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The Australian bee bulletin. Vol. I, no. XI February 25, 1893

West Maitland, N.S.W.: E. Tipper, February 25, 1893

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THE AUSTRALIAN BEE BULLETIN.

A MONTHLY JOURNAL, DEVOTED TO BEE-KEEPING.

VOL. I. No. XI.

FEBRUARY 25, 1893.

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MONTHLY MEETINGS.

—AT—

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The Australian Bee Bulletin

WEST MAITLAND.—FEBRY. 25, 1893.

THE COMING CONVENTION OF 1893.

It will be recollected by those who had the good fortune to attend the late Convention of Bee-keepers at Maitland, that a committee was appointed to inaugurate a Convention during the year 1893. At that Convention the month of June was mentioned and the place, the neighbourhood of Sydney. Vide A.B.B. for June last.

Accordingly this standing Convention Committee was duly convened on Jan. 17th, 1893. After considerable discussion the following resolution—among others—was passed, viz:

“That a Convention of Bee-keepers be held at Sydney between the 26th June and the 8th July, 1893, and that kindred associations and other bee-keepers be invited to co-operate in bringing the same to a successful issue.”

The advantages accruing to the bee-keeping industry from these conventions are too obvious to need mentioning. And it is hoped that each individual bee-man will for once be a bee-man, and, like his little busy servants, will continue his quota for the general good. This is the chance for forming the much-talked-of Union. The '93 Convention should put that of '92 far in the shade. All information supplied, and suggestions thankfully received by the Secretary to Convention Committee, C. Mansfield, Hunter River Apiary, Largs, Maitland, or by the Editor of the *A. B. Bulletin*. We understand Circulars will shortly be issued to all known bee-keepers in the colony, and arrangements will probably be made with the Railway Department for reduced fares. So, all things considered, the meeting should be a boomer.

THE CONVENTION.

A meeting of the Convention Committee was held on Tuesday evening Feb. 21. Mr. J. W. Pender in the chair. The secretary, Mr. Mansfield, read several communications, one from Mr. H. C. L. Anderson, Director of the Department of Agriculture, and another from Mr. Gale, Government Lecturer on Apiculture, promising warm support. The Convention was fixed to take place in Sydney on June 28, 29 and 30, and the following subjects were chosen for discussion:—Organisation, Conservation of Forests, Foul Brood and Diseases, Points and Judging, Adulteration of Honey, and Question Box. A number of gentlemen were mentioned as likely to be best qualified to lead off the various subjects, and the secretary was instructed to write them accordingly.

If you want to sell your honey, get honey pamphlets from E. Tipper, West Maitland, N. S. Wales.

MAILING QUEENS.

Drumfin Apiary,
Feb. 17th, 1893.

(The Editor *A. Bee Bulletin*.)

The following re-mailing queens will interest your readers:—

“General Post Office,
Sydney, Feb. 7th, 1893.

“SIR,—Averting to previous correspondence, I have the honor to inform you that advice has been received from the Washington Post Office, that United States postmasters have been instructed that live bees may be admitted to the mails for and from New South Wales at the postage rate applicable to samples, provided they are put up in packages under conditions prescribed, viz.—in wooden boxes not exceeding five, by two, by one and a half inches in size, closed with a wire screen protected by a

moveable wooden lid. The matter has been noted in this Department."

"I have the honor to be, sir, your most obedient servant,

"S. H. LAMBTON."

"W. S. PENDER, ESQ.,
(MESSRS. PENDER & SILK)
WEST MAITLAND."

Our Postal Department deserve the thanks of bee-keepers generally, for listening to the request and having matters so favourably arranged. They are apparently willing to grant us any reasonable request whereby we can improve our bees by importing from other lands. I am writing to Mr. Root (of *Gleanings*), asking if he cannot have the limited size of mailing cage altered. The sizes given by the Washington Post Office are too small. I would suggest that a cage limited to a capacity of about 40 cubic inches would be better, and it would give bee-keepers a chance to design a cage that would be perfection whether long, flat, square or cubical. Yours faithfully,
W. S. PENEER.

PATTEN *versus* N.S.W.B.K.A.

To the Editor.

Sir,—Mr. Patten in his endeavours to make the matter in dispute between him and the N.S.W.B.K.A. "intelligible to your numerous readers," places before them in your issue of the 24th December last, his version of what took place at the informal meeting, held in the room of Mr. W. G. Campbell, accountant, York street, Sydney.—After the beekeepers conference of 1890.

Allow me space to place before your readers my version of what occurred. In the first instance we did not meet as an Association, but in Mr. Patten's words as "prominent beekeepers" at the request of the Minister for Agriculture, with a view to making known to him in the forms of resolutions how the Government could best advance the interests of Apiculture.

I was elected chairman of the meeting and Mr. Campbell honorary secretary. Mr. Patten opened the ball by advocating the placing of the industry under the Stock Act, and wished to have a resolution passed to that effect. The sense of the meeting was decidedly against this. Two resolutions were then proposed and carried, one having reference to the necessity for a Foul Brood Act, the other urging the advisability of the introduction of a new Adulteration Act or the more stringent administration of the present one. I am not sure which.

As there was nothing more brought forward for the consideration of the meeting, it terminated, and one of the members, the Rev. John Ayling, left the room. Those who remained continued to occupy their places and bee matters were discussed in a friendly way, as bee-keepers generally do when they meet. The subject that was freely discussed, I remember, was bee paralysis.

Just as we were about to break up some one introduced the subject of the N.S.W.B.K.A. and the desirability of resuming our meetings. Mr. Campbell immediately tendered his services as Secretary for a consideration. The fact of his doing so at that particular time clearly shows he did not consider that when he was appointed Hon. Sec. to the informal meeting he was appointed Hon. Sec. to the N.S.W.B.K.A. There was no response to his offer. Speaking for myself, I may say that I did not consider we would be justified in accepting it, and that it would be a gross piece of impertinence on our part to take so much upon ourselves, particularly as there were so few of us present and as we had not met under the auspices of the Association. Besides Mr. Campbell, Messrs. Abram, Allport, Seabrook, Shallard and myself were I think the only members of the Association then present, but we asked Mr. Campbell to obtain from Mr. Dibbs, the honorary secretary to the Association, a list of its members, and as we were told, it was slightly indebted to

him, the amount of that indebtedness, and it was arranged between us that after obtaining this information Mr. Campbell was to communicate with me. This is what Mr. Patten styles the formal burial of the N.S.W.B.K.A. He must permit me to dissent from his statements in regard to what transpired. First, that either the prominent bee-keepers or the members of the Association formed themselves into a committee. Secondly, that Mr. Campbell was appointed hon. sec. to the N.S.W. Bee-Keepers' Association. Thirdly, that they were, with the single exception of Mr. Abram, of the "unanimous opinion that the old N.S.W. Bee Keepers' Association was dead." Not then or since have I ever considered it so, as my actions have proved throughout. Not then or since has Mr. Campbell been appointed to any position in the N.S.W. B.K.A., nor has he ever complied with the request made to him that evening, so far as communicating with me is concerned. The Association is therefore, in no sense of the word, responsible for Mr. Campbell's circulars, and it seems to me passing strange that a business man should have acted as he has done.

As to what took place at the meeting, Mr. Scobie, Hon. Sec. to the H.R.B.K.A., was present, and can verify what I have said; in fact I am rather surprised that he has not long ere this contradicted the many misrepresentations made to his association regarding this matter.

Under all the circumstances I fail to see how Mr. Shallard can be said to have "usurped Mr. Campbell's functions" in calling the N.S.W. Bee Keepers' Association together. As to his authority in doing so, will Mr. Patten shew me who has a better right, seeing that Mr. Shallard is the founder of that Association, nor can I see what connection Mr. Patten finds between any statement made by Mr. Shallard and the fact that he "runs the largest bee concern in Australia." Would it make any difference in Mr. Patten's arguments if the Blue Mountain Bee

Farms were conducted on the same lines as the "Binini Apiary," which, I am given to understand, is worked without a single colony of bees.

