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APR., 1900.

THE PROGRESSIVE BEE-KEEPER

A JOURNAL
DEVOTED TO BEES, HONEY AND
KINDRED INDUSTRIES.

MUNNAY-HEISS CLEV. O.

PUBLISHED BY
LEAHY MANUFACTURING CO
HIGGINSVILLE, MISSOURI.

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Mr. G. F. DAVIDSON & SONS:—I want to express my pleasure and satisfaction with the bees which I bought from you. The bees are the finest in color which I have seen in this state, being a bright golden color—so much so that, when the young bees are taking their flight in the sun, they present a rare spectacle of beauty to the practiced apiarist's eye. But aside from their beauty they are the best rustlers I have in my apiary, getting out earlier in the morning, and working a stronger force in proportion to colony. I want to thank you for the prompt and honorable treatment you have accorded me. A. W. BISHOP.
Sterling, Kan. Ex-Pres. Kan. S. B. K. A.

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WHAT OTHERS THINK OF THEM.

We have received scores of unsolicited testimonials in praise of these new goods. We have before claimed that plain sections will be better filled, and will, consequently, bring better prices. In proof of this statement read what a large buyer in Chicago says:

"I find the honey stored in plain sections enters into the Fancy grade in much larger proportion than that stored in the old style sections. B. WALKER.

And, again, here is what a large commission house in Columbus, that knew nothing of plain sections, or what what has been said in their favor, has to say:

"There was one case of the Elsie, Mich., lot that we opened this morning, that has 15 sections. The case was marked 'plain sections,' about 12 lbs net. This was a very fine case of honey. We thought we had more of it, and showed it to some of our trade, and the result was we took orders from every man who saw it. We should like to get a lot of this kind, and can use anywhere from one hundred to one thousand cases.

THE COLUMBUS COMMISSION & STORAGE CO.

Read what one of the leading firms of New York City say:

"The plain section has come to stay, and the sooner our bee-keepers make themselves acquainted with this fact, the better for them."

We also append the testimonials of some well known bee-keepers:

"In regard to those fences bought of you, it is one of the best improvements since I began the bee business fifty years ago. Last year I had the best comb honey I ever raised. I think bees will commence on sections quicker, work the outside of the crate just as well as the middle, and best of all, bees do not travel-stain the combs. Make me enough for fifty hives more. C. M. LINCOLN, Rupert, Vt.

"I had your plain sections in use with fences, and I must say I am well pleased with them, especially the $3\frac{3}{4} \times 5 \times 1\frac{1}{2}$ sections. They are very nice, better filled than the old style, and brought me a better price, and they sell much quicker. I am so well pleased with them that I will use none but plain sections this season, and have sent my order for such. P. I. HUFFMAN, Alpine, Va.

"The plain section is far ahead of the old bee-way section, and I would not return to the plain separator for any money. Every customer to whom I sell remarks, 'How fine the honey in plain sections does look.' I have nothing but praise for my honey wherever I have offered it for sale this winter. W. H. EAGERTY, Cuba, Kas.

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The Progressive Bee-Keeper.

A Journal Devoted to Bees, Honey, and Kindred Industries

50 Cents a Year.

Published Monthly by Leahy Manufacturing Company.

Vol. X.

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NOTES OF TRAVEL.

F. L. THOMPSON.

Even yet I believe locality has not received the prominence it deserves as an explanation of differences in bee-keeping. I lately, in company with Mr. F. Rauchfuss, visited Mr. Harry Crawford, who now lives about twelve miles north of Denver. He said that in his old location, southeast of Denver, he used the ten-frame hive, and if he went back there he would use it again; but in his present location, within a radius of several miles at least, even the eight-frame was plenty large enough for the size of the colonies. The bees crammed the brood-nest so full of honey as to seriously impair their strength, and they could not breed up strong in the spring because there was not room enough, while as for shortage of stores, such a thing was unknown. He wished his bees only would consume much more honey than they did, so that the queen could have empty cells to lay in. Such a condition of affairs was very surprising to me, having been used to a regular radical cleaning-up of old stores in the hive every spring, for the last three years at least, at Montrose. I remember now that when I kept bees at Arvada, some six or seven miles south of Mr. Crawford's present location, there was a general

An Easter Sonnet.

The home at Bethany was saddened. He
Who raised dead Lazarus, whom Mary and
Her sister Martha served with heart and hand
Oftimes, had left the blue-hilled Galilee.
From death and hades lately merging, free
From mortal fetters, with His little band
Upon the ancient mount behold Him stand
A space what time He looked toward Bethany.
Then He was gone. No more they saw Him
there.
No more he supped with the beloved three—
But He will come again, for so He said.
As from the grave He victor rose to wear
The fadeless crown, to bless humanity—
Ring Easter bells, the Christ no more is dead.
—Will Ward Mitchell.

Natural.

Easter morn she wore a bonnet to the church,
extremely swell,
But the pastor's text or subject she could
never, never tell.—Will Ward Mitchell.

shortage only one of the four springs that I was there, and I presume Arvada is about on the edge of that region where Mr. Crawford finds such a difficulty. There is an abundance of sweet clover there, and Mr. Rauchfuss and I agreed that it seemed plausible that the long, slow flow from this source, late in the fall, was responsible for the excessive storing of honey below. But that theory was knocked in the head by another bee-keeper, from the Arkansas valley, telling me later that his bees plugged up the brood-chamber in the same way, and that they had access to no sweet clover to amount to anything. It's locality, anyway—we know that much. Perhaps the majority of alfalfa localities are like mine have been, but there are some of the others, and ALL GRADES BETWEEN, so that it would be dogmatizing to reason from one to all. And the thought strikes me, does this apply to alfalfa only? Is it not rather true everywhere? The diversity of opinions by eastern writers indicates as much. The Arkansas valley bee-keeper referred to is an adept at bee-keeping, and has raised a good many queens from the best stock, but said his queens never were so prolific as those of the Rauchfuss Brothers in their location. Recently I read an article, by a bee-keeper of long experience in one locality, on the size of hives, in which he told how his average queens kept up but a certain amount of brood, and how when his hives exceeded an eight L-frame capacity the side combs would contain only honey all the year around; and while he does not precisely say that the questioner for whom he is writing, and all his readers, should use eight-frame hives, because he found them best for his locality, the inference is that way, for he does not allude to locality at all. But

about a year ago the same writer, in connection with the same subject, said that he was inclined to think that what is applicable to his locality will come very nearly the truth in other localities, if others will work along the same lines he does, and experiment, and note things as carefully. I cannot find the grounds for agreeing with him; the known differences of locality are too great, and the testimony of those who have had actual experience in keeping bees in different localities too frequently contrary to that sentiment.

Lately, in conversation with Mr. Dudley, of Utah, who is spending the winter in Denver, he emphatically supported that conclusion, and said he could start with the northern part of Utah and go down to the end of Utah county, and pick out localities all along the line that give widely differing results. He was speaking especially about wintering, but said that in many of these localities the same disadvantage was met with as in Mr. Crawford's location—too much honey in the brood-nest. Speaking of wintering, he said Mr. J. S. Scott, of Springville, always wintered well; although others in the same locality had good success, too, but Mr. Scott always wintered best, as he is a good bee-keeper. But when Mr. Dudley had bees at Provo, which is only six miles distant, try as he would he could not meet with the same success, although he knew he employed exactly the same methods as Mr. Scott. Another effect of locality is shown by the fact that there is two weeks' difference between the time of alfalfa blooming at Springville and Benjamin, only about ten miles apart, and Mr. Scott's flow is over by the middle of August, while other localities continue on into September. At

Bountiful the bees always winter well, while ten miles away at Salt Lake they winter wretchedly.

Speaking of Bountiful, it was there I met Mr. Garrett, secretary of a local association. He said that he had noticed that sometimes queens in their second year were better than they were in their first. This confirms a statement to that effect in one of the foreign journals.

Most of the hives in Utah seemed to be home-made; and Mr. Dudley tells me that is largely the case, owing to the superior class of work turned out by the numerous old-country workmen, who furnish hives as cheaply and as well made as those which might be shipped in.

At Provo I hunted up Mr. Wm. Peay. Mr. Peay finds it hard to convince his neighbors that there is not a small fortune in bee-keeping, though his own practice might convince them of the cheerful idiocy of such a supposition, as he sticks to farming in connection, for fear that his too enthusiastic competitors will run him out if he leans on one stick entirely. Here at Provo is the only locality I came across in Utah where the bees gather any of the red variety of propolis, and the consequence is the sections are soiled more than elsewhere. Mr. Peay gets around that by simply cutting away the soiled portion of the wood with a very sharp penknife. This illustrates what I said some time ago about the best method often being that which one is thoroughly accustomed to; for any one would think this a very bunglesome and slow method of cleaning sections, but Mr. Peay surprised me by picking up a section and going around it with his knife in very short order, and saying that when he was in the swing of the work he could do it a great deal quicker than that. Something like eating with chopsticks, I

suppose. That Arkansas valley bee-keeper, of whom I spoke (whose name I do not feel free to give, but he is an old-timer, having kept bees long ago and manufactured foundation in the east) told me an anecdote that has a bearing on this point. He said when he was a boy he had noticed particularly, on one floor of a carriage-factory where the bodies were turned out, that one workman turned out a complete body every two days regularly, while if any of the others finished one in three and a half days, he did well, and generally it took four; and yet this man was never in a hurry. He asked the workman the reason. He said he did not know unless it was because he always sawed true to the line, hence did not take the time for chiseling that the other men did. So it seems to be with Mr. Peay's cutting away the wood—the knife almost always moves forward, and does not go over the same ground twice, yet leaves a smooth surface. The principle might be applied to a good many little tasks that bee-keepers and other people are apt to slur over without mastering the details.

Mr. Geo. E. Hone, of Benjamin, was the next colleague visited, at whose home I spent a day. Like Mr. Lovesy, he crossed the plains in his youth with an ox-team, and has been in Utah ever since, most of the time where he is now. He showed me fruit-trees in his yard something over thirty years old. His yard or lot is a very large one, like many Utah lots, and is over half occupied by fine old fruit-trees, that "shake hands" with one another across the hives, as Mr. Hutchinson would say. Perhaps I am an enthusiast on the subject of trees, but having lived so long in a comparatively treeless region, the sight of a well-shaded yard does my eyes

good; and I took much pleasure in roaming around Mr. Hone's. Two flowing wells in his yard, one 70 degrees Fahrenheit and the other 65, make him independent of outside sources of water for his garden, trees and house. Here, too, were all the conveniences that a long-settled residence and twenty-five years' experience in bee-keeping would suggest; among others, a Barnes saw with an engine to run it. Mr. Hone makes his own hives. I was particularly interested in his automatically reversible extractor. We are often told that strictly automatic reversing extractors are not practical; but so far as I can judge, Mr. Hone's certainly is. Not being a mechanic, the principle did not make enough impression to stick in my memory, but the working seemed to me faultless. To reverse, Mr. Hone applies a simple but effective brake, not stopping it, but slowing it to a certain degree, when a sudden but not violent check to the crank causes the baskets to swing around, and the operator keeps on turning in the same direction as before. Each basket is detachable, and may be lifted out in an instant. Mr. Dudley says that while he has not tried the extractor himself, he has no doubt it is an excellent thing, for if it was not good Mr. Hone would not have it. He considers Mr. Hone and Mr. Scott the two best bee-keepers in Utah. A few of the extractors have been sold to neighbors, but no particular effort, I believe, has been made to put it on the market. Mr. Hone's son, who is also interested in bees, is I believe entitled to some and perhaps most of the credit of the invention.

