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T—h—e

Rocky Mountain Bee Journal.

*A Monthly Journal De-
voted to the Interests
of Western Beekeep-
ers. Terms: Fifty
Cents per Annum
in Advance.*

OCTOBER 15
1—9—0—2.

Boulder, Colo.
Whole No. 21.



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 Colorado Honey Producers' Ass'n, Loveland Cl. Br., R. C. Aikin, Mgr.
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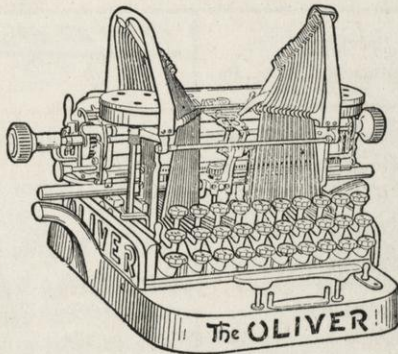
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O. P. HYDE & SON.
Floresville, Texas, January 1, 1902.

—The—

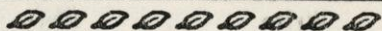
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The best comb honey hive on the market may be obtained of the A. I. Root Co., of Medina, Ohio; at any of their branch houses, and many of their local and jobbing agencies. Send to the address nearest you, and save freight and get quick delivery.



Would you increase your profits? Then try the Danz. hive
It is used from Maine to California. Read the following:

Mechanic Falls, Me., Feb. 28, 1902.

The A. I. Root Co., Medina, Ohio.

Gentlemen:—I am very, very pleased that you are willing I should recommend the Danz. hive. I have had a great many inquiries regarding it, and have not felt at liberty to recommend it over our regular hives. At first I was prejudiced against it, but the sales have increased without recommendations, and wherever I have sold they have bought again and praised the hive with extravagant claims, and I am forced to the conclusion that it is the best comb honey hive on the market. J. B. MASON,
Manager Northeastern Branch The A. I. Root Co.

The above unsolicited testimonial speaks for itself.

M. H. Mendleson, of California, has just ordered 700 Danzenbaker supers. Sales are doubling every year. Still the demand for honey in Danz. sections is greater than the supply. If you are wise you will raise comb honey in Danz. hives.

The A. I. Root Co., Medina, O.

The

Rocky Mountain Bee Journal.

VOL. 2.

OCTOBER 15, 1902.

WHOLE No. 21.

SMELTER SMOKE.

More Instances of Bee Poisoning Therefrom.

Editor of the Rocky Mountain Bee Journal:—During the short stay that I made in your very interesting state, I met two bee-keepers who told me they had suffered great losses at different times, caused by poisonous smoke from smelter works around Denver. They stated that often in the spring the bees dwindled in numbers until they actually died out for want of workers to go to the field, and that no other cause could be ascribed but the poison emanating from those works. I acknowledge that I though them mistaken as I could not understand why the bees could not keep away from the unhealthy smoke if the smoke was really unhealthy. But I have just read, in the *Revue Internationale d'Apiculture*, an article which tends to show that their surmises are correct. Allow me to translate this for you. It may lead to further investigations in that direction.

A Poison Factory.

M. Benende of Brig, Silesia, narrates the following in the *Leipsiger Bienenzeitung*: "For a long time past the inhabitants of the districts of Glatz, Reichenstein, Frankenstein and

Patehkau complain that every spring their apiaries are decimated by a mortality of bees, to such an extent that in some villages not a single hive of bees remains. Not only do the bees perish, but the fruit trees also cease to bear fruit. The small farmers of this country, which is rather poor, lived for a portion of the year from the products of their hives and of their orchards and find themselves in a rather sad situation.

"All this damage seems to originate from the smelter works of Maifritzdorf, situated in the middle of this unhappy section. It is there that the arsenic is extracted from the product of the mines of Reichenstein. The ore is ground and worked for the extraction of this poison. The vapors are condensed in rooms prepared for the purpose and deposit the arsenic, and after they are sufficiently cooled they are allowed to escape through a high smoke stack. But they are far from having deposited all the arsenic which they contain; in the open air the remainder of this poison settles on the plants and in the water. One stream has even for this reason been called the "poisoned brook." The bees when visiting the flowers absorb of this poison a sufficient quantity to kill them. They have analyzed dead

bees, honey and pollen, in all of which they have found traces of arsenic.

"This poisoning has already been noticed in 1895; since that time, they have tried to remedy the evil but without success, by increasing the height of the smoke stacks of the smelters. It would probably be more practical to increase the number of watering places.