Some months before Mr. Patten gave notice of his motion that it was desirable on the part of the H.R.B.K.A. that it should assume the title of the N.S.W.B.K.A. Mr. Shallard was in communication with me regarding the advisability of renewing our meetings, but circumstances, over which we had no control, prevented either of us from taking an active part in it just then. For myself I may say I was seeking a location for my apiary, and being frequently from home, was unable to give the subject the attention it required. I moved to Appin in the early part of September, and was then free to act. A meeting took place on October 1st. I was certainly aware that it was about to take place, but owing to a mistake did not know the exact date until it was too late for me to attend it. Regarding the significance of my absence on the occasion of my being elected president, to which Mr. Patten attaches so much importance, I may state for his information that Mr. Angus Mackay, first president of the N.S.W.B.K.A., was not present when elected to office. Will Mr. Patten be good enough to inform me if Mr. Scobie, M.L.A., was present when he was elected president of the H. R. B.K.A.?

As to any member being "pointedly ignored," they certainly were not. Mr. Shallard, not then being in possession of the list of members, wisely decided to publish the notice of the meeting in the daily press, lest by omitting any he might give offence. Mr. Shallard explained his reason for adopting this course at the association meeting, and his action was approved of.

Mr. Patten asks "What good did the old Association do?" Can anyone point to one single act emanating from that body that was of national importance to beekeepers? If he will allow me I will

point to two acts of "national importance to beekeepers" and the public generally. It was the first to draw public attention to the subject of the adulteration of honey and at considerable expense and trouble (a great portion of which fell on Mr. Shallard) gathered all brands of honey then obtainable in the Sydney market, had them analyzed by the Govt. Analytical Chemist and the result of his analysis published in the New Zealand Bee Journal and some of the Sydney papers. The effect of this action is still observant in Sydney—leading firms declining to sell as honey the brands condemned by Mr. Hamlet. Again when the Government gave a large sum of money to the different Agricultural Societies throughout the colony, the N.S.W.B.K. Association claimed and obtained from the R. A. Society, a show for honey exhibits. The sum then granted for prizes was the largest ever given in N.S.W., and the Association supplemented it with a gold cup. The honey exhibit of 1888 made under the auspices of the Association was the finest ever made in the colony up to that date, and following so quickly as it did on Mr. Hamlet's published analysis attracted a great deal of attention and afforded the Sydney public a splendid opportunity of seeing what scientific bee-keeping really was, and the difference between the old and new way of taking honey. I simply quote these two acts as public ones and say nothing of the strenuous and successful efforts made to advance the interests of bee-keeping. I do not of course, expect Mr. Patten to know anything about this as he was not then nor indeed ever has been, a member of that Association, —in fact he was not even known as a bee-keeper at the time.

Mr Patten claims to have "conducted this affair with traditional good feeling and respect for others." I am sorry I cannot agree with him. Mr Munday was evidently opposed to any action being taken which was likely to create feelings of bitterness amongst the beekeepers of N.S.W. It is to be regretted that all concerned did not view the matter in the same light. I do not hesitate to say that Mr Patten's attitude towards the N.S.W.B.K.A., and particularly its secretary, Mr Shallard, has been throughout uncalled for and offensive in the highest degree, and calculated to create the very feelings deprecated by Mr Munday.—I am, &c.,

T. F. BRADLEY.

Sunnyside Apiary, Appin.

QUEEN REARING.

BY W. S. PENDER.

II.

(Continued from page 161.)

In my last I gave two trials at queen-rearing, and pointed out why one was successful and the other not so. By this time the reader will know what conditions are necessary in a hive to have it raise good queens. I am now about to describe how a few of the very best queens are to be obtained and that right early in the season. I do not wish it to be understood that only early in the season can this method be followed; it can be followed right through the season and the very best queens will be the result. By this method and others I am about to describe, I obtain better, larger and more prolific and hardy queens than by any of the haphazard methods of making a hive queenless, and allowing them to raise a queen anywhere on the combs and from any brood they choose to select. Choose the hive you find contains your best breeding queen. If it is very early in the season commence stimulating by feeding sugar syrup or thin honey to get them to brood rearing. Treat say two more strong colonies, by feeding in the same way, and as they get brood well sealed, take a frame at a time and give to your queen-rearing hive. The feeding may be discontinued as soon as a sufficient honeyflow starts. In a short time your breeding colony will become overcrowded and preparations will be made for swarming. Allow them to swarm and secure the queen-cells left in the old hive, and make use of them as may be found most suitable, or break the old hive up into nuclei, taking one frame of brood with one queen cell and one or two combs containing honey from other hives. If more queens are required the swarm may be hived on DRAWN COMBS, and after they have got brood in all stages proceed as before by giving sealed brood and get them into swarming con-

dition again. It is necessary that the swarm should be allowed to get into a quiet and normal condition and quite rid of the "swarming fever" before giving brood. If this is not attended to they are likely in their swarming excitement to start queen-cells on any unsealed brood in the combs given them and swarm again. There would be no advantage in this, as queens would most likely be raised on foreign brood if there were any unsealed brood in the combs, and the young queens would be no better and probably not as good as those raised by the haphazard method previously referred to.

III.

The above method may be adopted when only a few queens are required, and if the above directions are carefully attended to, the best of queens will be the result. When queens are to be raised for sale and the demand is large, it is necessary to adopt means that will produce the number required with less work. In last issue I pointed out the condition necessary under which good queens can be raised. Now that we know what is wanted we can proceed. Look up a good colony, one that has plenty of hatching brood, a colony that is likely to swarm would be just the thing. Give the bees a good smoking, drum on the hive, etc., so that they will fill themselves with honey. Have ready a box with a wire-cloth bottom and a moveable cover of same material and large enough to accommodate all the bees; an ordinary hive body is what I prefer. Proceed to the hive, remove and cage the queen, shake all the bees from the comb into the wire-cloth box; if you succeeded in having the bees well filled with honey you will have little trouble with bees flying; if they should attempt to crawl up sides of box a little smoke will put them down. Having the bees caged carry them into a cool dark room to remain. Place two combs, one having some brood, in the centre of the hive and

dispose of the other combs as may be most beneficial. The two combs left on the old stand will collect the returning bees from the field and hold them together. See that the queen has sufficient food, two or three workers with her would do no harm. Now get the comb of eggs from the hive containing your choice queen, one with the eggs of about an equal age and the larvæ just about to hatch preferred; this can be obtained by placing a comb in the centre of the brood nest about three days previous. A new comb, or one that has had brood in it once, is best for the purpose; put strips from this comb down every alternate row of cells, leaving one row of cells with eggs complete; lay these strips down flat and cut the cells on one side, down to one half their depth or rather less. Taking the strips in the one hand and a match, the head of which has been cut off; in the other, destroy the egg in every alternate cell of the shallow cells by twirling the match between the finger while one end rests on the bottom of the cell. Have ready a dish containing melted beeswax and resin, and an empty comb having openings cut in it. The prepared strips are now taken and the long cells dipped into the melted mixture, not too deep for fear of destroying the eggs, and immediately placed on the upper part of the openings, cut in the comb, so that the short cells will hang downwards. About ten prepared cells is enough to give any colony at once; if the colony be small six or less may be sufficient. Place the prepared comb between two combs containing honey and give other combs to fill up the hive; no combs are to contain eggs or brood in any stage except the prepared frame and that only the prepared cells; otherwise the prepared cells will be torn down. Place the caged queen over the prepared frame, put on the mat and cover, and carry the hive to the stand occupied by the bees, shifting the old hive to one side. If you now turn your attention to the caged

bees they will be found making a loud roar, they have missed their queen and are crying for her, and it is when they are crying thus they are prepared to accept any queen or eggs given them. Shaks these bees down in front of the hive and they will go in it, being on the old stand and as soon as they find their queen they will be quiet and when most of the caged bees are in, shake those off the two combs that were allowed to remain on the old stand. Distribute those two combs and remove the old hive. The bees find their old queen caged, she is of no use to them thus, and they immediately start to replace her by commencing queen cells on the eggs given them. At night the queen may be removed or she may be allowed to remain until the cells are taken away and then introduced to the bees again. When she is first placed there she gathers and holds the bees together and prevents them running all over and around the hive so that in an hour's time the bees are at work and no one would know they had been disturbed. If the bees had not been caged and made hopelessly queenless, they would probably have destroyed the eggs given them. All this takes much less time to do than it does to describe. I will now leave my readers to think over the above and in my next will describe how from thirty to forty cells may be started by these bees and completed without making another colony queenless.

