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Beeville, Texas: The Jennie Atchley Company, July 1898

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VOL. IV, No. 3.

JULY, 1898.





SOUTHLAND QUEEN,

A MONTHLY JOURNAL DEVOTED

TO

The Best Interests of Bee-Keepers Everywhere.

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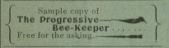
THE JENNIE ATCHLEY COMPANY,

BEEVILLE, BEE COUNTY, TEXAS.

THE QUEEN BOOK AND JOB OFFICE, PRINTERS.

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THE SOUTHLAND QUEEN.

Devoted to the Exchange of Thoughts on Apiculture.

\$1.00 Yearly.

Vol. IV.

BEEVILLE, TEXAS, JULY, 1898.

No. 3.

EXTRACTED HONEY.

By L. STACHELHAUSEN.

I see in the QUEEN for March, 1898, that the manipulation in getting extracted honey was discussed at the South Texas Bee-keepers' convention. The way Messrs. Davidson, Atchley and Manlove take the honey from the bees is the same we used about 25 years ago, and which most bee-keepers are still using. Is it true, that we have made no progress at all in this time?

If any body reads the description of Mr. Coggshall's method of taking honey, given by E. R. Root in Gleanings for March, he will surely not get very enthusiastic to work in a cloud of stinging and robbing bees in the bee house, as well as in the apiary, and having the extracting house full of smoke is not very convenient either.

All these inconveniences avoided and some labor saved besides by the method I adopted some 10 or 12 years ago, when I commenced to use shallow extracting supers. To take out the honey. frame by frame, shake and brush off the bees from them on the

hive on a cart or wheelbarrow, was so tiresom to me and took so much time that I at once found an advantage in shallow extracting supers. I read Chas. Dadant's little book on extracted honey years ago, and he used the old way of manipulation; but I thought if a whole super with section honey can be taken from the hive, why not these extracting supers? This is the reason I constructed my extracting supers of a size that they would not be too heavy to handle when full of honey. With the invention of the bee escape this method of manipulation was completed to a system, which hardly can be improved. The manipulation is as follows:

We have a set of supers with empty combs at hand, about as many as we can extract during a day, and the same number of Porter bee escapes fitted into boards. At evening, about sunset, we lift the super to be extracted, containing sealed honey, from the hive, set one super with empty combs in the right place, generally just over the brood nest, and on top of this ground, or put them in an empty the other supers not yet full of honey, then the escape, and at last the super or supers to be extracted; finally the hive is closed. In this way I go from hive to hive, while a helper wheels the empty supers from the extracting house to the apiary, and helps in other ways. The next morning these supers are practically without bees, and are simply lifted off, loaded on the cart and wheeled into the extracting house. Generally not even a smoker is necessary to this morning work. All this work is done in hardly an hour in the evening, and half an hour in the morning. The boards with the bee escapes I remove later during the day, and close the hive properly. These supers are stored crosswise in the extracting house, extracted during the day, and given to other colonies in the evening.

I remember very well when I used the old plan that I had to work hard all day in the apiary to take just enough combs to keep two hands busy in the extracting house. But this hard work was by no means the worst of it. When the honey flow suddenly ceased I had soon a similar experience to E. R. Root on Coggshall's apiary, or I had to reduce the work to the few combs we could take from the hives after sunset. The advantage of

in the apiary is done while no bees are flying, consequently all trouble with robbers is avoided. With the new plan two men can do as much as four men working under the old plan of extracting, and can do it with more comfort. Labor is saved by this plan because no frames are handled in the apiary, only whole supers. In the extracting house the frame is for the first time taken from the super, and as soon as extracted is put in another super and not handled any more, except with the whole super. It does not take any more time to set a super on a hive than it will to hang a single frame in a hive: it does not take as much time to remove a full super as it does to remove a single frame and brush off the bees.

At the beginning of the honey flow we sometimes find brood in the supers; later in the season and during a good honey flow the supers are always free from brood. The new plan works best, if no brood at all is in any one of the supers. I tried different ways to keep the queen from laving eggs in the supers, but abandoned them for reasons explained later on. any brood is in the super a part of the bees will not go down through the escape; nevertheless I carry these supers into the extracting the new plan is, that all the work house and store them separately to be extracted first. The bees are them back is a slow and unhandy brushed from the combs through a funnel into a well ventilated box, and all the frames with brood are set into one or more supers. The bees and brood can be used in different ways-to strengthen other colonies or nuclei, or to form new nuclei, etc.

Referring to the work in the extracting house, I confess that I may not be quite up with the times, still using an old Novice extractor, holding four of my shallow frames, while for fast work a reversible extractor is recommended; but to tell the truth I did not feel the necessity of a reversible extractor vet a while, because any man can learn to extract as many combs as an experienced man can uncap. Certainly, if honey is extracted not sealed by the bees a reversible extractor would be a great advantage, but I am of the opinion that at least three-fourths of the honey must be sealed to get a good article of extracted honey.

Coggshall's method of changing the places of the combs instead of reversing them (described in Gleanings, 1898, p. 211) was very interesting to me, because I use a method I believe, since I use an

work. I remove a frame (or better a pair of the shallow frames, which occupy the place of one Langstroth frame in the extractor) with the right hand, lifting this frame over the gearing, I turn the basket of the extractor with the left hand half around and set the frame back on the same place. You see, instead of reversing the frame I reverse the extractor.

CUBA HEALTHY AND A GOOD BEE COUNTRY.

To The Jennie Atchley Co .:

I received your card of the 7th inst., and I await your promise.

Regarding your questions, I can inform you all you wish. country in Cuba is very healthful, but the towns in summer are not so good, especially for the foreigners not accustomed to the climate: they can catch the vellow fever under certain conditions, not always, and they can probably avoid it.