Years ago, when the Given foundation press first came out, Mr. Hone bought two, one for the American and one for the Langstroth size of sheets, and has been using them

with satisfaction ever since, for surplus as well as brood foundation. He has also used a roller mill, but gives the preference to the Given product. Given foundation appears thick at the first glance, but on taking up a piece and looking through it, I saw the thick appearance was due to the cell walls, the cell bases being very thin. I asked Mr. Hone whether he considered that Mr. Heddon's statement, that combs built on full sheets of Given foundation could not be told, in eating qualities, from combs built from starters was accurate, and he said it was. A few partly drawn combs were at hand, and on holding them up to the light, I could see no apparent difference between them and combs built from starters. Mr. Hone is emphatic in the assertion that it pays a specialist bee-keeper to make his own foundation. It is a great pity the Given press was allowed to drop out of the market. I noticed the plates seemed exactly like the plates of my Rietsche press; and as Mr. Hone says he can dip very thin sheets, and at any rate the Given product has very thin cell-bases, I do not see why a person of mechanical genius might not rig up a lever arrangement for use with the Rietsche press in the same way.

Mr. Hone uses the American hive, and considers it the best. Others, however, say it is his skill as a honey-producer that evolves results equal to those from the Langstroth from this generally discredited dimension for comb honey. For wintering, his favorite is a double-walled American. His single-walled hives he moves together in rows, eight or ten in a group, packs the group (with what material I have forgotten), and covers with boards, leaving the fronts exposed.

Besides the American proper, he has also tried a double brood-cham-

ber hive, the same size as the American when one is set on another, and likes it pretty well, and has been quite successful in wintering in single chambers of this kind; indeed, Mr. Dudley told me lately that Mr. Hone had about come to the conclusion that all there was of advantage in a deep frame for wintering was the amount of honey over the cluster, and if the conditions were made equivalent with a shallow frame, it would winter as well.

Denver, Colo.

Bear in Mind



If you are needing bee supplies of any kind—makes no difference what it is—you can save time and money by sending for our 1900 illustrated 40-page catalog of bee-keepers' supplies, FREE.

We get our supplies from the A. I. Root Co. in car lots; can furnish them promptly at low freight rates. There are a number of improvements in 1900 make-up of supplies. We have the Danzenbaker hives in stock also. BEESWAX WANTED.



John Nebel & Son, High Hill, Mo.

LIQUEFYING AND BOTTLING HONEY.

H. RAUCHFUSS (COLORADO).

Even with a double-walled tank for liquefying honey, care is needed to prevent the honey from being colored. Some cans which I liquefied by setting them on the bottom of the tank poured out light honey at first and dark honey from the bottom, showing that the heat from the boiling water between the two bottoms of the tank was transmitted directly to the cans, without being modified sufficiently by the water around the cans in the tank. Hence it is necessary to place strips of wood under the cans.

In bottling honey, it should be of a certain temperature, no more and no less, to avoid incorporating bubbles of air. If too thick, the down-flowing stream of honey will waver from one side to the other, lapping over itself when it reaches the honey in the vessel, thus enclosing streaks of air. If too thin, it will pierce right into the honey below, dragging down air with it in the form of small bubbles. It should be of just the right thickness to spread out in the form of a cone when it strikes the honey below, neither depressing its surface nor piling up on it, but uniting with it at once wherever it touches.

Elyria, Colo.

Bee Culture in Palestine.

Consul Merrill reports from Jerusalem that the bee business in Palestine is largely in the hands of one family of Swiss, the Baldenspergers. This family moved to a village near Jerusalem fifty-one years ago, and at once began to raise large numbers of bees. The industry was at first taxed ten cents a hive. Then the government began to count every door in the hive as a separate hive, and the Baldenspergers, refusing to pay, were adjudged \$500 in debt to the government. The hives were ordered sold, but when the officials tried to take them the bees swarmed out and drove everybody back. So the government compromised and accepted half the amount of the judgment.

Wherever an apiary is set down, the sheiks of the nearest village have to receive a certain amount of honey, otherwise the bees will be stolen. About one-tenth of all the honey produced must be given away to prevent people from taking the hives. The honey is exported to Germany, Switzerland and England.

G. F. DAVIDSON.

Mr. G. F. Davidson of Fairview, Tex., the subject of this sketch, was born in Cass county, Tex., in the year of 1854, his parents having moved there from Tennessee. At the age of 9 he was left an orphan, and at the age of 13 was left among strangers to shift for himself. But young Davidson had energy and independence sufficient to build for himself a future which has made of him one of the largest and most successful bee-keepers in the state of Texas. In 1876 Mr. Davidson was married to Miss Candis A. Wright. They have been blest with six children, one, the PROGRESSIVE'S favorite, Miss Nellie May, whose portrait embellishes this page.

Mr. Davidson states that he has been a patron of our establishment for 13 years. I hope he is as well pleased with us and our goods as we have been with his square and upright dealings with us. Mr. Davidson was justice of the peace of his district for a long time, but we believe of late years he puts his entire attention to producing honey and rearing bees and queens for sale, in which he has a large trade, and the advertisement

of G. F. Davidson and Son will be found in all the leading bee journals.

Friends, I do not envy Mr. Davidson his bounteous honey crops—I do not envy him his lucrative bee and queen trade—I do not envy much the pleasures of his rural



NELLIE MAY DAVIDSON, WHO HELPS "PAPA" KEEP BEES.

home, though I do love to hear the wind whisper among the leaves and see the pearly dewdrops glisten in the sunlight, and to inhale the pure and fragrant air—I love to hear the gentle hum of bees upon the wing, and happy song of birds nest-building in the trees; but we have

the bees here, and we have three pairs of little birds that build their nests in the printing office and rear their young there every year. No, I do not envy him his birds and bees and all the countless charms of quiet happiness with nature blessing rural life—but say, just look at that

CLIPPING QUEENS IN CONNECTION WITH REQUEENING AND SWARMING MANAGEMENT.

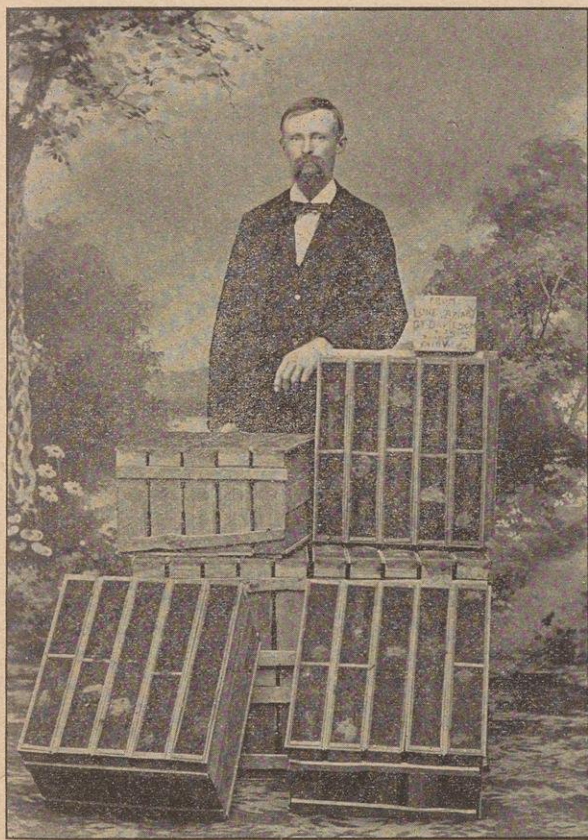
MRS. A. J. BARBER.

I have just finished my round of clipping queens for this year. I usually get that work done in March, but this year we have had so much cold wind that we could not expose the brood before May.

I believe my method somewhat different from any I have heard of, so will give an outline of my management of two apiaries. I have 60 colonies at home, run mostly for extracted honey, and one hundred colonies three miles away.

I clip every queen's wings so closely that she can't fly at all; take them off pretty short. I find from thirty to fifty a day. I clip every one that I find unclipped, which is usually about two-thirds of the whole.

When I find a clipped queen I mark that hive, so that when it swarms I shall know that she was a queen that was clipped last year. When she comes out with her swarm she is destroyed. The hive is set aside and a new one put in its place



FORTY NUCELI HIVES OF BEES AS THEY WERE PREPARED FOR SHIPMENT TO GO FROM FAIRVIEW, TEX., TO LAS ANIMAS, COLO.

picture of Nellie May once more, and, when I tell you that we have no little girl at our house, can you blame me if I envy him just a little? Yes, and you, too, Mrs. Davidson.—[R. B. L.]

with a frame of eggs and brood to hold the bees. If I have no young laying queen to give them (I try to have them on hand) I leave one of the best queen-cells for them, and turn an empty super over the front of the hive to help the young queen to mark her location, and as a guide for myself. I look at such hives in about ten days to see if the queen is all right or if she has been lost. If lost I give a queen. Such colonies always winter well, and give a good honey crop, too. The unclipped queens I know were raised last year so are in their prime. I clip them but do not mark the hives. When they swarm we give a new hive on the old stand, set the other aside and put the queen in the new hive after she has run about a little and made sure that she can't fly. She usually stays without caging.

By this method we have no old failing queens, and few weak colonies. We have no winter losses to speak of, and I believe having young prolific queens has much to do with it.

I never have found many queens that gave good results after they were two years old. My plan disposes of them before they get to the decline.

I tried dequeening some years ago, as I thought I could run two apiaries without help. I found many objections to the plan and gave it up, and gradually worked into my present system. Of course my plan involves the services of an assistant in swarming-time.

There are four points that I have come to consider important in working my apiaries: first, pushing the bees in spring by keeping plenty of feed; second, clipping every queen;

third, weeding out the old queens and supplying young ones; fourth, keeping an assistant in the apiary every day that I am not there myself. My little boy, who is now thirteen years old, has been my assistant for the last three years. As he is not strong enough to handle the hives he simply watches for the swarms and catches the queens, and returns them caged to the hive. He puts a rock upon every hive that swarms to show that it has swarmed. Next day when I go to that apiary I remove the hives that swarmed, putting new ones in their places, and shaking the bees into the new hives, arrange the queens according to the marks I made in the spring when I clipped queens. He often has eight or ten for me to attend. He has never made half a dozen mistakes or failures in the three years. The work is so simple that one ought to be able to get a boy or girl to attend to it from eight till four for a moderate price.

I am quite sure I could never get good results in only visiting my out-apiary once a week. I spend Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at my home apiary; Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays I give to the out-apiary. As we use bicycles for going and coming we do not mind the trips, as they make a pleasant variety in the work. By this method I have an understanding of my work and keep in touch with both places all the time. Last year we produced over fifteen thousand pounds of honey, and my expense account for hired help was fourteen dollars. The boy and I did all the work except in extracting.

