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THE



BEEHIVE

PUBLISHED FOR AND IN THE INTEREST OF BEE-KEEPERS, BY ONE OF THEM.

VOL. 5.

ANDOVER, CONN., SEPT. & OCT., 1890.

NO. 3, 4.

One way to do it—Wintering two Colonies in one Hive—Advantages of Scanty Stores—How to Unite Bees.

E. E. HASTY.

I am not entirely sure that my way is the best way, but it is one way. I never feed—or, say, hardly ever. It is not that I have made any solemn resolution never to do such a thing, but I do have a decided inclination to get rid of it whenever I can; and I pretty much always can. I think I never fed a colony to winter them, as the fraternity understand the term “feeding.” My feeding is to set in combs of honey. So the problem is to simmer things down in such a way that their scant supply, scattered through seven or ten combs, or twenty—less here and more there, sometimes less everywhere—will tide things over until flowers bloom again, without the unpleasant murdering of bees.

The first natural principle we can catch hold of, to help us, is that practically honey is spent mostly in warming up their quarters, and that putting two colonies in the same quarters reduces the honey needed during the first half of the winter by

nearly one-half. After breeding gets well begun in February, things are on a little different footing; but there is still a gain in the “double house” tactics. I am not now talking of *uniting*—will talk of that by and by—but of putting two colonies with two queens in the same hive by means of an enameled cloth partition. The second natural principle we can tie to is that during the latter part of winter honey is spent largely in rearing brood; and that the advantage of winter brooding is rather problematical at best, and that they will raise much or little, according as they have much or little honey in store. Don't let them have very much at any one time, and they will be saving. I quarrel with the teaching that a colony should be provided with twenty-five pounds of honey, or or even twenty. I am well pleased with twelve pounds, and not troubled if it is only eight pounds, and sometimes I send them into the winter with as few as four pounds. Of course you understand there is more in the comb-closet ready to be put in when their scanty supply is gone.

NOW AS TO THE MODE OF OPERATING.

You may suppose, if you please, that I have obtained somewhere in

the apiary ten combs with at least a pound of honey in each, and that I have them in the carriers, sitting in the house in a warm place. I prepare an empty hive (as hereinafter stated) and bring four colonies in their hives and set them conveniently near. As a next move it is sometimes best to wake the bees up thoroughly by smoking them. Sometimes it is well to smoke them quite awhile before the rest of the operation begins. Sometimes it is best not to smoke, except the few puffs usually given them when taking out frames. The weather and the mood the bees happen to be in, will determine this. Two of these colonies are to be united with each other and put on one side of the partition of the empty hive, and the other two in like manner on the other side. Into one of the apartments put two combs from the carrier, placing them on the outside, with room for the other three between. Open two of the colonies and shake a frame from each directly into the apartment, between the combs. If the first frames are not well covered with bees use two from each. Next put in the three center frames and close the top. Shake the rest of the bees in front, running them in much like a swarm, only continually *mix* them by taking from each hive alternately. It is to defend their home that bees fight, but in the predicament that these little fellows find themselves; in a strange hive, all the combs with a foreign scent, and themselves mixed with strange bees, they do not feel that they have anything to defend.

While filling the first apartment a piece of board is temporarily fastened in front, dividing things into two front yards.

At the end of the operation I have twenty-eight combs out of which to select ten for the next batch of colonies. The remaining eighteen are hung in the comb-closet, to be swapped in as they are needed in the spring or during mild days in February. If the colonies are weak, as at the end of a bad season many may be, put in three colonies on each side. You don't know what a lot can be got in until you try. In this latter case there will be forty-two combs to choose from and thirty-two to put in the closet.

I have never yet had my combs so empty in the fall that I could not by selecting the heaviest make this method work. I have a location in which (owing to large pollen resources I suppose) bees multiply like mice. On this account the large reduction in the number of colonies does not signify as much with me as it would in some apiaries. The average yield of honey per colony in this region is so small that it absolutely won't pay to feed sugar in such quantities as often advised. It is every man's business to know his own location and to keep his knowledge in mind when laying his plans. If it will *pay* to buy twenty pounds of sugar per colony, why do so. If you know pretty well it will not pay, the above plan avoids the destruction of bees and keeps things in a shape that one can quickly get back to the original number of colonies in the spring

if he desires. One year I used a modification of this plan in which six or eight colonies were put in one hive without any partition. This of course sacrifices many more queens, and is less desirable on that account.

