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Beeville, Texas: The Jennie Atchley Company, August 1900

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— THE —

SOUTHLAND QUEEN.

— PUBLISHED BY —

THE JENNIE ATCHLEY COMPANY,

BEEVILLE, TEXAS, : : : : AUGUST, 1900.

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# THE SOUTHLAND QUEEN.

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

Vol. VI. BEEVILLE, TEXAS, AUGUST, 1900. No. 4.

## CENTRAL TEXAS BEE-KEEPERS' CONVENTION.

Sixth Annual Meeting of the Central Texas Bee-Keepers' Association, Held at Hutto, Williamson County, Texas, on July 12th and 13th, 1900.

The convention was called to order by Pres. E. R. Jones, at 10 A. M., July 12, with Sec. & Treas., Louis Scholl, at the desk.

Opened with prayer, by Rev. L. L. Lusk, of Hutto.

Mr. A. W. Carpenter delivered an address of welcome in behalf of the citizens of Hutto, to which Judge E. Y. Terral responded.

Secretary Scholl read the minutes of last meeting, which were adopted.

After calling the roll, new members were enrolled and dues collected.

Before adjourning for dinner Judge E. Y. Terral made a motion to change the clause in the Constitution which entitles an officer to hold office only one year at a time and not to succeed himself for that one office.

Motion withdrawn till afternoon.

Secretary was instructed to notify all the members not present, in

the morning, about their unpaid dues.

Another motion was made by Judge Terral, that ladies (members) be exempt from dues. Carried without opposition.

Adjourned, for dinner, until 2 P. M.

### AFTERNOON SESSION.

Pres. Jones not being present, Vice Pres. J. B. Salyer opened the meeting. New members were taken up and the dues collected which were unpaid.

Next it was moved and carried to pay for printed badges. Paid by secretary.

Mr. Terral's motion was again taken up and carried—that the secretary holding office may be re-elected and succeed himself as many times and years as the association is satisfied with him.

Secretary advised to copy by-laws of the association into secretary's book.

Moved that any bee-keeper can join the association at any time by writing to the secretary and inclosing the regular membership fee of fifty cents a year. Carried.

Another motion made by O. P. Hyde—"That any member who fails to attend or fails to pay his dues for *three* consecutive meetings, without a suitable excuse, be stricken from the list." Of course when any one pays his yearly dues he is a member, whether he attends the annual meetings or not, as above.

President's annual address was delivered by Pres. E. R. Jones.

Election of officers for next term:—O. P. Hyde, Hutto, President; J. B. Salyer, Jonah, Vice President; Louis Scholl, Hunter, Sec. & Treas.

List of honorary members:—Mr. R. B. Leahy, of Higginsville, Mo.; L. Stachelhausen, M. M. Faust, D. C. Milam, Mrs. Jennie Atchley, A. W. Carpenter, L. L. Lusk and Mrs. G. F. Davidson, all of Texas.

Mr. Leahy suggested to vote a committee of three on resolutions, to report later. Carried and appointed:—E. J. Atchley, W. H. Laws and J. H. Faubion.

Mr. Leahy then read a letter directed to himself, from Mr. E. R. Root, of Medina, Ohio, regretting his inability to attend the conven-

tion, which he would have been very glad to have done.

Pres. O. P. Hyde spoke in behalf of the association, regretting Mr. Root's absence, as all would have been glad to have met him.

The time and place of next meeting was the subject of a long discussion.

F. L. Aten, E. R. Jones, Davenport, Salyer and others spoke in favor of meeting next year at College Station, near Bryan, at the time of the meeting of Texas State Farmers' Congress, and gave many good reasons why the Central Texas Bee-Keepers' Association should meet at that place next year. Among these were the opportunities of having a good meeting at that place, lower rates, the best place to come up before the world as bee-keepers and many reasons beneficial to the members of the association. The main reason for going there, at least next year, was on account of the urgent invitations from Prof. Connell, expressing his wish of having the bee-keepers meet at that place at the time of the next meeting of Farmers' Congress.

Judge Terral was greatly opposed to such a move, as he said that as the Central Texas Association was for the central part of the state, and was organized as such, it ought to have its meeting there,

and not away out yonder, away from home and quite out of reach of the bee-keepers who wish to attend the meetings.

The Judge defended this question very well and he had some on his side. He then put Cameron, Texas, in nomination for next place of meeting.

After a long discussion the Cameronites succeeded in getting the majority vote in favor of meeting at Cameron at the regular time in July.

After this a recess was taken to have a picture taken of the members present. (A copy of the picture will be seen opposite the first page in this issue.)

After the photo man got through with his machine the convention was again called to order by Pres. Hyde and the regular subjects of the programme were taken up.

Honey resources of Texas; by L. Stachelhausen, Judge Terral and others.

On this Mr. Stachelhausen said he could not say very much, as he had not been over but a very small portion of Texas, and therefore did not know much about the honey resources outside of his own locality. His main honey plants were Indian-head, hoarhound and horse-mint, the main honey plant, but he does not expect much from late horse-mint. Mustard is another

important honey plant. In dry years mesquite is his main source; otherwise it is horse-mint that gives the crop. Cotton yields honey some years, while some years it does not and he has not yet found what causes it. Broom-weed is sometimes good in the fall.

Judge Terral's experience was almost like Mr. Stachelhausen's, not knowing much about other sources in other localities. He commenced with *corn tassels* and does not believe that bees ever get honey from them. His bees get some honey from turnip patches and some other minor plants, followed by horse-mint. He thought he could improve the yielding of horse-mint by watering same, but failed. Believes that it grew too rank. Talked about the old-fashioned Buckwheat, in Kentucky, where it just bent down to the ground, loaded with bees, but the other sort was no good. Does not believe that cotton yields honey. Saw the bees work on the leaves just as they work on oak leaves and believes that they only get bug-juice.

F. L. Aten said that black bees do not work on cotton. Told of a man who had nothing but blacks that did not get any cotton honey, but as soon as he had Italianized and had Italian bees, they gathered honey from cotton. Blacks



don't work on cotton and it takes Italians.

