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West Maitland, N.S.W.: E. Tipper, November 19, 1892

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THE AUSTRALIAN BEE BULLETIN.

A MONTHLY JOURNAL, DEVOTED TO BEE-KEEPING.

VOL. I. No. VIII.

NOVEMBER 19, 1892.

PER COPY, 6d.

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THOMAS BOLTON,

Grampian Apiaries, Dunkeld, Victoria.

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THE BEE BULLETIN is sent to subscribers till an order is received for its discontinuance, and all arrearages paid.

NOW YOU ARE GETTING

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LABELS, PAMPHLETS, &C.,

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FOR PRICES.

[We shall be glad to insert in this column Advertisements of dates of meetings of the various Bee-keepers' Associations.]

The Australian Bee Bulletin

A JOURNAL DEVOTED TO BEE-KEEPING.

EDITED BY G. R. HARRISON.

WEST MAITLAND.—NOVEMBER 19.

Hunter River Bee-Keepers' Association.

MONTHLY MEETINGS.

—AT—

Technological Rooms, West Maitland.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 6TH.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 3RD, 1893.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 31ST, 1893.

MICH. SCOBIE, Hon. Sec.

The Proposed Union.

THE AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL for September 22nd, which is just to hand, contains the following article from the pen of Prof. Cook, which is full of hope to those who are trying to inaugurate a N.S.W. (or Australian) Bee-Keepers' Union:—

CHEMICAL ANALYSIS & HONEY ADULTERATION.

By Prof. A. J. Cook. From American Bee Journal.

It is known that sucrose or cane sugar is chemically distinct from glucose; that unlike glucose it will not reduce the copper salts, and has a strong right-handed rotation. The nectar of flowers is largely cane sugar.

Commercial glucose reduces the copper salts, and because of the presence of dextrose, gives a right-handed rotation.

Invert sugar—cane sugar that has been reduced by heating with an acid—is left-handed in its rotation. It is usually given as—25°

Bees gather the cane sugar or nectar, and while gathering and passing to the hive, they reduce it by digestion, or change it to an invert sugar. This honey contains 2 to 8 per cent. of sucrose, 60 to 75 per cent. of reducing sugar levulose and dextrose, and gives a left-handed rotation rarely higher than -20° .

As bees digest the nectar of flowers, we would suppose that honey gathered very rapidly would be less perfectly digested, as it would be a shorter time in the digestive canal, and so would contain more sucrose, and less reducing sugar. As bees gather sweets from such varied sources—widely different flowers, sap, and secretions from various insects—we would suppose that the honey might vary not a little. Thus I have long wondered if the formulæ depended upon by our chemists were entirely reliable, and sufficient to always determine the genuine from the adulterated.

To determine this point, I recently sent over 50 samples of honey to three of our ablest chemists, viz.,: Dr. R. C. Kedzie, Prof. H. W. Wiley, Government chemist, and Prof. M. A. Scovell, of Kentucky. I have preliminary reports which are exceedingly interesting.

The samples which I sent were simply numbered. There were honeys from all our noted honey-plants, several samples of honey-dew, honey stored rapidly from pure cane syrup fed very rapidly to the bees, and mixtures of honey and glucose.

The samples of honey adulterated with glucose, were detected, but with them was classed a sample of aphid honey, which our bees gathered from bark-lice, and which was rank and entirely unmarketable. Two other samples of honey-dew were pronounced genuine honey. One of these was from cynip infected oak acorns. Both were pleasant to the taste.

The samples of honey from cane sugar syrup, one extracted the next day after it was stored, and the other not until it was capped, were both detected. But with them were classed genuine honey from basswood and white clover, both were very fine, and one from horse-mint, all very rapidly gathered. Thus my opinion, often expressed to my students, that our chemists could not distinguish genuine honey which was rapidly gathered from that secured by feeding cane syrup, is fully sustained.

Three samples, one white clover, one golden-rod, and one white sage, all very rapidly gathered by the bees, gave such a high left-handed rotation that there was a suspicion of adulteration, with invert sugar. Yet these were all genuine honey of superior excellence.