I do this work rather late in the season, and I have found so few bees to insist on their old location that there is no serious trouble on that account. It is well to leave the stand they were taken from without any empty hive there, else bees might gather there on warm days.

AS TO QUEENS,

I have a strong impression that the best queen survives when all are shaken together, and that my selection is very apt to be incorrect. If you wish to destroy the superfluous ones yourself, it is better to do that part of the work on a previous occasion. Let me state my theory as to why the best queen survives in a contest. It may not be correct, but then again it may. Victory depends not on strength, nor on agility, nor on luck; but on which queen first becomes infuriated enough to sting. And this again depends on the amount of real vitality and vim the lady happens to have in store. It looks reasonable that a poor or declining queen should have comparatively less of that peculiar royal jealousy which distinguishes queens.

Bees packed in two-chambered quarters soon seem to acquire a common scent, or at least to get used to each other to such an extent as to feel at home on either side of the partition. If the honey is unwhole-

some, and the bees dwindle, most of the survivors are apt to collect on one side, leaving on the other only the queen and a mere nucleus of bees. This is sometimes a disadvantage, but sometimes an advantage. In setting them apart in the spring you can let the weaker lot keep the home-stand, and set the stronger lot in a new location. Bees enough will then return to do considerable toward evening things up.

NOW AS TO THE PREPARATION OF THE HIVE.

I have elaborate bottom-boards for winter, with sawdust bedding, small open chamber, vertical entrance, and various do-funnies, which I do not think important enough to recommend. The ordinary bottom-boards, a simple partition, and two bits of wood to close the rabbets on each side where the partition comes up, will do I think. The partition is an outline of thin strips of wood holding two thicknesses of enameled cloth. Bees on each side cuddle up against it and form what in reality is but one cluster, although each side has its separate queen. Thinly shaved wood, will I presume, do well for partitions. Have the combs quite a little further apart than in summer, provided you are going to have bees enough to fully occupy the room. If not, better leave only about the usual space. A space will hold more bees than most of us are apt to plan on. If the hive is a small one and will not hold ten frames with a partition, I put in only four combs in each apartment. The very narrow

eight-frame hives, I presume, cannot well be used, so the brethren who have no other hives than these, will not find my plan of any utility to them.—Bee-Keepers' Review.

“Feeding Back,” in order to Obtain Comb Honey.

C. W. DAYTON.

The experiment which I am about to describe was made in order to determine the feasibility of feeding back honey already gathered, when the queen-restrictor is employed.

My queen-restrictor may be adapted to contain any number of brood-frames, but the one used in this experiment contained only one frame. The queen-restrictor to contain one frame consists of the frame and perforated sheets of zinc, so prepared and attached together as to confine the queen upon one brood-comb, and no more, while the worker-bees may pass unrestrained. A reversing device is also provided, so that the restrictor may be reversed to cause the destruction of queen-cells.

Having prepared the restrictor as described, on July 8th I went to a prosperous colony occupying a ten-frame hive. At first this colony, with the hive, was removed from the stand a little to one side and an empty hive placed on the stand instead. Then one of the straightest, best-filled combs was selected and transferred from its frame into the frame in the restrictor, and the queen hunted up and placed upon it, and then all placed in the center of the hive. The

vacant space on either side of the restrictor was filled with wide-frames of sections, after which the remaining combs were taken from the colony and the bees shaken before the new hive, which they readily entered to join the queen. These combs being rendered destitute of bees were given to a nucleus. There also was placed on the top of the new hive a super of 21 sections. The wide-frames held 24 sections, making in all 45 sections to the colony. Separators were used and the sections were filled nearly full of newly made foundation measuring about $10\frac{1}{2}$ feet to the pound. This completed the arrangement of the hive.