F. J. R. Davenport says that cotton on light land does not yield as well and that the honey is different from the whiter honey of cotton on the black land. He also spoke about sweet clover as a good honey yielding plant, the different changes of the atmosphere and it's effect upon the yield and secretion of nectar of the sweet clover blossoms.

D. C. Milam gave a list of the main honey-yielders of his locality (Uvalde). First is wild peach, a sort of evergreen, blooming in February; wild tan in March; also Buffalo clover. Prickly pear and others help along the list. The wa-he-ah (guahilla) is a wondrous honey-yielder, in April, as bees store from this source faster than from anything else. Depends on catclaw for main surplus, but this season it was a failure. Lastly, in summer and fall, horse-mint, with other minor plants, and bug-juice.

M. M. Faust (Floresville) has other minor early plants for brood-rearing. Catclaw, mesquite, cactus and white brush, which blooms after every rain during its season, only a short time.

B. A. Guess, of Bell County—locality and sources similar to other northern localities, as mentioned

by Terral, Dayenport and others.

E. J. Atchley, Beeville, Bee Co.,—almost like Uvalde Co. Mentioned as follows:—"Live oak honey, if good season, is very early and very valuable for brood-rearing, but is an inferior yellow honey. Waheah, from 1st of March to 1st of April, is sometimes cut short by north winds. Catclaw is very thick around, but on account of too much rain was no good this year, but on account of much rain horsemint was fine and gave lots of honey. As horsemint is quite strong-flavored all combs are emptied for the mesquite flow which follows. Sometimes we have a second spring in the fall and get much honey; otherwise not. Sometimes this causes a bad spring following." Went on to say that all colonies ought to be strong in the fall and thus wintered over, with plenty of stores, when they will be in good shape to gather and be ready for any early flow that might come. In answer to a question he said it is best to feed in fall and raise plenty of young bees. Too late in spring.

Adjourned.

#### NIGHT SESSION.

Again called to order by President.

First subject: Judge E. Y. Terral asked for a reconsideration of the question of meeting at College

Station next year, as he had re-considered this question and was in favor of going there.

Considered and *College Station* was decided on as the place of next meeting, to meet at same time of Texas State Farmers' Congress.

The regular programme was again taken up and Louis Scholl tried to handle "Balks, blunders and difficulties in the way of a beginner."

"This subject must have been given to me by mistake, for I have always been too careful and went too slow to make any balks and blunders. But difficulties, I have had very many; but as they are all of private affairs I would not like to tell about them. Of course maybe I was to tell you about the balks, blunders and difficulties of others, but as I do not 'tend much to other people's business I can not say anything at all on this subject.

Davenport said he did not even have to tell about other people's balks and blunders, as he had made some himself. But he told about a bee-keeper who hived a swarm of bees, and late in the fall he found that the 'gum' was full of honey, so he *robbed* 'em. He took out all they had, and, to make a good job of it, he ordered his boy to get him some biscuits, with which he daubed up clean every

bit of honey. Of course the bees got rattled, swarmed out and starved. Another gentleman took some honey from his bees and unknowingly set fire to something in the bee-yard. Discovering it later, he found his bees and everything burned. He himself though has everything nice, neat and clean, nothing lying around, puts all bits of comb, wax and honey away at once. Has his hives eight feet square and keeps them clean too, inside and outside.

In audience—"Say, tell us about your wax and your wife's cooking-stove." He melted wax on his wife's stove in a wash-boiler and upset the same.

G. F. Davidson arose to ask how Mr. Davenport manages to keep his big hives, which are eight feet square, clean. He says he could not do so.

Mr. Davenport explained that his hives are of the regular size, but that they are set eight feet square, or apart each way.

Mr. Davidson's first balks and blunders were when they moved their first bees. After moving, the bees would swarm out. He hived them back, only to have them come out again. To keep them from doing this he wanted to fix them, so he nailed up their entrances. He found out later that this was a serious mistake, for all

melted down and he lost the bees. He said he was once like many who think they know all about bees, and if they have success one year they are not slow to report it in some bee journal, but next year it does not work at all.

M. M. Faust said that he was not like the two first gentlemen. Perhaps they were not real bee-keepers or what they said was only complimentary of themselves. Looks a little fishy. Makes blunders all the time and it sometimes seems like all is blunders.

W. H. Laws never heard of any bee-keepers that balk. They never balk, but go ahead. Make blunders though and he has heard plenty of such, just as he once clipped virgin queens.

E. R. Jones made two bad blunders; first blunder was to try to keep bees in that locality (Milano) and his second was not getting away from there.

“Management of out-apiaries.”

Willie Atchley and Geo. F. Robins not being present, F. L. Aten gave his experience. Uses ten-framed hives three or four stories high, and strong colonies. Does not work them the same height every year and by four stories high he does not mean an empty box and frames, but full of combs and bees to the top. Prevents swarming by giving plenty of room and

spreading the brood-combs and putting frames filled with comb-foundation in between. Puts the rest of the combs above in super and fills up with frames of foundation. One must study this well and use good judgement or he will not succeed.

E. R. Jones has no experience with out-apiaries, but his first object would be to successfully manage colonies to prevent swarming.

This would be plenty of room in such shape and way as it can be best occupied. But it all depends on circumstances. Sometimes comb-foundation is almost useless when much wax is secreted during a fast flow. During a slower flow foundation is better.

E. J. Atchley would use ten-frame hives and three-band Italians and prevent swarms on Aten's plans, take honey and see to them once in a while and would likely not lose many swarms. Would use frames all filled with comb which is better. Sometimes colonies would have their brood-nest above and plenty of room below and would swarm. Sometimes just the reverse. But when given room above and below and also plenty of drawn combs in the hive there is very little swarming. Swarming can not always be prevented.

Udo Toepperwein made a talk

on "What are the essential qualities for making a successful bee-keeper." "First take and read all of the bee-journals, study the bee-books and go to the bee-conventions. Then don't rush into the business, but go slow, and the farther you get into the business the less you see that you know anything about."

L. Stachelhausen—"Work, read and think, and after a while you'll be a good bee-keeper."

D. C. Milam thinks that one who is successful at other things ought to be successful at keeping bees. Ought to stick to it through thick and thin, and a bad year generally proves the successfulness of a bee-keeper, either when he lets his bees starve during such a year or when he feeds them and helps them through.

