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Vol. 2, No. 4.

The WESTERN BEE JOURNAL

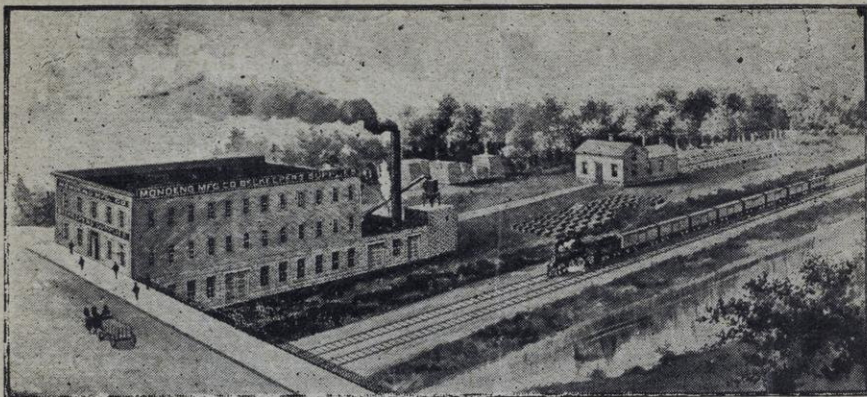


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INTEREST OF THE
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FEBRUARY

1905

P. F. ADELSBACH,
EDITOR AND PUBLISHER
KINGSBURG, CALIFORNIA



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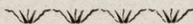
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P. F. ADELSBACH,

Editor and Publisher.

Kingsburg California

THE WESTERN BEE JOURNAL.

Published Monthly in the Interest of Bee Keepers.

VOL. 2.

KINGSBURG, CAL., FEBRUARY, 1905.

No 4.

Pa And Ma And The Bees.

BY A. J. WATERHOUSE, IN SUNSET MAGAZINE.

The man that bought the hive of bees firs' set them by the path
(Oh, the bees were full of vigor, and were also full of wrath,)
An' he said: "It might be better to leave 'em like es not,
Till I hear from Mr. Perkins where he'd like to have 'em sot;"
An' 'bout that time my ma come out dressed in her Sunday best,
An' she tumbled o'er that beehive, an'—I hate to tell the rest;
For we all got mixed up in it, and the atmosphere was shot
With bees an' language of my pa, an' both of them was hot.

Ma turned to speak to Susan: "What ever may occur—"
Then she tumbled o'er the beehive, and it tumbled over her;
An' it seems to me I hear it yet, her piercin', curdlin' yell
When the bees come out to greet her an' they fired their shot an' shell;
An' they prodded with their lances, an' they stung her with their darts,
On her face an' on her shoulders an' her hands an' other parts;
An' ma kep' on a-yellin' till I thought my blood would freeze;
Then pa come round the corner to see what ailed the bees,

Well, he found out middlin' sudden, for the biggest of the hive
Firs' landed on his eyebrow, an' my pa said; "man alive!"
Then they peppered him all over, an' settled in his hair,
An' his language was disgraceful—it was different from a prayer.
Then my ma an' pa, united, rolled together on the walk,
An' her shrieks, though ruther movin', wasn't touchin' as his talk,
While the bees kept stingin', stingin', just as they meant to say:
"You will kindly please to notice that this here's our busy day!"

We turned the fire hose on them, an' pa remarked: It's nice,
But I think it would be better if you'd pack us both in ice,
For them bees, I want to mention, lest you make a grave mistake,
Is the hottest little insect's this side of Trimstone lake;"
An' six days later, when they both had convalesced somewhat,
Said pa: "This weather's warmish, but there's only bees that's hot;"
An' then he turned to ma an' said: "To prove our gratitude,
We'll give them bees unto the poor, twill save 'em coal an' wood."

A Few Special Notes.

BY WILLIE BEE.

Grape pollen is light yellow.

Make good use of the sun extractor.

Provide continual honey flow by planting now.

Bee men have no winter problems in California.

Robbing is at its worst in the fall and the spring.

Keep your light honey separate from the darker grades.

Generally one-half ounce of comb will hold one pound of honey.

If a man steals bees in Russia he is sent to Siberia. That's good.

Two thousand eggs daily is only a fair average for a good queen.

Always retail your honey direct to the consumer if you possibly can.

Always be sure the honey you extract is ripe enough before you touch it.

The way to avoid robbing is to prevent it—guard yourself against it.

Italians will resist robbers much better than the common or black bees.

From 30 to 50 pounds of honey to the hive should be left for winter stores.

Make it your purpose to produce just the kind of honey that the trade calls for.

The total membership of the National Association is said to have reached 2135.

Colonies with young queens are not so apt to swarm as those that have older ones.

The Irish Bee Journal has evolved a scheme for insurance of bees. Wonder if it will reach us?

Get a friend to subscribe for this

Journal, and get a fine Adel Queen for a premium.

Never allow any honey to lie exposed around an apiary. Keep everything right neat and clean about an apiary.

Advertise your business by wearing an emblem, or by some outward sign that can be noticed by your friends.

The bee man who reads is the man who succeeds, because he is the man who wants to keep up with the times.

Where there is carelessness and ignorance there is where you find trouble, when you are speaking of beekeeping.

The California State Beekeepers' Association ought to make some effort to extend its membership so as to make it a State Association in fact.