Everything being ready, a large, shallow slatted feeder, exactly the size of the bottom of the hive, was placed under the hive in place of the bottom-board and the colony fed all the honey it would take from the bee feeder. At the start from 3 to 4 pounds a day was taken, and after four or five days the amount increased to 7 to 12 pounds per day, which was supplied to the feeder twice a day, six pounds to a feed.

On July 15th the sections were examined and 40 sections of comb honey removed, and 40 sections filled with foundation, as before, put in their places and the feeding continued. On July 21st 31 finished sections were taken; on July 26th 30; on July 30th 17; after which the surplus space being full of sections the experiment was drawn to a close by feeding until the sections were all finished, which was on August 10th, and all the sections removed.

After weighing it was found that there were 163 sections, weighing on the average a trifle over 14 ounces, and they cost 236 pounds of honey. Figuring comb honey at 15 cents a section, it is \$24.45. Figuring honey at 7 cents in barrels, it equals \$16.52, or a difference of \$7.93, not considering the cost of foundation and sections. A part of this honey was sold at 15 cents a section.

It was noticeable of these sections that they were, without exception, built out true and filled with honey clear to the wood. What propolis there was (and there was very little) appeared to be white wax; the bees having not much use for wax they seemed to use it in place of glue.

Several other colonies were experimented with more or less, like the one described, and the amount of food required to perfect 50 14-ounce sections always fell below 80 pounds; and in one trial 50 sections were completed on less than 72 pounds of food. This experiment was made in behalf of necessity.—Am. B. Jour.

We find the following from the pen of G. W. Demaree on the subject of feeding back, and our readers will no doubt find it interesting to compare the two experiments.

To have unfinished sections completed by feeding back, I think can be made profitable by proper management, if the demand for comb honey justifies the extra care and labor. I have experimented in this line the present season, and it has paid me a fair profit, counting time and margin between the price for

clear honey and honey in the comb. I here give the work of one colony, drawing from my memorandum book the facts, which will answer for any other colony managed in the same way: A feeder just the size of the top of the hive and the same size of the section-cases, was used. The feeder, however, is only three inches deep, including the bee-spaces at the top and the bottom. It is arranged so that the bees can pass from the brood-nest through the center of the feeder, as well as both sides. The feeder projects at the back of the hive far enough to expose the two holes in which the feed is poured when filling the feeder, and the holes are covered with close-fitting buttons. After the honey harvest was over, and the robbing impulse was at its worst stage, I selected a good colony of Italians and made the brood-nest full of brood and honey, and placed the feeder on top of the brood-chamber; and having gathered together all the partly-filled sections into cases, the work was commenced.

The sections were from one-fourth full to nearly full of comb, and most of them had a little honey in them. At first one case was adjusted on the feeder, and the feeding begun. Good honey was used, diluted with warm water, one pint to eight pints of honey. The first two days the colony took 25 pounds of honey, when another case of sections was given them. The cases hold 32 sections $4\frac{1}{2} \times 4\frac{1}{2} \times 1\frac{3}{4}$, and when filled the sections average 14 ounces. After the second case was put on I fed 8 pounds a day for two or three days, and put on

the third case. Every colony will not work alike—some will go faster than others, but this colony worked faster than the average. I now fed 5 pounds a day, skipping a day at intervals until the three cases were filled—96 sections.

The feeding was stopped after the sealing was half completed. This is necessary, or the bees will injure too many of the sections with brace-combs. It required 93 pounds of honey to finish the 96 sections.

The three cases were removed and the work commenced anew. One case was put on, and 6 pounds of honey per day was given for three days, when a second case was added and the feeding kept up until the combs were drawn and filled; towards the last the amount of feed was diminished. It required 43 pounds to finish the 64 sections.

It will be seen that this colony finished up 160 sections, using 138 lbs. of honey. According to my estimate all these sections contained about 30 pounds of thin, unmerchantable honey when placed on the hive, and when finished they brought about \$25, at a cost of 138 pounds of extracted honey, worth \$13.80.

It will be noticed that I have taken no account of partly-filled combs, and the estimated 30 pounds of thin honey. These items are left to the intelligent reader to figure out.