Like a bee country, there are many kinds on account of the different kinds of flowers growing on its unequal grounds, but generally you would think it eternal spring. The worst months of the year are the summer months, from the 15th extractor, somewhat on the same of May until the 15th of Septemprinciple. To lift out a comb, re- ber, due to the excessive heat, the versing in the air, and putting scarcity of flowers, and in August

to the abundance of rains. The best crop is during November and December. The small bell (la campanilla) give the most and best honey, absolutely white, and its flavor is second to none. In the Western countries in these months the bees gather the almond (el almendra) which yields a beautiful and good tasting honey, but with tendency to crystalize; in February and March, el remerillo, a vellow honey, but very good. In the rest of the months they gather abundantly of honey, but more or less darkened. There are two varieties of bees, all black, one like the Italian in size, and the other a little smaller: the latter I believe is the better of the two. They do not know the modern methods of culture, though in many countries there are some who know it. They make their hives of a hollow tree and place them in the shade of trees and banana trees, horizontally. The logs are a yard long and the hollow is 8 inches or more in diameter. Diseases of bees are very rare. I learned from a beekeeper near Havana that he had foul brood imported from through the Italian queens. principal enemy is the bee moth. and it is difficult to avoid the moths infesting the hives when they are kept in the way they do there.

If I were able to pay you a visit and learn the right management of bees, and especially the raising of queens, in which I have always failed, I would go if had the time. Can you recommend me to any one near this place or Washington?

I have a limited knowledge of the English language, and had I a little more, would take pleasure in informing you more on the above subjects; however, you may command me and I will inform you to the best of my ability.

Domingo Logemasino, M. D. West Chester, Pa., June 14th, 1898.

"JAMAICA" vs. PRIDGEN—INTER-ESTING TALK ON QUEEN REARING.

The Jennie Atchley Co.:

May QUEEN just received—Vol. 4, No. 1—GOOD. I have a copy of every issue of the QUEEN from Vol. 1, No. 1, and hope to keep with you until the last.

I would not trouble you just now, but I want to get after that Tarheel man of Creek, N. C. Please tell him that "Jamaica" wrote "a more simple way to rear Pure queens," not poor ones. He must go for "Willie," or some one else in the composing room of The Southland Queen. Like Dr. Miller, a short time ago, in Gleanings, I would of liked to have had my

copy of "that issue" of the QUEEN called in and the word corrected, but I was too far away, and like friend P., no doubt many thought that "Jamaica" was only a dull sort of a Johnny Bull and perhaps did not know the difference between a poor queen and a pure one. At any rate, friend P., "Jamaica" gets lots of the "very best" of breeders from Doolittle, Lockhart, Pridgen, Root and Atchley, and this year is booked for 24 from Pridgen, 43 from Doolittle, 24 from Hutchinson, and some of every kind raised by the Atchleys, and a few others scattered over the States, as well as from Italy. "Jamaica" does this that he may be able to get the "very best queens procurable," and when he has a queen-mother in one yard from Doolittle, he selects his drone-mother from Texas. N. C., or Mich. Please also tell Brother P. that "Jamaica" had a queen rearing colony on exhibition at the Agricultural Society's rooms in Kingston last week, and on a "three-sided stick" (previously dipped in the wax melting pot) there were 19 cell cups out of 20 accepted by the bees. Also please tell him that "Jamaica" finds that the cheapest and best way "for him" to raise pod queens is by folas far as the cups and transfer are nest is; well, I had A. I. R. Co. to

concerned, and after the "stick" has been in a very strong queenless colony for two days it is then placed in a two supered 10-15 hive till the thirteenth day "from laying of eggs," then each cell is placed in a West cell protector, then given to our nuclei boxes, made out of a shallow extracting super, 10 frame, with a sheet of queen excluding zinc nailed on the bottom of it, then placed on a "two or three supered 10-15 hive." I place the cell protector between two shallow extracting frames of brood, then I bore an half inch hole through the side of said super "right in the center of the hand-hole," and let me say right here that, that hand-hole makes a nice little flight board for the queen. Very well, after the frames are in, I put a "tight division" board, then two frames, another division board, and so on till I have put in three of them; this, of course, makes four compartments for nuclei. I paint each hand-hole a different color, red, white, yellow and black. lose very few queens; the young ones are 9 to 18 inches above the old one in the brood nest-quite an item in queen rearing. I can generally get four queens out of each super. Of course friend P. will lowing Doolittle-Pridgen-Atchley want to know what a 10-15 brood make me 1000 Langstroth frames have twenty-four good, strong colo-131/2 inches deep; frames so made are one half deeper than the standard frame, and by making a rim half as deep as the regular body and put it under the regular body the two just takes this deep frame; by so doing I make an 8 frame into an 8-12, or a 10 frame into a 10-15 hive; of course all the upper stories are regular standard goods.

Now please, Mr. Editor, do not blame me for this long letter-you must keep that Tarheel man quiet or you'l get more of them.

In the mean time I sit at the feet of Doolittle, Pridgen, Atchley, Miller, Aiken, Cowan, Dadants, "Sommy," et al., and read every thing they write, with far more real enjoyment than I did "Peck's Bad Boy," and that, I assure you, is saying a great deal.

TAMAICA. Mandeville, Jamaica, W. I., \

June 6th, 1898.

ARNOLD INQUIRING FOR BANKSTON.

To THE SOUTHLAND QUEEN:

My June number of QUEEN arrived a few days ago chock-full of bee talk, as usual. As I have not sent in my report for some time I thought that would give a few experimental dots,

nies. I have on my supers and they will be ready to extract in a few days, expecting to get 1000 pounds of honey, and have 200 pounds engaged at 7 cents per 1b. I intended to run for comb honey, but did not order sections until the factories run short, therefore have to do without and do the best I can. You see procrastination is the thief of time. Experience is a deer lesson, although when once learned will never be forgotten. I intend to get my supply early hereafter, whether I need them or not.

Am very sorry I can not attend the Central Texas convention, on account of sickness. My whole heart is with the brethren in their meeting, hoping they will have a good time and advance the good cause we advocate.