While queens have stings, it is only on other queens they are used. It is the rarest thing in the world for queens to sting human beings.

In looking for a queen it is well to remember that she is more easily found on a fine day, when most of the bees are afield gathering nectar.

Bees often show a strong liking for salt-water. Evidently they require it.

It is not usually necessary to requeen oftener than every two years—or even three.

Every beekeeper should take one or more bee journals. These publications are all doing all they can to make the honey business more profitable, in addition to the help they afford in other ways.

The day for the honey business to be restricted altogether to the class of men who have been failures at everything else, is passed. Men of large capital and ripe business experience are looking to the possibilities of the honey industry as an investment. Speed the day.

In grading comb honey for market, face the case with a fair sample of its contents.

Fifty pounds of surplus honey per hive in a season is a fair average in most localities.

The color of honey varies greatly, ranging from water white to a very dark brown.

Light honey is not always the best in flavor, though it always brings the highest price.

Bees do not need daily attention, but can be given sufficient food at one time to last all winter.

Bottled honey should be of a fine flavor and light in color. Dark honey looks bad in glass, and is a drag on the market.

Bleaching honey impairs its flavor and makes it impracticable. It would be better to have dark, good honey, than light, poor honey.

Bottled honey is, as a rule, purchased by a class of customers who demand a fancy article and are able and willing to pay a fancy price for it.

Light colored honey is gathered from such flowers as clover, basswood, and mountain sage, while the dark is gathered from buckwheat, autumn flowers and whitewood.

What Kind of Organization?

BY ED WHITE, SAN FRANCISCO, CAL.

For some time I have busied myself studying the organizations among bee men. In nearly every locality where there is any number of beemen we generally find some sort of an organization or society among them.

After a general looking into the matter I have reached the conclusion that an organization that has for its object the social and the professional advancement of bee men is a good

thing. But where they enter an organization of a commercial nature they are treading dangerous ground. Experience hold out the warning that any organization that has for its prime object the financial end of the beeman's affairs will sooner or later go to pieces on the rocks of dissatisfaction if for no other reason.

And then where is the wisdom of going into a commercial enterprise of this nature in the face of conditions as they are today? Are the beemen in themselves financially able to combat the power of the great trusts and money controlling powers that be? The largest consumers of honey generally fix the price they will pay for honey and when this is done the price of honey, extracted at least, is fixed, and all the beemen's organizations on earth cannot improve it. With regard to comb honey the case may be different.

Next we are approached with the idea that by organizing supplies can be secured at reduced rates. No one would dare deny the value of this fact. And right here I want to say that the "social and professional" society can secure the same benefits for its members or as can the commercial organization. To conduct a commercial organization a great deal of money is required, much responsibility shouldered, to say nothing of the needless expense in conducting its business. I have never entered any organization of this character, having always regarded it an unwise thing to do. I have talked with some who have had experience in these matters, and my conclusion is that a society for beemen of a purely commercial nature is seldom a success, and not a good thing to get mixed up with. The trouble is that large aggregations of capital control all important business, and when the fellow with the money insists upon making the price, it is about as good a thing as can be done to let him have his way. When the time comes—if it ever does—when the large consumers of honey

have to ask the producer for honey, then, perhaps, a commercial organization will be a success.

Beemen can improve the demand for honey by working up local trade, but this is another subject which I expect to treat in the near future. But on the subject of commercial organizations for beemen, my word is, "have a care."

The Correct Name.

BY E. W. RUSH, DENVER, COLO.

It has often occurred to me that a man who keeps bees to get the honey they make and store is not properly designated when he is called a "beekeeper." In a sense he is a beekeeper, still, in reality the bees keep him. Those who keep and raise cattle are cattlemen; those who keep poultry are called poultrymen and those who conduct dairies are called dairymen. Why not, then, call those who keep bees "beemen"? It really makes but little difference, but at the same time it does not seem quite right.

The purpose of this little article is to bring to the attention of those engaged in keeping bees the manner in which they are designated. I am aware that the matter has been much discussed, but nothing definite has been accomplished. Not long ago, while visiting some friends the matter came up, and I was much surprised to see how the uninitiated regarded the name of "beekeeper." The idea was at once advanced that the bees really kept the man, inasmuch as the bees produced the honey which the owner sold for a profit.

I do not think that the name of "beekeeper" has become so thoroughly fixed but that the term "beemen" can be substituted without much effort. The latter sounds much better and is more appropriate. The instant you speak of a beeman your listener knows that the man of whom you speak keeps bees. The same is

true when the term beekeeper is used, but as stated before the former seems to fit better.

When the terms "apiculturist" or "beekeeping specialist" are used it looks like one is trying to "put in on." The more simple and plainer the term the better it sounds, to say nothing of the brevity of it. Therefore I should like to see the term "beeman" adopted, and believe it will be. Apiculture is coming to be regarded as an important industry, and those of us now engaged in it should take it upon ourselves to secure the adoption of the most appropriate class name.

Rational Bee-feeding.

BY HENRY E. HORN, FIVERSIDE, CAL.