"One thing is to be noticed, the consumption of either water, grass or cereals does not injure the health of the inhabitants of that country; on the contrary the absorption of a certain quantity of poison seems to cause a certain obesity in man and beasts."

C. P. DADANT.

Hamilton, Ills.

[Instances of bee poisoning by the noxious vapors arising from smelter furnaces are quite common in the west, particularly in the vicinity of Salt Lake City. E. S. Lovesy informs us that bees in that locality are almost sure to perish if located within five to seven miles of the smelter works. The matter does not seem to be very well understood, but from the data at hand we would deduce that much depends upon the chemicals used and the character of the ores being treated. The smoke from the Salt Lake smelters seems to be fatal at a longer range than the smoke emitted by the Denver smelters. Indeed this is the first complaint we have ever heard regarding the latter, and we would be glad if some of our readers who have suffered such losses would write the matter up for publication.—Ed.]



International Exposition Of Apiculture.

The International Exposition of Apiculture at Vienna, 1902, over

which her imperial and royal highness, the most illustrious Archduchess Maria Josefa, of Austria, has most graciously extended her protectorate, is meeting with a continually increasing interest at home and abroad.

Several prominent German and Austrian apicultural associations have already nominated their delegates for the board judging prize competitions, the international composition of which will guarantee the most complete impartiality in every particular.

Besides the Austro-Hungarian railroads, the royal government railroads of Bavaria, Saxony and Wurtemberg have granted free transportation home again for such exhibited articles as remain unsold; and as regards other foreign roads, the exposition committee has caused the necessary measures to be taken to procure similar concessions by diplomatic means.

Exhibition announcement blanks and rules for governing displays are now ready for distribution and will be sent on request by the association treasury, Wien I, Schauflegasse 6 [Vienna, Austria.]

Once more an invitation is extended to all individuals, corporations and firms, who have the opportunity of sending anything to this International Exposition of Apiculture, to take part in its competitions.

For the Association's Executive Board,

DR. E. VON RADDA.



N. E. France Nominated for General Manager.

As there is now practically no nomination of any one to succeed Hon. Eugene Secor as general manager of the National Bee-Keepers' Association, to be elected next December, I consulted with some of our leading bee-keepers at the Denver convention and since,

and, it is thought best to nominate Mr. N. E. France, of Platteville, Wis., for the position, which I now do.

Not having an intimate personal acquaintance with him I have taken pains to make inquiries regarding his fitness for the position and find that he is a thorough honest and capable business man; in the prime of life; temperate in all his habits; has tact; is accustomed to speaking in public; has labored unceasingly and unselfishly for the upbuilding of bee-keeping, having spent considerable of his own money and time in securing legislation in the interest of bee-keepers, and preventing the passage of laws that were opposed to their interests. He is one of the speakers at Farmers' Institutes, often neglecting his own business to work in the interest of bee-keepers. He manages several apiaries and has produced hundreds of tons of honey. For several years he was secretary of the Southwestern Wisconsin Bee-Keepers' Association, and for ten years was its president. For several years he was secretary of the Wisconsin State Bee-Keepers' Association, and for four years has been its president. He secured the passage of the Wisconsin foul brood law, and is state inspector of foul brood.

I know of no one in our ranks better fitted to fill the office of general manager of the National Bee-Keepers' Association than is Mr. France, and I hope he will receive the hearty support of the members at the election in December next.

A. B. MASON.

Sta. B., Toledo, O., Oct. 6, 1902.



PERTINENT CRITICISM

On the Prevailing Method of Choosing Association Officers.

"Mr. President, I nominate So-and-

So for president," (or secretary, or treasurer, as the case may be). No other nominations. "Mr. President, I move the secretary be instructed to cast the ballot of the association for So-and-So as president." Seconded and carried. So-and-So is then supposed to be the choice of the association.

Perhaps he is; and perhaps he isn't. By this method the person nominated is suddenly made prominent before the members. He may not be especially qualified for the office; he may have been nominated only as a compliment; he may be elected only because no one cares to take away his chances after he is once named. Under such circumstances it is only the inertia of the association which elects him; it would be absurd to call him the choice of the members. Of course, it can be said that if any member of the association thinks another man would be better, he is at liberty to get up and nominate him. That is all very well, but we have to take human nature as we find it. The fact is, a convention of bee-keepers, few of whom are parliamentarians, is very easily led around by the nose by anyone who chooses to do so. A better system of election, suited to the slowness and backwardness of us as a class, is needed.