Three other samples, one from black mangrove, one from an unknown source, stored in Louisiana, and which never granulated, and one from horse mint (the latter gathered very rapidly) deported themselves exactly as would invert sugar.

Thus we see that while the chemists can detect adulteration, even with one-third or one-fourth glucose, they could not distinguish honey from flowers, from that secured by feeding bees pure cane-sugar syrup; that while they now can detect adulteration by use of commercial glucose (that most if not always used), they cannot by use of present methods, detect honey produced by feeding bees wholly or in part on cane-sugar.

—*College Speculum.*

Agricultural College. Michigan

The importance of Prof. Cook's labours to us, will be at once apparent when we mention that the principal obstacle to be overcome in inducing bee keepers to join the projected union, was the fact that up till the present the general opinion was that chemical science was unable to assist us in fighting the "Glucose Fiend." By the above, it will be seen that three of America's brightest analytical authorities, working independently, have each sorted out the samples containing glucose from a very large number of pure honeys, the only error, and which they all committed, was classing as adulterated a sample of honeydew which was vile enough to be all "commercial" glucose.

If American chemists can do this, Australian ones can do likewise; therefore the sooner we combine to test what is sold in the metropolis as "Non-candying Honey," and other similar articles, the better.

The lines it will be necessary to follow will be those of the American Union, which has done such splendid service in protecting the bee keepers of the United States from persecution from the ignorant, and which will probably extend its sphere to protect them from the adulterators.

What we require, is one or two officers empowered to act in the name of the whole body, as is the General manager of the U. S. Union, Mr. G. H. Newman, who has done so much for that body. Of course, an executive of the usual stamp may be advisable, to appoint the officer or officers, to decide the scope of his work, etc., but this will only require to meet about once a year; the agent, general manager, or delegate, or

whatever he may be called, will be the power, which may be instantly set in motion, and would succeed where a cumbersome executive would fail.

The question of finance is the next. The American Union works well on a dollar per annum, but bee keepers there are as twenty to our one, yet I think 5s. per year should keep the thing running, especially if we make it Australian in scope.

As regards collecting, those journals which are interested in bee keeping, I am sure, would willingly collect with their annual subscriptions, thus reducing the expenses, as it costs no more to send £2 than 5s.

Let us to work!

GOSSIP.

Swarming.

Climbing trees and other acrobatic performances much in vogue.

We saw a spotted gum sapling in an exceptionally early spot, in full bloom.

Spotted gum is the Hunter River mens stronghold, and it is going to yield enormously.

We have splendid reports from the Gordon and St. Ives districts, among the oranges.

The Agricultural Department have not yet reported on bee paralysis, but they are working hard.

Mr. Albert Gale has been doing the Mudgee district, we have reports of his course of lectures in many exchanges from that district.

The bee-paralysis scourge has greatly abated. Salt water in the apiary is generally spoken of as a preventative; it is our intention to give arsenic a trial as a remedy if it comes our way.

Round Melbourne, they seldom get much honey to speak of before Christmas, they were having shocking weather up to October 17th; hope it has behaved itself since.

Remember that wax is a very valuable product. Always carry a wax pocket while working among the hives, and empty it often into the solar.

Don't forget that your home market is the most profitable. You can escape that bugbear of all producers, the middle man, and secure his profit and your own.

Some of our own experimenters with self-hivers are having Dr Miller's experience, while using the old 9-50 excluder zinc, of queens getting through.

The number of queens and full stocks of bees in frame hives complete, which are being sold by those who make this a feature in their business is very cheering.

By the Launceston *Daily Telegraph* and Launceston *Examiner* we see that friend Magnus M. Smith has been on the stump again, and is stirring people up; he is well reported and his matter is good.

There is money in bee-keeping, but it is not on the surface. You must dig down, and work hard and intelligently to get it. Some can get honey in quantity, but the transferring it into other forms of wealth is the trouble.

That Union, we must have it, perhaps it had better be N.S.W. for a start; the great point is a strong, general manager, to arrange prosecutions or obtain analyses or other evidence, and a large membership to give weight to his actions.