Among the various and assorted apicultural problems that come down to the journalistic footlights, smiling and severe, season after season, east and west, old world and new, no matter how often and completely they have been bundled away before, the one pertaining to rationality of feeding seems to attain to a sturdier growth of late than the rest, though, to be sure, frames and covers, long tongues and short tails manifest no mean activity. Some would have us to feed honey, first, last and all the time, expressing a downright contempt for sugar; while the opposition manfully wages the battle of syrup, all but unconscious of the very existence of honey. And it may be that they are both right, and both wrong—for it all depends

Once upon a time a wise old Chinaman advised a youth in quest of a teacher thus: "One who knows not, and knows not that he knows not—leave him alone; he is a fool; one who knows not and knows that he knows not—associate yourself with him, for he also seeks truth; one who knows and knows that he knows—find and follow him, he is wisdom." The max-

ims of the sage of Carthage may be applied with perfect safety to apiculture; for insufficient knowledge of facts is here as elsewhere responsible for differences of opinion; aye, for opinions altogether, for when knowledge is complete, opinions vanish.

Speaking with reference to successful bee keeping, it is indisputably true that, besides all things else, differences—be they of flora or climate, or topography—exist between and wherein, "localities," and that hence most of the necessary manipulation of the hive-bee will have to be different and other according to such local variations of external conditions. Hence, now the question when, and if, to feed honey; and when, and if, syrup—provided one is obliged to feed at all—will have to be decided, in some degree at least, according to local circumstances, also. For though sugar and honey are both eagerly appreciated by bees, the reactions of them on the interior of the bee community may be of vital difference, or of little, owing partly, to the variation from the normal of the condition of the colonies fed, but mostly to the different chemical composition of the two substances. The case is capable of being stated simple and clear. Honey always carries albumen, sugar syrup not. Albumoids are absolutely necessary for broodrearing. With honey on hand bees can live and rear brood, their condition is normal, natural. With sugar syrup in the hive, and no pollen, or honey, bees can live, and, under favorable conditions otherwise, remain healthy, but they are incapable of rearing brood, wanting an essential ingredient for shyle secretion albumen; the very same stuff the chick grows on inside the egg.

With the knowledge of these facts, for, assuredly, they are facts, and not mere opinions, the what-to-feed problem should easily solve itself. Thus, if one wants to speed brood-rearing onward, feed honey, always feed honey. If, per contra, one does not want a lot of brood out of season, feed sugar, taking away honey present. But

if one must feed sugar and desires to keep up brood-rearing as well, artificial pollen, rye meal, or such like, must be given in addition, provided, of course, natural pollen be absent, as is very likely.

Light on feeding proposition is extremely opportune for Southern California this season. For, owing to almost ruinous meteorological conditions for over a year now, probably not more than ten per cent of our stock will survive unfed. And since pollen was almost as scarce as nectar all summer long, sugar fed colonies having no albumoids present in the hive, must needs be dwindle continually, getting weaker, and weaker, and, finally, maybe, fall an easy prey to disease, and the spring crisis. The early giving of artificial pollen would very likely prevent much loss later on. And if a good season should come along next—for we are going to have good seasons again—that loss would surely disappoint many a brother beekeeper.

For preparing syrups one should always use so-called "inrest" sugar. The sugar at the grocery store is, chemically, cane sugar. Either the beekeeper or the bees must change or "inrest" that into grape sugar before it really becomes available as bee feed. To "inrest" cane sugar into grape sugar is as easy as it is mysterious. Into about twenty-five or thirty pounds of ordinary sugar syrup press the juices of a good, ripe, sound lemon, and stir well. Your product now is grape sugar syrup; as direct befeed as honey, though, of course, still having the limitations of sugar.

The question has been asked how to make bees take artificial pollen, notwithstanding their natural propensities to suspect trickery on the part of him who is pleased to call himself "beemaster." Bank your rye meal on a dry bottom board and sprinkle a little honey over it, put an empty hive over it, cover up but leave an entrance space all around it, and you will soon see "something doing."

The Life of A Bee As Told By One of Them.

A bee-hive in the honey season is the busiest place on earth. There are in it between forty thousand and fifty thousand of us, and nearly all are "worker" bees.

Though we cannot actually collect honey from the flower except during the hours of daylight, the inside work of the hive goes on day and night.

At the height of the season we do not sleep at all, and those of us who are "born" at the beginning of it never know what sleep is, for a month of the ceaseless labor that falls to their lot kills them.

Only those "born" late in the year, who live on during the winter upon the stored-up honey, ever have time to sleep. The most that a worker bee does in the twenty-four arduous hours of its laboring day is to exchange a heavy task for a lighter one.

A bee has no "childhood." As soon as it is born into the strange world of the hive it is set to work. When the sun gets up in the summer sky, and the hive feels the change from the cool night, the young bees, posted in rows along the floor and passages of their dwelling, ventilate it by a steady agitation of their wings. As fast as they weary they are replaced.

If the heat increases, additional "ventilators" join the ranks, for the wax of which the honey and brood combs are built easily melts, and that catastrophe would mean ruin to us and our hive.

A ventilator falling out of the ranks on account of weariness will perhaps join a party of "nurses" going on their round of the brood-combs to feed the immature bees. If it is not yet daylight the food for the nursery is taken from the stores of the hive; if it is broad day, and the older bees are coming and going with newly-gathered supplies, the nurses will take it from them as it is brought in.

What the nursing bees feed their charges with is a mixture of honey and bee bread, the latter being the pollen, or fertilizing dust, of flowers. This has to be "chewed" and moistened by the nurses before it can be fed to the tenants of the brood cells.