But, it may be said, why not nominate a man as a compliment, and elect him for the same reason? Is it not a graceful and appropriate thing to do, in recognition of worthy services? In an ornamental association this would be well enough. But we are no longer playing in bee-keeping. Our associations, both state and national, have more serious and weighty functions than formerly, of considerable practical importance to the members; and even the bee-talk of the conventions, since it is listened to by many who have been at considerable expense and exertion to attend, requires the servic-

es not merely of any one who will do for president or secretary, but of those possessing tact, presence of mind, and energy. In short, we want and should have men for our officers who are the best adapted of our number to those particular positions, not those who have rendered apiculture the greatest service. Therefore it is highly important that the members should make their choice from the whole field of available talent. There is only one way to do this, namely, by taking an informal ballot before the decisive one, and doing away with verbal nominations altogether. The informal ballot is the best kind of nomination, because it a nomination by everybody who has ideas of what he wants. Verbal nominations are made only by a few, who may not come near covering the field. After an informal ballot, every one knows clearly what to choose between; after a verbal nomination, he is often not conscious of much more than the temporary and adventitious prominence of those actually named. One may very readily, for the time being, even forget the existence of as efficient workers (or even more efficient ones) as those who happen to be named. If each member had the complete list of members before him while casting his ballot, this would be obviated, but then the votes might be too scattering to secure the number of votes for one necessary to a choice. The informal while voting for, and every one of them.

Besides the detriment of having complimentary officers, there is the further entirely artificial burden often on us of either electing a man because he has already the same office, or not electing him again because he has already had two terms, or some such reason. This personal flummery should have no right whatever. It is not the person who does things, that concerns

the interests of the association. Here is where the method of the informal ballot has an immense advantage over the verbal nomination. It silently effects any necessary changes without the chance of mixing in motives or hurting feelings.

Considering the importance of our interests, and the need of effective government, it is much to be regretted that the loose and inferior methods of choosing officers have become so customary.

F. L. THOMPSON.

Denver, Colo.



Proceedings of the Colorado State Beekeepers' Association.

Continued from Last Month.

Mr. F. L. Thompson, of Denver, read a paper on the subject of

THE BEE IN LITERATURE.

Enduring literature has been defined as the representative of life, touched with a certain largeness, sanity, and attraction of form. In this high and limited sense, literature shows us life not in the manner of a photograph, with a crude and unmeaning exposure of details, but, like the masterpieces of great artists, inevitably connects itself with the elemental currents of our being—with life as a whole. The suggested meanings overwhelm the apparent ones.

This conception of my subject relieves me from cataloguing the more or less trivial references to bees in ephemeral or merely historical literature; and relieves me from quoting more than a very few examples, providing they are typical.

But first, what is largeness and sanity in the treatment of life? Most people regard life as a struggle for success. Then what is rational success, in the broadest sense? One of our

bee papers recently sanctioned this answer: "Success is making a living at a congenial occupation." Most people will say that is correct. Let us see what it means. To be satisfied with making a living at a congenial occupation means to assume that all standards of living, moral or otherwise, are settled and done for; that to make a living agreeably, under the already accepted standards of moral and social life, is all that is necessary. It means, in effect, that altruism and aspiration need not extend beyond Number One's family, for whoever is not happy has only himself to blame. It is an exceedingly comfortable conception of life. Some few, however, are unreasonable enough to imagine that there is enough undeserved and useless misery in the world yet to justify the betterment of accepted standards of living. They fancy they cannot produce aspiring posterity without aspiring themselves. In fact they even assert that aspiration is necessary to happiness—that happiness, and a fixed state, are contradictory terms. They affirm they cannot live happily, much less die content, without building up a firmer and firmer assurance that they have done something of value towards that alteration, or betterment, as they call it, of the soul-life of humanity, that would not have been done at that particular time if it had not been for the cultivation and application of their peculiar and individual talents, for which they consider themselves responsible. I need not point out to you how egotistic all this is. I think you will agree with me that such a theory of life is extremely odd, to say the least. Such people ought to have enough sense to realize that the majority is always right, and that they are only making themselves uncomfortable.