What has become of the famous C. B. Bankston, or the reckless queen breeder of Central Texas? Has he resigned the honorable position or profession of raising queens and gone into the law business? The last time I heard of him he was talking of taking about thirty colonies of black bees and going to Cuba, thinking he could turn them loose and scatter the Spaniards, intending to avenge the When spring opened I had only destruction of the battleship Maine, seven colonies; at this writing I and knew of no better method. I heard that Mr. Bankston had already spoken to Uncle John Carnes to have him a sailboat ready by the first of August; that he was bent on the expedition if he perished in the attempt; that he never intended to pass to the great beyond without some historical record, and that if he died in the attempt, there remained one consolation, there would be a monument erected to tell of one green bee-keeper who died for his country.

I was very sorry to hear of Willie Atchley's most serious affliction. I met and formed Willie's acquaintance at Cameron last July, and I never met a young man who I thought more of in so short a time. Willie is not only a fine bee-keeper, but seemingly a nice christian boy, and his name is loved by all beekeepers.

F. A. Arnold.

Hookerville, Texas.

A CURIOUS FREAK OF A QUEEN, EXILE, ETC.

The queen came all right and I had a hive waiting for her that I had taken the queen out of three days before, introduced her, and in three days I looked into the hive and she was still in the cage; four days more looked in again and the candy was about half eaten, and I raised the wire and pastboard at the other end, and in three days I looked again and she was not lay-

ing; still again, vesterday, 14th, I looked and there was plenty of eggs, and some brood that was four or five days old, and on hunting up the queen she had changed color on me and was nearly right brown. I was surprised, and am anxious for some brood to hatch to see what they are. I was very particular about keeping all queen cells pulled down, and the hive is 20 or 25 feet from any other hive. I cannot understand it, as the queen you sent seemed to be all right in the cage as to color. There were two dead bees in the cage. But I never had any thing to stump me in the way of a queen before.

My honey crop is short so far, as the rain held off too long, and now it is raining too much, so I don't know how the bees will do.

W. H. MADELEY.

Rogers, Tex., June 15, 1898.

EXILE IS ANOTHER CASE.
To The Jennie Atchley Co.:

I am receiving The Southland Queen which you sent me about a year ago when I ordered a queen. The queen came all right and I introduced her to a colony, but whatever became of her I can't tell. I removed the old queen and introduced according to directions, and my bees are all black yet, not even a hybrid showed up. They must have killed her and made another,

for they have plenty of brood. I will try it again.

Inclosed please find one dollar for a queen and The Queen—it is highly appreciated and is a good guide for bee-keepers; all should have it who wish to make beekeeping a success.

A. S. KITLINGER. Salem, Oregon, June 1, 1898.

FRIEND MADELEY:—The very fact that you say the queen changed color leads us to believe your queen got killed, as her color ought not to have changed in that short time. We give your letter and this footnote to try to school beginners in introducing queens.

As to Mr. Kitlinger's exile, we are under the impression that he missed a cell, and there was a young queen present when trying to introduce his new queen, and she got killed, and soon the young

queen began to lay.

Right along this line is where the poor raiser gets scored, as many queens are introduced to colonies that have queens already, and the new queen gets killed, and if it was a tested queen the customer purchased and his young queen that killed the one introduced proves a hybrid, then a row sets up between breeder and purchaser. Ed.

ANOTHER PLAN FOR WATERING BEES-HONEY MEAD, Erc.

EDITOR SOUTHLAND QUEEN:

The article on page 3 of June trough being dry the bee Queen, by Mr. A. J. Crawford, fighting over the faucet.

reminds me that I have neglected to give you a description of my plan for watering bees. For several years I have been trying various arrangements for watering bees on a large scale, but never got any thing to suit me until this year. I now have an arangement that is perfect, yet it is very simple. I have tried floats, as described by Mr. Crawford, and the objection I had to them was that in a few days they would get soaked so full of water that they would sink just enough to allow bees to drown above them. This was especially noticeable on cool mornings. Last year I had a shallow trough filled with old sacks and a large can of water set on a platform above the trough having the drip faucet arrangement; this prevented bees from getting drowned and was very satisfactory in this respect, but those old sacks would get so full of dirt in two or three days they would have to be removed or washed out, which was a bad job. The objection to the drip faucet was that I would have to regulate it about every hour. Sometimes I would find the water all run out and wasted and the trough dry, and at other times I would find that the drip was too slow and the trough being dry the bees would be

The arragement I have now is simply an ordinary five gallon can inverted over a shallow trough having strips I inch high and 3/8 inch thick, about an inch apart for the bees to alight on. This arrangement needs no attention whatever. The trough will not run over, as the water only comes down out of the can as fast as the bees take it out of the trough. clean the trough I raise one end and dash on a bucket of water. The strips for the bees to alight on should all run the long way of the trough, and there should be no cross pieces, as they would interfere in washing out the trough, as I have described. This is the most satisfactory arrangement for watering bees I have ever tried, and have tried a good many.

Last spring I made a discovery which to me, was very interesting. Early one morning after a windy day, during which the bees did not fly all day, I opened some hives and happened to notice that the unsealed brood was almost dry and the bees were extremely cross, The brood was actually starvingthere was plenty of honey in the hive. This was conclusive proof to me that water was very essential in preparing the milky food for the

go ten rods for water, and at such times the brood must suffer. The remedy is to provide a good watering trough near the hives, and besides, a good wind-break. I have found that when they were thus provided they would work industriously all day, if the wind did not blow too hard.

You ask for some one to tell how to make honey mead. I will tell how I make a cheap, healthful drink, but do not know whether or not it is the true way to make honey mead. To 5 gallons of boiling water add 10 or 12 pounds of honey, stirring in the honey while the water is boiling, then set off the stove. For flavoring I use one to two tablespoonsful of vanilla extract, and a little ginger. Set the can in a box and fill up the space around the can with some kind of packing material to keep an even temperature. The can should have the top cut out and be covered with thin cloth to give plenty of air. Set in a warm place and it will be ready for use in about a week. This makes a fine summer drink, and is as good as the best apple cider, but is not intoxicating.

I would like to know how your experiments with slotted separators turned out. I don't believe slotted larva. We often have windy days separators will do, unless they are here in spring when bees cannot cleated; they will be too weak.