Then those of the immature bees who are about to spin their cocoons (which they do before turning into perfect bees), have to be sealed up for this final stage of development. Others who have completed it have to be helped out of their cells, cleaned down, fed and introduced to their work.

Those of the young worker bees who are not ventilating or nursing may be engaged in building operations upon the rows of new cells destined for the incoming stores of honey and "bee-bread," or for the next batches of "brood."

Others wait upon their queen, who alone of all our forty thousand inhabitants has the power of laying the eggs which are to produce the succeeding generations of our hive. She has not only to have her toilet performed by her attendants, but is fed like a baby by them.

In bad weather during summer the "drones," the princes-consort and privileged idlers of our community have to be fed. We revenge ourselves upon them for their laziness in the autumn, when they are turned out of their hive to die.

On fine days another section of the young bees are kept busy during the daylight hours on the floor of the hive assisting the older bees as they come in, the "baskets" on their thighs laden with pollen, and their furry body sticky with resin from the leaf-buds of such trees as poplar and horse-chestnut.

This resin your learned men have christened "propolis," and we use it, mixed with varying proportions of wax, as a cement, and, by itself, as a varnish. Intensely sticky as it is, it has all to be cleaned off by the bees as they come in, and stored for future use.

The "bee-bread," as it is collected by the bees from the flower, is dampened by it with dew and made into tiny pellets, which are piled into the natural baskets on its thigh-joints.

These pellets, if they are not pounced upon by the nursing bees, are carried off by the receiving bees, and packed into store cells. When a cell is nearly full, it is filled in with a little honey, to preserve the pollen, and then varnished over with "propolis."

The best of the working bees are the wax producers, who are given freedom to gorge themselves with food to sustain them during their labors.

A bee requires many times its own weight in food for the production of a little wax. The wax is secreted in the bee's "wax pockets," and slips out in fine scales, which the wax maker chews over to give them the requisite consistency. They are then laid down in heaps for the use of the comb-builders. It is used with great economy, owing to its cost of production—fully 35,000 cells are made by our builders from a single pound of wax.

After about a week or a fortnight of hard indoor work, a young bee is allowed to take its first flight, and becomes a gatherer. In the height of the season another fortnight or three weeks of hard work kills it.

In good seasons a beekeeper will take out of a hive from fifty pounds to one hundred pounds of honey, leaving twenty pounds for winter use. And all this has been got by our efforts. Yet one thousand of us only weigh a pound, and eight pounds is the weight of a crowded colony such as would store up one hundred and fifty pounds, or, if certain forcing methods were used, anything up to four hundred pounds of honey to a season.

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Study The Honey Markets.

The honey market should be studied by those whose business it is to supply it. The home market and its demand for the different kinds of honey should be looked into. There is a demand for chunk honey, full sheet honey, section honey and liquid honey. Each should be built up to the fullest extent. We know that a business is what man makes it. The bee man who expects people to call altogether on him for honey, will never be as successful as he who advertised his goods and whets the appetites of the people by an exhibition of his product.

Hundreds of people will buy an article if it is brought to their homes or placed in some convenient place, who will not trouble themselves to search for it. The more such food as honey is eaten the more will it be called for. By accustoming people to regard honey as a necessity, like butter, a large demand can be created in nearly every locality.

Many people care nothing for the mere shape which honey is in, if it is of first quality. Taking note of this, the honey man can collect his fine chunk honey for them, keeping section honey for those who note the mere appearance of an article. Do not try to change their desires; furnish them the article wanted. On no account ever offer an inferior article at a first rate price. One may gain a few cents at the time, but, as the trick will surely be discovered and advertised, the loss will soon be felt, the seller will be in disrepute and his article will always be looked upon with suspicion. Only those who have the time to examine his honey closely will be likely to buy. Sell the best possible for the price named.

When it is found, however, that honey in certain forms brings the highest prices and is easily sold, then the beekeeper should manage his hives to produce the kind.

An excellent point is to get out a little card or label guaranteeing honey and giving instructions as to the proper way of keeping it. Many people keep honey in a cool, damp cellar, or in an ice box. The honey, under these conditions, soon gets watery, and the seller is liable to be suspected of adding water to his product. Honey should always be kept just as the bees keep it, warm and dry. It is well to caution the beginner at this time—the close of the honey flow here—not to leave any honey where bees can get at it. A small amount left where they can get it will bring thousands into the dwelling house, and robbing of weak hives is liable to follow. When robbing has just begun a few twigs should be placed before the entrance, so as to obstruct the passage of bees. An entrance guard will serve the purpose better. Contracting the entrance will aid the bees in protecting themselves, but when robbing is on in earnest these methods will likely be insufficient. When this is the case, place an empty super or hive body on top of the hive, then close up the entrance entirely. If any wire netting—bee-tight—is on hand use it. The empty space of the super will serve to prevent the smothering of the bees. If the weather is warm the top should be lifted on a thin piece of wood to allow circulation. After the bees have quieted down and no more robbers are seen, the entrance should be opened and the super removed. However, when there is no honey flow and bees are not building combs, the empty super may be kept on at the pleasure of the keeper.

Get all colonies up strong as soon as possible. A strong colony will take care of itself. When bees begin to cluster outside of the hive it is well to raise the top a little so as to let in more air.