Mancos, Colo., May 19, 1899.



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A Truth.

The man who lives the best he knows
Will meet him honorable foes.
While he who serves ignoble ends
May count a host of Judas friends.

—Will Ward Mitchell.

LARGE HIVES VERSUS SMALL HIVES.

Where the Cause of the Controversy Lies.

H. H. HYDE.

If I should make the unsupported statement that queen excluders were largely the cause of so much controversy in regard to large or small hives, there would be very few who believed me, but before I am thro with this article I believe that at least a large number will agree with me. But the first thing to do will be to state both sides.

First, the side to which belongs the man who uses queen excluders and small hives. His bees will enter winter quarters as what I would term weak colonies. And why? Answer: Because the owner has used queen excluders during the season, and the bees did not have an opportunity to become strong. Now these bees cannot help but come through a small colony, and cannot build up before the honey season to more than a moderate colony, (although the small hive men would call them a strong colony.)

At the commencement of the honey-flow, the queen excluder is put on and kept on till the honey season is past, hence the bees never have an opportunity of becoming strong, and the small hive man concludes that his hive is large enough, and that all talk of a large hive and

strong colonies to fill it is an impossibility.

Now the other side, or the side to which belongs the man who dispenses with the use of queen excluders and uses large hives. Now this man's bees enter winter quarters strong because they have had an opportunity to become strong during the season, as they had room and no queen excluders on to hamper brood rearing, hence, entering winter quarters strong, they came through in good shape and strong; therefore build up to rousing big colonies by the beginning of the honey flow and gather a big crop of honey; hence the man who has large hives and uses no queen excluder rightly decides that large hives are best, and if he does not almost have contempt for the small hive man, he decides that there is something wrong, mentally, in his cranium. Still both men are honest in their views, and perhaps little thinking that around the queen excluder hangs the controversy. I firmly believe that if a vote were taken, between an equal number of large and small hive men the majority vote would be, small hive men use queen excluders and large hive men do not. Certain I am that there has not been enough attention given to the influence they have.

I am a large hive man. I believe in strong colonies at all times of the year. Large colonies not only gather large quantities of honey, but also require much less work and attention. Now right in line with strong colonies comes the importance of good, prolific queens, to fill the large hives, or barns, as some call them. I want queens reared by the best methods from industrious, prolific stock, queens that have been well fed in their larval state, queens that are large and able. I want no queen that cannot, in this

locality, have twelve frames of brood by the commencement of the honey-flow April 25th, and the more brood and the stronger the colonies, the better I like her. I have had queens that would fill eighteen frames of brood by the commencement of the season. Such colonies did not fail to give me a fine lot of honey. Individual colonies giving from 200 pounds up. Our best hive one year gave 285 pounds of honey.

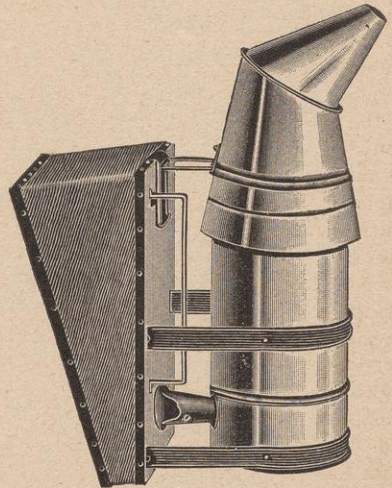
I wish to say that I was not a large hive advocate from the start; in fact, I have had it almost pumped into me little by little, for we (O. P. Hyde & Son) started with 8-frame hives, using one story, and now have 300 of our 500 colonies in 8-frame hives, but we have just that many more than we want. Still we make large hives out of them by giving the queen access to two or more stories, according to the number she can occupy. And, too, we run two-thirds of the bees in each apiary for comb honey during our first flow. This manipulation I have several times before explained, notably for last May and June.

I think it has been often advanced that large colonies are more inclined to swarm than small ones, provided they are given all the room they need, for when once started in the supers (and they are much easier started) they go to work with such vim that the brood chamber is left almost bare of honey, and consequently the queen has plenty of room, hence, as both bees and queen have plenty of room there is little desire to swarm. On the other hand, our small hive friends, by putting on their queen excluders, only increase the desire to swarm, as the bees, having an antipathy to working through the excluders, fill the brood chamber with honey, and therefore comes the desire to swarm. Now while it is a fact that it takes

more honey to run large colonies, it is also a fact that they will store much more surplus, very much more, than small colonies, even much more than proportion to the number of bees.

There is but one thing that I will admit to the small hive men, and that is where large colonies are kept strong that queens will give out much earlier in life, making their replacing oftener necessary, but where dequeening is practiced or the bee-keeper is up-to-date, this is but a slight objection. I trust I have proved my point to at least a few, I hope to a great many. Queen excluders not only cost money, but are worse than useless for anything in bee-keeping, except in a few instances, as explained in my last article, and in queen-rearing.

Hutto, Tex.



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BEE PASTURE.

BY GEO. W. WILLIAMS.

The query among the majority of bee-keepers is, "Why is it, that the bees do not do as well as they did thirty or forty years ago?"

The answer to this is easy. Thirty or forty years ago the country was comparatively new, the prairies and woods were covered over with nectar producing plants and the bees had but to go forth and gather it, store it in the hive and ripen it into honey. There was enough of this to supply the few bees in the country with their choice sweets. As time went on the country becoming more densely populated, the prairies and timber land were demanded for tillage for farm crops, thus destroying the bee pasturage, nor was this all; as the country settled up thicker with people the number of bees increased and we see the result—an increased number of bees with a decrease of nectar producing plants and flowers. What could be the result but less honey per colony?

It is no wonder that the general complaint comes from all over the country that the bees do not store honey as they once did. What can we do about it, and how can we help them out? Let me answer by saying make bee pasture; can this be done profitably? you ask. YES.

Right here let me correct an error that seems to have gotten possession of the minds of a very large majority of the people, i. e., that there is no plant or plants that will pay to cultivate for bees alone. In reading the Bee Journals we often see the questions asked, "Is there any plant that will pay to grow for bees alone?" Ninety-nine out of every one hundred who answer the question say that there IS NOT. If you was to go into the hog or cattle business as a specialty and ask the

question, "Is there any crop that would be profitable to raise for hogs or cattle alone?" and some supposed hog or cattle man should tell you NO, and should you follow his advice and turn your hogs and cattle out to shift for themselves, or shut them up in a dry lot, without making any provision for their needs, it would be but a short time until you, like the improvident bee-keeper, would say that hog and cattle raising is a failure, but no sensible man will tell you that there is no plant or crop that will pay to raise for such stock, but on the other hand will say Y-E-S, RAISE CORN.

One of these propositions is just as reasonable as the other. The reply that there is no plant that will pay to grow for bees alone, comes either from parties who have not fully tried the experiment, or from a selfish motive. Those of the selfish motive class are those who keep bees in cities or in limited space—even out on top of business houses—and as an excuse for not providing bee pasture say it "will not pay." Yet these same bee-keepers are the loudest in their condemnation of the farmer (the man who does provide for his bees) for flooding the market with "cheap honey." How many of you can call to mind men who are keeping bees in the cities and towns, when asked if they try to make pasture will say: "Oh, no; it don't pay." Yet that individual never planted a seed or set a plant for his bees, but to justify his neglect, says: "I-t w-o-n-t p-a-y."

I want to disabuse your mind, upon this "won't pay theory" by saying that there are plants that WILL pay, and pay largely, to raise for bees alone—just as corn will pay to raise for hogs. This I KNOW for I have been doing it for years. I am cultivating on very valuable land three of the more common plants and consider my returns better than upon any of same acreage

on my farm, and I have some very valuable acres of berries, small fruit, etc.

The three plants referred to are—
 First—Simson's Honey Plant (known among farmers as Carpenter Square, Cure All, Rattle Weed and Fig-wort)
 Second—Sweet Clover (Melilot, or Bohkara.) Third—The much abused and despised Catnip. All of these plants will grow in nearly all kinds of soil, from the low rich bottoms to the high rocky lands, with little or no cultivation but all will respond freely to cultivation and for best results should be cultivated; this is especially with the Simpson honey plant, but its culture is as easy as that of any farm crop. Sow the seed in late fall or early spring in seed beds, prepared as for tobacco seed; when the plants are three to four inches high set in rows four feet apart with plants eighteen inches apart in the row, cultivate the same as any other hoed crop. The plants will bloom some the first year, but will not be at their best until the second year.

They are hardy and when once set, will, with a little care last an indefinite time. After the second year the bunches, like pie-plant can be divided, which is the easiest way to propagate after once started and will be the better for the dividing. This plant grows from five to seven feet high and has an unassuming little purple flower which is rich in nectar, and the bees hum on it from daylight until dark. Here in Missouri it begins blooming about the twentieth of June and is continually in bloom until a killing frost, the early frosts does not affect it. This is without question the best of all honey plants for our state—and many others—and will pay large returns for its cultivation. You that have bees try it and be convinced that there are plants that it will pay to cultivate for bees. As to Sweet Clover (Bohkara) and Catnip, they are too well known to need any lengthy description Gather

and sow the seed in late fall or early spring and they will take care of themselves in most places.

How many farms do we see where the owner is trying to keep bees and his fence corners growing up in weeds and briars? Why not sow these corners in catnip and utilize them, making that strip the most profitable of any on the farm? The Catnip when once established will hold its own with any of the weeds, and being of a dwarf nature will not grow high enough to be unsightly. Try it.

If you want your bees to make honey you MUST provide them with pasture. If you expect your cow to give milk through the summer season you provide her with pasture. Then why not provide your bees with pasture? Why not provide your bees with pasture instead of letting them rummage around, trespassing on the premises of those that do make an effort to provide for their own? This is no theory, it is a practical fact, and you must meet it in a practical way if you ever make a success of bee-keeping.

Humansville, Mo., Jan. 20, 1900.

EXPERIENCE AND ITS LESSONS.

R. C. Aikin.

(Continued from March PROGRESSIVE.)

CHAPTER XXV.

About Extracting Before Sealing.—No Gain Thereby.—Value of Cappings—They are Net Gain.—Less Work to Extract Fully Sealed Honey.

I have been wondering how much unripe or poor extracted honey is put upon the market. I frequently read of those who extract when the honey is $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ capped, some even sooner. In this dry climate nectar ripens freely and our honey is usually very thick; but thick as it is, I never get it too

thick, and when well ripened in the comb it requires a temperature of about 90 degrees to extract well. I never have any complaint about thin or unripe honey.

There are those who claim they can extract much more in a day when taken before sealing, and also that the colony will gather more when they do not seal, arguing that there is a waste of honey in making the necessary wax, and a waste of time when secreting wax and capping honey, time that would otherwise be spent in gathering nectar. This is contrary to accepted theory, that young bees do the inside work, more aged ones doing the fielding. I am not fully prepared to assert that bees under field age do all the wax work, but I do know that a colony of old bees will gather more honey than one all young. I have often, when opening a hive in the honey season and just at the close of day, observed that nearly all the bees at and near the entrance were old and worn with ragged wings and shiny backs, while in the supers and in the work centers were young bees everywhere and sacs full of honey.