The greatest difficulty to be overcome when "feeding back," to have sections completed, is the incorrigible tendency of bees to build brace-combs between the sections, and bridge the combs, and that trouble-

some feature of having open cells of honey around the edges of the sections. If the combs are to be crated for market in good shape, separators are essentially necessary, and then many combs will be damaged by little brace-combs breaking loose, and causing breaks in the capping of the sections.—Am. B. J.

How Long Queens, Drones and Worker-Bees Live.

G. M. DOOLITTLE.

Nothing in the bee business has given me more pleasure in the past than experimenting to ascertain the different ages of bees and the different offices they perform at certain ages, when in a normal condition.

When these conditions are not complied with, the colony is thrown out of balance, and in that unbalanced condition we find that bees will feebly perform any office of the hive till they can arrange matters normally again. Then it is that we find very young bees going to the fields, when they will bring less than one-half the load that the bee over 16 days old will carry; old bees will rear queens which are not half the value of those reared by the younger or nurse bees, and some will even lay eggs, while this office is usually restricted to the queen.

In these experiments I have found that queens reared under the most favorable circumstances attain the average age of four years, even under the "forcing process" now used to get all the bees possible in the

hive at all times, which is recommended by nearly all bee-keepers of the present day.

On one occasion I had one queen that lived and did good work till she was nearly six years old, laying prolifically until within about three months of the time of her supersedure; while several have lived to be about five years old.

The worker-bee rarely attains to a longer life than 45 days, during the months of June, July, August and September, while those hatched in September live until the next May and June, if not injured by our winters, their life being prolonged above the 45 days, just in proportion to the work they do, or the amount of hardship they are required to undergo. In no instance can a worker-bee survive a full year.

The life of the drone is about the same as that of a worker, under favorable conditions, but a very precarious life he lives; for if a scarcity of honey prevails and the bees are not fed by the apiarist, the drones are unmercifully driven from the hives or killed by the workers. I have seen it stated that the drones do not live one-half the time that the workers do, the proof of which was the writer's experiments with a nucleus colony. This individual should know that drones have the privilege of entering, unmolested, any hive that allows its own drones to remain, and that if driven from one hive they are allowed to enter another which is retaining its drones. Such has been my experience for years.

A nucleus having a queen just fer-

tilized has no more need of drones, and persecutes them until they leave; or if they persist in staying, kills them. With an isolated hive, my position, that drones live about 45 days during the working season, can be proven.

Many seem to think that drones never live over the winter, which is the rule though not always the case, for at two different times my hives have been so well supplied with honey during the fall and winter, that the bees did not seem to realize any need of retrenching, so kept their drones, which were flying every fine day during the fall and winter, the excess of honey causing the bees to allow them to live as long as life held out. It was really amusing to hear their merry hum from many hives on warm days during February and March. As the pleasant days of April came on, they gradually grew less and less, until all were gone about the middle of that month.—Am. B. Journal.

BEE MOTHS.

The advanced bee-keeper dreads the moth only if he has empty hives with comb. To prevent the moths troubling such, the combs should be hung apart in the hive. This prevents the larvæ from readily passing from one comb to another. A cool place, such as a dry cellar, is an excellent place to keep combs. A thorough brimstoning of combs regularly is a good way to prevent the moth from doing harm. If only a few hives are to be brimstoned the combs may be hung in a large box and the

sulphur fumes generated and retained in this case until the moth has been destroyed.—Rural Canadian.

TOO MUCH BEE GEAR.

One of the things that distresses me, as a bee-keeper, is the rapid accumulation of bee fixings. Every available place is crowded with "bee gear" till I can hardly find room for anything. We have too much "bee gear." We want less of it, and the more simple the better.—Demaree in Advance.

The sting of a bee always carries conviction with it. It makes a man a *bee-leaver* almost instantly.—Our Dumb Animals.

The quicker bees are now prepared for winter, the more likely are they to live through.

Queries.

THEY DON'T SEAL IT.