Always be in preparation for winter. The time to prepare for the future is the present. Put off nothing which will strengthen the colonies. Have all available combs ready for fall honey. Bees will not build combs

readily during autumn; but sometimes there is a good supply of honey stored. Be very watchful for the bee moth; never let combs be exposed, even for one night.—A. T. Warner, in Tribune Farmer.

California Convention.

We take the following from the California Cultivator, concerning the annual State Beekeepers' Convention held at Los Angeles on January 2nd. We should like to see the membership extend more generally north of the Tehachapi mountains than it does. Not many in the central and northern parts of the state seem to know that there is a State Association. We were not informed of the meeting, and certainly would have been there had we known it.

The annual convention of the State Beekeepers' Association was called to order by Pres. T. O. Andrews in the assembly room of the Chamber of Commerce at Los Angeles, Monday, Jan. 2.

Pres. Andrews announced that two counties had abolished the office of Foul Brood Inspector and Mr. G. L. Emerson addressed the association upon the state law bearing upon the question. Delos Wood explained why the office was abolished in Santa Barbara county. Mrs. J. S. Stufflefield and Dr. Maynard also addressed the convention.

A committee of three, L. L. Andrews, Mr. Stubblefield and G. L. Emerson, was appointed to consider the question and report at Tuesday's session.

A committee of four to prepare a program for the following sessions, Messrs. Emerson, Pleasants, Schrock and Wood, was appointed.

Treasurer's report read and filed.

Program committee reported: Recommended, Question box and answers; Talk on Queen Breeding by Mr. Davis; Foul Brood, by Mr. Pleasants; National Convention at St.

Louis, Mr. Andrews; Ripening of Honey, Mr. Wood; Comb Honey, Mr. Stubblefield. B. G. Davis gave an excellent story on Queen Breeding in Tennessee. Mr. Emerson gave a practical talk on the subject of beekeeping in each section of the state.

During the evening session C. B. Schrock was called upon to tell the condition of the bee industry in Riverside county which was followed by general discussion.

Officers elected at Tuesday's session as follows: Pres., W. L. Andrews; secretary, J. F. McIntyre; vice-presidents, T. G. Anderson, Riv-Mendelson, Ventura; J. S. Stubblefield, Los Angeles; Delos Wood, Santa erside; L. S. Emerson, Orange; M. H. Barbara; executive committee, Geo. L. Emerson, J. W. George and E. A. Honey. The executive committee was instructed to prepare a program for the next meeting.

Committee on Foul Brood Inspection made their report, after which Mr. Andrews told the brethren about "Bees at the World's Fair at St. Louis."

Tuesday afternoon Dr. L. C. Maynard, chairman of the committee on adulteration of honey, read his report, which was followed by general discussion. The committee was continued and the president authorized to add additional names. Also that the president appoint a similar committee from San Francisco. The report of Dr. Maynard's committee in printed form to be freely circulated and if its recommendations are followed will prove of lasting benefit to the beekeepers of the state.

A further motion instructing the secretary to correspond with other State organizations and the National Association stating what California has contributed and requesting the National Association to contribute a like amount to prosecute those guilty of adulterating honey, was unanimously carried.

Dr. Maynard explained the method of detecting adulteration and gave practical experiments. A vote of

thanks was extended Doctors Powers and Day for their assistance in chemical work.

"Something Doing."

Emerson Taylor Abbott, in the Modern Farmer and Busy Bee prints the following article, and we here reprint it for the benefit of those of our readers who want something interesting.

The following, which is condensed from Commercial Poultry, seems to fit the condition of things which prevails in the National Bee Keepers Association so perfectly that we reproduce it here, and our readers can label it poultry or bees, which ever they prefer:

As the American Poultry Association is conducted today it is not a representative association; it is not serving the purpose for which it was organized; it is not a champion of the masses, but of the classes.

Its affairs are dominated by less than a half dozen members who seem to have lost sight of the fact that each individual member has rights and privileges that should be considered, and demands that should be satisfied. It is not surprising that accusations of cunning and intrigue are hurled at some of its members when the events of the past year or two are reviewed. It is not surprising that some of the most prominent poultrymen in the country refuse to affiliate with the association. It is not surprising that so little interest is taken in the association by so many of its members.

It is surprising, however, that an intelligent body of men (and women) will sit in silence and allow measures to be adopted that are contrary to reason, and antagonistic to their best interests, without making a protest.

This is where the membership—the rank and file—is at fault. There is only one way to make the A. P. A. a representative association, and that is for each member present to carefully consider each and every question that

comes before the body—asking questions necessary, and demanding a thorough discussion before a vote is taken. * * * At the recent meeting held in St. Louis we saw members voting against their own interests, unconsciously, simply because they had not given the questions at issue the consideration and thought they deserved. They seemed to take it for granted that because a question was supported by those prominent in the affairs of the A. P. A., and in the poultry industry, it must be right, and they fell into line without a murmur, voting with those they have come to regard as leaders, without consulting their own best interests.

The rank and file seem to be awed into silence, while a few—a halfdozen or less—run things to suit themselves, regardless of the interests of the great army of breeders and fanciers which they represent. It would be the easiest thing in the world to change this state of affairs if each member would consult his own interests and the interests of his brother fanciers, and vote according to the dictates of his own reason and intelligence, refusing to be influenced by those who have personal ends to gain, and who are prompted in their endeavor by mercenary motives.