Mr. McClure thinks only those with a genuine bee-head are successful, and that those without such a head ought not to fool with bees, but apply himself to something else, for which he has a head.

Mr. Davidson does not believe that it is that head alone, but that one must study to be successful. There are some who have kept bees in box hives and gums and never read a bee-paper. Such never succeeded. This is the class of bee-men who are always asking such questions as: "How do you

keep web-worms out of the hives?" Others who get lots of honey from a few colonies imagine that they will get rich by keeping more bees and then not spend one dollar for a bee-paper, but they are not successful.

W. H. Laws—"It is the natural fitness for the business that makes a successful bee-keeper, and such a man will make money out of bees and also find pleasure in the business." Such a one he also thought would be successful at other pursuits.

E. J. Atchley says that experience is one thing necessary to be successful, as all those who rush into a thing big are never so.

R. B. Leahy made a lengthy talk on how he succeeded in bee-culture. He started with books first, read them through and through again, took the bee-papers and read them and studied everything he could find on the subject. So he started with books and journals first and succeeded with his bees afterwards.

Thereupon the meeting adjourned for the night, to meet again next morning.

#### SECOND DAY.

The meeting was again called to order, and as there was no new and unfinished business the convention proceeded with the regular programme.

"Best method of comb-honey-production."

L. Stachelhausen says that the production of comb honey in sections is more difficult than producing extracted honey. He described different methods that he uses: The most important is very strong, rousing colonies, with the brood-chamber crowded full of brood. This leaves no room for honey there and the only place is in the sections in the supers above. One way of having strong colonies and plenty of room, by letting the queen breed in two stories, is unfit for producing section honey, as there are some empty combs in which the bees store the honey that ought to go into the sections. Large colonies in a small brood-chamber are better, by splitting the brood all the time to keep from swarming. Told about Doolittle's method. Hiving swarms as per Hutchinson's method is a good way. His own way is similar to it: Goes to old stand, changes hives, like with a swarm, by putting one of his shallow cases with starters only in frames in place of the colony just removed. Then he brushes all the bees from that colony into the new hive and sets the section supers on top. Sometimes a queen-excluder is necessary, and to keep the bees quiet he gives them a frame of young brood, which has to be removed next day or the bees will

swarm out. First use another empty case below the one with frames and starters for a few days. Use the combs and brood for various purposes in the yard. Combs and brood on extracted honey colonies, etc., can be given to nuclei. Or the Heddon method, as given by him in a previous issue of THE SOUTHLAND QUEEN, can be practiced. He never tried to put the brood-cases above the sections when all the colonies were run for comb honey exclusively.

W. H. Laws spoke on plan as recommended by Mr. Demaree.

Jones also told about several good experiments he had made something similar to the Golden method.

"Chunk honey vs. sections for the South."

E. J. Atehley says that both are good. Used to think that section honey was the best and nicest thing and for many years did not produce any other and advocated the production of comb honey in sections. Of course section honey is very nice, but he thinks the dollar is nicer. As chunk honey brings more money, there are no more sections for him now. He can, in the first place, produce at least one-third more chunk honey in frames, and when put in cans it can be shipped at less freight rate, it going as 4th class. Section

honey, in glass front shipping-cases goes at 1st class rate, and *at owners' risk*, while honey put up in two 60-pound cans to a case, if damaged *en route*, will be settled for by the railroad companies. This is greatly in favor of comb honey put up in cans and Mr. Atchley has had enough section honey smashed to bring down the price as low as that for chunk honey. Some object to such a mess, but are sections ever set on the table? When the section is cut it is just that way too. If cut out of the section it is chunk honey too, but nothing like a chunk out of a can, with nice honey all over and around it, and indeed there is nothing more inviting when hungry and nothing nicer at all. If everything is favorable to produce sections it is all right, but two supers of chunk honey can be produced to one of sections.

O. P. Hyde thought there never was anything nicer than comb honey in one-pound sections and he was slow about changing his mind, as he was one against such a messy way of putting up honey. Now he knows that the new way of putting up nice comb honey in cans and putting in extracted honey to fill up the cracks and crevices, to prevent the nice tender combs from mashing, is *the* honey for the South. Also, as he has always

kept bees on a dollar and cents standpoint, he must produce what is in demand. He read a number of letters received in a few days, from a firm in Ft. Worth, asking them to ship honey. Out of a large lot of this honey, amounting to over several hundred dollars, only *two* cases was extracted and the rest all *chunk comb* honey in 60-lb. and 12-lb. cans. This gave a good idea of the large demand for this kind of honey.

The proper name will be *bulk comb honey* from now on.

R. B. Leahy asked what per cent he made over section honey.

Mr. Hyde—About one-third more bulk, besides adding about fifteen pounds of extracted to fill up the 60-lb. cans, which sells at same price as the comb. When filling the cans with comb first it is only possible to get in from about 40 to 45 pounds. Sometimes double the amount of bulk comb honey may be produced in frames while it is impossible to raise good section honey during a bad flow.

B. A. Guess has produced such comb honey almost exclusively ever since he kept bees, while the majority went over to produce comb honey in sections. And while they were all discussing sections he thought his comb honey was good enough and he built a trade

on such and now the demand is so great that he can't supply it. Producing section honey always seemed too scientific for him, and that is the reason he did not attempt it. Now he is glad to see the bee-keepers come back again.

F. J. R. Davenport says that such honey does not work, with him, in his market at Waxahatchie. He gets the fancy trade and has fancy sections.

J. J. Waldrip has produced extracted honey. For many years he produced section honey, which paid very well. For shipping honey, sections go as first-class freight and as the other goes as fourth-class, there is a saving of freight in favor of bulk comb over section honey, which goes at owners' risk, gets smashed up and is lost, while bulk comb, in cans, saves honey, besides freight.