It happens, however, that these odd

fishes are the only class who determine the standard of literature, as they are the only ones who take it seriously; and so we must go by their standard to come to any conclusions at all on the subject; for to those whose ideal of life is a congenial and paying occupation, literature is a mere pastime. But those other few (who are impudent enough to call this ideal small and sickly, instead of large and sane), fantastically suppose that in order to be successful, they must be able to judge and help others, alleging that the happiness of us all is up together. They say that to do so they must take every actual circumstance in consideration, instead of following the easy and comfortable method of setting up an inflexible standard and judging circumstances by it. In order to take every circumstance into consideration, they affirm they must be able to put themselves in the place, and sympathize with the motives, of any and every class of people in the whole world. To do this, they think they have to summon every aid of experience, history, knowledge, culture, education, and what not, including literature, because, as they say, the plan of judging others and helping others by our own experience and prejudices alone was tried and found wanting in feudal times, and they want no more of it as an exclusive reliance. Well, there is no accounting for tastes; but you see, we shall have to judge literature by their standard, or not at all, as literature would hardly exist at all outside of them. So I shall continue with their language and ideas, instead of with—shall I say, ours.

The important question then is what is the function of the bee in that presentation of life which is distinguished by what these people call the large sanity of its outlook, and hence

The **ROCKY MOUNTAIN** **BEE JOURNAL.**

H. C. MOREHOUSE, Editor and Pub'r.

TERMS—50 cents per annum in advance.
Advertising rates made known on application.

Entered at the Post Office at Boulder, Colorado, as second class matter, April 3, 1901.

Make all remittances payable to and address all letters to The Rocky Mountain Bee Journal, Box 611, Boulder, Colo.

Office of Publication with the Colorado Representative, 1021 Pearl Street.

NOTE. Unless otherwise ordered, the JOURNAL will be sent to subscribers until all arrearages are paid and it is ordered stopped.

The discovery (?) of Dr. Gandy seems to have created an unlimited market for catnip seed.



With the usual reliability of such returns, the assessor reports 2,200 colonies of bees in Boulder county.



Exchanging colonies—the one being robbed for the robbers—is said to be an instantaneous cure for the worst case of robbing. Try it.



The editor of the Review asks his brother editors to inaugurate a campaign of organization, to which we respond in a hearty amen. "Lay on," Brother Hutchinson, that is our special hobby.



That catnip produces lots of honey we do not doubt. That it would pay to raise it for honey alone on land valuable for other crops we do doubt most seriously. But every bee keeper should procure some of the seed and sow it in waste places. It is a perennial and when once established is permanent. It has also the quality of not being affected by drought, which recommends it for this country.

A NATIONAL HONEY EXCHANGE.

The time seems ripe for the organization of a National Co-Operative Honey Exchange. This was the keynote of the annual address of the president of the National Association, and that his words did not fall upon unresponsive ears is evidenced by the fact that before it adjourned the association appointed a committee and charged it with the task of formulating a plan for the organization of such an institution. This committee consists of F. E. Brown, of Hanford, Cal., Herman Rauchfuss, of Denver, Colo.; W. Z. Hutchinson, of Flint, Mich.; Dr. A. B. Mason, of Toledo, Ohio, and Orel L. Hershiser, of Buffalo, N. Y. The personnel of this committee is most excellent and there is little room for doubt that a plan will be brought forward that will meet with the hearty approval of the Association.

Relative to this matter President Hutchinson said:

"Most emphatically is this an age of organization. An industry without organization is practically helpless—at the mercy of all other organizations. Organization saved the citrus fruit industry of California. But we need not go that far for an illustration. Right here, in this good State of Colorado, with its fields watered from the eternal hills, and robbed in the royal purple of alfalfa, bee-keeping would have languished, and been robbed of its commercial charm, had not organization come to the rescue.

"Organization has already done much for bee-keeping. It has fostered a fraternal spirit, helped to scatter apicultural wisdom from ocean to ocean, protected its members from unjust persecution, and secured favorable legislation. But the dear old Association, of which we are all so proud, is even now but the nucleus of

elms

And murmur of innumerable bees.

Matthew Arnold says one of the less what it is destined eventually to become.

"Perhaps the next great work of this organization will be the timely gathering of statistics regarding the prospective harvest, and the reporting of the supply and demand in different localities, thus preventing glutted markets and unprofitable sales. From this the good work will go on until, if the Association does not actually control the bulk of the sales, it will be a potent factor in the regulation of prices.