Drumfin Apiary, W. Maitland.

LEFT OVER.

We are very sorry to be compelled to leave over till our next an exceedingly instructive set of questions and answers by Mr. Mansfield. We would strongly recommend beginners to look out for them in our next issue.

QUESTION COLUMN.

2. What is the best method of cleaning up foul brood hives to start afresh, with same bees?

4. Your opinion of bees transferring themselves, as given by George R. Weller in the *Canadian Bee Journal* and copied in January number of the *Australian Bee Bulletin*.

5. Your opinion of Queen-excluding Boards,

2. Boil them in a large tub in strong soda water.

4. Do not think it at all practical.

5. For use during a slow flow with large surplus apartment they are A1, but otherwise they retard the bees.—MAJOR SHALLARD, Blue Mountain Bee Farms, Glenbrook.

2. Fortunately, especially for me, I have not so far had an instance of the disease, so on this point I am "mum."

4. Well, well! Mr Weller! I don't think you have made things much better. The combs still remain to be transferred to the frames. I think an expert would transfer a swarm from a common box to a frame hive in 30 or 40 minutes. Mr Weller's plan takes weeks, if only of waiting.

5. With wide top bars the queen seldom goes into the super, so they are not of much consequence to me.—C. MANSFIELD, Hunter River Apiary, Largs.

2. Take the bees out and put in a box, and starve for 48 hours, then feed with carbolie acid mixed with honey, and boil all the frames and hives for 4 hours.

5. My opinion of them is that they could be improved upon by making thinner, and to the board itself not so close together—makes it too thick and hot.—V. S. PEERS, Deniloquin.

2. Never saw foul brood yet, so can't say.

4. The plan given by Weller is good, but does not always act as desired. Turn your box hive upside-down, removing the bottom board of both old and new hive and leave an entrance through the new hive and you find they move upstairs slick.

5. Queen excluders are good and I think are necessary evils, as with them some hives store less honey above whilst others will fill up with too much brood if no excluders are used. I am now experimenting to find out what is the actual result.—GEORGE JAMES, Bee Farm, Gordon.

2. Boil for 5 minutes in a large copper that will allow the hive to be wholly submerged. Take care to add about two table-spoonfuls of carbolie acid to the water and observe two

things carefully—(1) that the water boils; (2) that the hive is wholly submerged. Let all hives so treated drain and dry in the sun.

4. The plan would work every time. The reason why is evidently found in the fact that all the bees to get to their old home from outside would have to go through an empty space under them. While bees abhor an empty place over their brood, they are also, in perhaps a slightly less degree, disinclined to allow an empty place under it. They would at once set to work to remedy this and in course of a little while the queen would go down too. I therefore concur with Mr Weller in his position.

5. Queen excluding boards are very useful for many purposes, in raising comb honey in T supers they keep the sections from becoming stained and also keep drones from invading that chamber. The queen is also kept in her own place in most instances. In producing extracted honey the use of these boards is influenced by the kind of flow. Of course they are of great assistance in queen rearing. Taken all round they are a help in my opinion and have come to stay—BINNI, Bolwarra.

2. Shake nearly all the bees into a clean hive in which the frames are supplied with foundation. Remove the old hive say 200 yards away.

2. Starvation plan is the best for the bees, and hives and fittings to be burned. For economy sake some people would boil frames and hives.

4. Think it quite possible, but would rather try it several times before giving an opinion.

5. Useful in many ways, and I would not be without them. Queen excluding zinc is one of the most useful things in an apiary.—F. G. DALY, Richmond.

2. Mr. C. F. Muth's method is I consider the surest.

4. A man near my apiary caught a swarm which he placed in a brandy-case, the bees went to work and soon filled the box. The man procured another case, made a small hole in the bottom of it, turned it upside down and placed the box full of brood and bees on top as suggested by Mr. Weller. When he had it three tiers in height I assisted him to transfer to bar frames; the two upper was full of honey, the lower one with brood. I frequently see the old box hive men adopting the same plan. For transferring I think Mr. Weller's method would take too long to be of any use.

5. For sections, of course I use the queen excluders; with the hives that are going for honey I allow the queen the free use of the hive.

Write to Drumfin Apiary, West Maitland, for Comb Foundation

In about 14 days' time make a nucleus with the bees it then contains, using frames with foundation only; supply the bees with a young laying queen or a queen cell, or in a week's time give them a frame of newly laid eggs. Take the old hive and its contents away, cut out the foul brood comb and either burn it or melt it down; then cut the comb containing honey only out of the frames, put it into a tin boiler of some sort and melt it down; when cold remove the wax and the honey can be used for beer, vinegar or any other domestic purpose, and the wax for foundation. The empty frames may be safely used again if they are boiled for a few minutes, and so may the hive if it is scraped inside, scalded, and painted once perfectly. This I can vouch for.

4. I think the process would take too long. The bees would lose a lot of time and not do nearly so well as if they were transferred in the usual way. If the box was not too deep it would be I think well to bore a lot of holes about an inch from edge round the top and place on a honey chamber. It is undesirable to allow bees to rob.

5. The hive I use does not require any, and in hives in which they are used I believe the bees do not like them. They cause the bees to swarm. I am therefore opposed to their use.—F. J. MUNDAY, Woodville.

When I find brood in the upper body I place it below in the brood chamber and bring the honey to the upper.—A. W. S. WILD, South Australia.

2. Make a square boiler out of tin, large enough to take in the hive, bottom board and lid. Boil them for 20 minutes.

4. In my opinion this is a splendid way of transferring bees on a large scale.

5. With me they are partly a failure. Many queens get through the excluding zinc.—D. COMPTON, Stawell, Victoria.

2. I have not seen, foul brood, therefore cannot answer.

4. My opinion is that it is a very good method of getting over a very unpleasant job.

5. For keeping the queen where you want her they are indispensable.—F. C. PULLEN, Villa-st., East Maitland.

2. Boil them is best—next best, paint thoroughly with formic acid, using in both cases new frames.

5. In working for extracted honey, indispensable. In working for comb honey, not needed.—JAS. McFARLANE, Lyndhurst, Vic.

2. Dont know, never saw a case of foul brood.

4. Have never tried it, but doubt very much colonies would remove down, bag and bag-

gage, within a reasonable time, if at all. Think the Heddon method preferable any way.

5. Zinc honey boards are for the purpose of preventing the attachment of burr combs between the upper and lower stories, also for keeping the queen out of the surplus apartments, and now that bee-escapes have come to stay, are more than ever necessary, as the perfect working of these devices depends upon the queen being kept out of the surplus receptacles. —H. L. JONES, Mel Bonum Apiary, Redbank Plains, Queensland.

2. Question is too vague. To cover all its possible meanings would need several articles. If the boxes are meant, briefly boil them twice was my practice when troubled in that way; if bees are requened and boxes and frames boiled, it does not signify in my opinion what method is adopted of doing this, as far as that particular colony is concerned. It does to its neighbours though.

4. Not much in that to help us transfer, even if all followed as in the paragraph which is a point I have never proved. Objection 1. I should want the bees on frames as speedily as possible and before the honey flow begins, in fact a box hive bought for the sake of its bees to put on frames should disappear speedily if I am to make the purchase a justifiable one. To wait till the honey flow begins with a box hive in my apiary, especially if long in beginning, and still more especially if not sure of the absence of foul brood in it would be absurd and dangerous. Suppose the honey flow does not begin sufficient to drive them down that $\frac{3}{4}$ hole. In that case we have lost the season to a large extent, for had those bees been put on frames promptly, and combs built with the extractor some harvest might have resulted in a moderate flow, that would in the box hive yield little or nothing more than a lot of brood and bees which finally would have to be transferred in the usual way if at all. The writer of the article might be able to explain better, but on the surface his sticky disagreeable job—loss of honey and bees sound as if the hives were well filled with honey and in a well-known soft condition for transferring; this is inconsistent I think with his 'when the honey flow begins' further down, and detracts from the apparent value of his suggestion. My opinion briefly is that the ordinary transfer promptly performed is more businesslike, no more labour, and is calculated to place the bees more speedily to the best advantage. In either case the combs have ultimately to be removed from box-hive. It is better not to transfer except with greatest caution, and if part of the bees and queen are removed on to frames at once, the rest in a couple of weeks, we get the best of both immediate and ultimate advantage from a box hive.