A bit of history from Mr. M. M. Smith's Launceston lecture: "In a copy of the *Hobart Town Gazette*, dated April 7th, 1821, p. 76, 'Fenton on bush life,' informs us that a hive of bees was received by the ship Mary, from Liverpool, and presented by Mr. Kermode to the Lieutenant Governor."

An alternative for legal action against adulterators has been suggested in a union for canning and marketing honey. If all would work together in this the adulterator would be entirely killed, and the one great trial of the producer, the marketing of his produce, would have vanished:

You will regret to hear that Mrs. L. T. Chambers is very ill, that is why no Melbourne Mems are to hand from the genial L. T. C.

As the bee keepers use the postal facilities so much, the new departure of the Victorian Post office in issuing a letter card, which folds together and has gummed and perforated edges, so that it can be sealed, to give the privacy wanting in a post card, is a thing many will be glad to hear of, because we may ask our Post-office people to go and do likewise, or go one better.

Glad to have authority to say that the medicinal method of curing foul brood has been proved successful and permanent. It is noticeable that Mr. Cowan mentions success with Naphthol Beta, Salicylic acid, and Eucalyptus oil, but does not mention Cheshire's Phenol remedy; may it be as friend Bennett of Tallarook says "no more than weeds in a garden, and as easily prevented or eradicated."

QUESTIONS.

By V. & H. P., "Novice Apiary."—

1 What kind of bee would the progeny of an Italian Hybrid queen fertilized by a black Hybrid drone be?

If it simply followed mechanical laws, the result would be somewhat similar to a first cross, each would have about an equal share of Italian and Black blood, but though the first crosses come out with something like average regularity, it is difficult to predict what a second cross may be, or do.

2. Does boiling heat kill the germs of foul brood in both wax, hives and the fittings.

The heat of boiling water at sea level, 212° (F.) will destroy the germs of foul brood; but you must be sure that what you are treating is raised to that heat right through. There are organisms whose spores, will not lose their vitality at that heat.

Extracting.

(BY G. R.)

This is the most seasonal operation for the present time, and it is, perhaps well to have a few words to say about it.

The first thing is to have the honey house in proper order, the following points in regard to it are of importance:

First it must be bee proof, with proper provision for the escape of bees, which may come in with the combs for extracting:

This is best provided for by having a window opening covered with wove wire or perforated zinc, or even a bit of mosquito net or muslin tacked on the side and bottom edges to the frame, but tacked at the top to a piece of batten on the outside coming up above the opening, between this and the top of the frame leave a quarter of an inch space, then, when bees find their way into your honey house, they make straight for the window and begin crawling upwards, when, lo! they find themselves outside, they have no notion of crawling *down* such a crack.

The next thing is to have your extractor, uncapping can, combs, wash-hand dish, etc., in the most convenient relative positions, so that you do not have to climb up a tall platform every time you wish to put a comb in the extractor, or walk the whole length of the room when you wish to take a fresh comb from the box or return one emptied.

It is best to mount the extractor high, that it may deliver straight into your refiner, and thence gravitate into your cans or other receptacles, or else dig a pit to accommodate these; some compromise the matter, and get half the height one way and half the other. But have your uncapping table on the same level and as near as possible to it.

Everyone knows how much a dish of water to wash the hands in will assist matters, but you often find extracting rooms, which are considered well-furnished, lacking this.

Be sure your room is well ventilated, there is no need to be roasted; air can get through where bees can't, so there is no need to exclude it to keep them out.

It is best to have a wooden or wire grating to lay the comb upon to uncup, though many simply hold the frame up by one end while uncapping, but in mid-summer, with combs not fastened to the frame all round, an accident may occur.

When the comb is uncapped on both sides, and in the extractor, a little experience will soon tell the rate of speed for driving, and the length of time to continue.

Parramatta Show.

The following is the schedule of prizes in the Apiculture Department at Sixth Annual Show of the Central Cumberland A.&H. Association, to be held in Parramatta Park, Jan. 26, 27 and 28.

