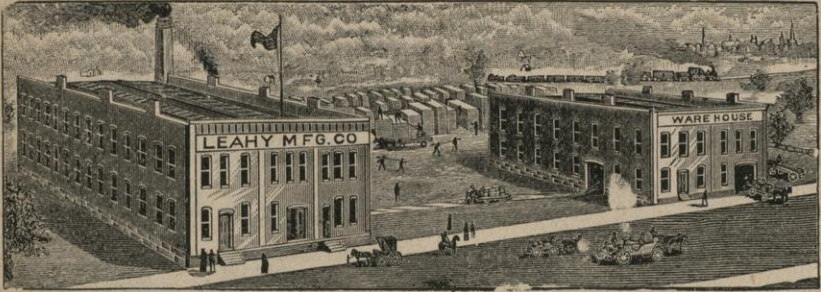
DEAR SIR: Have used the Conqueror 15 years. I was always pleased with its workings, but thinking I would need a new one this summer, I write for a circular. I do not think the 4-inch Smoke-engine too large.
Yours, etc., W. H. EAGERTY, Cuba, Kansas, January 27, 87.

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