My separators are made of three pieces with openings 3 of an inch between the slats, and are 35% inches wide. My cleats are made double, that is, two in one piece, with a saw cut in the middle reaching within 1/2 inch of the lower end. These double cleats are very handy for nailed separators. The three slats are placed in a form which spaces them accurately. The cleats are then slipped on in their proper places and nailed with one 1/2 inch nail through the center of each slat. With cleats made double there is only half as many pieces to handle. Mine was made by the Leahy Manufacturing Company, they know how to make them.

In my next I will give the result of my hiving back experiments this season.

Bees here are now busy on the second crop of alfalfa.

W. C. GATHRIGHT. Dona Ana, N. M., July 2, 1898.

FRIEND G.:—We have not had a chance yet to try our slotted separators, as our flows have been so slow that bees have not had the proper stimulation to enter sections. We have sent them out to others and we hope to hear from them in regard to the slotted separators. We make the slots only 3½ inches long, and we do not think they will warp. Your plan of watering bees is good, or it seems so to us from your description, and the fact

that you count it a success is sufficient, we think. One of our watering plans is a float to keep a trough just full, which is supplied from an elevated tank, and slat the trough. We, too, want water handy for our bees, and we have lost at times very heavy by not having it.

RECIPE FOR HONEY MEAD.

On twenty pounds of honey pour five gallons of boiling water; boil, and remove the scum as it rises; add one pound of best hops, and boil for ten minutes; then put the liquor into a tub to cool; when all but cold add a little yeast spread upon a slice of toasted bread; let it stand in a warm room. When fermentation is finished, put in a barrel, bung it down, leaving a peg-hole which can afterwards be closed, and in less than a year it will be fit to bottle.

Bees are beginning to make a little honey now, and the prospects are good for a fair crop.

J. A. RUFF. Ft. McKavett, Tex., July 2, 1898.

In answer to our call Mr. Ruff has given us a recipe for making honey mead. Put it down in your scrap-book. Thank you, friend Ruff. ED.

regard to the slotted separators. We make the slots only $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches long, and we do not think they will warp. Your plan of watering bees is good, or it seems so to us from your description, and the fact bombarded by Sampson's fleet.

Newsy Notes from--Busy People.

Nothing for bees to do since the middle of May.

W. H. PRIDGEN.

Creek, N. C.

Later we learn that Mr. Pridgen's bees are doing better. ED.

Bees are Working Well.

Our bees are working well now. I divided five colonies about a week ago and one of them is getting ready to swarm. I have eleven colonies now and expect to reach twenty in a month. It rains every few days and our corn and potatoes are booming, but it is a steady fight with us and the weeds.

S. F. TREGO.

Swedona, Ill., June 6, 1898.

We learn from E. R. Jones that the bee meeting at Mr. Aten's was well attended and the convention meets next time at Milano, and Bro. Jones adds that it will be the biggest meeting Texas ever had, because it meets at Milano, "see." Read the proceedings that begin in this issue of the QUEEN.

We have received word from Mr. M. M. Faust that he has all the old roosters up fatening, and if you don't go to the meeting of the

sociation, at Floresville, August 17th and 18th, you will surely miss the fat roosters. Let's all turn out and eat up all they have got, or eat 'em out of house and home: what say you?

Mr. F. L. Aten writes thus: Here are four new subscribers, secured at the meeting at my place, June 30th and July 1st, and this is all we could get, in-as-much as nearly all present took the QUEEN already.

Good, Brother Aten, we will soon have to get a bigger subscription book, and we don't know what next, if our friends keep on lending their aid that way. We wish to thank all our friends for the assistance they are giving in behalf of the QUEEN, and we try to apreciate it as we should, but fail to note on paper the high appreciation we really enjoy, as we can't find the language to do it with.

We learn that Stachelhausen will try to be at the Floresville meeting: also we learn that Dr. Johnson, of Stockdale, will be there; E. R. Jones says he may get lost and turn up at that meeting; Judge Terrell may be there also, and W. W. Downing, of Pettus, says he will be there. Brother J. H. Thompson, of Beeville, says he is going Southwest Texas Bee-keepers' As- sure; several young lady bee-keep-

ers say they will go too, and the Atchley delegation will try to be well represented; so Brother Faust, we make these mentions that you may fatten roosters accordingly. Floresville is reached by R. R. east, north and south by branches of the S. A. & A. P. R. R.

Willie received a keg of fine wine from Judge Terrell the other day, and you ought to see him put on a long grin. We think that Judge Terrell makes the best grape wine for sickness found in Texas. Willie uses it for a strengthening cordial, and thinks it does him good.

Likes the Queen.

I like the QUEEN very much; here is a dollar, please send the paper to Mr. I. S. Mowery for one year. Mr. Mowery is an ex-county treasurer of this, Wapello, county, and is thoroughly reliable, and says he wants lots of queens later on. If all the queens you send out are as nice as the premium you sent me, we are sure to be pleased. Will be sending in more subscrip-W. T. PEPPERS. tions soon.

South Ottumwa, Iowa, July 4, 1898.

This is the way we love to hear our subscribers talk, and if all would do the same and send in one new subscriber each, we would sell our small press, get a large one, and make the QUEEN twice her with Iowa, or the blacks. ED.

present size. Now, you folks turn in and hold us to this agreement, and let's have a great big OUEEN.

No Honey, Bees in Bad Shape.

Too much rain here, bees in bad shape, and no honey. It has rained for several weeks nearly all E. A. SEELEY. the time.

Bloomer, Ark., June 24, 1898.

Bees Doing Well.

I have four colonies of bees; I ran three for extracted honey and one for comb. My strongest colony has given about twenty gallons of honey, and next best twelve gallons. The comb honey colony has finished up forty-eight one pound sections. The honey is from horse mint, and clear and nice. Cotton now starts out and the bees will be busy on it for a long time. Good outlook is it not?

A. L. KRUEGER.

New Elm, Tex., June 24, 1898.

We shold think the outlook was good. ED.

Prospects Good for a Large Crop.