President Hutchinson says further in his Bee-Keepers' Review for October:

"Just at present the business end of bee keeping, the marketing of the product, is the factor most in need of attention. To be sure, our present methods of marketing are some improvement over those of the past, but not vastly such. We are still competing one with another in the sale of our product. The poor man with a small crop must sell, and the buyer takes advantage of his necessities. The poor man suffers; but this is not all. The man with the large crop, yes, and the man with the average crop, in fact, every other bee keeper suffers, because the price is thereby set at which future sales must be made. This is the complaint continually heard: "The small producer sells for what he can get, for whatever is offered him, and breaks down the market." A bounteous crop in California means unprofitably low prices to the producers and ruinous competition to Eastern bee keepers. Organization and co-operation could prevent these things."

The fact that this is a gigantic undertaking does not by any means

brand it as an impossibility. Commercial honey production is concentrating into the hands of specialists. This tendency toward specialism is on the increase and only a few more years will elapse before practically all the honey produced for market will be by those who make a specialty of its production. Low prices and the growing prevalence of disease are leading factors in bringing this about. Fewer bee-keepers will keep the bees of the future and there will be more bees kept. With the industry in the hands of specialists, organization will become a simpler matter. It will not be like attempting to organize the rabble.

But now is the time to begin. Conditions are ripe, and success will naturally follow. Why longer delay that which sooner or later will be forced upon us as the only means of self-preservation?

The success of co-operation in Colorado is frequently alluded to as an example. The trial in this state has been sufficient to demonstrate its merits, but it is in operation only to a very limited extent, comparatively speaking. There is a vast field, right here within our own borders, for its extension. So, Colorado bee-keepers, it is no time now to rest upon your oars. Our State Association bears the palm of being the biggest and best of its class, but did you ever consider how much bigger and better it might be if you all belonged to it? The Honey Producers Association has done much for the industry in the state at large, but it does more, and should, for those who belong to it than those who do not.

Without anticipating the recommendations of the committee, we believe it well to suggest that National co-operation will have to rest to a large extent upon state and local or-

locally. Beekeepers, boom your local and state organizations and thus be prepared for the National Organization, when it is perfected and ready for business.



In our judgment (and this view is concurred in by a score or more of extensive bee-keepers to whom it has been mentioned) it has come to pass in these latter days that the bee-keeper who understands his business can get along very well without the inspector. The bee-keeper who allows his bees to shift for themselves, of course, needs the bee inspector to take care of them for him. When the bee inspector visits him in the spring, he is asked to put on the supers and "fix 'em up" generally for the honey flow, and being an obliging and accommodating fellow, he complies, "why certainly." When he makes the usual fall round, he has to take off the honey in order to examine the brood nest, and is requested to leave it off and "fix 'em" for winter. For this class the bee inspector is a necessity, but the bee-keeper who has to pay for taking care of his competitor's bees feels as though it is hardly a fair deal. With bee knowledge so readily obtainable as it is now there is no excuse for a bee-keeper remaining in ignorance of how to care for his bees and keep them free of disease. Those who are to indolent to learn ought not to have their bees cared for at the public expense. With our improved methods of management foul brood is no particular detriment, and the time is coming (if not already here in some localities) when the office will, by common consent of bee-keepers, be left vacant.



Skill, after all, is what counts in honey production. The haphazard bee-keeper never makes a commercial

success of his pursuit. The bee-keeper who uses his brains more than his hands will overcome the obstacles of disease, poor seasons, overstocking, etc., and make a financial success of his undertaking.



FALL INSPECTION OF APIARIES.

The growing practice of inspecting apiaries in Colorado in the fall, after the close of the honey flow, is, we believe, more productive of harm than good. It is argued in support of this practice that colonies that show clean brood surfaces in spring will often show foul in September or October, and are so badly infected that they will die and become the prey of robbers before the next honey flow. This contention is true, but it is also true that the same colonies, if examined in August, during the last honey flow, will show the disease, if they will at all that season.

The average bee inspector is not careful enough in his work and methods to deal with foul brood, except by burning hive, bees, combs and honey, during a period when robbers are on the rampage. Inspecting an apiary at such times is apt to result in pandemonium, and if foul brood is discovered and uncovered it will be quickly communicated to the clean colonies.

Our foul brood law is defective in the particular that the bee inspector is responsible to no authority but the county judge, who, as a rule, has no knowledge of bees, and does not presume to advise.



Parties wanting catnip or sweet clover seed should consult our advertising columns.



One pound of granulated sugar syrup equals three pounds of honey as

food for bees. This is according to a series of experiments conducted a few years ago by R. L. Taylor, of Lapeer, Mich. If this is correct fifteen pounds of syrup of the consistency of ripe honey ought to be ample stores to winter a colony in Colorado.