It is indeed time that the A. P. A. had a housecleaning. It is time that the "common people" had their interests protected and advocated. It is time that the members arose in their might and demanded their rights. There should be no place within the A. P. A. for cliques, rings, or demagogues, and when the association washes her hands of all these, she will be infinitely better off, and every member can hold up his head and take pride in the fact that he is a member of so grand an organization.

It is up to the members to see that this is done.

Will they do it?

Get one subscriber for this Journal and we will present you with a fine Adel Queen, delivered free.

Some Extracts.

Denver Field and Farm: In cold weather when every bee counts in keeping up the heat of the hive and in caring for the young brood it is important that a suitable watering place should be provided in order that no more of the hold-over workers shall be lost in drinking at ditches and troughs than can be helped. A simple watering arrangement and one that will serve the purpose of providing the bees a permanent place which they will patronize quite regularly in a short time is made with a box or table. Tack on a piece of burlap or coarse canvas with a barrel or keg located at the upper edge. The barrel should be kept filled with fresh water and covered while the water trickles out of a small gimlet hole near the bottom and spreads slowly across the table through the meshes of the goods. This forms an ideal foothold for the bees while they sip the water without danger of drowning or being disturbed.

San Bernardino Sun: A new and thus far unnamed species of bacilli is beginning to show itself among the bees of San Bernardino county, and unless a speedy means is found with which to exterminate the pest it threatens to destroy thousands of dollars' worth of larvae, and, indirectly, next season's crop of bees and honey.

County Bee Inspector R. B. Herron recently returned from Ontario, where he was called to investigate a serious outbreak of the disease, and he brought home with him a block of honey comb containing specimens of the germs. He reports that in an apiary of 100 stands in the vicinity of Upland forty stands have been totally destroyed by the mysterious bacilli.

The experiments in bee culture at the Bozeman College are proving very satisfactory. The yield of honey there exceeds one hundred pounds per stand

and 2,300 pounds have been sold from 20 stands. Professor Cooley says there is a ready market for all the honey that can be produced, the average price in bulk being 12 cents per pound, the buyer furnishing the jars. The observations of Professor Cooley among Montana farmers is that not enough care and attention is given to bees by farmers who own few stands. He believes it is one of the most profitable by-products of a ranch and cites the fact that one man in Yellowstone Valley is making a very good living and a profit besides from 150 stands of bees, to which he devotes his entire attention.

When ants are troublesome about the hives it is a good idea to mount the hives on benches and smear the legs with coal tar. The ants seek the top of the hive for a hiding place because of the warmth. They may be smoked out of the cracks of the hive.

Bees that lack natural stores should be fed. Make a syrup of granulated sugar and water about the consistency of thin honey and feed as rapidly as the bees can store it away. Be sure they have an abundance of stores; better too much than not enough.

A good way to keep extra combs is to hang them in a rack in a dry room. Keep combs of honey in a perpendicular position when handling them. It is so easy to break them. Not every one knows that comb honey for shipment should be kept in the same position it had in the hive.

Any quick motion that jars their combs is disliked by the bees. When working with them do not keep the hives open longer than necessary, as a large number of the busy workers are coming in all the time with their small loads of sweetness. The drones need not be feared, for they have neither sting nor tongue. They soon starve outside of the hive.

When manipulating hives of bees the proper and safest place for the operator is at the rear or side of the hive, where he will not hinder the bees.

One lesson we may learn from the bees is neatness. With fluttering wings they fan out all rubbish and permit no spilled honey or trash of any kind to remain lying around.—*Farmer's Sentinel.*

A Californian Speaks.

**Mr. O. L. Abbott of Selma Calls Attention
To A Few Things of Interest.**

EDITOR WESTERN BEE JOURNAL:

In Central California, to secure a good amount of surplus honey, two points must be accomplished. First, a prolific queen must be kept busy from early spring until the middle of August, stocking the colony with honey-gatherers. Second, depletion by swarming must be prevented.

For the past ten years, in Central California, where these two points have received proper attention the surplus has been bountiful.

The first great obstacle in the way in accomplishing the desired objects is the gap in nectar flow.

This occurs here, the same as in Colorado, just after fruit blossoms and before alfalfa. The nectar flow is insufficient for the maintenance of the colony. Sometimes the stores are exhausted, the bees devour the larvae, and the colony requires the whole season for recuperation. The usual happy-go-lucky way is to let the bees survive or perish just as they please, and then blame the season. If there is any surplus take it and be thankful.

When this gap in the nectar flow comes, the beekeeper who is determined to be the architect of his own fortune will feed and keep his colonies growing so that they will be booming at the commencement of the honey harvest. Then if he prevents swarming he is sure of a rich reward.

Plant red gum trees. They are wonderful yielders of nectar just at the time of this gap. The same may be said of raspberries. The red va-

rieties are reported to be preferable.

[If the reader knows any other trees shrubs or plants that will help fill this gap, please inform the editor.—Ed.]

At about the commencement of a good nectar flow a queen a year old or more is liable to deplete a strong colony by leading off a swarm. It will require at least forty days to recuperate, and by that time a bountiful honey-harvest will be on the decline. The result will be a small surplus, and the beekeeper will complain that it was a bad year; when in fact it was his own fault, because he neglected to requeen.

This should be attended to either in the fall or spring.

The old rule used to be that a queen was not apt to lead away a colony until she was a year old. It was found that this rule could not be depended upon.