Prospects good for another large honey crop this season. Last year we averaged \$10 worth of honey per colony, and increased 100 per cent. G. D. BLACK.

Independence, Iowa, June 2, 1898.

Good gracious, what's the matter

115 Gallons Up to Date.

I have taken 115 gallons of honey to date, June 12, 1898.

M. W. SMITH.

Cuero, Tex., June 12, 1898.

From how many colonies, friend Smith? ED.

Likes the Queen--Hard Time With Bees.

Find my dollar for the QUEEN another year; I am much pleased with it. We are having a hard time with the bees in these parts—no surplus nor any prospects for any. It is very dry here now, and if rain does not come soon there will be no corn made here.

J. A. COURSEY. Click, Tex., June 4, 1898.

L. Lorscheid, Santimonica, Cal., writes July 9th, 1898, that the cattle-men set fire to the brush and burnt his bees, 200 colonies, honeyhouse and his honey. This seems too bad, and there ought to be some recourse for such destruction of property. Brother Newman, isn't this a good case for the Union?

Bees Doing No Good.

Doolittle writes under date July 8th, as follows: No swarms, no honey, and have been feeding till within a week to keep bees from starving. The last week the bees have just gathered enough for a living. Basswood just opened and it is "now or never" with us this year.

Swarming Mania.

This is a good honey year for Washington, but the bees are determined to swarm, under "any and all conditions," not only once, but five or six times, unless they are watched closely.

H. F. SHEARER.

Seattle, Wash., July 1, 1898.

Willie was able this morning, July 14th, to go out and cage a queen, a few rods from the house, after nine weeks confinement to room and bed.

Migrating.

L. B. Smith, of Lometa, Texas, is thinking of moving his bees to a dense forest of Sumach, to catch the honey flow that is just beginning. We think it will pay well some seasons to migrate to better pastures, and some times it is only a few miles away to good forage, when if bees remain at old location may starve. There is a good honey flow on now 75 miles west of us, and our bees are getting practically nothing here.

We think that the season is far enough advanced in this section to tell definitely that we are not going to get any honey this season, unless we get it the coming fall; we mean in this immediate vicinity, Bee and and adjoining counties, but at some of our yards in other places the crop will be fair.

THE SOUTHLAND OUEEN.

PUBLISHED MONTHLY.

E. J. ATCHLEY, - - Editor and Business M'g'r. ... ASSISTED BY ...

WILLIE, CHARLIE AND AMANDA ATCHLEY.

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

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BEEVILLE, TEXAS, JULY, 1898.

WE HAVE been noticing of late that nearly all the bee papers have been almost full to the brim, with useless stuff, fighting Doolittle

or question. If a bee-keeper knows that the hindmost rows are just as good honey, (and in many cases they are better,) but do not look quite so well, and he puts the best looking in front, (as is done in all lines of trade,) and no objection is raised by the consumer, then where does the wrong come in? If Doolittle's name is on the honey, Doomuch does not suffer because Doolittle faced his honey, then again we ask, where is the wrong? The bee-keeping world knows Doolittle too well to even suspect that he would do a wrong, and we know that he will not allow a single section to go out with his name on it that is not good merchantable honey, nor do we believe he would sell a morsel of honey that was not good, without telling the purchaser so. We do not believe in any kind of deceit being used in any thing, but we are simply sick of that old tune about Doolittle facing honey, and please permit us to call out, Oh! human nature, where art thou? You bee-keepers that do not face your honey please hold up your hands. Who is it that selects the yellow sections and places them in front and the whitest behind? Who is it that will not select out of a fine lot of honey, which is all nice, the smoothest sections and about the facing honey business, put them in front? Is such a person living? If so, let him speak out, and we will try to send him a cromo.

WE ARE having to buy honey to fill our orders for the first time in a long while, with the exceptions of a few pounds only, but we are buying now in car load lots, and we expect to ship a car load from near Pearsall next week.

J. A. CHILTERN, in Australian Bee Bulletin, says he has been fighting foul brood for three years, together with the drouth, and that he has just about held his own with the foul brood, and says he wishes the drouth was over.

WE ARE sorry to learn that Judge Terrel had the misfortune to puncture his foot with a nail, which he says is very sore, but thinks it is improving at this time, July 3d. His little son, Edward, we learn too is sick, but we trust that he will soon be up again.

THE Canadian Bee Journal says that tens of thousands of dollars have been lost to that province alone by influential persons circulating the mistaken idea that no experience nor labor is required to make bee-keeping a success. What a pity. The person that

dead failure before he begins, as it surely requires skill, hard study, and incessent labor to make it pay.

WE HAVE arranged with a beekeeper and customer living near Monterey, Mexico, to send us two colonies of the stingless bees, having shipped him the boxes to put them in, with full instructions how to put them up, and this fall some time we hope to tell our readers more about them.

WE HAVE no real good honey flows in this locality this year so far, yet we still live in hopes, if we die in dispair. As we have had good rains lately, we are looking forward for a good fall crop, whether it comes or not. We learn that in the neighborhood of Pearsall, Texas, where Willie's yard is located, that a grand flow is on now.

M. C. WALL, of Phoenix, Arizona, writes us June 22, that he has a new feeder, which he thinks will fill the bill for a feeder to perfection, and by way of introduction we will allow him to give our readers a description of it in some future number of the QUEEN. He says this about it: "It is an outside feeder, and I have tried it sufficient to know that it is absolutely safe. as far as bees getting stuck up is goes into bee-keeping with that concerned, and danger of robbing view of the business, is simply a is done away with." We do not believe in rushing new things upon the bee-keepers, but when we wish to feed we need a feeder that will do the work to perfection, and if Mr. Wall's feeder is such an one, it will take all right. Give us a full description of it friend Wall.

WE NOTE in the American Bee Journal that Mr. Hutchinson thinks that bees sent through the mails may carry foul brood, but that the queen will not do it. We believe that if the bees can carry the disease, the queen can do it also. We do not wish to risk a queen nor worker among our bees that have ever been in a foul broody colony, or fed upon honey that came from a foul brood colony.