There is another thing I know, that bees handling much honey or nectar secrete wax freely. Once I received a lot of bees by express from Arkansas, bought by the pound, caged in wire cloth with just enough comb and honey to carry them through. When they arrived they were loaded with wax, had plastered knots of wax all about the cage, wax scales sifting out through the wire, and even had built several square inches of comb.

This is not absolute proof (they may have been secreting wax when caged for shipment), yet it strongly indicates that the handling of honey causes abundant wax secretion, even though not needed. This is further evidenced by the fact that in extracting where there is plenty of comb on hand in the hive, bees are found to have large pellets of

wax and wax going to waste. I have frequently observed this. In the light of my present knowledge I must conclude that in colonies of normal strength and of average condition in respect to amount of brooding going on, there is wax enough secreted for all moderate demands for its use, and being so the sealing of honey practically costs us nothing.

Going on this assumption, I consider it foolishness to extract before the honey is sealed, and this brings us to the question of whether we can make it pay to extract before sealing because we can save in time and expense thereby, to the apiarist. I admit this much that the ripened honey is harder to throw from the comb, requiring a little more energy and a little longer applied, at the crank; but that is overbalanced by a better quality and a greater quantity thrown out. The quality part is so patent it needs no explanation. This ripe thick honey will surely bring a better price.

Since writing the foregoing, I have been experimenting. I took a gallon measure and filled it with honey that at a temperature of 42 degrees would scarcely run from a five gallon can through a $1\frac{1}{4}$ inch nozzle. At this temperature the honey was so thick that a pail of it could be laid on its side or turned up side down for two or three seconds and the honey not run out. It could be rolled up on a spoon to the size of a teacup. I should say that this was probably a little thicker than the average ripe honey.

The gallon measure used I bought for true measure—the dealer said he bought goods that were represented to be accurate. The measure FULL held $12\frac{1}{4}$ pounds. A graduated quart measure I have held only a scant 3 pounds, one or two ounces short, which proves that one or the other of the measures is incorrect. The gallon measure held nicely $12\frac{1}{4}$ pounds, but I took out the $\frac{1}{4}$ leaving even 12, this

filling within 3-16 to $\frac{1}{4}$ inch of level full. To this 12 pounds of honey I added 4 pounds of water, which made the liquid stand at 11 pounds to the gallon.

When I mixed the honey and water the honey was at 42 degrees temperature and the water at 37, but the great agitation required to mix them in a warmer atmosphere, raised the temperature to 45 degrees. At 45 the liquid was about as thick as ordinary ripe honey at about 100 degrees temperature, and poured almost like water. It is too thin to sell as honey.

Now, note that 12 pounds or a little over to the gallon, makes a very thick syrup, but 11 pounds quite thin, and to accomplish this there is ALMOST 1 part of water to 2 parts of honey. I took 12 pounds of honey and added 4 pounds of water, obtaining a liquid of 11 pounds to the gallon, a total measure of ALMOST $1\frac{1}{2}$ gallon (1 gallon and 5-11). The honey was 12 pounds and the water 8 to the gallon, I believe 8 and a small fraction is the standard weight of water.

Suppose I should sell this thin syrup as honey, and it is the thinnest that we could possibly offer, and not fit to be sold as honey, I would sell 4 pounds of water. For several years past the average price, wholesale, for extracted honey in eastern markets, has been about 6 cents. By adding the water I sell 72 cents worth of honey and 24 cents worth of water. 5 gallon cans cased cost about 8 cents per gallon capacity, hence my $\frac{1}{2}$ gallon water costs me 4 cents for package leaving me but 20 cents for the income on the water sold. We sell by weight, so at 8 pounds for water and 12 for honey the honey costs $\frac{1}{3}$ less per pound for cans than the water.

But as this water and honey mixed is altogether too thin, we should divide that 20c worth of water by at least 2, reducing it to 10c. If the water be in

the honey when thrown from the combs, we necessarily must handle a greater number of combs to get it. Then, too, honey extracted before ripe the combs will not be as full as when it is ripe and sealed, thus we handle about $\frac{1}{8}$ more combs in getting a given weight, and so increase the cost of our HONEY. You see it costs less per pound to extract ripe honey than the thin, and any way you can figure there can be very little gain in the end by extracting 10 pounds of watery honey instead of 12 pounds of ripe thick honey. Remember the extra amount of combs and chambers to handle, and that the water being lighter per bulk costs more to can, that the thin honey is WORTH less money, and, above all that to SELL UNRIPE HONEY IS WRONG.

But that is not all yet. If I am correct in my reasoning that the wax is secreted anyhow and wasted if not used in building comb or sealing honey we have lost nothing by allowing the bees to seal, unless it be in the labor of uncapping. All agree that the honey should at least be partly sealed before being extracted. If partly sealed we must go through the act of handling and uncapping on every comb. Once the comb is in the operator's hands and the knife applied, the additional time required to take another slice is indeed VERY SMALL. More yet, a comb partly sealed is harder to get the knife started without MASHING some of the unsealed cells where the knife is started in, so that a comb SOLID SEALED is almost if not QUITE as quickly uncapped as one only half sealed. This surely would be STRICTLY true if the comb is one that requires but one swipe of the knife to a side. I spend as much time picking over a comb chipping of spots of capping as in slicing of the whole face of the comb. We must pick and chip the partly sealed, for open cells cannot be sliced

through without more or less tearing, but the sealed cells can be sliced through easily.

A comb solid sealed contains MORE honey than the same comb unsealed, so that if the fully sealed requires more time to uncap we get more honey for our time spent. Nor is this all yet, the wax obtained from the capping is no mean profit. 100 pounds of honey UNCAPPED will give near one pound of wax, so if I am correct that the wax costs us nothing in the first place we clear about one dollars worth of wax from each 500 pounds of honey un-capped. Give me the wax of the cappings as my wages, and I will uncap by the year and make more money than the owner of the honey. Give me fully sealed honey to extract and I will EXTRACT it, uncap and all, for the wax and make good wages.

I believe it is a decided loss to extract honey before it is capped, both as to the bees and the master's work. As shown before the labor of taking off the combs, taking to the extractor, un-capping and extracting, returning to the hive, etc., is the same ALMOST, whether the combs be sealed or un-sealed, and when sealed we get more honey from fewer combs, and better quality, and WAX ENOUGH TO PAY FOR THE LABOR. The honey extracted well ripened, takes less cans to hold the same moneys worth, the additional can room to hold the extra water in the unripe honey being equal to the money that water will sell for.

There are in my arguments some points that might be open to slight criticism, but upon the whole I believe they cannot be refuted. There are some points that are not fully worked out in a scientific way so that we can speak with full confidence, but yet it seems reasonably clear.

Loveland, Colo.

Subscribe for the PROGRESSIVE—50c a year.

Recapitulation by G. M. Doolittle.

“Open to Slight Criticism.”—I know some folks who are always sure, when they pick up a new book for the first time, to turn to “the end” part of the book to read. With me, the rule is to begin with the title page, then read the dedication, if there is one, then the introduction and preface, when I am ready to read the book understandingly. But with this article of Bro. Aikin's I chanced to glance at “the end” part first, (as it came out of a roll of six articles sent me at once in such a shape that the last page struck my gaze first) so I read, “There are in my arguments some points that might be open to criticism. * * * * There are are some points that are not fully worked out,” and of course it set my fingers to itching to find these points, so I turned to the first of the article and began looking after them, and I will give them to the reader as I find them, along with some other thoughts which may be suggested in reading.

Unripe Honey on the Market.—How much of this there is on the market, is a thing which seems to set Bro. A. to wondering. Well, I cannot answer very well for the far western markets, but from all I can learn, there is very little, if any, on the markets here in the east. “Unripe honey” was the cry which came from our markets a score or more of years ago, but for the past ten years I have heard of no such thing for those who do extract before the honey is sealed, evaporate their honey till of the consistency of that fully capped by the bees, and when thus evaporated, it is no more UNRIPE, properly speaking, than is that of friend Aikin's which he can roll a spoon in till it gathers a teacupful on it. This part of ripening out of the hive is not touched upon by A. as I can find. Of course an evaporator would

not pay any one not having a sugar bush where not over 500 to 1000 pounds of extracted honey was produced, as the first outlay would be too great; but a very warm room, like one lying immediately under a tin roof, will do very nicely for evaporating honey, where the same is stored in vessels with a piece of cloth thrown over their open mouths.

Not Extracting More or Faster Before Sealing.—This is the next point I find, and after following the whole article through I do not find anything to the contrary, but what is "open to a slight criticism." There are two things which friend A. has not taken into account, or rather two things which he takes it for granted **MUST** be so. First is that where unripe honey is extracted, the combs must be from $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ sealed. Where evaporators are used, the extracting is very much simplified by not waiting for the sealing of any cells, so the part of taking "frame and knife in hand" for uncapping, is obviated, therefore entirely saved. The other thing which he takes for granted is that extracting supers full of combs filled with honey must be carried to and from the extracting house. Of course where uncapping is to be done, this is nearly a necessity, but with the uncapping part done away with, all we have to do is to load our extractor and receptacle for the honey on a suitable cart, (having a bee tent over it, in time of robbing), and go right out into the yard and stop behind each hive from which we extract, and thus all lugging of combs of honey, and empty combs is done away with. Simply raise super before honey in it is sealed, placing one with empty combs under it, and a bee escape board between the two. Then wait till this lower one is ready to seal, when we go through with our extracting car, take the honey, and substitute the super of empty combs from which we took the honey for the filled one, with the bee

escape board between. And so we keep on till the end of the season, and the little experience I have had proves to me that where I can secure 10,000 by the way recommended by friend A. I can secure 15,000 by the way here outlined, after it is evaporated down to the same thickness of the 10,000 with less loss than that spent on the 10,000. But I am free to admit that I do very little extracting of late years, as my queen business and being fixed mainly for that and production of comb honey, prohibits my doing so, except by way of experimenting so that I may be posted on all of the newest ideas known to the foremost in the ranks of apiculture.

Secreting Wax. But Bro. A. need not take back any thing he said about bees secreting wax in time of a good honey flow, for I have yet to see the colony of bees which does not secrete all of the wax needed for the capping of cells when extracting, no matter whether they are allowed to cap the cells or not, and, as Bro. A. indicates, this wax, if not used in capping combs, is stuck about the hives and combs in a promiscuous manner, or wasted, when there are no cells to be drawn out or capped. But whether this wax will pay for the labor of saving it by way of leaving the combs of honey in the hives till they are sealed, and then going through the tiresome process of cutting it from the combs and also losing 5,000 pounds of honey out of every 15,000 which might be obtained did we allow this waste of wax, is another question, and one which I do not believe can be answered in the affirmative, Bro. Aikin's "I consider it foolishness to extract before the honey is sealed" to the contrary, notwithstanding.