Next came what we may call the German rule. It is claimed that, until a year old, a queen would not lead a colony from the hive in which she was raised. This rule did not cut off after swarming.

My rule is that until a year old a queen is not likely to lead off a swarm from the hive from which she was mated.

Prof. Cook in his "Manual of the Apiary," page 256, says: "The best aids toward non-swarmling are shade, ventilation and roomy hives." To this I will add, a young queen and room in which she can deposit eggs.

All of these points are within the control of the beekeeper. We shade our hives by having a barley sack hang over the sunny side. Ventilation is secured by having the entrance extended entirely across the front of the hive. If the bees cluster on the outside, move the back end of the cover a little to one side making a slight opening which will operate as a chimney in the ventilation. If the bees still cluster on the outside, open the hive and see if they are not crowded within.

To prevent the old queen from ab-

sconding with a swarm she should be killed and a caged virgin inserted in the hive. In three days turn her loose and in due time she will stock the combs with eggs. In this way the colony will be supplied with a prolific queen of any strain desired, and there will be no queen-cells to cause after swarming. After mating the young queen should have a wing clipped.

The Colorado method of getting rid of foul brood is about the same as the old law in this state required. It directed that the diseased colonies be either burned or buried. The new law provides that such colonies be either treated or burned. The old law was condemned. It would take too much space to give the reasons. I have never known burning to free an apiary so that the disease did not reappear.

I have known the treatment that I will now describe, to free an apiary and I never knew it to fail.

Put a queen excluder on the top of a brood chamber of a good strong colony. On top of that put a super. In that put every frame that shows any sign of foul brood. In twenty-one days all healthy larvae will have hatched. Remove these frames to the sun extractor, and in five days they will be perfectly sterilized and fit for use. If you suspicion any more frames serve them the same.

If you don't like this way of getting rid of the malady, then fool around any way you choose until you get tired.

We have to go away from home to hear the news. Your correspondent says that in Colorado and California "one cannot extract honey before nine o'clock in the morning, as it is too cold to be easily done."

Most of our extracting is done after that hour in this section of country, not on account of climate but because our out apiaries are from three to fifteen miles from home. We cart our combs from the hives to the extractor and they neither gain nor lose much in temperature until the honey is in

the tank. We could extract in the night if we cared to work with lanterns. We neither use kid gloves nor bee-escapes when extracting. We have no time to monkey with them.

The lack of queen breeders in California is not on account of climate. Thirty years ago the coming spring Dr. Archer had hundreds of colonies of bees near Santa Barbara, and he had the sidehill speckled with little Alley nucleus colonies in which he raised as fine queens as I ever saw. He gave me a beautiful Italian queen and I could not ask to have one do better.

Until within the past year there was no reliable means on this coast of communicating with the fraternity. No one cared to launch out into business which he could advertise only in journals published three thousand miles from home.

O. L. ABBOTT,
Selma, Cal.,

It Looks Better.

Mr. Henry E. Horn of Riverside, California, in a letter dated Jan. 21, to the editor, says;

"It begins to look like a bee-year once more. Rains every week for four weeks now, and from 1-2 to 11-2 inches at a time is fast transforming our brown, parched hills into things of green and beauty. Bye and bye they will look red and white, blue and yellow, and the honey makers will sing their song of a new life and of thanksgiving."

The G. B. Lewis Co. of Watertown, Wis. have sent us a little booklet called "Bee Pranks" and is the cutest thing of the kind we have ever seen. Every person interested in bees would have a copy of "Bee Pranks". The price is 12 cents in stamps, or it will be sent free for the names of five beekeepers. Be sure to send for a copy.

Western Bee Journal.

Entered as second-class matter January 9, 1905, at the post office at Kingsburg, Cal., under the Act of Congress of March 3, 1879.

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY

P. F. ADELSBACH,
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75 cents per inch, each insertion. For a 6 months contract a discount of 10 per cent is allowed, and 20 per cent off for yearly contracts, when electros are furnished the rate is 60 cents per inch, with above discounts. A page contains 14 inches.

EDITORIAL.

The 1905 edition of the A. I. Root Company's A. B. C. of Bee Culture has reached our desk. It is quite an improvement over former issues in some respects, although it has been for some years about as good as it is possible to make such work. It is a work that every beekeeper should have, be he a new beginner or an old experienced worker. A noticeable feature in the present issue is a picture of Mr. J. F. Crowder's honey extracting house, (which we helped to build, paint and made the photograph from which the halftone was made.) The picture shows Mr. Crowder in

his home apiary, with his portable house, ready to start for the next extracting place. His residence is at Selma, Cal. Again let us say that we commend the A. B. C. to your earnest consideration. Price \$1.20 post paid. Orders received at this office.

The meeting of the beemen, called through this journal, to be held at Tulare on January 14, did not materialize. It was at the earnest solicitation of a man who represented himself to be authorized to ask us to call the meeting that we gave it space in our columns, and did all we could to get it before the beekeeping public. We even went so far as to elaborate on the necessity for new and better legislation for the beemen. In face of the fact that there was not enough interest taken in it to hold a meeting we say that hereafter when we are asked to publish a meeting notice that we shall expect a guarantee from a reliable source to the effect that the call is genuine.