The beekeepers of Hamilton county, Ohio, have organized to protect themselves against the foul blood scourge that has recently appeared in their midst.



The bee-keepers of Hamilton county, Ohio, have organized to protect themselves against the foul blood scourge, that has recently appeared in their midst.



A few dollars invested in catnip seed for the waste places is a good investment. Better try it, and thus help to improve the honey resources of your locality.



The entire Colorado honey product for 1902 will be consumed at home, and in addition many thousand pounds are being shipped from Utah, and perhaps other states.



While scattering catnip seed do not forget to sow a little sweet clover, too. Both are more valuable to the beekeeper than the loathsome weeds that occupy the waste corners on our irrigation farms.



E. R. Root and W. Z. Hutchinson both visited Dr. Gandy on their return from the Denver convention—and found nothing very wonderful, either. Verily, "much ado has been made about nothing."



Several carloads of bees have been

shipped into Boulder county during the past year from the vicinity of Denver and other congested districts of the state. The available locations are now all taken, and any further shipments would probably prove unprofitable to their owners.



Sowing for honey will pay just to the extent that honey bearing plants can be made to take the place of worthless weeds and fill up the waste places. But don't go any further, unless you have time, money and land to invest in questionable experiments.



Reports say there is already five feet of wet snow at timber line and above on the continental divide in central and northern Colorado. This with the amount that will surely fall between now and next May is pretty good assurance of an average honey crop next year.



Please confer a favor by telling just the proportions of water and carbolic acid you use to make your dilute solution, and how long it is best to leave the saturated cloth at the entrance of the hive? What effect does it have on the resident bees? In going out and in can they and will they cross over the cloth without injury?

R. M. SWAIN.

Yuma, Ariz.

The solution should be strong enough to make the odor very rank—probably three per cent acid. It is not necessary to be exact, only it should not be strong enough to injure the bees, should any come in contact with it. The cloth should be left at the entrance until the robber bees cease hovering about on the wing, which they usually do in two or three hours. The resident bees outside of the hive will pass over the cloth to

go in, but there they stay until it is removed.



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by its value to humanity? There is a peculiar value and interest in so putting the case at the present time. Bees present themselves to the minds of the general public as a portion of external nature; and never before, in the history of the world, has external nature been given so great credit as now in the shaping of the soul. In fact some would even have us believe that man is a part of nature—that the soul, in this life, is pretty well mixed up with the body—that physiology is a factor of morality—and so on; which, you will agree, is scandalous. It is certainly a vexatious entanglement of easy things, I wonder? But there is a growing disposition to think that the nature of man is such, that he can take lessons from the animals; and at any rate, so far as external nature is concerned, it is now too late to deny that environments and influences of all kinds are generally regarded, by the mentally discriminating class, as a part of us, not to be trampled upon loathed as was the natural man by the Apostle Paul, but to be lovingly considered as were the lilies of the field by a greater than he.

In going over those passages in literature proper which refer to bees, I am struck with the fact that they present bees to the world at large in two aspects, and practically only two. We will, therefore, regard those two points of view as the contribution and worth of bees in the formation of our character and happiness. I suppose you are all acquainted with the little poem entitled "A Wish," by Samuel Rogers, that used to appear in the old school readers:

Mine be a cot beside a hill;
A bee-hive's hum shall soothe my ear;
A willow brook that turns a mill
With many a fall shall linger near.
The swallow oft beneath my thatch
Shall twitter from her clay-built nest,
and so on. Among these images of perfect peace and seclusion from all artificial cares, you recognize at once, and would do so if you were not bee-keepers, that the "bee-hive's hum" is as strong as any of the others. And so it is in both ancient and modern literature; all references, slight and passing as they may be, to the sound of bees in their work, shareequally with the recall of the sound of murmuring waters, or the sight of cloud or forest or mountain, the function of bearing in upon the minds of readers or hearers the unconscious recognition of the fact that Nature is perfect music, that Nature alone is large and sane enough, if we can once get back to the child-like condition of the recognition of all things, to comfort and heal the wounded spirit and the weary brain, wounded and wearied by too exclusive devotion to a part instead of the whole; and, by contrast, these voices of Nature suggest that even the chords of personality, which we humans pride ourselves upon as the source of our keenest happiness, are also the source of our greatest and most unnecessary suffering, when overstrained so as to be out of accord with the harmony of Nature. Theocritus, two hundred years years before Christ, refers to the soothing murmur of the bee-hives in the same spirit, in a linewhose melody and magic in the original tongue rival the influence of the bees themselves; and the same may be said of Virgil. Luckily we can parallel them with a perfect example of the same in English, for Tennyson closes his most perfect idyll with the words:

The moan of doves in immemorial

elms

And murmur of innumerable bees.