Greater Quantity Thrown Out. Here is another statement "open to slight criticism." Unsealed honey will leave the combs with two revolutions of the crank so they will be more fully clean, than will honey after it has been seal-

ed and uncapped with twenty revolutions. A. admits it takes a temperature of 900 to enable successful extracting to be done with the sealed honey, while any temperature which ever obtains during any honey flow is amply sufficient to extract that unsealed. Hence the work of bringing this sealed honey to a temperature of 900 at the close of the season, by lugging it to same heated room or storing it in some room while waiting for a hot spell to bring the room to the proper temperature, plays a very important point in that "overbalancing" which A. is so sure about.

Better Prices. This is something that Bro. A. says such THICK honey as is obtained by leaving the combs in the hive till they are all sealed over, "will surely bring." The point here which is "open to slight criticism" is, will honey of a given thickness produced by leaving it on the hives till it is sealed, and we have to go through all the work of uncapping it, storing it in a room of high temperature till the honey itself reaches a degree of heat equal to 90, and then turn the extractor till our arms ache, and ache and ache, to get it out of the combs surely bring better prices, than will that of the same thickness which is obtained from combs without any uncapping, in any temperature during which bees gather nectar, with an ease in extracting which is simply fun, when the same is evaporated to the same thick quality of the other? To use Bro. A's closing words, such a statement does not "seem reasonably clear." Is it THICKNESS only which brings better prices?

Flavor. But here is a part that is about all else which Friend A. does not touch at all; had he fully covered this, I would have been left in this matter with very little to recapitulate from. When it comes to flavor, honey extracted before it is sealed (and artificially evaporated) cannot "touch"

that evaporated by the bees, especially if allowed to stay in the hives with the bees for some little time after the honey harvest has passed. Take basswood honey for instance; extract it before the cells are sealed then evaporate it, and you have the same strong tasted and strong smelling stuff, that you had when the combs were being whirled in the extractor; something that very few would call NICE basswood honey no matter how thick. But leave those combs of honey in the hive until the bees have "hovered" them for two weeks to a month after all the cells was sealed over, then extract it, and you have something "fit for the Gods," and something which will "surely bring better prices," as Bro. A. has told us. Therefore I now advise, just as Bro. A. that all honey for extracting purposes be left on the hives until it is FULLY "CURED," but not from the same reasons as those advanced by Bro. A. If I am positive of any one thing in bee-keeping, it is that at least one half more honey of the same consistency after evaporation, can be obtained, where extracting is done before the bees seal the honey, and that with no more real labor, than can be secured by leaving combs of honey on the hives until it is fully cured. But when we come to the flavor part it cannot "touch" the cured, and if persisted in will offend the consumers and ruin our markets. And for this reason I have advised of late years that no honey be extracted until FULLY CURED by the bees.

G. M. DOOLITTLE, Borodino, N. Y.



This story began in the Dec. "Progressive"

CHAPTER XII.

A Look Ahead.

Simon Buzz has remained steadfast in his life pursuit. He has seen it grow, and has grown with it. He has told us much, but not all, of his life story. Not all, because the story would be too long, and not all, because he lives yet.

The writer has refrained from giving true names and places, except in part. Both the incidents related and the actors are real, so dear reader, you may take the lessons even though you do not know to whom and where it all occurred.

It is the desire of the writer that where ever and by whom this story may be read, that it shall accomplish good. The world is full of material for good and true stories, those that will uplift and make better the readers, and this writer deplors the fact that so many pens and pages are polluted by the disgraceful and degrading stuff that is sown broadcast by the press of our land. The hero of our story has wept many and bitter tears because of the great evil that oppresses mankind. Will you, my reader, stand beside this thoughtful Simon, look with him over the past, see what he sees, and feel what he feels that has to do with the welfare of mankind, and resolve that henceforth all your acts shall be for your own and your brothers' upbuilding?

Having viewed the past, take a little look ahead. The past and present are the index to the future. Have we planted error; that error will take root and be the tree of the future. Some of our literature of the past and especially the daily papers and many of the books and magazines of today, are most untrustworthy and trashy. Should the evil grow and multiply as rapidly in proportion as the good and wholesome, surely the coming generation will have many battles to fight.

But Simon does not believe that the evil will prevail. Evil there is, and in plenty; but he believes the good will prevail, but not without some hard fought battles. Truth and justice must whet their swords and do battle. Will you be one of the soldiers on the side of right? There are both social and political battles to fight.

As for our apicultural literature, it has little of the degrading in it. We may rejoice that it has a good seed, and is upon the whole elevating. Some scientific error is therein, yet this is but an error of the head and not the heart—we will outgrow it.

The moral element is at work, and Simon doubts not it will ultimately prevail to the purifying of society, and that through society will the press and politics be placed upon a far higher plane than at present. Politics purified,

government will also be much more pure and progressive. Once our government feels the mighty influence of justice and truth, then will the weaker industries be fostered and the interests of the masses guarded.

Today we find the great common carriers, one of the greatest powers to help or hinder progress, managed by private corporations that are governed largely by avarice. In the future will these be controled by the state, thereby fostering and protecting all alike. Today our money, the life blood of business, is controled by private concerns, in the future it will be by government. As today the poor bootblack or newsboy can send a letter or parcel to a friend across the continent as cheaply as the millionaire, so in the future will the other interests of the poor of the land be conserved. God speed the day when no man shall be denied the privilege of a home, of protection from the frosts of winter and the frigid coldness of his brother man.

Simon hopes and prays for, and may even live to see it, the day when our own government which is now the best the world has ever seen save once, be in more full control of great public interests, and have less to do with private enterprises. It is hard for our people to understand the true principles of government, but they are coming nearer and nearer to its truths year by year. The seed is in the soil, and it will grow.

In that glad day will each struggling industry be fostered, not smothered by avaricious competition. Today the apiarists almost at the doors of the great eastern markets, pays more transportation than some others more than a thousand miles farther off. That will be changed. Today things are sold for what they are not, tomorrow all things will be open and known. Today industries are tearing and destroying one another, tomorrow they will know that there is room for all.

In that great future shall the poor be provided for, the weak strengthened, the vicious restrained, the oppressed set free and earth indeed be a place of freedom and happiness. That time will surely come. The tender shoot is fast pushing its roots into the soil and its head into the sunlight of the glorious future. Thus it appeareth to the prophetic view of Simon Buzz.

ROYAL POULTRY AND BEE FARM.

Wallace's honey gatherers. You can handle them without gloves. Have won five times at state fair. Our poultry has been in warm company. Untested Queen, \$1.00; Tested Italians, \$2.00; Choice Breeders, \$3.00. Eggs, per 13. Light Brahmas, \$1.50; Partridge Cochins, \$1.50; Black Langshans, \$1.50. Brown Leghorns, \$1.00. Write for circulars.

Thomas Wallace & Sons, Clayton, Ills.

References. Bartlett & Wallace, Clayton, Ills.

**Good Things in the
Bee-Keeping Press.
Somnambulist . . .**



In treating on ventilation, J. R. Schmidt gives these practical suggestions. In describing his device he says:

"The front of the brood-chamber is made of two separate boards, the top one being permanent and coming down to within three inches of the bottom-board. The lower half is movable, and slides up and down just in front of the top one. The stick fastened to this movable board is used to regulate the height of the entrance. When warm weather approaches, and the bees begin to hang out and loaf, this movable lower half is raised somewhat, and the stick acts as a prop, and holds it in place. If the bees still continue to hang out, it is raised still higher, until the desired amount of ventilation is obtained, which seldom requires the full height. The entrance can be completely closed by turning the stick slightly, which allows the lower half to come down and rest on the bottom-board. This arrangement has been used for a number of years, and the bee-keeper says it gives complete satisfaction, as it ventilates the brood-chamber without allowing the heat to escape from the supers, which is of such vital importance in the production of comb honey."

The work of "Old Grimes" is being highly appreciated. He teaches in separate articles "How to get the most out of the smoker, the honey-house, the extractor," etc. For smoker fuel he recommends the use of gunney sacks which have been previously used to wipe out the wax extractor, and then dried; says it excels Dr. Miller's plan, which is to saturate gunney sacking with salt-

petre, dry and cut in strips. Inky drops from the smoker have been giving some trouble, to avoid which the use of chips of wood from which the sap has been extracted is recommended. Old Grimes tells us to have a little compartment lined either with asbestos or metal, in which to place the smoker when through with it, and thus avoid fires. Here are a few of his remarks relative to the building of the honey house:

"Whatever material is used in the construction of the honey house, it should be made fire-proof, rat and mouse proof, as the latter vermin sometimes make sad havoc with empty combs and fixtures. A room in this house should be set apart for storing comb honey and empty brood-combs, and in which they can be fumigated. Sulphur is the old standby, but lately bi-sulphide of carbon has been recommended. This cheap material sprinkled in a room will not only keep out the moth miller, but also the ant, and the latter is not always an unmixed blessing in some portions of the country. An out apiary is not considered permanent, and if the prospect for a honey crop is better in the early portion of the season in one location, and better later in another, it is better to have the out apiary almost on wheels. A honey house to be portable should be constructed in panels and bolted together. When so constructed a few moments time with a wrench allows the owner to pack it upon a wagon. It is well to make such a house of planed boards and neatly paint it; but this of course depends upon the taste of the owner. Some bee-keepers can get along with any sort of a rude thing, while others will insist upon having a fancy structure. If made of rough boards and not battened, a very good way to make it bee-tight, cheaply and quickly, is to line it up with cheese-cloth or gunny-sacking. Any house that is built for bee purposes should be provided with plenty of windows covered with wire screens, and fitted with the Porter house bee-escapes."

Here are some extractions from his article on the extractor:

"In selecting an extractor the purchaser should buy one that is within the range of a boy's or a girl's strength to operate. There are some six or eight-frame extractors; these are all well enough for power, but are a sort of a man-killer when run by hand, and would certainly be too much work to put on a boy or girl, or even the good wife. While operating

an extractor the person should temper his strength to the strength of the extractor—a very strong and careless person will sometimes reverse this tempering, and the result is a broken machine. In order to get the most out of an extractor it really seems as necessary for it to be of the reversing order, for many times while extracting new and fragile combs, it is necessary to reverse before the honey is all thrown from one side; the weight of a comb against the wire-cloth of the basket will so indent into it that it will break the comb to pieces unless the reversals are made often and the motion is moderate. In order to get the most out of an extractor, some bee-keepers extract quite an amount of larvæ with the honey, but here is a case where the operator would better be content with a little less. Old Grimes learned a lesson many years ago that cured him of this trick. There was quite an amount of said larvæ in all stages of development in the strainer, and we all know that they never look very nice, and we prefer that our customers should not see them; but there came a city lady who was being shown the mysteries of the bee business; everything was new and very interesting to her until she came to the strainer with the white larvæ in it, and the honey running over them. Then and there, from the remarks she made, she forgot all the rest she had seen, and only remembered “those worms,” as she termed them, and thereafter she never would allow a drop of liquid honey to pass her lips—she knew just how it was extracted. Although but a very little of our honey had been in contact with the larvæ, it made no difference, it was all alike to her. If much larvæ is thrown out with the honey it will injure the flavor. A good way to overcome the larvæ trouble is to return to the hive all combs having unsealed brood. It may be a little trouble and a delay in the extracting of that comb, but it pays. Another way out of the woods is to use queen excluding honey board, all honey stored above it is sure to be free from larvæ.”