The California Lumber & Milling Co. of San Francisco have an ad in this Journal. They are a very extensive firm, and are prepared to furnish beemen with everything they may need in the way of apiary supplies. We had the pleasure of sending a couple of local merchants to this firm to inspect the goods, and we need but to say that before they returned from San Francisco the local people purchased, we understand, upwards of two carloads of goods. This is sufficient recommendation, we think, to

those who are in need of beehives and other supplies. Write them and say you saw their ad in the Western Bee Journal.

The G. B. Lewis Co., of Watertown, Wisconsin, who have a page ad on the back cover of this issue, have issued a very fine catalogue. They want you to send for it. It is one of the neatest catalogues we have ever seen, and we are safe in saying that no beeman can afford to be without this catalogue. The G. B. Lewis Co. need no special boosting from the Western. They are a firm with a world-wide reputation, whose goods are to be had most anywhere. Send for their catalogue, and don't forget to tell them that you read about it in the Western.

The beemen in Idaho are making strong efforts to get some new legislation covering foul brood and other bee diseases. Mr. Atwater has sent out the following letter to beemen in Idaho and Oregon:

"Do it now. Sit down and write your representative (see him personally if possible) urging him to support the Bee Disease Bill soon to be presented, and save a large and growing industry from total ruin. Foul-brood has a fearful start in Idaho and bids fair to destroy thousands of colonies, and is spreading like wildfire, leaving hundreds of empty hives, new centers of infection, in its path. Act now if this great industry, adding wealth and sweetness, is to be preserved. Then write me a strong letter commending the efforts of our committee to se-

cure such a law, that these letters may be shown to the legislative committees.

E. F. Atwater, Pres. W. Ida. and E. Ore. Ass'n.

Box 37, Meridian Idaho.

The Mondeng Manufacturing Co. of Minneapolis, Minn., has placed an ad. in the Western Bee Journal, and we shall be glad to have our readers look it up. This is a wide-awake, progressive firm, and every bee man who buys supplies should not fail to send for their catalogue. We have a copy of it and must say that it is indeed interesting, as well as instructive. The editor of the Modern Farmer has this to say of Mr. Mondeng, after a recent visit with him:

There are two bee hive factories in Minneapolis, but we only found time to visit one of them while there. The Mondeng Manufacturing Company. Mr. M. is an old hand at the business, is an excellent mechanic, as well as a practical beekeeper, and an untiring worker. We greatly enjoyed our short visit with himself and family at his home. Their factory is all new and well-equipped. Mr. M. has two excellent, live, energetic young men associated with him in the business, and they deserve to succeed, and we can see no reason why they should not. We show on another page an illustration of their factory, Mr. H.'s home, and apiary of fine bees, where he raises choice queens.

Our readers have no doubt noticed the page ad of Mr. H. J. Mercer of Los Angeles, Cal. Mr. Mercer is pre-

pared to furnish an unlimited quantity of the very finest foundation at the lowest prices.

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We make the following proposition to the subscribers of "The Western Bee Journal."

To each subscriber not in arrears who will send us the name of a new subscriber and one dollar in payment of the subscription, we will send by mail as a premium an Adel Carniolan queen.

The readers of bee literature are aware that the Carniolan strain of bees is wonderfully prolific and great hustlers. The Adels are raised in the province of Carniola. The word Adel means superior; and in that province it means the superior strain of bees.

Their recuperative capacity after a dearth of nectar flow has proved to be so remarkable that we have determined to distribute these queens among those of our patrons who will assist in extending the circulation of our journal.

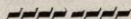
We have arranged with O. L. Abbott, of Selma, Fresno county, Cal., to furnish the queens. He is a veteran beekeeper, has charge of hundreds of colonies, raises no other kind, and says the Adels are good enough for him.

Their fecundity is enormous, and as gatherers in our climate they are far ahead.

The name of each one entitled to this premium will be placed on the list and he will be furnished in turn as soon as the weather is suitable, and the queens are ready for shipment.



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We will club the WESTERN BEE JOURNAL with your choice of the following at the price set opposite each. If a combination of two or more is desired we ask that you write for prices.

Bee-Keepers Review,	regular price	\$ 1	Both for	\$1.75
American Bee-Keeper	“ “	.50	“ “	1.35
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Modern Farmer and Busy Bee		.50		1.10
Petaluma Poultry Journal		1		1.50
Sunset Magazine		1		1.75
Out West		2		2.10
Success		1		1.50
Pacific Tree and Vine		.50		1.15
Western Poultry World		.50		1.25
Irrigation		1		1.50
Kingsburg Recorder, weekly		1.50		2.00

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Grade.	Regular Sizes.	Sheets per lb.
Medium Brood..	7 3-4 x 16 7-8	7 to 8
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Beekeepers can save from 20 to 30 per cent in the cost of their foundation by sending their wax to me to make up. Having the latest Weed Process machinery, together with up-to-date facilities, I can guarantee prompt service and perfect foundation. To insure a supply, ship your wax to me at once, so that you will have it when wanted by the bees. The price will be right.

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Gleanings In Bee Culture one year,	1.00
Langstroth on Honey Bee,	1.20
American Bee Journal, (new only)	1.00

All the above only	\$2.60	\$4.20
First two,	.50	
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No changes can be made in any of these offers. New subscribers for A B J can substitute Gleanings if they wish. Renewals for A B J add 40c more to any club. Not good after September 1, 1905. Write for other clubbing offers, and a Price List of bee supplies very cheap.

EMERSON T. ABBOTT,
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