M. M. Faust is for the dollar, and gave same evidence as Pres. Hyde.

R. B. Leahy talked on this subject. He explained why he thought that the production of bulk comb honey was not such a great thing, and for bee-keepers to be convinced he told them just to ship some of it to the North. But if it is to the benefit of the producer it is a move in the right direction. As it can not be sold in the North it remains only for Texas

and therefore there may be danger of an over-production. Then, too, it seems to him like bee-keepers are going backward to 30 years ago, when he first started with bees, the only difference being in better hives, foundation and more scientific methods. He also said that it was hard work to produce fine section honey.

"Queen-rearing;" by Mrs. Jennie Atchley, who described her methods. As they are largely queen-raisers their methods are based on a large scale. Ten or fifteen of their best cell-building colonies are dequeened and made ready. Before doing this an old comb is put in one of the breeders' hives to get young larvæ to graft cells. The cells are then attached to the under edge of a comb, cut out rainbow shaped, which is preferred to Doolittle's stick for the cells. About fifteen cells are used to a colony, to build out, and on the seventh or eighth day go around and pinch off all small cells that are started on the combs. Nuclei are formed beforehand and on the ninth day one cell is given to each. Sometimes two cells are built too close together to be cut apart, when both are put in.

H. H. Hyde—"Have a good breeder to start with, i. e., prolific, gentle, one that produces honey-hustlers and that will keep a

strong colony of bees during the time of scarcity. For securing cells and large queens the Doolittle is the best plan. Prepare colonies in early spring." Has not found any difference between Italians and hybrids, for cell-building, but prefers a queen of year-before-last. Gets his colonies to running over with bees by using a division-board-feeder to stimulate. Makes Doolittle cell-cups with Pridgen's cell-dipping arrangement. This he exhibited and explained. He next takes the dipped cells and fastens them to the sticks, 18 on each. He then secures larvæ from 26 to 48 hours old to graft cells. Larvæ should not be too old, as queens from such hatch too early. Uses royal jelly for grafting and a little spoon-like cane to dip larvæ out with, at which great care has to be taken; the little larvæ should not even be turned over or the bees will not accept the cells. He next cuts out half of a comb and inserts stick containing cells below this and gives to cell-builders, in upper story above an excluder. He puts combs of young brood on both sides of the cell-comb, so as to draw up a lot of young bees. Says putting unsealed brood up above, with a lot of young bees to feed it and no queen there, makes the same condition as that of a colony at the time of superseding

their queen, as there is a small amount of larvæ in proportion to young bees present at the time. When cells are ready they are removed to nuclei, one in each. If he has a surplus of cells he inserts them in introduction cages, filled with candy, and then puts these in a frame and hangs in hive to keep over until he has a place for them. He uses this same cage when introducing virgins. When he has a valuable queen he uses the wire cloth comb cage. He takes a piece of screen wire cloth, about six by eight inches in size, ravel off about one inch around the edge and bends the edges over so as to form a sort of shallow box. The sharp, pointed walls are then stuck into a side of a brood-comb *containing hatching brood*. The queen is to be put into this cage and after a while she will be found laying and a lot of young bees to protect her. But don't make a mistake and stick this cage onto a comb of honey or a newly-built comb, for it will not work, besides the bees will undermine the edges of the cage and kill that valuable queen. As he rears queens quite extensively he runs a large number of nuclei. Here one must be careful or he will soon run his nuclei down. Never take out a queen except you have a cell or a virgin to give



them and then it is best to let the young queen lay a few days to strengthen the nucleus. In this way he has his nuclei strong, and during cotton bloom he gets quite an amount of extracted honey from them. He also touched upon laying workers, those pests of queen-rearing, and told how he gets rid of them. He says that no matter how careful one is he will have trouble with such, but when he has such he simply takes a frame with bees, queen and brood and gives to colony containing the pests and it soon stops it.

M. M. Faust prefers medium-sized queens to extra-large and very small ones, which latter are no good. With the Doolittle plan most all are good and none small.

E. J. Atchley does not question about the methods used when wanting good queens, for if any of the plans are used right good queens can be raised. He says that all the methods are good.

G. F. Davidson does not agree with him, as he prefers the Alley method, which he believes to be better than any other. He repeated his description of this plan, as given at the meeting, at Milano, last year, on account of some not having understood him then. The plan is to use narrow strips of comb, only one row of cells, containing eggs. With a match he

destroys every other egg, and attaches this to the bottom of a comb that has been cut away about half. E. J. Atchley then asked Davidson if there was any difference between the Atchley plan and Alley's plan, as Atchleys move the little larvæ, cocoon and all into dipped cells, which does not make any difference.

W. H. Laws says that it is not methods that make good queens, as all plans produce some good queens. With the Doolittle plan he secures all good queens and like told by H. H. Hyde, above an excluder, in condition to superseding.

A motion:—Judge E. Y. Terral was requested to make a speech on apiculture in the assembly hall at College Station next year.

Upon motion J. B. Salyer was appointed a committee to prepare a programme for next meeting.

Requested the secretary to have badges printed for next meeting and to mail them to members, at least fifteen days before the meeting, with the request to attend.

#### SECOND DAY—AFTERNOON.

Upon motion the secretary paid Mr. E. J. Atchley five dollars for lithographing and publishing convention report in THE SOUTHLAND QUEEN. This motion was unanimously carried.

The committee on resolutions reported:—

1.—Resolved that the Central Texas Bee-Keepers' Association properly remunerate our secretary for his untiring and efficient labors, in such amount as this association may deem proper.

Committee, { E. J. Atchley,  
W. H. Laws,  
J. H. Faubion.

2.—Resolved that the minutes of this convention be published in one or more of the bee-journals, and the secretary is hereby requested to furnish minutes of this convention to publisher who will agree to publish the same in full as presented by our secretary.

Committee, { E. J. Atchley,  
W. H. Laws,  
J. H. Faubion.

3.—Be it resolved that the thanks of the association are tendered to the people of the city of Hutto, for their unstinted hospitality extended to us during our stay among them; to Mr. O. P. Hyde and family for their unceasing efforts to care for each and every member of the association, and we will each retain kindly memories of this meeting.

Committee, { E. J. Atchley,  
W. H. Laws,  
J. H. Faubion.

4.—Resolved that this association tender to our ex-president, E. R. Jones, our sincere thanks for his kind and efficient services in behalf of this association.

Committee, { E. J. Atchley,  
W. H. Laws,  
J. H. Faubion.