We note something is being said and done, among some bee-keepers, and published in some of the papers, where they are talking of going into the making business, or rather a compelling business. Some speak of not allowing bee-keepers to put honey on the market that will not weigh a certain number of pounds, and making them put their honey up in certain styles, etc. Now friends, let us as beekeepers try to steer clear of such sins as making people do certain The world seems to be near enough ruined now, compelling people to do things they do not want to do. If a person engages in an honorable persuit he is at liberty to do as he pleases, in a free country like America, or ought to be permitted to do so at least, and if we see them going wrong, let us try to persuade them to turn, but never undertake to make them do it, as that is neither right nor common sense.

ALL the honey that bees are getting now is gathered from cotton, and they have to go a long ways for We had a fine prospect for mesquite, but heavy rains blited the blooms; then we had a fine prospect for horse-mint, and when it ought to have come into bloom it was too dry, so we get but little from that source. All the honey we have had that amounted to much was from waheah, and that was early-February and March. Now we are looking forward to a fall crop, as we have too chances, and we hope both will not fail. We are speaking of the Beeville territory, as some of our bees at other places have done fairly well. All bees that have had a fair chance are in good shape.

Some of our subscribers write, since they have arrived in Cuba, that if the Philippine Islands are to be ruled by the United States they will emigrate there and test it as a bee county. They learn that all kinds of flowers thrive well there. With Sugar Islands, (Hawaiian,) Cuba and the Philippines added to our bee-keeping territory, which would it mean, more markets or lower honey?



Could I not get straight combs by using comb guides and no foundation? I mean the V edged comb guides.

F. J. ERNST.

Sugarland, Tex., July 1, 1898.

Yes, you can procure straight combs by watching the bees a little. If one gets full or well started you can move the full ones back and slip in an empty, and so on till all are full. If there is much of a honey flow on at the time you are doing this, the combs used ought to have sealed honey at the tops, if brood does not go clear up, if not the bees will extend the cells of the combs before they build out the new combs. and you will have a lot of narrow combs and bulged ones; this will be done the same, though, if you use foundation, but the foundation will secure straight combs without being between other two.

My bees hang out in great numbers, but do not swarm, and I want to know if I could gather up those that are laying out and give them to weak colonies to build them up?

WM. LONGNECKER. Chewsville, Md., June 6, 1898.

Yes, you can use the bees that hang out to strengthen up your weak ones; you had better cage the queens in your weak colonies before you put in the strange bees, or they will likely get killed. If you will cage the queens in all that you wish to put bees in, and carry them off a mile or so, and then at

the time you wish to unite them shake all the bees off the comb of the weak colonies, and then turn in the strangers with them while they are all confused, then in a few minutes give them their frames, and queens in cages, to be let out on the candy plan, and you will likely be successful. I am lead to believe that you have not much of a honey flow on, or your bees would not lay out so much, or else they need room, or shade. Better not try to turn in the strangers without shaking the bees off the combs, or they will get killed.

The moths are very bad and injure my bees fearfully, and I would like for you to tell me how to keep them out. I am a beginner in the bee business and will be glad for any information about the management of bees.

FRANK JACKSON.

Berwick, Miss., July 1, 1898.

Friend J., the best remedy that I know of for moths, is a strong colony of bees. If you will not allow your bees to occupy more combs than they can cover well and protect, you will have but little bother with moths, especially so if you use Italian bees.

I would like to know if you ever knew laying workers to lay drone eggs for the purpose of fertilizing the young queens. I have a colony now that I think is doing this. This has been the hardest year on bees that I have seen in a long time. We have now had plenty of rain, and we hope to get honey yet this year. I have saved my bees by having a big patch of sweet clover near them. We also have lots of alfalfa clover near us, which I think will produce honey.

I. M. HAGOOD.

Enloe, Tex., June 16, 1898.

Friend Hagood, I do not think that the drones are reared on purpose for the fertilization of the queens, but because the colony gets what we term "hopelessly queenless," and the workers go to laying. Worker bees lay more eggs than one thinks for, unless we observe closely. It has been said that a young queen may at first begin laying drones, and then when she gets started, go to laying worker eggs. This is a big mistake. If a young queen begins laying drone eggs at the start she will do it all her life, or as long as she lavs at all. It is worker bees that do the laying, and they may lay right along with the queen for some time, and there will be both drone and worker eggs, and we are likely to blame the queen for it all. Soon the workers play out, and of course the queen soon has all worker brood.

If I wish to place in a frame of brood from my breeder into a queenless colony for the purpose of raising a few queens, will the young queens all hatch at about the same time, and if not, how will I tell which will hatch first?

SUBSCRIBER.

There are two or three ways to tell which will hatch first. If it is a new piece of comb you use, or one partially built down with larva and eggs in all stages, the cells the highest up on the comb will hatch first, as the lower portion of the comb will contain eggs, or the youngest larva. The cells that usually hatch first look ripe or dark at the point, but not always. No, the queens do not all hatch at the same time, and there may be three or four days difference, caused as described above.

I have had bad luck with my young

and I think they got lost or returned to the wrong hive. My hives are all the same color and in rows four feet apart, and I thought that was where the trouble was. If you should have that kind of luck I should think the price of queens 'too low. My honey crop is almost a failure, only got 25 or 30 sections, but the brood chambers are all full.

LEE ELDER.

Biloxi, Miss., July 23, 1898.

Your hives are too close for queen rearing, and too near alike, and you have given the cause of loss about right. No, we do not have quite that bad luck or queens would go up sure. We now scatter our mating hives in a kind of promiscuous way and not in rows; it looks bad but seldom gets queens lost. Some of our queen yards look as though a storm had blown the hives there.

As I am a member of your school, I am stalled and wish to know how the following comes about: I raised a young queen which was from five band stock, and her workers are 3 to 5 bands, and some of her drones are black. Now. how about this? T. A. ELLIOTT.

Hagansport, Tex., June 20, 1898.