With three recipes, each highly recommended, I will end my gleanings from the fields of the American Bee Journal:

“**HONEY-PASTE FOR THE HANDS.**—Here is a recipe for an old-fashioned honey-paste for the hands taken from a very old book on toilet recipes: Take honey, 2½ ounces; the yolks of 2 eggs; almond oil, 2 ounces; powdered orris root, 1½ ounces, and a quarter of an ounce of any perfume preferred. Mix the yolks of the eggs and the honey together first, then add the oil very gradually, after having previously united the perfume to the oil; lastly, beat in the orris powder. First wash the hands thoroughly, and dry them

with a soft towel, then anoint them with the above paste, rubbing it well into the skin, and, lastly, cover the hands with loose doe-skin gloves, with the palms cut out for ventilation.

HONEY COUGH MEDICINE.—The Farm Journal gives the following: Boil an ounce of flaxseed in a pint of water, strain it, add an ounce of rock candy, some honey, and the juice of three lemons, and boil again. Result: A nice, old-fashioned cough medicine. Drink as hot as you can bear it just as you are getting in bed, and cover up warm.

HONEY EYE-WASH.—Put into an ounce vial of pure honey a piece of alum as large as the end of the little finger, and then put the vial (corked of course) into a cornmeal dough, and cook it until the cornbread is done. When cool, take out the vial, and it is ready for use.

The Canadian Bee Journal is a thoroughly practical assistant in the bee-keeping business. The March number starts out with “Spring management,” as presented by D. W. Heise, at the TWENTIETH annual meeting of Ontario bee-keepers. A bee-keepers’ society that has met for twenty years has, to say the least, backbone.

Mr. Heise, with a majority of others, claims spring management begins with the previous fall. Begins with a provision of stores that will not only prove sufficient, “but a supply that we are absolutely certain will be an abundance to carry the colony safely, not only through the winter, but right up to the time of fruit bloom.” Strike out the word, fruit, and substitute clover, and the shoe would fit a Missouri bee-keeper.

“By preparing the stocks in this way the bee-keeper will have no occasion to open up the hives for examination until the weather is sufficiently warm that all danger of chilling brood or breaking the cluster will be reduced to a minimum. The first examination of bees should not be made until some calm day when the thermometer will register seventy degrees or more in the shade, and after the bees have been permitted for some days to gather both water and natural pollen.”

He suggests cleaning out the dead bees and other refuse matter, and puts in a good word for mova-

ble bottom boards. Tells us that "the less propolis we leave in the brood chamber, the less we are liable to have in the sections;" and further adds:

"Do anything and everything that will not disorganize or endanger the colony, but that which will compel them to convert honey into brood, because it is bees we must get at this time, if we can expect to have our supers rapidly filled when the main harvest arrives. From this time up to the fruit bloom, frames should be added to the brood chamber, and frames of honey inserted as often as the condition of the colony and the amount gathered from the outside may demand. Always selecting a fit and proper day for the operation. At the opening of fruit bloom is the time when all full-winged queens should be clipped."

Much has been written about the manner of clipping the queen's wings, and after all, each one is going to practice the method he finds most convenient. It seems such a very simple thing to catch the queen by the thorax and clip at will, with but little or no danger to the queen. A queen will stand much rougher handling than one would imagine. Well do I remember how shocked I was on releasing a fine one to discover her, to all appearance, lifeless. I went about bestirring myself at a lively rate, seeking one with which to replace her, and when all was in readiness to introduce the substitute, lo and behold! the supposed lifeless queen was going on her rounds just as if nothing unusual had transpired. Some bee-keepers clip all the queens of a given year in the same way, those of the next year will all be clipped alike, but differently from those of the preceding year, and so on each succeeding year, and in a manner, all their own, keep the age of the queens. In the course of his remarks he recommended the uncapping of the honey along the top bars and in the corners, upon which Mr. McEvoy commented as follows:

"I have followed the uncapping system off and on for seventeen or eighteen years, and I have made it pay after I got right into it and understood pretty near how to do it, but I have had it go the other way at times. I have always made it pay between fruit bloom and clover. There is a gap at that time in most localities, and it pays to uncap some. I have uncapped sometimes too much, and have made a mistake, but just to uncap two or three in an evening in the bare time in order to supply them with unsealed stores and to feed the larvæ, in this way I get the honey used up rapidly and I increase in bees. A little later on I uncap more. Old bees will not uncap the old sealed honey fast enough when they are caught suddenly to keep pace with the amount of larvæ on hand; then it pays to look after uncapping or bruising. This year I went through the colonies three times between fruit bloom and clover, and with 95 colonies I had it so arranged that almost every frame was filled with brood clear up to the top bar and from end to end to the outside wall. Did it pay? Yes; I never did anything in my life that paid so well. I would not advise everyone to do it; some might go on a morning of a spring day when there was not much required, and uncap too much. You must use judgment."

Naptown, Dreamland.

BEEES AND QUEENS

Three Apiaries—Three Races.

*Either Golden Italians, 3-Band Italians
or Holy Lands.*

We secured our stock regardless of cost. Rear queens by the best known methods.

Queen rearing is our specialty. We have been at it for years. Our Mr.

H. H. Hyde will have charge of this department.

We want the address of every bee-keeper for our queen circular, which gives prices on bees and queens, besides valuable information on queen rearing, swarming, etc. We are also headquarters for Root's supplies for the Southwest.

Prices, either race, for June, July, August and September—Untested queens, each 75 cts. 6 for \$4.25; tested queens, each \$1.25, 6 for \$6.75. All other months—Untested \$1 each or 6 for \$5.00; tested queens, \$1.50 or 6 for \$8.00. Discounts for quantities. Select tested and breeding queens a specialty.

O. P. HYDE & SON, Hutto, Tex.

Please mention the "Progressive"

SPENCERIAN PENS

WRITE WELL WEAR LONG
ONCE TRIED ALWAYS USED

Samples sent on receipt of
return postage — 2 cents.



ESTABLISHED 1860

About Swarming, Etc.

J. T. HAIRSTON.

As the swarming season will soon be here, and as there has been no practical method devised to prevent bees from swarming, it devolves on us to control it in the most practical and economical way possible, from a financial standpoint. It seems that this subject has been thoroughly discussed and should be let rest, but I am not writing for the veteran, for they all have their methods, and anything I might say would not change them; but we must remember that we have recruits to our ranks every season, and it behooves them to start right, get no unnecessary fixtures, etc.

With the above as a preface, I will give my present method after several years changing and consequently dearly bought experience. All experienced apiarists desire is as little swarming as possible, but want all the bees possible in each colony during a honey flow. The question is then to obtain this result. All experienced apiarists know the conditions or causes that produce this result. One of these causes is the want of air; retarded ventilation.

I have found by experience that if you get the bees working prompt-

ly in the surplus apartment, see that the queen has plenty of room, and give plenty ventilation, swarms will be materially reduced. This ventilation cannot be given by traps, but admitting that it could, I can't see the use to invest in them and have one on each hive, when by the right management we won't have over 10 per cent of swarms in a season. I admit where one has a few bees for pleasure, and can't give them his attention during swarming time, a trap is indispensable, but to one in the business for a living, whose colonies number in the hundreds, the trap is not a blessing, but an absolute drawback. Our only recourse then is to clip. This should be done in early spring before the colony becomes strong, as the queen is much easier found. Caution should be used not to injure her. Pressure on her abdomen will do this. When clipped, a "C" on hive cover, with date, is a help in keeping a record. There is no book to lose or get gummed up with propolis. When a swarm issues, the queen is caged, old hive removed, new one placed on the stand, and the queen laid at the entrance, and when the swarm begins to return, release her and see that she enters the hive. The old stand should be placed close beside the swarm and removed to a new stand in a week, provided we wish to increase the number of our colonies; if not, it should be placed on the other side and repeat this every week for three. By this method we throw all the bees to the swarm. The queen can be disposed of and the few remaining bees can be shaken off in the hive, and the combs used where needed or as desired. If the old stand is removed to a new stand when the swarm issues, a second swarm may be looked for in about eight days, if not prevented. The

way to prevent this is to go in the evening of the seventh and listen for piping. If piping is heard all cells should be destroyed early the next morning. To do this the bees should be shaken from the combs so no cells are missed. If any are overlooked the work is a failure. By clipping you can know when a queen is superseded, and know her age; also if a swarm issues in your absence you will not lose it, but it will return, and likely the queen will also.

Salina, I. T.

OUR LETTER BOX

Well Pleased.

The bill of goods ordered of you arrived today. The extractor is a fine piece of work and the smoker the best I have seen.

WM. G. HEWES, Kern City, Cal.

Bees Wintered Well.

Please add to my order of recent date one coil of No. 30 tinned wire. Since making my order I have examined my bees. Only found two colonies dead and three queenless. All have plenty stores. I had 120 colonies. I think they came through fine.

J. T. HAIRSTON, Salina, I. T.

\$5.50 Ahead.

I can say to you now as the great poet said in the dim past, "Now, boss, you have donne gonne and donne it." You have sent me the Feb. number of the PROGRESSIVE. Now that is exactly what you have done and thereby *force* me to subscribe for your paper. Why? Because I must have it. This Feb. number is alone worth 50 cents, and if the other numbers are as good as that—well, I am 50c ahead, that's all. I know a good thing when I see it. My apiary is at Etiwanda, but I want the paper sent to Pomona, Los Angeles county,

my home. Please send me the numbers from the first of January, 1900.

M. R. KUEHNE, Pomona, Cal.

Squeezing Doolittle.

Please renew my subscription to the PROGRESSIVE, 50c enclosed. I have neglected to renew through carelessness. I like the paper very much, especially "Experience and Its Lessons." I would like to see Bro. Doolittle write on the same subject and let Bro. A. squeeze him.

L. L. TRAVIS, West Nicholson, Pa.

Wants It Stopped.

Kindly stop my subscription for the PROGRESSIVE. It contains too many quarrels and hairsplitting businesses for a beginner. I never saw a single thing advocated that was not disputed by someone. I find myself in the same position as the heathen listening to the missionaries (sent by different denominations) quarrelling among themselves. It ought to contain more A B C and common sense, and let those high-sounding college questions be a little limited, so I for my part think it safest to keep close to J. W. Rouse's "Amateur Bee-Keeper" that you sent me until I shall be able to grasp the Latin and Greek of a bee journal. But I beg your pardon for my uncalled advice, as I had no intention of running your journal. I am simply telling my simple view of the thing.

O. S. STEEBURG, Dwight, Kas.

Nice Hives and Supers.

Thanks for promptness. The 200 new hives and supers we purchased of you are a nice lot and the best we have ever seen.

R. L. TUCKER, Wewahitcka, Fla.

Fine Outlook.

I will renew my subscription to the PROGRESSIVE when I order my supplies. Our bees here are in fine condition so far, with a fine prospect for a

good crop of honey this year. With best wishes for the PROGRESSIVE family, I remain as ever,

A. G. ANDERSON, Waring, Tex.

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Lost Without It.