5.—Resolved by Central Texas Bee-Keepers' Association in convention assembled that we petition the next legislature through Prof. Connell, of the A. & M. college, of Bryan, Texas, for an appropriation for the establishment of a state bee-keeping experiment station at College Station, and, also, for a sufficient appropriation to pay a man to manage and experiment at this station.

Committee, { E. J. Atchley,  
W. H. Laws,  
J. H. Faubion.

• All the above resolutions were discussed and adopted unanimously, except the last; it was deemed best to go down to College Station and meet there before taking this step, and it was also best to wait, as it was yet quite early.

So far, all the business matter was attended to and settled. There being no more time to discuss the regular subjects, the "Question Box" was opened.

Question No. 1.—Does it pay you to rear your own queens?

Answers.—Yes. No. Depends on circumstances. When during swarming season it is good, but otherwise not, and prefer to buy from breeders who are prepared for it. Then, queens are cheap now.

Q 2.—What is best to do with weak third swarms?

Ans.—Hunt out queen and put

back. If a valuable queen put in nucleus.

Q. 3.—Which is the best size super and frame for bulk comb honey?

Ans.—After a long discussion by many, the shallow super and frame were greatly in preference. Especially the 5 $\frac{3}{4}$  inch deep super and 5 $\frac{3}{4}$  inch frames.

Q. 4.—Can anyone give light on why so many virgin queens sometimes disappear?

Ans.—Many are caught by birds or insect-loving animals when they take their wedding flight. Many are balled by their own bees and other ways by which they get lost. Mostly during bad weather it seems as though the bees want to force the virgin queen out to perform her duties, as more are balled on this account, and it does not happen often when the weather is all favorable. Some are balled when returning from their bridal trip.

A list of bee-keepers was taken:

NAME AND ADDRESS.	NO. HIVES
E. Y. Terral, Cameron,	50
J. H. Tom, Georgetown,	12
Jas. Gage, Elgin,	44
T. B. Bonnds, Davilla,	51
W. H. Calwell, Thorndale,	165
Louis Scholl, Hunter,	53
E. R. Jones, Milano,	65
Tom Houston, Del Valley,	25
D. C. Milam, Uvalde,	390
E. Letz, Hunter,	20
W. H. Madely, Rogers,	150
O. P. Hyde & Son, Hutto,	550
J. Atchley Co., Beeville,	1200
Udo Toepperwein, Leon Springs	80
B. A. Guess, Heidenheimer,	200
L. Stachelhausen, Converse,	250
H. Jahn, San Antonio,	25
R. C. Knowles, Aultman,	31

J. J. Waldrip, San Marcos,	130
F. J. R. Davenport, Nash,	181
F. A. Davenport, Nash,	10
Rebus Guess, Heidenheimer,	2
G. F. Davidson, Fairview,	400
J. B. Salyer, Jonah.	225
F. L. Aten, Round Rock,	300
W. H. Laws, Round Rock,	263
Emmet Hyde, Hutto,	3
Chas. Freirich, Rosanky,	60
Lonnie Gage, Elgin,	4
Rogers & Harden, Hutto,	50
E. B. Norwood, Garfield,	19
W. A. Evans, Goebel,	185
Geo. Henley, Round Rock,	35
Mr. & Mrs. C. R. West, Waxahatchie,	15
M. M. Faust, Floresville,	295
A. I. Renstorn, Jonah,	15
L. E. Heiggest, Georgetown,	50
W. S. Brown, Hutto,	70
Henry Schmidt, Hutto,	50
Gus. McCormick, Phluegerville,	60
Total	5808

There were many other questions answered and discussed by all. The apiarian exhibit at the hall consisted of many useful tools, implements and appliances, besides the fine honey and bees.

Next year a grand exhibit is expected to be held at College Station when the Association meets there.

There will be prizes offered for the different exhibits, of which a great many have already been donated to be awarded by a committee of four, appointed by the convention, which are, Louis Scholl, W. H. Laws, J. B. Salyer and O. P. Hyde.

The secretary has been requested to solicit donations for prizes and a list will be given later.

This was indeed a grand meeting of bee-keepers.

O. P. HYDE,            LOUIS SCHOLL,  
President.            Sec'y and Treas.

## Swarming Theory.

BY L. STACHELHAUSEN.

It is well known that queen-cells can be reared in upper stories over queen-excluding honey-boards, if some brood is given in these upper stories. In fact at present the most queen-breeders use this method.

In the last convention, at Hutto, the question was raised: "What is the purpose of setting brood on top of this queen-excluder?" but a satisfactory answer was not given. Some other questions, most interesting to practical bee-keepers are in close connection with this, for instance: "What causes the bees to build queen-cells?" "What circumstances cause the swarming impulse"? etc.

To answer these and similar questions, we will have to explain something about the nourishment of bees. In this respect we find very little in our bee-books and bee-journals even by our prominent bee-keepers. We know that honey and pollen are the natural food of the honey-bee. Honey, being a carbohydrate, produces the necessary animal heat and power, pollen the only nitrogenous food is necessary to form and renew the tissues of the honey-bee and can partially take the place of the honey as a nourishment, containing albumen, starch and fat. It is explained and well known how the honey is prepared by the bees, how the pollen is eat-

en and how both are digested and changed in the true stomach of the honey-bee to chyle. Here it is important that with bees the assimilation of the chyle is different from the same act with higher animals and much simplified. The digestion is fully finished in the true stomach and the digested food goes through the wall of the stomach directly into the blood of the bee by diffusion, while with higher animals this process is more complicated and performed by separate vessels.

In the honey-bee we have to observe another peculiarity. Workers, queen and drones are not only members of a family; they are much more connected. While the queen and drones are exclusively engaged in sexual duties, the workers provide for the nourishment of all, and even digest the food for the queen, drones and young larvæ. This is the reason we can call a colony of bees a unit organism. The young bees especially are the preparers of the food for the whole colony; they not only digest the nectar to honey by mixing it with saliva, but they digest the pollen also to chyme and finally to chyle, regurgitate it and feed it to the queen, drones and to the young larvæ, very probably to adult bees sometimes also.