5. Would not be without slated wood and zinc honey boards (particularly with the Heddon hive) when running for extracted honey, or in either case to a rearer of queens it is of very great assistance, and for other subordinate uses.—T. BOLTON, Duukeld, Victoria.

2. Scrape the hive clean, scald it well, especially the corners and cracks and give a good coat of paint inside and out. This I believe to be the best way. I have never had foul brood so cannot say from experience.

4. This transferring looks very well on paper and might do during a heavy honey flow by the bees crowding the queen down, but from my experience the box would be full of honey instead of the very little spoken of. The $\frac{3}{4}$ hole would not give sufficient ventilation in this climate and hence would smother the bees or give us scalded brood. A queen is always ready to go upwards, but unwilling to go down. I should not like to teach bees to take honey out of combs, it is likely to induce robbing.

5. For queen rearing honey boards are indispensable. Very useful during a light honey flow, i.e. when not sufficient honey is coming to crowd the queen down; also for hiving a swarm on starters and giving full drawn combs in an upper story having the honey board between. —W. S. PENDER, West Maitland, New South Wales.

2. I had a little experience of it in '86 and '87, I first discovered it in 20 boxes; I tried the citric acid and failed, then I tried the carbolic acid diluted in water; I put 1oz. of carbolic to 2 quarts of water in the first place. I got a lot of fresh quilts and saturated them in the solution and let them get partly dry, and after sundown I placed them on all my hives, both what had the foul brood and what did not; then I went through all my bees that had the foul brood and caught the queens and caged them, some of which I had to keep caged for five weeks before the bees had the combs properly clean, and then about two days before I changed my bees I got fresh boxes and gave them a thorough cleaning with a strong solution of carbolic, with 1oz. of carbolic to 1 quart of water and then with the first weak solution of carbolic; I sprayed both the bees and combs and removed them in their new hives. You require to spray the bees very slightly or you will drive all the bees out of the box at the time, as it is like anything else, in using carbolic it needs practice; but I should advise a new beginner if he finds it in one or two of his hives to destroy them by fire.

5. I do not use them as I think it is best to let the queen have her own way. If she can keep more than the bottom story with brood, all the better, as I find that in a good honey flow there

needs no division boards.—J. W. HOPKINS, Tick-hole, Cardiff, Victoria.

2, Having had no experience of foul brood I do not know.

4 A slothful plan. If the beekeeper wishes to avoid the trouble of shifting the combs from the old box to the frames, transferring *a la* Heddon is much superior. According to this latter you get the whole of the bees and brood transferred in 21 days, with almost as little trouble as in Mr. Weller's plan, instead of its stretching over a very indefinite period, months perhaps, and indeed in a poor honey flow the transference would most likely not take place at all, and at the end of the season your bees would still be in their old box.

5. Should only be used in Queen-rearing, for which it is nearly indispensable, not otherwise, as it very considerably hinders honey-laden bees.—J. R. H. GAGGIN, Lismore Apiary, Lismore.

MR. MAGNUS SMITH, Launceston, Tasmania.
—We are grieved to inform you that your answers reached us in an illegible state; getting damp in transit, the ink ran, thereby baffling all the powers of the compositors.

TRANSFERRING.

By J. F. MUNDAY.

To transfer bees from a box hive into a bar frame hive I proceed as follows. First make a lot of wooden pegs $1\frac{1}{2}$ in long and a little thicker than a wax match and pointed at end, at least 6 are required for each frame. Then bore two holes with a bit the size of a two inch wire nail in the center of the top bar, one at about 3 in from each end of the bar, do the same in the bottom bar, and then bore one hole in the middle of each side of the frame, when you have as many frames and pegs prepared as may be required, then on some fine morning or any time during a fine day drum the bees you want to transfer into an empty hive in the usual way, and place the box containing them on the old stand. Then take the box away. Knock out one side to enable you to cut out the combs conveniently. When you have cut out a comb containing

brood place it very gently flat on a board, place an empty frame over it, and with your knife mark it all round where the inside of the frame touch it, lift the frame off and cut the comb where marked, then place the frame over the comb so that the comb may fit nicely with it, the top bar being next the honey side. Then carefully lift the bottom and turn the frame and comb so that the frame will stand on the top bar, then press the comb fairly in the frame and shove the pegs right into the comb through the holes made in the frame for them, gently turn the frame over and peg the comb to the top bar, then carefully place that frame of comb into the bar frame hive you intend the bees to be to put into, and so on with all the rest of the brood comb. Unless you can extract the honey from the honey combs, I don't think you will be able to find the combs containing honey in the frames. When you have filled as many frames with comb as you intend, fill up the rest of the hive with empty frames supplied with starters or full sheets of foundation. Carry the hive carefully to the stand, place it on the ground, then take the box containing the bees and shake a few bees out of it at the mouth of the hive containing the combs. As soon as the bees begin to crawl in the hive shake all the bees from the box out, and leave them for a while. When the bees have nearly all gone in place the hive on its stand and the work is done.

See our bonus list, page 212

If you want to sell your honey, get honey pamphlets from E. Tipper, West Maitland, N. S. Wales.

One of the best uses honey can be put to medicinally is in cases of sore and inflamed eyes. One part of honey to five parts of water; mix, and bathe the eyelids, putting a few drops into the eye two or three times a day until well.

A WORD OF CHEER FROM TASMANIA.

Mr. Magnus M. Smith, of Friedensheim Apiary, Launceston, Tasmania, writes:—

Dear Sir,—Just a line to wish you a happy and prosperous new year, and to express my appreciation of the *Bulletin*, which I consider very much improved, and highly valuable to every beekeeper, as it keeps many minds and many experiences in the various sister colonies in touch with one another, and thus using the *Bulletin* as a kind of tongue we exchange ideas, &c., and so we are all benefited. I now quite look forward to the due date, and last month, when it did not come to hand for a few days later than I expected, I looked for it as for a friend expected, and felt a measure of disappointment as two mails passed without it.

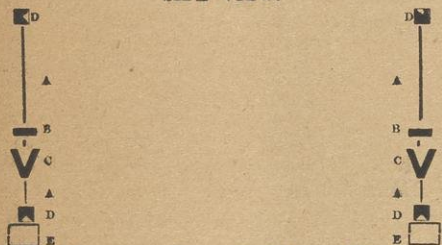
The same gentleman also writes:

Write to Drumfin Apiary, West Maitland, for Comb Foundation

Re shade, I find vines answer all requirements. I enclose drawing of a bee stand which you can give your readers if you think worth while. See question No 3, page 185 of *Bulletin*.

Ant-proof Stand for two hives, as used by Major General Wilson, of Penguin, Tasmania, and given to myself by that gentleman:—

SIDE VIEW.



(A) Iron legs at each corner of frame 5ft x 20in, made of 3 x 2 scantling, on which bottom boards are placed. (B) Sliding cap with collar to keep cap from resting on cup. (C) Tin cup for kerosene. (D) Iron nuts (E) Flat stone to keep feet from sinking in ground

Launceston, January 20, 1893.
(Per favor of the *A. B. Bulletin*.)

Mr. Gaggin.

Dear Sir,—Just at the time you published in the *A.B.B.* directions for introducing queens by the chloroform method, a friend, Mr. Biggs, had been speaking to me of an Italian queen that had been introduced to several colonies, but each colony under her rule had dwindled away and come to nought. I asked him to bring her over to my apiary and I would introduce her to one of my best colonies of blacks and see if I could do anything with her. Having read your remarks I decided to follow them, and put it to my friend as to whether he was willing for his queen to undergo the process, and he answering in the affirmative, I asked him to stand by and watch the proceeding, as I had determined to send you the result. The colony from which the queen was taken having dwindled

away to all but nought, she looked in a very poor and unpromising condition, and I had my doubts as to whether she would come through. However, we proceeded and carried out your instructions to the letter, and ended by letting the queen out of the cage and leaving the hive in working position. Three days later I went to see how they were, and found the queen had started laying, and the bees working away as though nothing had happened; and they continued to do so, never showing the slightest injurious effects. They swarmed three weeks ago. I shall give it further trial and report.—
Yours faithfully,

MAGNUS M. SMITH.