Well, there is about three ways to account for this catastrophe. First, if your queen is a very young one and has just begun to lay, there may be some worker bees laying right along with the queen, and their drones black, while those of the queen are yellow; or it can be that all the drones are made by the workers, and they be a mixed lot. Another way is, your queen may have met a black drone, and in this case she may make none less than three banded bees, and produce some black drones, as the queens, losing four at about one time, drones are touched by the mating as well as the workers. The last way to account for it is, your queen may have had a touch of black blood in her body from way-back, and the drones are sports from that cause. It has been said time and again that the drones were not touched by the mating, but I have long since settled that question in my own mind, and if I wish to be sure of pure stock I never allow such drones as those from a hybrid queen to fly near my queen yards

I would like to have your advice about feeding bees. I have a good farm and plenty of sugar cane, and other flowers near me, and I do not feed, and think that the bees should feed temselves. My bees swarmed a great deal this season, but have not gathered much honey yet.

MRS. MELISSIE ROGERS.

Floresville, Tex., June 25, 1898.

It will be all right to let the bees feed themselves, when they can do so from natural sources, but there are seasons every now and then when we have an abundance of flowers of every kind and yet no honey in them. I have had to feed my bees to keep them from starving, and the fields a perfect flower garden, so to speak, for miles around, but the atmosphere was so bad that no honey was secreted, and the bees could not get any thing. I do not believe in feeding when it can be avoided, but some seasons we must feed or lose our bees, no difference how many flowers there are.

I wish to go into the bee business in Southwest Texas, for the purpose of making money out of it, and do not wish to make a wrong start, and your advice will be highly appreciated. How shall I begin?

SCHOLAR.

Get you some bees in latest improved movable framed hives, get near enough to a successful bee-keeper to catch dots, put your shoulder to the wheel as a Scotch, so that the wheel may never roll backward, study the bees and the flowers, and don't meddle with every new hobby that is spoken of, use frugality, don't iet a bad season discourage you, and you will most surely make some money from your bees.

We learn through a customer that beeswax sells for 75 to 80 cts. per pound in Mexico.

A foul brood leaflet, on the same lines as the honey leaflet, is being gotten out by the Roots. It will be sent out free of charge, or, at least, at only a nominal price.—Bee-keepers' Review.

Our readers will note the new ad of E. R. Jones, on page 25 of this issue, which you will please make your orders from instead of his ad on cover page. As covers had been printed for some time, thereby causing two ads to appear in this issue.

Candied honey can be thrown out of the combs with an extractor, if the combs are first uncapped and soaked several hours in water; so writes a Wisconsin bee-keeper—I have mislaid his letter and forgotten his name. He says that the water in which the combs are soaked may be used in making vinegar.—Bee-Keepers' Review.

Minutes of the Fourth Annual Session of the Central Texas Bee-Keepers' Association June 30th, 1898. WE WE WE WE WE WE WE WE WE

The fourth annual session of the | nual dues payment, on account of ciation was called to order at the home of Mr. Frank L. Aten, near Round Rock, Williamson county, Texas, at 10:45 a. m., Thursday, June 30th, 1898, by Vice-president, Mr. O. P. Hyde, of Hutto.

Mr. S. W. McClure, of Round Rock, was chosen secretary.

Address of welcome, delivered by Frank L. Aten, extending a hearty welcome to the Association and all attending.

Response by O. P. Hyde in behalf of the Association.

Under the head of new business F. L. Hennington offered a resolution to be taken up Friday evening.

On enrollment of new members, on motion the following were received as members: Wm. S. Meier, F. A. Sullivan, Louis Scholl, F. J. Crosby, Geo. Henley, A. L. Kimmons, Mrs. J. P. Hardin, and S. W. McClure.

The annual election of officers resulted in electing Frank L. Aten, president; E. R. Jones, vice-president; S. W. McClure, secretary and treasurer.

Central Texas Bee-keepers' Asso- his services as secretary and treasurer. Adjourned for dinner.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

E. R. Jones spoke briefly on the subject of "apiculture in general."

Homer H. Hyde, of Hutto, read an excellent paper on "comb building." See appendix A.

"Importance of queens" was discussed by E. R. Jones, of Milano. He said it was a very important subject since the queen bee was the mother of all the bees, and the mother of the colony, and all the bees her progeny, and since the profits in bee culture comes from the prolificness of the bees, a good mother was very essential, and every colony should be provided with as good a queen as is possible. To breed fine stock takes fine parents, and applies as well to bees. A queen may be good as a honey producer, or she may be good for a breeder, and in either case not fit for the other. A vigorous queen will stimulate a whole colony. A. L. Kimmons and O. P. Hyde followed with timely remarks.

"Comb foundation" was taken On motion it was decided that the up by O. P. Hyde. He said the secretary be exempt from the an- first comb foundation was made in Germany, in 1855, but no progress came from this first discovery. years after in England the matter was renewed, but with no success. In 1875 a man in Ohio made a comb foundation similar to what we now use, but this machine at a price of \$150 was too costly to be put into much use. The foundation of to-day is as perfect as can be made by machinery. It is very difficult to get the foundation thin enough for comb honey, since complaint is made of the thickness in cutting, or fish-bone in center. He considered the deep comb foundation of to-day a failure and not practicable for bee-keepers. Use of foundation will secure straight comb, make work bees, and avoid the propagation of drones.

The query box was opened:

"Does corn produce honey?" E. R. Jones says not. Homer Hyde, F. L. Hennington and others says it does. All agree that corn will produce some honey, but not a surplus.

"What is the best all-round beehive?" was discussed without much difference of opinion, except F. L. Hennington's choice of the revolving frame as the "coming one of the age."

SECOND DAY-10 A. M.

The convention was called to

retary, Mr. S. W. McClure, being absent, Mr. Homer H. Hyde was appointed secretary pro tem.

New members were then given an opportunity to join the Association, and the following gave their names to the secretary: G. W. Wehring, H. L. Raven, and H. S. Mr. O. P. Hyde then moved that they, with two others. be received as members of Central Texas Bee-keepers' Associationmotion was unanimously carried.