Matthew Arnold says one of the lessons of Nature is toil unsevered from tranquility; and this is the other point of view which characterizes the references to bees in literature. The bee flitting from flower to flower is a common image, and is at once recognized by all readers as equally effective with allusions to the natural occupations of other animals, and to the growth of plants, in bringing home to their minds the fact that man, too, with all his interests, is a part of Nature, and can derive refreshment and strength in allowing his mind to dwell upon the calm and sure devotion with which his fellow-creatures go forth to meet their laborers. It happens, by the way, that two of the passages thus referring to bees occur in poems which for other reasons are well known to students of literature, and so bees may be said to have especial attention directed to them in literature. One of these is in Wordsworth's "Sonnet on the Sonnet," as follows:

Bees that soar for bloom

High as the highest peaks of Furness
fells

Will murmur by the hour in foxglove
bells;

In truth the prison, unto which we
doom

Ourselves, no prison is.

And Shelly, speaking of the poet, says

He will watch from dawn to gloom

The lake-reflected sun illumine

The yellow bees in the ivy bloom,

Nor heed nor see what things they
be—

But from these create he can

Forms more real than living man,

Nurslings of immortality.

I need not make further quotations to establish my thesis that "the bee in

literature" is a worthy art of "Nature in literature." It may seem absurd to a practical person to take such slight allusions and hints so seriously. But a little reflection will show that to recognize the importance of such things is to recognize our own nature as it actually exists, and is therefore the most practical view-point possible. Perhaps we ought to govern our lives by demonstrations and proofs alone, but we don't. Aside from what we regard as the sheet anchor truths, we are creatures of moods, impressions, and impulses. The office of literature is not to teach us anything we do not know already, but to keep steadily before our minds those moods and impressions which common experience has proved the truest. Therefore the impression, not the demonstration, which I would leave with you, is this; that those who can make a living at a congenial occupation, and then feel successful, don't need to concern themselves either with literature, or with bees in literature; but when the ideal of duty of the conscientious man calls him to look beyond his own comfort, beyond his home and family, and take up his share of the burden of the world's needs, a burden which will inevitably furrow his brows and sadden his heart, let him remember that there is always a sure solace in the thought that Nature, whatsoever it is, whether as bird or beast, flower or tree, river or mountain, is being fulfilled, and that the fulfillment of humanity and of his own nature goes with it, and that it is by setting up standards that would place us outside of Nature that all the undeserved misery which exists is created; and we as bee-lovers can please ourselves with the reflection that our bees worthily help to teach this lesson, and that the teachers of true living have recognized this fact.

As a partial summing-up of the message of the bees, and another example of the bee in literature that is not so generally known, I close by quoting a passage from Wordsworth's Vernal Ode:

To lie and listen, till o'er-drowned
sense

Sinks hardly conscious of the influence
To the soft murmur of the vagrant bee,
A slender sound; yet hoary Time
Doth to the soul exalt it with the clime
Of all his years—a company
Of ages coming, ages gone

(Nations from before them sweeping,
Regions in destruction steeping),
But every awful note in unison
With that faint utterance, which tells
Of treasures sucked from buds and
bells

For the pure keeping of those waxen
cells,

Where she, a statist prudent to confer
Upon the common weal; a warrior bold
Radaint all over with unburnished
gold,

And armed with living spear for mortal
fight;

A cunning forager

That spreads no waste; a social build-
er; one

In whom all busy offices unite
With all fine functions that afford de-
light—

Safe through the winter storm in quiet
dwel's,

And is she brought within the power
Of vision? o'er this tempting flower
Hovering until the petals stay
Her flight, and take its voice away—

Observe each wing, a tiny van;
The structure of her laden thigh,
How fragile! yet of ancestry
Mysteriously remote and high;
High as the imperial front of man;
The roseate bloom on woman's cheek;
The soaring eagle's curved beak;
The white plumes of the floating swan.

Mr. H. Rauchfuss—Up to this time,

though rearing queens every year, I have always found more money in producing honey than in rearing queens.