See our bonus list, page 212.

If you want to sell your honey, get honey pamphlets from E. Tipper, West Maitland, N. S. Wales.

LOGAN RIVER, QUEENSLAND.

Mr. T. Wilson Green, Wavertree Apiary, Gramzow, Logan River, writes as under :—

Bees have dwindled down considerably this last month or so, but are just starting again. That pamphlet about bees and honey is good with two exceptions :

1st. A strong colony will number over 100,000 average 50,000, better say fifty and twenty-five respectfully. I think that would be nearer the mark.

2nd. Honey is adulterated with glucose generally fed to the bees, etc., that would be better omitted, first educate the public in the uses of honey. They are prejudiced enough already, and as to feeding glucose with honey from 1d to 2d and a duty of 10s per cwt on glucose is rather out of the question, it hardly pays to extract, let alone feeding, etc.

I am greatly troubled with a kind of large fly, 'Horse Stingers' we used to call them down Bristol way, they are in the Apiary in swarms, worst about sunset. The nuclei have suffered terribly. I enclose you one one of the children caught to-day with a bee in its mouth.

TWO QUEENS IN A HIVE—One colony have had a young queen laying (a real beauty) for three weeks, and an old queen laying too, but she cannot last much longer, very feeble. Why don't they kill her if that is the rule? How about imbedding wire by electricity? Never hear anything about it now. I made a battery some months ago, but too weak. Now some of you southerners let us know how it has succeeded, and a detailed description of battery, and how long will the solution last?

Swarms have not been numerous with me so far, but I don't think it is scarcity of drones, they have quite enough, although I use full sheets of foundation. I think it has been the weather so erratic. Prepare to swarm, then wet weather, fine weather again, no honey, and so on. The most of this season I know

plenty who have had less swarms in comparison than I have, and they had plenty of drones, nearly all in fact.

[The Horse Stinger came duly to hand, and is the same as in other parts of the colonies. He is always fond of bees, but not generally considered a very great enemy.]

Mr. John Smith, Montrose Park Apiary, Mount Cotton, Brisbane, writes :—We are having a bad season this year—not half the quantity of honey that we had last year up to this time,—and afraid it is getting too late to mend now.—We attribute it partly to the fact that owing to the excessive rain fall at the back end of last season—many of the gum trees came into blossom a second time—the bees got very little honey from the second bloom, and it appears to have partly exhausted the trees, which have very little blossom as compared with previous year.

BEE NOTES.

(To the Editor of the Bulletin.)

SIR,—I regret to have to inform the numerous readers of the *Bee Bulletin* that the season in this district has so far been a complete failure. For the past three months or so, idleness has reigned supreme in the hives. There has not been the slightest indication of progress or activity, no comb building or storing surplus. The season has also been remarkable for the absence of drones, scarcely any being seen about the hives. I am not a convert to the idea of having only a few drones in a hive. It has frequently come under my notice that in a year when drones are plentiful there is usually an abundance of honey and plenty of swarms. With regard to the latter, there has been none since the spring. The careful apiarist who uses queen-excluding zinc, can regulate his combs in such a manner that he will not be troubled with too many drones, using the frames containing the most drone cells for the super and the worker combs.

for the brood chamber. There seems to be no nectar in the flowers this year in this part. The apple trees are in full bloom, yet my bees are on the verge of starvation. Are you listening Mr. Macansh? Corresponds with your experience some years ago. Mr. Editor, I am afraid the apple trees growing in the vicinity of Murrumburrah are a different species to those indigenous to this district. There are very few bees indeed on the blooms, as I have examined them closely

I am averse to holding the next Convention in the middle of the winter. It is a most unsuitable period. The days are short, it is a most miserable time to travel, the weather is frequently very inclement, the bees are at rest, and therefore any public manipulation is to a certain extent out of the question. By all means let the next Convention be held at Show time.

WM. SHAW.

Mudgee, Feb. 8, 1893.

DENILIKUIN.

In my last I said there was not a hive in the town that had not foul-brood, but since then I have been told by a man, that he had 15 hives, and they were all free from the disease. Last week I went to see this man's bees and was glad to see they were free from it. All his hives are two and three story, the bees being very strong. He told me that he expected to get about 800 or 900 lbs of honey from them this season. The person I refer to is Mr. Krugg. He lives on the border of the town, but how he has escaped the disease so long I don't know. I know 5 or 6 different people whose bees have died clean out and left nothing but frames of black rotten comb. My bees had foul-brood in November last, just slightly and I applied the Salicylic Acid freely and now there is no trace of the disease. The honey flow is in full swing. This town is no good to start bee-keeping in now, without there is a remedy for foul-brood. I remain etc.,

V. S. PEERS.

MARKET FOR HONEY.

The production of honey in Queensland having arrived at considerable dimensions, the Department of Agriculture recently instituted inquiries with reference to the market in London, and also with regard to the best method in which honey should be put up for the market. From the information which has now come to hand it appears that good white set honey with a pleasant flavour is saleable in London up to 35s per cwt., but honey flavoured with eucalyptus odour may be considered unsaleable at present. The best method of packing for sale is in good strong barrels of any reasonable weight or tins of 56 lbs., two being placed in a case. Shipments of small tins or bottles are nearly unsaleable in the market. Any clean cask will carry honey, whether in a liquid state or candid when packed. It is advisable to grade the honey and keep all the good flavoured, pale coloured by itself, and not mix it with brown or dark yellow. Sugar or other foreign adulterants operate against the sale, as when once found out honey of that brand is fought shy of by the brokers, and suffers in reputation, and consequently price for a long time. The mixing of foreign adulterants with honey from Victoria kept the price of honey from that colony at a low ebb, much under its real value, for many years. Several parcels of honey from Queensland ex-Taroba, some in tins and cases and some in smaller packages (of from 1lb. to 2lb. in weight), were put up for auction, but there was no bid, the packages not being suitable, and the manner of putting up being faulty.—*Richmond River Herald*, Jan 20, 1893.

SAD NEWS.

At Berry, during the night of Sunday, Jan. 22, the apiary of Mr. Roberts was washed away by a flood in the Broughton Creek.

A CALL TO THE UNCONVERTED

And an offer to employers of black labour. Read what W. Z. Hutchison says in his grand work, "Advanced Bee Culture," page 23, in the chapter on "Varieties of Bees." "I know that the man who chooses a good strain of Italians, makes no mistake." No better strain of Italians has been found, than the properly called Ligurian race, from Northern Italy, producing the famous leather-coloured bees. Bees may come and bees may go, but these go on for ever.

I am willing to send free of charge, to a limited number of keepers of black bees one of my queens, bred from my imported stock, on condition that she be introduced into a colony of equal strength to others in same apiary, and a record kept of results after she has been one month introduced. Results to be published in the *A. B. Bulletin*. To others queens are, 10s for ordinary, and 20s for high class breeding queens.

C. MANSFIELD.

Hunter River Apiary,
Largs,
Maitland.

BEE-KEEPING ON THE MANNING.

To the Editor.