The next subject was "union of bee-keepers of Texas," by E. R. Jones, of Milano. He said he considered the union of bee-keepers of the United States, or Texas, advisable for legal protection, and referred to the fact that there was two national unions already in the United States, and did not think advisable to have a Texas union on these lines at present, unless bee paralysis or some other disease became so dangerous as to warrant us in asking the State to protect us. Other than this he saw no other cause for a union. If, however, it became necessary to have diseased colonies treated for the general welfare of bee-keepers, he was in favor of their being treated or destroyed, as circumstances required, by legal authority; but, however, he did not at present see any cause order by the president. The sec- for a union of Texas bee-keepers.

The next subject was "queen rearing," by Willie Atchley. He being absent on account of sickness, Mr. E. R. Jones was called upon to take his place. He said the way he secured good queens was from cells reared under the swarming impulse, or artificial cells given them when they were under the swarming impulse, or cells reared under the supersedure impulse, which was the best possible, and that it was almost impossible to rear as good queens by artificial methods. He said, if in queen rearing business there were several good methods, and while no artificial method would rear quite as good queens, we could come very near. The nearest to perfection was as follows: He tried to get as near as possible to either method, but prefered the swarming impulse and used strong colonies. them have no unsealed brood and furnish them with grafted cells; this was his best method. Here he was interrupted by Mr. O. P. Hyde, who asked Mr. Jones whether he transferred the larva and cocoons, or larva. Mr. Jones answered that he could transfer ten larvas while transferring one larva and cocoon, and considered the transfer of the larva alone the best for other reasons. He once had 51 completed cells from 54 grafted cells.

Mr. F. L. Hennington then spoke on the management of bees. He delivered a very lengthy and scientific address.

The question box was again taken up:

"What are the necessary qualities for a practical hive?" Mr. E. R. Jones holding that the hive must be an interchangeable and expansive one, so as to accommodate at will the room for the queen and honey storing, and the hive that cut off either of these qualities was not the hive for him. For extracted honey he preferred a 10 frame hive, and for comb honey an 8 frame hive. O. P. Hyde endorsed word for word what Mr. Jones said.

"Is it better to tier up, or extract oftener?" O. P. Hyde: I would tier up to at least three stories, and four if necessary. E. R. Jones he provided room according to strength of colonies and strength of honey flow. Mr. Hyde then agreed with Mr. Jones.

"In putting in empty frames of foundation do you ever put in some frames of brood?" O. P. Hyde he sometimes used frames of brood to bait them up, but never combs of honey, yet in putting on another super between two others he never used bait combs.

Mr. Homer H. Hyde then moved to adjourn until 1 p. m., and that

in the meantime to eat dinner and have their pictures taken. The motion prevailed.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The convention re-assembled. Under the head of new business the following was taken up: The election of a place for the next convention. Milano was nominated by E. R. Jones, Cameron by F. L. Aten, and in behalf of Judge E. Y. Terrell, Round Rock was also nominated by Mr. Aten. Milano was unanimously elected, not one vote being cast against it.

The time for next meeting will fall on Thursday and Friday before the full moon in July, 1899, which will be the and of July.

A motion was made to pay out of the treasure the cost of our badges; motion carried.

A motion was offered by Mr. R. S. Booth, of Rockdale, directing the secretary to buy a secretary's book; motion unanimously carried.

Mr. F. L. Hennington offered the following resolution, which was adopted by a rising vote:

Resolved, that the Central Texas Bee-keepers Association, in convention assembled at Palm Valley. June 30th, 1898, vote a vote of thanks to our retiring President, Judge E. Y. Terrell, of Cameron, for his wise, just, and impartial Hyde that the president appoint a

decisions in our previous conventions.

Mr. O. P. Hyde then offered the following resolution, which was unanimously adopted by a rising vote:

Resolved, that we, the Central Texas Bee-keepers' Association, assembled, do hereby extend unto Mr. and Mrs. F. L. Aten our hearts' sincere thanks for the kind and hospitable way in which they have entertained us during the convention at their house, and that this resolution be embodied in the minutes of the Association.

A discussion as to whether or not we should be taxed on our bees, and after a general discussion it was decided to be the voice of the Association that it was best to keep quiet.

A discussion was had in regard to whether or not we should try to do anything in regard to regulating the price of honey. A motion was made that the president appoint a committee of three to devise some means to raise the price of honey by whatever methods they think best, and report at next meeting; the motion carried. F. L. Hennington, T. A. Sulivan and Lank Kemmons were appointed on the committee.

A motion was made by O. P.

committee of one to arrange us a programme for the next meeting; motion carried. Mr. E. R. Jones was appointed by the president.

On account of the fact that the secretary, Mr. S. W. McClure, of Round Rock, was unavoidably detained on business, a discussion arose as to the advisability of electing an assistant secretary and treasurer; it was decided best to do so. and the secretary pro tem, Mr. Homer H. Hyde, was nominated by F. L. Hennington, and W. R. Wehring was nominated by J. P. Harden. Mr. Wehring withdrew and Homer H. Hyde was elected by a rising vote.

Mr. Homer H. Hyde then arose to a point of instruction. He was instructed to help get up the present minutes, also to get up all old records and minutes of the Association, to buy a book and make a record of all in it, also to enroll the names as far as possible.

The question box was taken up: "Does cane bloom produce hon-

ey?"-2 for, I against.

"Which is the best bee?"-Italian, 7; Holyland, 2; Carniolan, o; Black, o; Hybrid, o.

"How do you raise horse-mint honey?" Homer H. Hyde said, put it on a piece of bread and raise to the mouth. [Laughter.]

Continued in August Number.

SWEET CLOVER AND MARBLE.

That lime is the one thing needed for the growth of sweet clover is indicated by a fact pointed out in a letter just at hand from Mr. J. E. Crane, of Vermont. He says that a friend living near the extensive marble quarries at Rutland, Vermont, once told him that upon the heaps of waste, where there was nothing but marble to the depth of twenty or thirty feet, sweet clover grew in luxuriance. As is known, marble is a very pure variety of lime stone.-Review.

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Subscription—5s per annum in advance, if booked, 6s 6d.

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