Further, we know that to the queen-larvæ this same rich nourishing chyle is fed until the cell is capped. The worker-larvæ receive the same food during the first three days only. From the

fourth to the fifth day another food is given to the worker and drone larvæ. To the chyle not fully digested chyme is added by and by. This is observed by the presence of pollen-shells in the larval food. From the fifth day of the larval age till the cell is capped, honey and pollen are fed to worker and drone larvæ.

The egg-laying capacity of the queen is dependent not only on the fertility, but on the amount of chyle fed to her by the young workers also.

Beginning in early spring, when the first eggs are laid by the queen in the center of the bee cluster, the first twenty-one or twenty-two days the food for the queen and larvæ is prepared by bees that were raised the year before. Later on young bees are gnawing out of the cells and now the young bees and the brood are increasing rapidly, because these young bees prepare chyle instinctively in large quantities and feed the queen copiously. With the increasing number of young bees the amount of produced chyle is increasing; the queen receives more of it and lays more and more eggs. More eggs cause more chyle and more chyle more eggs. Everything is increasing but in harmony as long as the queen is able to increase the number of eggs she is laying daily. But the fertility of every queen is limited, partially by the power of the ovary, partially by the number of empty cells in which eggs can be laid, which is especially

to be considered in small hives. As soon as the queen can't lay an increasing number of eggs daily a surplus of young bees is created and they produce a surplus of chyle, for which they can't find customers and this is the more so if the number of eggs is diminishing. The first necessary effect is that the chyle is not regurgitated; it remains in the stomach for some time and diffuses necessarily into the blood of the bee, causing an extension of the blood. An extended blood is the necessity to get the wax-glands of the bees in action and consequently wax is secreted. In fact under these circumstances we can find wax-scales on the body of nearly every young bee. This is important for practical bee keeping.

We know in producing wax, fat and sugar are consumed, while albumen is not necessary for this purpose. According to the laws of diffusion more sugar will go from the chyle in the stomach into the blood than albumen, if the sugar of the blood is consumed in wax-secretion. Consequently the blood as well as the chyle in the stomach must necessarily get richer in albumen, and we suppose that this condition is of much influence on the impulses of the bees and causes at first the desire for drones. Drone-cells are built and the queen lays eggs into the drone-cells, because the same chyle, rich on albumen, is fed to her, and the same rich chyle is fed to the drone-larvæ.

Still the number of young bees is increasing, while possibly the number of young larvæ is diminishing, the drone-larvæ can't consume the superfluous chyle, the bees get more and more eager to feed young larvæ, and because the queen seems to be unable to lay a sufficient number of eggs a desire for a new or more queens is incited; queen-cells are started, and the queen, receiving the same blood as the workers, is governed by the same impulses and lays eggs into the cell-cups.

As soon as queen-cells are started a swarm is a necessity if no other circumstances hinder it; or according to the season the queen is superseded.

This is the explanation of the swarming-impulse. It explains every observation we have made, as yet, about swarming. I know such scientific speculations are not very much favored by the bee-keepers, but they are very important. As long as we do not know what causes the swarming impulse we will hardly find the proper way to prevent swarming, and the science in general must be the basis of practical bee-keeping.

We will now go back to our question: "What is the purpose of setting brood over the queen-excluder in raising queen-cells in upper stories?"

When the combs with open brood are set in the upper story, a normal number of young nurse-bees will adhere to these combs or will get induced by the brood to enter the upper story. Without brood the bees would probably neglect the queen-cells entirely. Some young bees are gnawing out of the cells daily, but no more eggs are laid. Three days afterwards a superfluous number of young bees will be present and consequently a superfluous amount of chyle. This is the desired condition to raise good queens. By this method of queen-rearing we have in fact divided the colony in two parts and the young bees in the lower story may be governed by other impulses than the bees in the upper story, because their blood is of different composition.

We have to mention another point of practical importance. For a few years past some bee-keepers have been talking about breeding out the swarming impulse. We have seen that the swarming impulse is in close connection with breeding. The more the eggs that are laid by the queen in early spring the sooner she will reach the maximum of her egg-laying capacity. Prolific races or strains of bees are generally swarming and drone-rearing bees. If we breed out the undesired swarming impulse there will at least be some danger that we will at the same time breed out the desired quality of prolificness also.

# THE SOUTHLAND QUEEN.

PUBLISHED MONTHLY.

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

..ASSISTED BY..

WILLIE, CHARLIE AND AMANDA ATCHLEY.

MRS. JENNIE ATCHLEY, Editress and Manager  
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BEEVILLE, TEXAS, AUGUST, 1900.

We have but little space, this month, for anything but Central Texas Report.

See the ad of the San Antonio

International Fair Association elsewhere in this issue.

We have no room for school this month, but will try to answer all questions, or as many as possible, next month.

Bees are doing well now, and building up fast, and if everything is favorable this fall we expect some honey yet.

The honey we spoke about, which we saw in the Floresville depot, as belonging to M. M. Faust, we learn was the property and production of G. F. Davidson, which correction we are glad to make.

We are now shipping honey into Missouri, Kansas, Arkansas and the Indian Territory, and by this we suppose that crops are short in those states, and that bulk comb honey is good enough for northern people too.

The writer, W. H. Laws, F. L. Aten, J. B. Salyer, and R. B. Leahy, took in Mr. Aten's apiaries, one day before the Hutto convention, and we shall try to give a full write-up of that trip soon, as space forbids it in this issue. We will also include the apiaries of W. H. Laws, which were visited the same day.

We are somewhat late with this issue of **THE QUEEN**, on account of moving around and placing in new machinery, but we shall not allow this to occur any oftener than we can help. You all know that the 15th of each month is our day of publication, and we will try to get your papers to you by the 20th of each month.

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We have given space to the whole of the report of the Central Texas Bee-Keepers' Association, and printed extra copies, so that the friends may have some extra copies to hand to their friends, that they may see what we bee-folks are doing. Those that desire a few copies for this purpose can have them by applying for them.

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If there are any more mistakes than usual in **THE QUEEN** this month we beg of you to excuse them, as our printer, Mr. M. A. Salazar, went and got married, on the 30th of July, to Miss Virgie Peel, so you all know that he has a right to be excused. **THE QUEEN** wishes them a pleasant and profitable path through life and a home in Heaven in the end.