Sir,—I am pleased to learn that my previous letter was found acceptable; and in accordance with my promise I write you again to report progress; and that we have progressed I think you will admit when you have read my communication. Since my last letter to you I have been able to glean a few further facts about the subject in hand; but think it will be better first to inform you as to what has been done by those who have adopted the bar-frame system up to date. To begin with Alderman Pollock,

I think I told you that he expected to be able to set up about 30 hives. He has succeeded beyond his expectations, and he now hopes to enter upon the winter with fully fifty all housed in the single story Simplicity. Already he has 40 in working order, and has ten more to transfer. This I think you will admit is an enterprising start and deserving of success. This apiary is in the town, Mr. Pollock having turned his vegetable garden into a bee yard. It has in it some few fruit trees, which will be convenient for shade and will form a break-wind. It is laid out in rows, in sets of five, the entrances in each row being opposite with an avenue at the backs for the bee-keeper. It looks very nice and reflects credit on his taste. He has ordered an Italian queen, full tested from Mr. Munday of Woodville, and intends to get four more right off, so as to Italianise his stock as soon as possible. I began, as I told you, with four; and now have ten. Last week I procured an Italian queen from Mr. Munday, which I successfully introduced, and expect two more, which I expect will have commenced laying in my hives before this is in print. At present I have my stock at my house in town, but purpose as soon as a proper place can be prepared to remove them to a selection about 2 miles away in the midst of the forest where I hope they will increase, multiply, and replenish my stock to something less than 2 or 3 thousand colonies, if I live long enough. But these are mere imaginings, perhaps, although the place is so favourable for bee-keeping that it would be quite possible to succeed with that number in a single apiary. My brother, Mr. F. Rye, is now in possession of seven colonies; but he is not satisfied, and if he can only succeed in negotiations in progress he will probably have quite a respectable beginning before the season closes. He is quite a novice with bees, though he is picking up knowledge with wonderful celerity, reading and practis-

ing with his few stocks making him quite proficient in bee knowledge. (I might say here in parenthesis that Root's A.B.C. is now become the root of all our culture in this direction). Mr. H. Cann, of whom mention was made in my last, is also awaking to the advantages of the new system and has two colonies in patent hives. He also says that as he robs his bees this year he will discard all "boxes" and new swarms likewise he will put in between the frames. He has procured a smoker already, and robs his bees with the help of it, instead of drumming them up as heretofore. I claim this gentleman as a convert of my own to bar-frames. He will probably have 50 hives before winter. Mr. T. Carey also has a notion to begin in the new way. He has about 130 colonies, but is very cautious in making changes. I am glad to say, however, that he has procured one patent hive and intends to see how it works. Mr. William Pollock of the Cedar Party I hear has quite a number of bees; and, having seen his brother's new apiary, has become so impressed with the improvement that he intends to make a change himself. Mr. James Evans of the same place has 20 colonies, and I showed him the working of my frames. He too has expressed the intention of going in for the moveable combs. Another gentleman at the Dingo Creek has four, and fully intends to "start" bees in the new hives as soon as he possibly can. Of course the persons named are but a very small majority of those who have these interesting workers in their possession. Some having more, some less; but many have as much as 100 boxes. These have not as yet been brought into touch with the new system; but are almost sure to "catch on" as the improvement is made more manifest. In the lower parts of the river a good many have become converts to the new idea. Mr. Chapman of the Mitchell's Island Public School, I understand, has given the business a good

start, by undertaking to supply swarms in the bar-frame hives, with Italian queens. The Rev. S. P. Stewart of Tinonee has been set up in this way, and Mr. Hayward of Croki. Mr. Bennett of Taree has also become an enthusiast, besides a few others in the same town, whose names I have not heard. So you see the business is "booming considerably." Of course I do not anticipate that this interest is going to be lasting. Some no doubt before long will have apiaries to sell, yet I feel convinced that there will be left a considerable number, who will continue the system—therefore I think that the old plan of keeping bees has very nearly come to an end on the Manning, and it is about time it did. I might mention before I close that the Upper Manning Agricultural Society offers a few prizes for honey, in comb and in bottles, also for wax. Would it not be a good thing if some of the experienced apiarists of your district exhibited their bee requisites at it. If there are no prizes for these things, they could be made non-competitive, and we would have an opportunity of seeing for ourselves what to get for the business. A show is also to be held in Taree in February; I am afraid, however, that my suggestion will be too late for this. It has been suggested here, I might further add, to form a Beekeepers Association for the Manning. I am not, however, favourable to this idea, unless we could affiliate with some other association, whose members are experienced beekeepers. We could certainly meet and recount our mistakes, but at the same time we ought to be informed by experts how to rectify them.

I am afraid, sir, I have gone into too much length; if so you are at liberty to cut out what you think fit, so as to bring my letter within the compass of your available space.

E. RYE.

Wingham.

BEE-KEEPING ON THE MANNING.

By T.H.A.C.

In your last issue you published an account of what is being done in scientific beekeeping on the Upper Manning, in the vicinity of Wingham. For the general information of your readers, it may be interesting to give a short account of what is being done on the Lower Manning. Last season Mr. Chapman of Mitchell Island public school made a beginning with about 20 hives of black bees. In May a couple of Italian queens were obtained from Mr. Mansfield of the Hunter River apiary. The introduction of these queens, soon showed the "Black" were no where at honey gathering. About the same time, Mr. Geo. Unicombe obtained a hive of Italians. Desirous of having all the information possible on the subject, Mr. Chapman by frequent request, prevailed on the Department, to send their lecturer, Mr. Gale, to the river. This gentleman came and delivered lectures in the various centres, and since then, great enthusiasm has been manifested in "bee-keeping." Those who were without bees, enlisted the assistance of the black fellows, who secured swarms of black bees in the bush for them.

Others made purchase of box hives, from those who were disgusted with keeping bees:—One gentleman, Mr. R. Hayward of Croki, who heard Mr. Gale lecture in Croki, at once commenced by purchasing hives of blacks, and making hives and frames. Mr. Chapman introduced 4 Italian Queens for him, and he has since raised about 16 queens from these, and introduced them into his hive of black bees. Altogether, about 20 Italian Queens have been introduced here, principally from Mr. Mansfield's Apiary. On the Wollamba River, a brother of Mr. Phillips, of Nowra, is making a start in the same line, so that it may be said that the following

gentlemen have at least made a beginning:—Mr. T. H. Chapman, Mr. G. Unicombe, Coopernook. Mr. R. Hayward, Croki. Mr. P. Carle, Cundletown. Mr. P. Saxby, Taree, Mr. H. Bennett, Taree. Rev. S. P. Stewart, Tinonee, and Mr. H. W. Flett, who commenced some years ago, but did not follow it up. He is now introducing a fresh strain of bees, having purchased "the trio" from Mr. Jones, of Queensland.

Anxiously waiting continuation of Mr. Pender's article on "Queen Breeding."

JOTTINGS BY BEE-STING,

FROM NEW ENGLAND.

The editor informs me that last month, Jottings arrived too late for insertion. They appeared in the *paper* for all that. You naturally ask where, why in waste paper basket. [You are wrong this time. Ed.)

I'll look out for next installment, being there before doors open, in order to secure a seat (if its only a standing,) as it is very likely to be crowded (especially in the Brood Chamber, that is if they run for comb Honey) and may it always be crowded, is the wish of Bee-sting.

Talk about running for less comb honey. So far this year, I have not yet got into a decent walk, for extracted even.

Now Bro. Apiarists, let the Bull-a-teen hear about your Honey crop-up to date, I have not had a square feed. I hope someone is getting a decent crop, and they will let us hear about it, if its only to make my teeth water.

Last season I practised Automatic swarming "a la alley," a success, Oh yes! I had no bother with swarms at all, I simply cut the queen's wings, fixed up the swarmer, and left them alone. Result one Colony less in the fall, than in the spring.

This season have resorted to natural swarming, Result, plenty of swarms, and

multitudes of stings. Scarcely a week without thunderstorms.

What do you say to holding the next Convention at Murrurundi, in conjunction with the bee-keepers association there. They might be able to assist in the arrangements, and let both Associations apply cheap rates on the railways.

Query. How does a bee-keeper feel after spending a deal of trouble, time, and patience in making a display of appliances at an Agricultural Show, after the awards have been made, you discover part, yes, a very important part, under the table unpacked, and the prize of course gone to the other fellow? Such was my lot last season. A Happy New Year to all.

Jersey Apiary, Armidale,
January, 12, 1893.

GOODNA, QUEENSLAND.

No doubt you have read in the paper accounts of our disastrous floods. Many apiarists have suffered severely, in some cases whole apiaries having been swept completely out of existence. We will probably give you more particulars in time for next issue. Yours hastily,

H. L. JONES.

GLEN INNES.