I enclose 50c to pay for the PROGRESSIVE. Please send it right along. I would be lost without it.

SHERMAN LANE, Versailles, Mo.

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A Neat Journal.

The January number of the PROGRESSIVE reached us all O. K. It is the neatest journal on our exchange list. Thanking you for the same, I am,

HARRY G. LARSH, Perry, Okla.

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Doing Nicely.

Find enclosed \$1.50 for PROGRESSIVE for 1899 and 1900 and golden Italian queen. I think by June we will know how to establish her in a hive without getting her killed. We are beginners, but are doing nicely with the help of the PROGRESSIVE. Our bees make a great deal of our honey from board-hound. It is just fine. Wish you could try it.

MRS. A. J. BANCROFT, Tekoa, Wash.

[Wish I could, too. Could you not send me a small bottle? I am sure it would help my cough.—Ed].

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Questions and Answers.

Please tell me what was the matter with my bees. After a little cold spell (8 degrees above zero) I found the bees in one hive clustered on about six inches square of brood on both sides of one comb, dead, everyone of them with plenty stores all around them. I could not find any queen with them, yet they had brood.

[ANSWER—These bees were likely old, and the cluster being small, they were not in condition to stand the winter.—Ed].

I have about half a dozen old hives with irregular combs built crosswise, zigzag, etc. I can't handle them with-

out damaging both combs and bees. Would you advise melting these combs into wax and furnishing the bees with frames wired in with full sheets of foundation?

[ANS.—Transfer the bees and combs to movable frame hives. See directions in any good bee book.—Ed].

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An Up-to-Date Journal.

The PROGRESSIVE is an up-to-date bee journal in every respect. No person who handles bees should be without it. The golden Italian queen I ordered from you last season is a daisy. She produces beautiful bees, which my friends and myself admire very much.

S. C. STIPE, Doyle Sta., Tenn.

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A Question.

Please answer a few questions that will be interesting to other beginners with movable frame hives. We have kept a considerable apiary of old style box hives, as high as 50 at a time, but just commenced with your hives. Our difficulty is our bees make no drone cells. We have but one hive with any drone comb, and that we got from a common gray bee gum, and gave to our Italian bees. Please tell us how we can induce our Italians to raise drones, for the most or nearly all the bees here are common gray bees. We wish to keep our Italians pure. We think the only way to do this is to raise Italian drones.

H. C. WRIGHT, Fulbright, Tex.

[Friend Wright—The most of us have more drones than we need, in spite of us, but for a temporary increase I know of no better way than to remove from near the center of the hive a frame of brood, and slip in its place an empty frame. Do this just a little before swarming time, and the bees will build considerable drone comb in this empty frame, and all the eggs the queen deposits in this drone comb will hatch out drones.—Ed].

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Likes the Heddon Hive.

Am greatly pleased to learn you have procured the shop right for the new

Heddon hive. We have used the Heddon hive for several years, and think it far superior to any other hive we have ever seen or used. We have about 110 colonies in these hives; are all wintering fine so far. There has been quite a bit of inquiry from neighbors about this hive, and where it can be procured.

H. E. DAVIS, Strasburg, Mo.

Spring Poetry.

"Good Things in the Bee-Keeping Press," Stimulate the keeper in his summer dress. Good things that Somnambulist does tell Will in the mind of the bee-keeper dwell, Until summer days come in May, When the bee sips the apple bloom on its way.

The reading of "Good Things," by Somnambulist provokes this little poetical venture.

JOHN W. MAY, Brentwood, Ark.

Likes the "Progressive."

Enclosed find 50c for which please send me the PROGRESSIVE for one year to my address. I have received a few sample copies, and think it very interesting. Have two colonies now and am going to learn how to handle bees.

J. JOHNSON, Vermillion, Kas.

Holds its Own.

Enclosed please find postal money order for 50c to pay for the PROGRESSIVE for 1900. The journal is all that you promised it should be, and holds its own with more pretentious bee publications, while at the same time it is truly "progressive." Yours sincerely,

WM. H. EAGERTY, Cuba, Kas.

Fine Foundation.

The foundation comb came all right. Think it fine; as good as samples sent me by Chas. Dadant & Son, of Hamilton, Ills. Think you did me very fair. Am very well satisfied.

GEO. M. DUNSTON, Armstrong, Mo.

Too Good to be Without.

Find enclosed one dollar from Geo. W. Shiner and myself for the PRO-

GRESSIVE. It is too good to be without.

Yours truly,

NIELS CHRISTIAN, Castle Dale, Utah.

Fine "Higginville" Goods for Colorado.

I saw stock of your goods at Barteldes & Co. in Denver, and I wish to tell you that I was highly pleased with them, both as to material and workmanship, and I am a pretty competent judge. I shall certainly recommend your place to anyone wanting supplies.

T. LYTLE, Manzanola, Colo.

A Fine Article.

The 125 pounds of extra thin foundation arrived. The freight is so reasonable I shall not complain. The foundation is a fine article. I did not know it was so fine until I compared it with different makes we have been using here.

Yours truly,

JOHN S. BRUCE, Montrose, Colo.

Preparation of Soil for Alfalfa.

The most successful alfalfa growers in Eastern Kansas start to prepare the ground a year before seeding. The land intended for this clover is put in some other kind of cultivated crop and kept free from weeds. The following spring, oats and beans are sown, the crop removed early and the ground immediately plowed and thoroughly harrowed. The harrowing is repeated every ten days. In August or early in September the alfalfa seed is sown.

Do You Need Queens?

If so, you want good ones. Large, prolific queens, mothers of strong colonies. Bees the best of honey gatherers. We can fill your orders for such queens by return mail. Choicest of tested Italians, \$1.00 each. Untested, 75c. \$8.00 per doz. Send for price list.

J.W.K. Shaw & Co., Loreauville, La

PLEASE don't neglect to mention the PROGRESSIVE BEE-KEEPER when answering advertisers.

Foundation Mills For Sale.

We have just taken in a second-hand foundation mill in exchange for goods. This mill has 2½-inch roll, the round bottom cell, of which the foundation comes off so easy, and from the looks of the mill, I do not think it has ever been used. The price of such a mill is \$30.00, and we will take \$18.00 for it on cars at Higginville. This is very little over half price.

We also have one second-hand six-inch mill for making extra thin foundation, and one second-hand ten-inch mill for making medium or light brood. These are for sale cheap. Write for prices.

LEAHY MFG. CO.,
Higginville, Mo

EDITORIAL.

The Progressive Bee-Keeper.

A journal devoted to Bees, Honey and Kindred Industries.

TERMS: Fifty cents per year, in advance.

R. B. LEAHY, }
G. M. DOOLITTLE, } - - - Editors

We are on the market for Japanese buckwheat, for which we will pay cash. If you have any, please let us know how much you have, and the price, delivered at your station.

PLEASE notice our advertisement of second-hand foundation mills in another column. These mills are practically as good as new. We will be pleased to correspond with anyone needing a foundation mill.

IN another column will be found an advertisement where we say we will pay cash for beeswax. This advertisement got in through mistake. We are getting all the beeswax we need in exchange. If you have any that you wish to exchange for bee supplies, we will

allow you 26c per pound for it delivered at our station. Put your name and address on package when shipping.

PARTIES sending us \$1.00 for the PROGRESSIVE will be entitled to a Golden Beauty—that is, a warranted, purely-mated queen. If you do not want the queen, the PROGRESSIVE is only 50c per year.

The PROGRESSIVE seems to be on the boom. The past month brought us 80 new subscribers and many renewals. The month before, the total was 140 new subscribers. We appreciate this very much, and wish to say, Thank you, one and all.

On page 119 and page 134 will be found two timely and valuable articles, one from Mrs. A. J. Barber, of Mancos, Colo., in which she gives her method of clipping queens, re-queening, managing and controlling swarms; the other from J. T. Hairston, of Salina, I. T., is along this same line, and while written for beginners, is none the less interesting. We ask our readers to not miss reading these two articles, as the swarming season will be upon us in a few weeks, and the advantage of these methods can be utilized at once.

IN these days of the universal use of the telephone we become so used to the word goodbye that it has not the pathos in it that it had years ago when we said goodbye to all that was dear to our young hearts and left home to mingle with strangers. But the goodbye that I am going to say now has that touch of sadness in it of that goodbye of long ago. It is this, kind friends: We have about 300 delinquent subscribers. It is to you that I am going to say goodbye. I have tried every persuasion known to me to get you to renew. If you do not do so at once, I will consider you do not want the PROGRESSIVE any longer, that my efforts to please you have been

in vain. The date on your wrapper will show you when your time expired, and a blue mark on this paragraph means, unless you renew at once—good-bye.

ON another page will be found an advertisement of the Simplex Typewriter. This is a good little machine, and we recommend it to those wanting a typewriter for a very little money. If you wish to order at once, we will send you one by mail postpaid for even \$2.00.

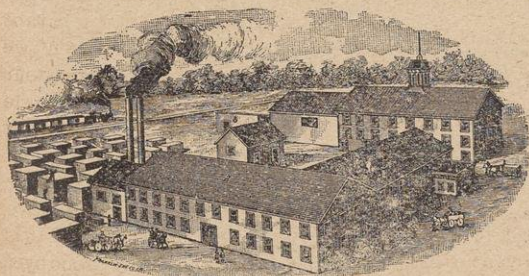
FENCE separators and plain sections are something that have been boomed considerably of late. We are not booming these goods, but are leaving this to others to do. What we wish to convey is, we have a surplus of these goods and are prepared to furnish the best at the lowest prices.

BEEES have wintered well here, and in every other part of the country that we have heard from except central Nebraska. We don't believe we have ever had so many encouraging reports before from bee-keepers as to the condition of their bees and the prospects of a good honey crop. The supply business has taken on a new impetus in the past week or so, and we are now having all we can do.

It will be noticed we have published a good many testimonials this month from customers who are pleased with our goods. It will also be noticed we have given the names and addresses in

full, not hunting up the county and giving just it for fear that some of our competitors would send these friends a catalogue or a sample bee journal. We have faith in our method of doing business and in the quality of our goods, and do not fear that someone will take our customers away from us as long as we treat them honorably. We do not think it just the thing to use testimonials from our friends and then cut out the addresses.

WE are still compelled to add extra pages as we have so many excellent articles on hand. We have received one complaint from a subscriber because of the stories we have been running for the past year, while the stories themselves have brought us many new subscribers. It is hard to please everyone, and we have no thought of being able to do so. The stories were bee stories, and though written in romance and fiction, have taught many valuable lessons. I know they have been appreciated by the majority of our subscribers. You ask how we know this? Because nearly all of our old subscribers have renewed for 1900, something that has never happened before, and that which we did not dare hope for. Now to you who do not like bee stories such as have been run in the PROGRESSIVE for the past year, we wish to say a word: We have been running from four to eight extra pages filled with as good articles and from the pen of as able writers as contribute to American bee journals. The stories have taken nothing from the PROGRESSIVE as a bee journal.



We also manufacture TANKS of either wood or galvanized steel, all sizes, any form, and for all purposes. Price list free.

The E. Kretchmer Co., Red Oak, Iowa.