On motion of Mr. Rauchfuss, a committee of three was appointed to tell what a tested queen is, consisting of H. Rauchfuss, Frank Benton and E. R. Root.

A motion by Mr. Harris was passed that a committee of three be appointed by the Association on arbitration of overcrowding territory and that the disputants pay the expenses of the committee. This committee, as appointed later, consists of J. Cornelius, W. L. Porter and D. W. Working.

Question—Is not the bulletin issued by the State Agricultural college on cutting alfalfa before bloom misleading and detrimental to farmers as well as bee-keepers?

A Member—If the statements are true, we had better let the truth stand.

Mr. Carnahan—I think the time is coming when each bee-keeper will raise his own forage for his own bees. We cannot blame the farmers for cutting their hay. But I think a bee-keeper who does not keep ten or fifteen acres of alfalfa to go to seed, and sell the seed to his neighbors is behind the times.

Dr. Miller—The main question is, what is the truth about alfalfa cutting? If it is true that it is for the interest of farmers to cut early, we have nothing to say. But I think the total testimony will not stand with that. What is the truth?

Mr. Booth—I make a living by raising alfalfa while my wife tends the bees, so our interest are not the same. Alfalfa cut early is best for the production of milk, but it is most nutritious in full bloom. But before bloom it makes more milk, but not so much butter. I commence cutting just before bloom, so as to finish while in

bloom.

Mr. Abbott—The universal testimony of experiment stations is it should begin to be cut just before bloom.

Mrs. Booth—With 100 acres of alfalfa to cut my bees have a chance.

Mr. Aikin—Which crop is cut is also to be considered. The first crop gets woody about the time of blooming, more so than the second. Owners of horses prefer the first crop. I have one cow and one horse, and feed second crop hay to both. My cow eats more pounds of second crop hay than of the first. If I gave her third crop hay, she would give an extra quantity of milk. Buyers will give more money for the third cutting than for the second or first.

Mr. Nichols—It makes a difference whether milk or beef is produced. For beef it should not be cut till in full bloom. A cattleman in Montrose county tested the matter by weighing the hay, although his steers would leave a little of the woody part it was no loss, as that was fed to the range cattle. And in butter production, you don't get the cream from the second or third cutting that you do from the first.

Mr. Gill—It is the truth we are after. They raise better hay on the western slope than here. But old bossy, and the butter-bowl and the beef-pen, don't exactly jibe. The most butter is from the first crop, and the first crop is not so washy for the horses. I don't care how quickly a man cuts after it is in full bloom, there is something for the bees.

The convention then adjourned.



Messrs. Cheek and Wallinger, of Las Animas, Colo., successors to Oliver Foster, desire us to announce that they have sold 10,000 pounds of extracted honey to the Frisbee Honey

Co., of Denver.



The report of the Colorado end of the Denver joint convention is concluded in this issue. Some who promised written copies of their speeches have not responded, hence the report is lacking in completeness, but it is the best we can do. Next month we will begin the publication of an abstract of the proceedings of the National. These are quite voluminous and will necessarily have to be abbreviated, but we will take care to present every feature of any special value to bee keepers.

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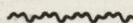
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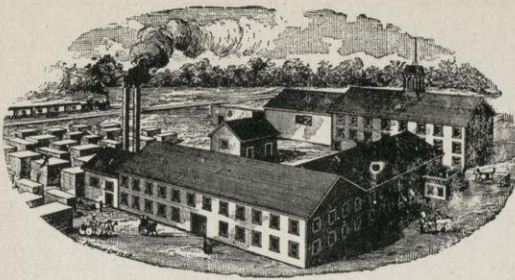


TS a book of nearly 100 pages [the size of the Review] that I wrote and published in 1891; and I will tell you how I gathered the information that it contains. For 15 years I was a practical beekeeper, producing tons of both comb and extracted honey; rearing and selling thousands of queens, reading all of the bee books and journals, attending conventions and fairs, visiting beekeepers, etc. etc. Then I began publishing the Review, and, for several years, each issue was devoted to the discussion of some special topic: the best beekeepers of the country gave their views and experience. **Advanced Bee Culture** is really the summing up of those first few years of special topic numbers of the Review; that is, from the most careful examination of the views of the most progressive men, and a thorough consideration of the same in the light of my experience as a beekeeper, I have described in plain and simple language what I believe to be the most advanced methods for managing an apiary, for PROFIT, from the beginning of the season through the entire year.

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