Mr. F. W. Penberthy, Bee Farm, Elsmore, Glen Innes, writes:—I have increased number of hives about 30 per cent this season. They gathered little honey in the swarming season (Oct. and Nov.), but made up for it since. I extracted in the second week in Dec. from 94 top boxes, and finished the second taking on the 4th Jan. from 100 top boxes, for 300 gallons, total for 2 takings 540 gallons. One hive gave me as much as 40lbs in one week. Total number of hives, 125. A bad market up here:

TERALBA.

Mr. J. Coyle of Mormon Creek Apiary, Teralba, writes us, the bees there are doing very well. Honey coming in very freely from mahogany, and iron bark. He encloses the following from an English paper:—"It will be a surprise to many to learn, after all, the most important function of the bees sting is not stinging. I have long been convinced that the bees put the finishing touches on their artistic cell work by the dexterous use of their stings, and during this final finishing stage of the process of honey-making the bees inject a minute portion of formic acid into the honey. This is in reality the poison of their sting. This formic acid gives to honey its peculiar flavour, and also imparts to it its keeping qualities. The sting is really an exquisitely contrived little trowel, with which the bee finishes off and caps the cells when they are filled brimful with honey. While doing this the formic acid passes from the poison bag, exudes drop by drop from the point of the sting, and the beautiful work is finished."

PARRAMATTA SHOW.

Mr. A. L. Hinton of Parramatta writes:—

Dear Sir:—Enclosed I send marked catalogue of the Apicultural Section. The show was a great success, and this particular section was one of the features in chief.

We had some difficulty at the outset in satisfying the various exhibitors requirements for space; an intending exhibitor who had eight entries, with drew in consequence.

Prior to the issue of our next schedule, I hope to submit a draft of this particular section to your Association and to several prominent bee-keepers for their approval. I think that Apiculture is particularly

suitable for this district, where small holdings are the rule. Thanking you for your assistance

Yours faithfully
A. L. HINTON.

SECTION VI.—APICULTURE.

Class 185. Six 1 lb Sections. First Prize 10s, W. T. Seabrook & Co.; 2nd 5s, W. Abram.

Class 186 Large frame of Honey. 1st Prize 10s, W. Abram; 2nd 5s, Mrs Abram.

Class 187. Small Frame of Honey. 1st Prize 10s, W. Abram; 2nd 5s, W. G. Board.

Class 188. Small frame of Honey, sections excluded. 1st prize 10s, W. Abram; 2nd 5s. Mrs Abram.

Class 189 Six 1 lb glass jars (screw tops) Granulated Extracted Honey. 1st prize 10s, W. Abram; 2nd 5s, W. T. Seabrook & Co.

Class 190. Six 1 lb glass jars screw tops) Liquid Extracted Honey. 1st prize 10s 6d, presented by Mr. Alexander Budd, Parramatta. W. Fagan & Sons; 2nd 5s, W. T. Seawood & Co, Hebblewhite & Co, Highly Commended.

Class 191. Italian Queen with bees in observation hive. 1st prize, 10s, W. Abram; 2nd 5s, Mrs Abram; W. T. Seawood & Co, Highly Commended

Class 192. Hive of bees at work. 1st. prize 10s, Hebblewhite and Co.; 2nd 5s, W. Abram.

Class 193. Collectiton of Bec appliances. 1st prize, £1 1s, Hebblewhite & Co.; 2nd 10s W. Abram; highly commended, R. K. Allport.

Class 194. Beeswax white 6 lb— 1st prize 10s W. T. Seabrook & Co.; 2nd 5s, W. Abram.

195. Beeswax, yellow, 6lbs. 1st prize 10s, W. T. Seabrook & Co.; 2nd 5s, Hebblewhite & Co.

196. Display of Comb Honey. 1st prize 10s. W. T. Seabrook & Co.; 2nd 5s W. Abram.

Class 197. Display Extracted Honey, 1st prize 10s, W. T. Seabrook and Co; 2nd 5s, R. K. Allport; W Abram, highly commended.

Class 198—Sheet of Comb Foundation. 1st prize 10s, Hebblewhite & Co; 2nd, 5s, Seabrook & Co.

NON-DOMPETITIVE.

W. R. Salter, white beeswax, made in Parramatta 25 years ago.

Special price of £1 1s, presented by Messrs. A. L. Hinton & Co., Parramatta, for most successful exhibitor in section, counting by points, 3 for 1st, 2 for 2nd, and 1 for commended, £1 1s. W. Abram.

We are also indebted to Messrs. Hebblewhite and Co., of Sydney, for a list of the prize takers at the above Show.

AT THE BERRY SHOW.

By G. R. HARRISON.

This was a most successful show. For the National Prize there were two competitors, Mr. Phillips of Nowra and Mr. G. W. Gordon of Jamberoo. The display of both was very creditable. The prize was awarded to Mr. Phillips, whose exhibit consisted of a Barnes saw, John Mill hives of several kinds, and amongst which were the Heddon, which is the hive he has been using for all his increase; also one which he had been using for some time, which holds 13 of the Berlepsch frames, he having started with the Berlepsch hive and a Roots Simplicity to show its construction; honey in comb and in glass, extractors, bees under glass, while four full colonies of bees were working outside, two in Heddon's and two in the Phillips' hive.

All necessary appliance were shown and the whole was built up into a trophy, surmounted by the legend THE NOWRA ITALIAN BEE FARM, cut out of comb foundation, tacked on a board over burnished black paper, the whole in the form of a gabled pediment.

Mr. Gordon's display lacked the Barnes Saw and the Mill, and also the full colonies of bees, but made a splendid display; he showed the hive he used, which is the Gallop, made by Mr George James of Gordon, a Roots eight frame dovetailed, and a "Pender" eight framed redwood hive with Root-Hoffman frames and followers, and a "Pender" solar extractor, in which the combs to be melted are laid upon the wire gauze strainer, which seems to me a great advantage over any other form I have seen. He showed extractors and a full set of appliances, and honey in comb and in glass, and bees under glass.

The majority of prizes for honey and wax were taken by Mr. Gordon; the judging was thoroughly satisfactory. Both exhibitors suffered from want of

space, the present show being far larger than any yet held here. I trust that next year will see a larger pavilion and more competitors.

I was not at the show at Wollongong but hear that it was splendid success.

RICHARD AT THE SHOW.

ALBION PARK, JANUARY 19TH.

It was a lovely day when I strolled on to the show ground at Albion Park, which beautiful district is excellently named, as its beautiful undulating clover fields with tall cabbage palms plentifully sprinkled through them, look really park-like.

The usual collection of agricultural implements were distributed through the grounds, amongst which Mellor's Stump Extractor was conspicuous. But when I looked for bee appliances, lo! they were absent. Comb honey was represented by a full and two half-storey frames from a Gallup hive, shown by Mr. George Gordon, of Jamberoo; and two dishes of comb from box hives, and liquid by some pickle bottles; and Mr. Gordon's exhibit in screw-capped jars. I will not mention the awards—the less said the better. No bees were exhibited.

KIAMA, JAN. 26.

This show was a great success. The weather was all that could be desired. The only drawback was the great distance of the show grounds from the town, which is very inconvenient.

The only show of appliances was made by Mr. R. L. Pender, of West Maitland, who showed two and a half storeys of his 8-framed redwood hives, with Root-Hoffmann frames and followers, Heddon bottom boards, and flat board covers; also smoker, Walkover frame fastener, foundation, and other appliances, which were much admired. Mr. George Knight showed a plaster slab, for brush made foundation. A very creditable display of honey in glass and in comb was made by Messrs Somerville, of Genera

Vale; Comford, of Kiama, G. W. Gordon, of Jamberoo, and other gentlemen. But as the prizes did not seem to fit the merits of the exhibits, especially in the comb honey section, I shall only record a regret that no bee-keeper was available as judge.

The Kiama district is lovely to the eye, and the climate charming; but being nearly all cleared country, the bee-keeper has few sources of supply beside clover and dandelion, but this season they have stood him in good stead.

THE RAMBLES OF RICHARD.

[RAMBLE THE FIRST.]

The planet under whose influence I was born was a comet, therefore it was natural that I should ramble, and I have since rambled consistently the greater part of my life; and if I ramble in my narrative I must plead the excuse of my nature.