---

We have moved the printing-office from the factory building into one end of the honey-house, which gives more floor space in

the factory and lessens the danger of losing the printing-press and outfit in case the factory should catch fire. As soon as we can reach it we will build a new printing-office, which will be in accordance with the progress of **THE QUEEN**.

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We have just enjoyed a call from the following prominent and pleasant bee-keepers: Mr. John Pharr, Grandpa Jones and E. R. Jones, of Milano, W. H. Laws, of Round Rock, and J. B. Salyer, of Jonah, and to say that we had a good time puts it too mild. We shall try to give these pleasant people and good friends more notice in a near future number, when we can have more space.

---

We had a pleasant trip to the Hutto meeting, where we met many people that we had known in a business way, but had never before met in person. The convention was a success in every particular, and Mr. & Mrs. Hyde entertained us in a royal manner. A full and complete report will be found in this issue, which will better explain the whole matter than we could possibly do in this limited space.

---

We have our new boiler in place and up and running and we are well pleased with it. We have a



new boiler and engine-room, and a first-class French burr corn-mill in connection with the factory, and those of our friends who live near enough can get good meal here, but you will have to look out, as Uncle George, our miller, says if you don't bring corn enough to pay toll he has a place to hide your sacks.

We have always had a rest spell at about this time of the year in the factory, but it seems quite different this season, as we are now running and filling orders right along. We ship to-day, August 16th, a large order to Mexico, and have a big order to fill for West Texas, and enough orders on hand to keep us busy for several days. This we are proud of, and it now looks as though we would have to keep steamed up the year round.

The South Texas Bee-Keepers' Association will meet at College Station next year, some time in July, in joint session with the Central and North Texas Associations, at the same time of the meeting of the Texas Farmers' Congress, the exact date of which will be given in ample time for all to prepare to go. We have spoken a little premature about the North Texas, but we will try to get them to meet with us next year. We shall try

to attend the convention of the North Texas, next April, and lay the matter before them in such a manner that we are sure they will meet with us.

The San Antonio Fair Association has invited bee-keepers to make exhibits at next October's fair and all those that desire to do so please let us know the amount of space wanted at once and we will arrange for it. Do not put this matter off, but let us know at once. The fair will be from October 20th to November 2nd, and we would be glad to meet as many bee-keepers there as will come. Suppose we arrange Thursday, October 25th, for bee-keepers to meet, when we can have a kind of united meeting for our mutual benefit. Who will be there and what will you bring?

As there is no room for us to start the report of the convention of the South Texas Bee-Keepers' Association in this issue we will say that we had a good meeting and were treated with great kindness by Mr. & Mrs. Faust, Mr. Davidson and all the bee-keepers of Wilson County, as well as the citizens of Floresville and vicinity. One Mr. Picket gave the entire convention a grand and delicious treat of large and well-matured

peaches, not only a few, but by the bushel. Bro. Faust treated us to melons from his own farm, and, all in all, we were well and kindly treated. More of this will be written soon, along with a report of the meeting.

### Misleading Advice.

A few days ago I saw a few items in a local paper on the subject of bee-keeping. One of the items stated that a frame inserted in the center of the brood nest would be quickly filled with brood. It gave no particulars as to season or strength of the colony, etc. Such advice is very misleading and is liable to cause much trouble to beginners. Spreading the brood-nest requires as much judgment as anything pertaining to bee-keeping. After several years' experience I made a mistake in my apiary one season which caused a loss. My advice is to get lots of knowledge of bees and the seasons before spreading the brood-nest.

It is seldom that those giving their experience in bee-keeping write of their mistakes or failures. Unsuccessful experiments are not pleasant and are often costly to the experimenter, but would be of value to the beginner even if complete failures, as they would warn them that certain modes of practice are liable to result in failure.

Waverly, N. Y.

J. H. ANDRE.

### ✱ W. H. LAWS ✱

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The Laws' Strain of Golden Italians are still in the lead. Breeding Queens, each, \$2.50. I am also breeding the leather-colored, from imported mothers. Price, tested queens, either strain, \$1.00 each, or 6 for \$5.00. Untested, 75 cts. each, or 6 for \$4.00. Address,

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6:4

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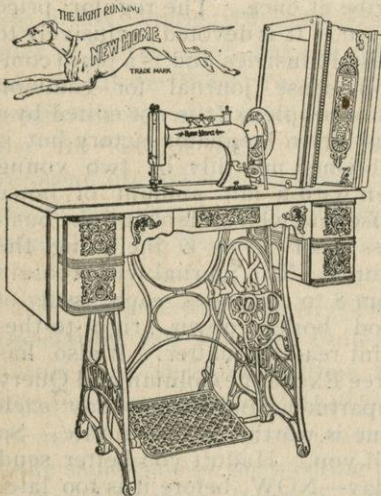
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6-6 Please mention "The Queen."

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Hutto, Texas.

6-8

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We are anxious to mail you our 28-page catalogue free, and surprise you at our very low prices before they go up.

Send 25 cts. for the AMATEUR BEE-KEEPER, a 70-page book, and "a gem for beginners."

## J. W. ROUSE & COMPANY,

MEXICO, MO.

6-8

Please mention "The Queen."

## Queens. ❀ QUEENS! ❀ QUEENS!!

FRIENDS:—I am now better prepared to supply you with queens and bees than ever before, as I have more bees now, and double my regular number of queen rearing yards. I can supply you with queens and bees of almost any kind, the different kinds of which I breed in separate yards, from six to twenty miles apart. Three banded Italians, five banded goldens, Holylands, Cyprians, Albinos and Carniolans. Untested queens of either race from now until further notice, 75 cts. each, \$4.25 for six, or \$8 00 per dozen. Tested queens, \$1.50 each. Fine breeders, from previous season's rearing, \$5.00 each.

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Address

LEAHY MANUFACTURING COMPANY,  
HIGGINSVILLE, MISSOURI.