TRUSTER SUPPLY CO., 103 S. 11TH ST., LINCOLN, NEB.

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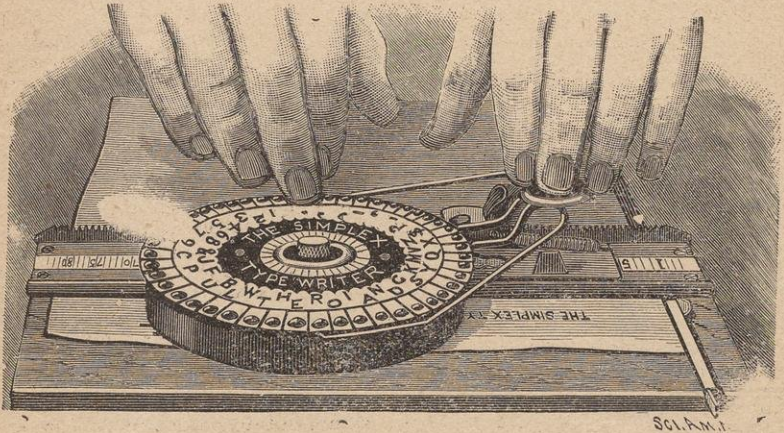
We have one of the best equipped factories in the West. Capacity, one carload a day; and carry the largest stock and greatest variety of everything needed in the apiary, assuring BEST goods at the LOWEST prices, and prompt shipment. We want every bee-keeper to have our FREE ILLUSTRATED CATALOG, and read description of Alternating Hives, Ferguson Supers, etc. WRITE AT ONCE FOR A CATALOG.

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THE SIMPLEST THING IN THE WORLD

The only really practical cheap typewriter ever put on the market. Is Rapid and Does Good Work. Is Easy to Operate. Is Handsome. Can be Carried in the Coat Pocket.

PRICE - - \$2.50.



THE LATEST OF THE BEST TYPEWRITERS. THE CLIMAX OF IMPROVEMENTS. THE MINIMUM OF PRICE. DESTINED TO REVOLUTIONIZE WRITING, AS THE SEWING-MACHINE REVOLUTIONIZED SEWING.

The "SIMPLEX" is the product of experienced typewriter manufacturers, and is a PRACTICAL TYPEWRITER in every sense of the word, and AS SUCH, WE GUARANTEE IT.

FOR BUSINESS MEN.—Every man, whatever his business, has need of the "SIMPLEX." LAWYERS find them indispensable. MERCHANTS acknowledge their great value. CLERGYMEN write their sermons with them. AUTHORS their manuscripts. Letters written with the "SIMPLEX" are legible and neat, and at the rate of FORTY WORDS PER MINUTE.

FOR BOYS AND GIRLS.—The "SIMPLEX" will be hailed with delight by BOYS AND GIRLS. It will improve their spelling, and teach proper punctuation. It will encourage neatness and accuracy. It will print in any colored ink, violet red, green, blue or black. It will PRINT A LINE EIGHT INCHES LONG, and admit any size letter paper. The printing is always in sight. A USEFUL, INSTRUCTIVE AND ENTERTAINING NOVELTY, AT THE PRICE OF A TOY.

Nothing is of greater importance than correct forms of correspondence. The "SIMPLEX" encourages practice, and practice makes perfect. Writing with this machine will be such jolly fun for your boys and girls that they will write letters by the dozen. This may cost you something for postage stamps, but the improvement in their correspondence will repay you.

EXTRA POINTS,

The alignment of the "Simplex" is equal to the very highest priced machine. It is positive in action, and each letter is locked by an automatic movement when the stroke is made.

It has no ribbon to soil the fingers.

The "Simplex" is mounted on a hard-wood base, and put up in a handsome box, with bottle of ink, and full instructions for using.

"I think the 'Simplex' is a dandy."—D. L. Tracy, Denver, Colo.

"The 'Simplex' is a good typewriter, and I take pleasure in recommending it as such."—B. F. Bishop, Morsey, Mo.

"I received the typewriter one hour ago. You can judge my progress by this letter. It is much better than I expected, and with practice I think I will be able to write very fast with it."—E. T. Flanagan, Belleville, Ill.

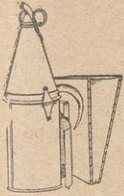
Price of Machine, \$2.50. By mail, 25c extra for postage.

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Made to Order.

Bingham Brass Smokers,

made of sheet-brass, which does not rust or burn out, should last a lifetime. You need one, but they cost 25c more than tin of the same size. The little pen cut shows our brass hinge put on the three larger sizes. No wonder Bingham's 4-inch Smoke Engine goes without puffing, and



Does Not Drop Inky Drops.

The perforated steel fire-grate has 381 holes to air the fuel and support the fire. Prices, Heavy Tin Smoke Engine, four-inch Stove, per mail, \$1.50; 3½-inch, \$1.10; three-inch, \$1.00; 2½-inch, 90c; two inch, 65c.

BINGHAM SMOKERS

are the original, and have all the improvements, and have been the STANDARD OF EXCELLENCE for 22 years.

I have used Bingham Smokers ever since they first came out. Working from three to seven hundred colonies twelve months in the year. I ought to know what is required in a smoke. The Doctor 3½ inch just received fills the bill. Respectfully,

O. W. OSBORN.

Mt. Pleasant, Mich., Aug. 7th. 1896.

Dear Sir—Smokers came O. K. They are the best I have ever seen; sell like hot cakes. Respectfully,

WM. BAMBU.

With a Bingham Smoker that will hold a quart of sound maple wood, the bee-keepers' trials are all over for a long time. Who ever heard of a Bingham Smoker that was too large or did not give perfect satisfaction. The world's most scientific and largest comb honey

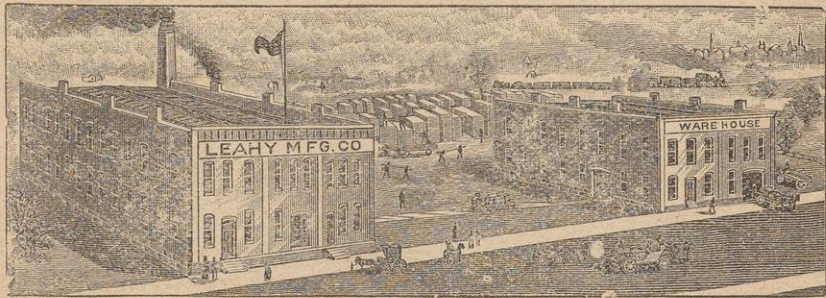


producers use Bingham Smokers and Knives. The same is true of the world's largest producers of extracted honey. Before buying a smoker or knife hunt up its record and pedigree.

Please mention the 'Progressive.'

T. F. BINGHAM, Farwell, Mich.

MANY IMPROVEMENTS THIS YEAR.



We have made many improvements this year in the manufacture of bee supplies. The following are some of them: Our hives are made of one grade better lumber than heretofore, and all that are sent out under our new prices, will be supplied with separators and nails. The Telescope hive has a new bottom board, which is a combination of hive stand and bottom board, and is supplied with slatted tinned separators. The Higginsville Smoker is much improved, is larger than heretofore, and better material is used all through. Our Latest Process Foundation has no equal, and our highly polished sections are superb indeed. Send 5c for sample copy of these two articles, and be convinced. The Daisy Foundation Fastener—well, it is a *daisy* now, sure enough, with a pocket to catch the dripping wax, and a treadle so it can be worked by the foot. Prices as low as conservative, considering the big advance in raw material. If you have not received our new catalogue, send for it at once. Sample copy of the PROGRESSIVE BEE-KEEPER free. Address,

LEAHY MFG. CO., Higginsville, Mo.
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HOME AND FARM,

the brightest, biggest and best paper for the household and farm. Send for sample copies and Premium List, showing the attractive premium and cash commission offers. Subscriptions easily taken where the paper is introduced. Address,.....

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We make a specialty of
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New 20-page descriptive
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Bees, Queens and Nuclei.

Having disposed of my Supply Business I am able to give more time to my bee business, and can promptly fill all orders for Queens, bees by the pound, nuclei, and full colonies. Send for my price list, and see my prices, and what pleased customers have to say about my Bees and Queens.....

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Albino Queens.

If you want the most prolific queens, the best honey gatherers, the best comb builders, and the hardest bees known, try my Albinos. Untested Queens, \$1.00.

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Headquarters in Chicago for Bee Supplies.

Good goods, right prices, prompt service.
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If not now a subscriber, send for free sample copy of the weekly **AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL**. For catalog or sample, address,

GEO. W. YORK & CO.,

118 Michigan St., Chicago, Ills.

Please mention the "Progressive."

Extracted Honey.

Some complaint has been made in the past that the REVIEW paid more attention to comb-honey production than to that of extracted. No such complaint can be fairly made this year. The January issue opened up with a five-page illustrated article from Miss Pickard, of Wisconsin, that has brought praises and calls for "more" from Maine to California. The February issue has an article from Herbert Clute, who was brought up in the bee business by that old veteran, Frank McNay, and who, during the five years that he has been in business for himself, has produced about 75,000 pounds of extracted honey, and built him up a nice apiary, honey-house, and wintering cellar, all of which are illustrated and described. The March number has an article from Harry Lathrop on the production of extracted honey with eight-frame Langstroth hives, while C. Davenport, of Minnesota, gives nearly three pages to the production and treatment of extracted honey, bringing out several helpful hints. Next in order will come a well-illustrated article from that king of Wisconsin bee-keepers, N. E. France, giving the methods followed in producing those large crops of extracted honey for which he and his father have become famous.

If you produce extracted honey you ought to have the REVIEW for this year from the beginning. Send \$1.00 for the REVIEW for 1900, and I will send 12 back numbers free of charge. Send \$2.00 and I will send the REVIEW for 1900, the 12 back numbers, and one of those Superior Stock Queens next spring.

W. Z. HUTCHINSON,
Flint, Mich.

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SPECIALTY OF

SECTIONS,

Being located in the great BASSWOOD timber belt of Wisconsin; admitted by all to be the best for making sections.

A GENERAL LINE OF BEE-KEEPERS' SUPPLIES,

In stock, and at prices with the times. Write for Catalogue and prices, Free.

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A Perfect Incubator.

That is what everyone says of the **New C. Von Culin Incubator** (and Brooder.) It has all the latest improvements which have been found of any merit. **Will Hatch every Hatchable Egg.** Self-regulating, safe, sure. Send for illustrated catalog and price list of Incubators, Brooders, etc., free. Poultryman's Plans and catalogue, 10c.

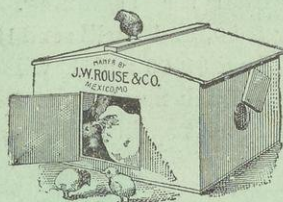
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Apiarian Supplies, Bees and Queens.

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RAT, CAT AND VARMINT PROOF.

One nailed, and five packed inside, making six coops; (ship at low rates. Price, \$3.50.

Illustrated circular free.

*Latest Improved Hives,
Sections Comb Foundation,
Smokers, Bee Veils, and all
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A beautiful 28-page catalog, free.

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