I see by the last issue of the BEE-HIVE that the Western Plowman tells us we should see to it that each colony of bees should have at least 20 pounds of sealed stores for winter use. That is all right and what we want, but will the editor of BEE-HIVE, or some of the bee-keeping friends, explain to us how we can get 20 pounds of sealed stores in a colony of 8 or 10 combs, without feeding from 40 to 60 pounds, supposing the combs to be empty, or nearly so, before commencing to feed? I lifted a comb from a hive

a few days ago, which I have been feeding, and it would weigh between 5 and 6 pounds, and not a cell capped. Now I should like to know if stores in that condition will answer our purpose, or must it be sealed?

A GOOD FEEDER.

I find that a wooden tray, as large as will go inside an upper story, and hold 7 or 8 pounds, the best, and the bees will take it all in two or three hours if the weather is warm enough. They like to crawl over wood much better than tin. Wooden butterdishes are too small and too leaky.

E. D. BARTON.

We should proceed as follows: Contract the combs to just a bee-space apart, and no more, then feed as fast as the bees can store it away till the combs are nearly full; then feed very slowly for a few days when they will probably have most of the cells capped over. It is not essential that more than two-thirds of the comb surface be sealed. We have had colonies that would not take feed enough to fill their combs to the sealing point, and they wintered finely; but get the combs sealed if possible. If 8 or 10 combs are used, 20 pounds of feed will not be sufficient to fill them, as each comb will hold 4 to 5 pounds. We never use more than 5 or 6 frames in winter, unless it be for extra strong stocks, and then 7 are sufficient.—ED.

PLACING BEES IN THE CELLAR.

At what time would you advise me to put my bees in the cellar for best results?

WM. M. WHITE.

About Dec. 1st, or as soon as the weather becomes cold.—ED.

THE



Bee Hive

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E. H. COOK,
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ANDOVER, CONN.

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TO ADVERTISERS:

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Don't neglect caring for the bees; it was not their fault if no honey was obtained.

Our readers will notice that we have combined the Sept. and October numbers. This was made imperative on account of our being crowded with other work.

Has anyone seen Bro. Pratt lately? We suspect he has furlled his banner—"Carniolans should show *no* yellow bands"—and silently stolen away.

A. D. Ellingwood, Berlin Falls, N. H., will commence the publication of the "White Mountain Apiarist" as a monthly with the October issue. Write him for a free sample.

\$6 80 per colony is what the colonies we ran for comb honey averaged this season, yet some people say it does not pay to keep bees. Well,

let them think so, we shall keep on doing business at the old stand.

YELLOW BEES.

Mr. Alley has much to say about yellow Carniolan bees, and how beautiful they are. Now if Mr. A. could just take a peep at a colony of four-banded Italians that we have in our apiary, he would hurry home and give those yellow Carniolans to the first man that would carry them off.

HE CAN TOOT.

Did you know that Bro. Alley has a horn? Well he has. Just now he is blowing a little tune on it, entitled "Our Beautiful Yellow Carniolan Bees," followed by a chorus on "strawberries." We haven't a bit of fault to find with the tune, but the chorus—that savors of strawberry-Root.

NO FEEDING, THIS TIME.

In overhauling our bees we were pleasantly surprised to find that no feeding would be necessary. The colonies that had been run for surplus, had more honey than was needed in their brood-frames, but those hives used in queen-rearing have a fine "home market" for all such honey, as they have been "boarding by the day" for some weeks past.

COVERING FOR FRAMES.

Someone wishes to know if enamelled cloth is suitable for covering the frames in cold weather. It is not. Being water-proof, the moisture generated by the bees collects in drops on the underside of the cloth and trickles down among the bees and over the combs of honey, and will greatly injure the colony if it does not wholly destroy it. The best covering we have found is woolen carpeting. This is warm and retains the heat, while it allows the moisture to pass freely.

OUR+EXTRACTOR.

Run by Wind (?) Power. Not Reversible.

STRAW MATS.

Some of our most successful apiarists, among whom may be mentioned C. F. Muth and Dadant & Son, have both recommended and used straw mats over the brood-nest in winter, to slowly pass the moisture of the hive and retain the heat.