## MONTROSE BICYCLE SENT FREE

on approval to your address **WITHOUT A CENT IN ADVANCE. SEND US YOUR ORDER**, state whether you wish lady's or man's wheel; give color, height of frame and gear wanted and **WE WILL SHIP**

**THE WHEEL** C. O. D. on approval, allowing you to uncrate and examine it fully before you accept it. If it is not all and more than we claim for it, and a better wheel than you can get for any where near the price from any one else, refuse it and we will pay all express charges ourselves. **The "MONTROSE" Bicycle \$16.50**

at our Special Agent's sample price of the greatest bargain in a bicycle ever offered. We guarantee it equal to any \$40 wheel on the market, and you need not accept it nor pay a cent if you do not find it as we represent. We are **EXCLUSIVE BICYCLE MANUFACTURERS** and take this method of quickly introducing our **1900 MODELS**. This offer of a sample wheel at this low price is made to secure a **RIDER AGENT** in each town to represent us and take orders. Our agents make money fast.

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**FREE** to any one sending the \$16.50 cash in full with order we will send free a genuine **Burdick** 10,000 mile barrel pattern cyclo-meter; or a high grade floor pump. Your money all back if you are not perfectly satisfied.

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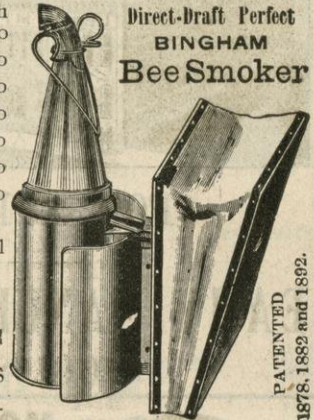
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## Honey Knives

Patented 1878, 1882 and 1892.

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

Direct-Draft Perfect  
**BINGHAM**  
Bee Smoker



PATENTED  
1878, 1882 and 1892.

All Bingham smokers are stamped on the metal



Patented { 1878 } Knives, B&H  
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The four larger sizes have extra wide shields and double coiled steel wire handles. These SHIELDS and HANDLES are an AMAZING COMFORT—al-

ways cool and clean. No more sooty or burnt fingers. The Plain and Little Wonder have narrow shields and wire handles. All Bingham Smokers have all the new improvements, viz: Direct Draft, Movable Bent Cap, Wire Handles, Inverted Bellows, and are in every way ABSOLUTELY PERFECT.

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

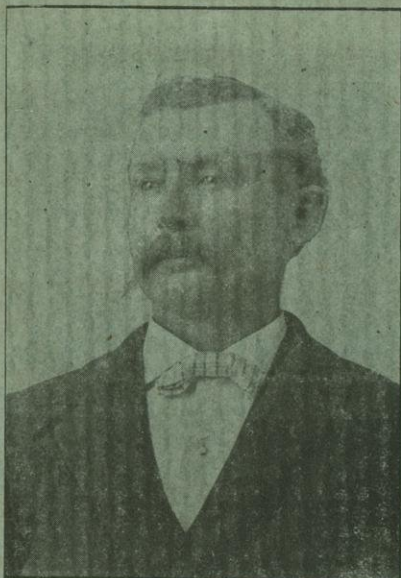
DEAR SIR: Have used the Conqueror 15 years. I was always pleased with its workings, but thinking I would need a new one this summer, I write for a circular. I do not think the 4-inch Smoke engine too large. Yours, etc., W. H. EAGERTY, Cuba, Kansas, January 27, 1897.

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Are you looking for Foundation to use this year? Then, don't look any farther; as DADANTS, have now been before the bee-keeping world, for many years, stands without a rival today. If you never saw any of Dadants' foundation, send a Postal for free sample, together with their catalogue. They guarantee every inch of their foundation to be as good as sample sent, and no complaints ever come against it. They have also revised, Langstroth on the hive and Honey Bee, and you can scarcely afford to do without this large and valuable book. Post paid \$1.25. We sell every thing needed in the apiary.

CHAS. DADANT & SON, Hamilton, Hancock Co., Ills.



## NUCLEI FOR SALE.

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

**FRANK L. ATEN,**  
**Round Rock, Texas.**

6-9 Please mention THE QUEEN.

### A Liberal Offer.

We will give as a premium for every new subscriber with \$1.00 this year, one nice untested Italian queen, and to all old ones that will pay up and one year in advance.

**Jennie Atchley Co.**  
 Beeville, Texas.

## New York Quotations.

There is a steady demand for all grades of comb honey. The receipts are not heavy.

We quote to-day:

WHITE	Fancy.	15 to 16	cts. per lb.
	No. 1.	13½ to 14½	“ “ “
AMBER	.....	11 to 12	“ “ “
BUCKWHEAT	.....	9 to 11	“ “ “

EXTRACTED HONEY held steady at the following prices:

California White	.....	8½ to 9	cts. per lb.
Light Amber	.....	8 to 8½	“ “ “
White Clover	.....	8½	“ “ “
Amber	.....	7½	“ “ “

We are asking, for Extracted Buckwheat, 6½ to 7 cts. for kegs, and 7 to 7½ cts. for tins, according to quality, but with very little trade.

Florida Extracted	.....	8 to 8½	cts. per lb.
Light Amber	.....	7½ to 8	“ “ “
Amber	.....	7 to 7½	“ “ “

Other grades of Southern at from 75 to 80 cts. per gallon, according to quality.

BEE-WAX: Demand a little more active at the following prices: 27 to 28 cts. per lb.

FRANCIS H. LEGGETT & CO.,  
 Franklin, West Broadway & Varick Sts.,  
 Jan. 11, 1900. New York City.

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**The West Tennessee Industrial Journal,**  
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6-8 Please mention THE QUEEN.

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Don't wait until your bees are  
**Hanging on a Limb,**

to order your hives and supplies,  
but order them now, and be  
ready for them when . . . .

**They do Swarm.**

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## REMEMBER



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

FRIENDS:—The hives to hand in good condition. I am more than pleased; the lumber is good, and the workmanship is all right too, and a few (one or two) pieces of each kind allowed for splitting. Please accept my thanks for the way you filled my order.

Yours Truly, MERRILL W. SMITH, Cuero, Texas.

**The Jennie Atchley Company,**  
Beeville, Texas.