At the beginning of 1893 I commenced a long contemplated series of rambles among the bee-keepers of Australia, and with this end in view, I travelled merrily through the town of Smithfield on a bicycle, in search of Mr. A. Cook's apiary, vineyard, and orchard. I discovered him at length in the orchard with his boys, and was soon shown round his apiary, which consists of some 150 home made hives, containing deep, narrow frames, and mostly furnished with Italian bees.

In the honey-room I found a good 4-frame extractor, made on the premises out of a cask. Mr. Cook is a good all-round mechanic, doing all his hive making and tinsmith's work himself; and with the aid of his boys and girls, runs his farm, garden and apiary, which keeps all busy. I saw something new here. Mr. Cook's hive, cover and shade board, are all in one, the cover being of light packing case material (of which all his hives are made) nailed on to a piece of hardwood batton at one end and a piece of round sapling about 4 inches thick a

the other. On top of these is nailed a sheet of bark, wider and longer than the hive, which protects the hive from the midday sun, and as it slopes over 4in. in the length of the hive, from the rain also.

After parting with this splendid apiarist, I wended my way to the residence of Mr. Webb, of Wetherall Park, where I found a fine collection of Langstroth hives, embowered among grape vines. I learned that but little had been taken in the district up to date, the season being late, and the usual flows being spoilt by the unseasonable rains.

A little further on Mr. Edgecombe gave me a warm welcome, and a report of good promise, but unsatisfactory realisations.

I then took my way to Liverpool, and thence to Denham Court, where last year I spent such a pleasant time with Mr. T. H. Bradley and his two sisters. Mr. Bradley having removed to Appin, I called upon Mr. Parker, who is running a few hives there. Thence I climbed over the hills to Mr. Joseph Kemp, where, like the inveterate sundowner I am, I arrived at close of day, and he, like a kind-hearted brother, took me in, and we talked bees till the sma' wee hours. He has a nice little collection of a dozen Langstroth hives, fine and strong, some of which are Doolittle's.

JOTTINGS BY BEE-STING.

2ND. EDITION.

Question 1.—Is red perennial clover fertilized by any other insect apart from the humble bee?—I think it is, because I have grown some for five years in succession each year, it generally attains between 2 and 3 feet in height. Again, I noticed an insect, evidently a bee, whose colour was a distinct black and white stripes, it had pollen on its hind legs, and the very picture of a bee. I tried to secure it but am sorry to say it was smarter than I.

The other day I caught a blue-black insect with yellow coloured head, it was at the time on what is generally known as "everlasting flowers."

Can any of your readers give me information on these questions—through *Bee Bulletin*?

Question 2—How is it that in a bad honey season, foul-brood is more prevalent than during a good yield.

Armidale, Feb. 8, 1893.

H. R. Beekeepers' Association.

At the usual monthly meeting of the H. R. Beekeepers' Association on Jan. 31, at the Technological rooms, West Maitland, the attendance was not large. In the absence of the president or vice-presidents Mr R. Patten occupied the chair. The minutes of previous meeting was read and confirmed and several accounts were passed. The secretary, Mr M. Scobie, announced that the committees appointed at the Convention had met. Mr Mansfield had been appointed secretary, and they had decided to solicit suggestions from beekeepers association re the holding of the next Convention in June or July. The Points Committee had also met, who had decided to recommend 20 should be the maximum number for honey. Liquid—flavour 8, colour 6, density 6; granulated—flavor 10, colour 5, grain 5. Mr Patten drew attention to the wording of the national prizes, which led to conversation on races of bees, some believing that Italians were not a pure race, others spoke of the possibilities of the blacks, if the same attention had been given them as the Italians. Mr Patten spoke of a German brown bee hive which he once had, the bees of which worked moonlight night as well as day. He also announced that he had been requested and had consented to act as sole judge in apiculture at the ensuing H. R. A. & H. Show. The announce-

ment gave great satisfaction.—Mr Harden announced the honey flow at Morpeth was much less than last year—he had now more bees but only half the quantity of honey. Mr W. S. Pender said the honey flow at Maitland was better than at the Drumfin farm. Mr. M. Scobie said the honey was coming in very well at Bishopsbridge. He had extracted one ton, and had another ton ready to extract. It was also said to be coming in well at Mulbring. It was asked if the Association was going to compete for the National prizes, but it was thought best to leave it to private competition.—Mr W. S. Pender agreed to open a discussion at next meeting on queen-excluding boards.

BEEKEEPERS LISTEN.

This issue contains more reading matter than any previous issue, and consequently has gone well beyond the paying limit. With another hundred paid-up subscribers we would always keep it up to this standard. If our efforts are satisfactory kindly show your appreciation by inducing your friends to become subscribers. See our bonus list.

THE FUTURE.

As next month concludes the first twelve months of the *Australian Bee Bulletin's* existence, we would ask our patrons to show their appreciation of our efforts by forwarding their subscriptions for the next year at the earliest. We would also like all advertising accounts to be settled up as well, so as to begin the second year with a clean sheet. Will our friends kindly take the hint.

Mr. F. G. D. Caddan, of Macquarie street, Windsor, writes us that the excellent article on "Honey as Food and Medicine," was written by Mr. Thomas G. Newman, editor of the *American Bee Journal*, not Mr. F. G. Daley, of Richmond.

At the Berry Show, on Feb. 8, 9, 10, the following were prize winners:—Clarified honey, G. W. Gordon 1, C. W. Phillips 2; honey in comb, G. W. Gordon 1 and 2. They are classed among "household manufactures."

BONUSES.

We have resolved to give the following bonuses to those who will procure us new subscribers:—

Any person sending us two new subscribers' names with their subscriptions (10s) for 12 months; one *Queensland Bee Book*.

Any person sending us five new subscribers' names with the amount of their subscriptions (25-) for 12 months, a *Doolittle's Queen Rearer*.

Any person sending us six new subscribers' names with the amount of their subscription (30s) for twelve months, *Root's A B C of Bee Culture*.

Any person sending us eight new subscribers' names with their subscriptions (£2) for twelve months, *Langstroth* by Dadant, the best, most complete and latest book on bee culture.

Increase Your Honey Market.

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Supplied to bee-keepers, with their own advertisement printed on the first and second page, at the rate of 30/- per 1000.

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Queens 10s upwards. Swarms 20s.

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I have decided to run a Commission Business in connection with my regular honey trade, and as I do the largest business in Sydney in Pure Honey, I feel confident of being able to satisfy all who may favour me with a trial.

I am Re-queening

all my nives this coming Spring, as I have decided to follow Manum's plan of not keeping queens over one year old. I shall have some hundred of choice pure bred queens to dispose of at 15/- each or two for 25/- Here is a chance for you to get stock bred from the best imported strains at half cost. I have built up the largest bee concern in Australia, and I did not do it by keeping poor stock.

Daisy Wheelbarrows, 25/-; Wax Scrapers, 1/6; Wire Embedders, 1/4; 5 'Billy' cans (nested) 1 pt. to 4 gal ons, 2/6 per nest. Full line of other supplies equally cheap.

MAJOR SHALLARD,

BLUE MOUNTAIN BEE FARMS, GLENBROOK.

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Foundation 1/9 per lb. for 12 lbs. and over.

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Send for price list. Beeswax bought or exchanged for foundation.

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Bred from queens imported direct from **DOOLITTLE** and **BIANCONCINI** this season. Untested, 4 for 20s; select tested, 15s each. Also maker of the Gallup Hive—1½ storey, 24 frames and starters, set up complete, 12s 6d; or with 24 1lb. sections at 13s 6d each. The Gallup Hive is no fancy patent, but a genuine standard hive.

Boss Foundation Fasteners 3s, also of Hebblewhite & Co., and R. K. Allport.

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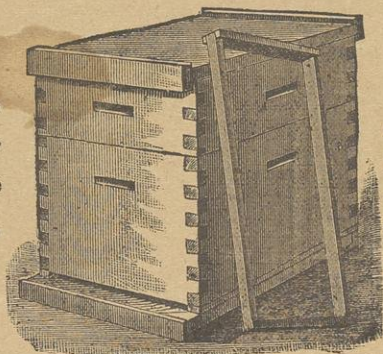
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