These mats are similar to those used over hot-bed sash by gardeners, and are quite simple and easily made. Unbroken rye straw makes the best mats, but the straw of other grains may be used, and some of the most serviceable mats I ever used were made of prairie-slough grass.

Stretch a set of tarred twines over a frame, and then fasten another set at the top of the frame for binding the bunches of straw in place. Now take a handful of straw and place it against the nails at the top of the frame, and pass the binding twines over the bunch of straw and under the twines stretched across the frame and either knot them each time or carry them back to the nails in the head-board and secure them until the next handful of straw is laid in, and so on until the mat is completed. When the proper length of mat is reached, secure each end by tying the two sets of twine securely; then by means of a stiff, straight edge, nailed lightly to the frame, and a broad, sharp chisel, cut the sides of the mat even and smooth, and to the exact size wanted.

I make for winter protection one

mat just the size of the top of the hive, and lay some $\frac{3}{8}$ -inch strips across the tops of the frames, and lay on this a piece of wire-screen cloth to keep the mice out, then lay on top of this the mat just described.—Shuck's circular.

NO USE FOR THEIR WAX.

A hint that may, if followed up, lead to some practical result, is given by Mr. G. E. Hilton in the Review. It is that bees, if furnished with combs or foundation, have no good use for their wax, and rather than waste it they use it in building brace-combs. Now cannot some of our good thinkers invent a way to gather and save the wax scales and thus prevent their misuse?—Api.

DRY SUGAR FEEDING.

We extract the following from the R. I. Apicultural Experiment Station bulletin. It was written by Mr. Samuel Cushman.

This method of dry sugar feeding, as it is called, was brought before the public by Mr. Samuel Simmins, of England, and is described in various English books and publications on bee culture, but we believe is little understood in this country. After several years trial of the plan, on a somewhat extended scale, we do not hesitate to recommend it.

It is *well suited to the management of out-apiaries, where but occasional visits are made*, and in all cases, though possibly in a dry country not so effective as syrup feeding, *saves the trouble of making syrup and*

the time required in its daily distribution, while the danger of the disastrous results of occasionally omitting the daily ration is avoided. Instead of dry sugar, moist sugar, like good grades of molasses and C sugar are best, but the former should first be well drained. This, placed in a feeder where the heat and moisture is confined, is slowly licked up or liquified by the bees. The rapidity with which this is done, depends upon the heat and moisture in the hive. By placing an enameled cloth, enameled side down, over the frames in place of the porous covering, the loss of moisture, so desirable in freezing weather, may be lessened, while by removing the warm cushions or quilts from part of its surface, condensation of moisture takes place upon the enameled face beneath, and furnishes water to promote more rapid work.

The sugar may be placed in an ordinary syrup feeder or wrapped in cheese cloth and laid over the frames, but the arrangement we prefer and use here, is similar to Mr. Simmins' pattern, and consists of a hollow dummy, having the same length and depth as the brood-frame, and a similar top-bar, and a movable side that does not reach the top-bar by one-fourth inch. This is filled by removing the side, while the space at the top allows the bees access and but little escape of heat. If the inside space is more than an inch wide, comb will be built therein.

This mode of feeding is not only suitable for spring stimulation, but is invaluable in a poor season to pre-

vent starvation; for queen-rearing; for building up nuclei and working for increase or drawing out foundation, as well as for promoting brood-rearing after removing what is, in some localities, the only honey crop of the season. By using soft candy of best granulated sugar, it may be made to piece out scant stores in the fall.

When in the production of comb honey, dummies are needed to fill space in brood-chamber of new swarms, they may be made from these unused feeders by nailing on the movable sides so as to exclude the bees.

WHY DOOLITTLE PREFERS ITALIANS.

Why I prefer the Italian bees to all others is for the reason that they are more susceptible of being handled so as to get the hive overflowing with bees at the right time, than are the bees of any other race. Also, that as soon as the honey harvest arrives, the queen will cease her prolificness, and thus we do not have a lot of "hungry hands" to board when they are of no use to the apiarist. To show that I am not alone in this, I will quote the following from one of our largest honey producers, who a few years ago was quite a prominent writer for the various bee papers: "I get very much the best results from my purest and most yellow Italians. The Italians seem to be much more disposed to partially stop brood-rearing, and bend all their energies to honey gathering whenever there is a heavy flow of nectar, than any other kind of bees

which I have tried, and this is a very great advantage."—A. B. Jour.

FRAME SPACING.

If you really desire to introduce a nuisance into your apiaries, just use any of the devices for spacing frames now being recommended by those people, who, it seems to me, have had no experience in such things. These same things, now advised and described, were used thirty years ago, and nearly all who used them cursed the day they applied them to their hives. I need not tell you why they are a nuisance. If any reader desires to test the matter for himself, all I have to say is, go ahead and use them.—Api.

BEE FEEDERS.

A great many bee-keepers seem to think it is necessary to buy some of the numerous feeders advertised, if they have any feeding to be done. This is entirely unnecessary, as any apiarist can find plenty of substitutes right at home. The following, from the Western Plowman, expresses the matter very sensibly:

It is not necessary to invest in a lot of expensive patent feeders. I have tried many kinds with varying success, and have about come to the conclusion that the following plan is cheaper and handier than any other. Place the rim of a T super on the hive to be fed, and simply put the feed in about sundown, and put on the cover. If you have honey it is, perhaps, the best of all feed. A mixture of one-half honey and sugar syrup, is excellent. A good way to feed it is to fill a common milk-pan about

half full, and put some broken empty comb on the surface, to keep the bees from drowning in it. If you have a lot of refuse sections of honey on hand from former years, uncap the honey and place in the pan, and set it inside the empty super as before. During this month always do your feeding on warm evenings, so that the bees can carry about all of it to their combs before morning. Never, on any account, try feeding, especially honey, in the open air, at this time of the year. In fact, open air feeding is not practicable at any time.

Bee-Keepers' Conventions.

The International American Bee-Association will hold its annual Convention in Keokuk, Iowa, Oct. 29, 30, 31. Copies of the Programme and reduced Hotel rates will be furnished on application to the Secretary, Hamilton, Ills., Sept. 10, '90. C. P. Dadant.

Special Notices.

Under this heading advertisements of 35 words will be inserted **four times** for only 25 cents.

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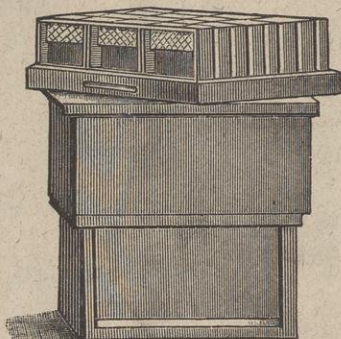
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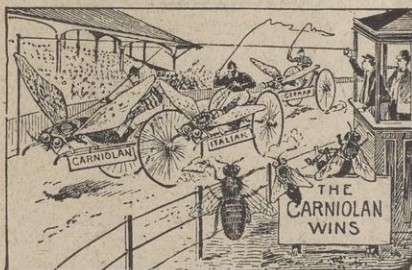
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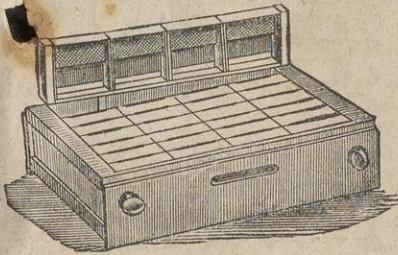
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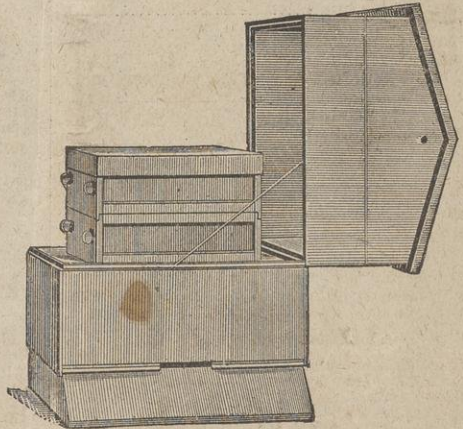
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