SECTION 6.—APICULTURE.

	s	d	s	d
185 Six 1lb sections	10	0	5	0
186 Large frame of Honey ..	10	0	5	0
187 Small frame of Honey ..	10	0	5	0
188 Small frame of Honey, sections excluded.	10	0	5	0
189 Six 1lb glass jars (screw tops) granulated extracted Honey	10	0	5	0
190 Six 1lb glass jars (screw tops) liquid extracted Honey ..	10	6	5	0
1st Prize presented by Mr. Alex Budd, Parramatta.				
191 Italian Queen with Bees in observation hive	10	0	5	0
192 Hive of Bees at Work ..	10	0	5	0
193 Collection of Bee Appliances	21	0	10	0
1st Prize presented by Mayor Slee, Rookwood.				
194 Beeswax, white, 6lb ..	10	0	5	0
195 Beeswax, yellow, 6lb ..	10	0	5	0
196 Display of Comb Honey ..	10	0	5	0
197 Display of Extracted Honey ..	10	0	5	0
198 Sheet of Comb Foundation ..	10	0	5	0

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

H.R.B.K. Association.

The usual monthly meeting of the Hunter River Beekeepers' Association was held at the Technological rooms, West Maitland, on Tuesday evening November 8th, Mr. J. W. Pender, vice-president, in the chair.

Among correspondence received, were letters from the newly appointed vice-presidents, containing thanks for the honor conferred on them. Also from the N.S.W. Postal authorities, stating that they had informed the American Postal authorities that bees were now mailable in New South Wales.

Mr. M. Scobie, secretary, reported the visit of Mr. Major Shallard, to the district.

It was stated that in the proposed allotment of the National prizes of £300 by the H.R.A. & H. Association, it was contemplated giving only £5 for matters connected with bee keeping. It was felt this was a great injustice to such an important industry as bee keeping was becoming. Mr. W. S. Pender laid on the table a list of prizes, amounting to about £17, which he suggested, if approved of by the meeting, should be recommended to the association, the bee keepers contributing £5 towards it. Friendly conversation ensued, in which Mr. Tipper urged prizes should be made in a way to increase the use of honey among the people. Ultimately a committee consisting of Mr. M. Scobie, W. S. Pender, J. F. Munday, and C. Mansfield was appointed to deal with the matter, particularly as to "points," and interview the committee of the H.R.A. & H. Association.

On the suggestion of Mr J. F. Munday it was resolved that at the next meeting "The handling of Swarms" should be the subject for discussion.

CRIBBED.

The following items are collated from Martin's *Home and Farm* :—

Now doth the busy little moth
Improve each shining minute
By hunting up your nicest comb.
And laying millions in it.

BZZZINGS.—Honey granulates sooner when extracted than when left in the comb. It's the shaking that does it.

The adulteration of honey is likely to be a source of trouble to our apiarists. It requires hunting down.

AN UNSEEN PROFIT.—The fruit grower who keeps a few hives may get but little honey, but the perfect fertilizing of his fruit bloom is an item of very large importance.

MAKE IT PAY.—Supply yourselves with every contrivance that is necessary to make your bees pay, but remember that it is you and not the apparatus which must be relied upon to make things pay.

A CHARM BESIDES MONEY.—Any business which occupies the attention and interest of men, and which at the same time confers a positive benefit on the community, is to be placed above such kinds of business as only aids in the accumulation of money. There is a charm in the mere growing of fruit—in watching the progress of that beautiful combination of utility and ornament, in crimson and golden fruit—but its value beyond, in adding to the attractions of country living, and drawing young people from dissipation and wasteful life, to the healthful and intellectual employments connected with horticulture and pomology. The alliances which those attractions form with sunshine and rain, and the wonders of vegetable structure, in connection with roots, soil and moisture, have a strong influence towards intellectual improvements in those engaged in them; and the fruitgrower who extends this influence and taste through the community becomes a public benefactor.

Write to **DRUMFIN APIARY, West Maitland, for COMB FOUNDATION.**

LOAFING BEES.—Trying to smoke in loafing bees at the entrance does not make them go to work. On the contrary, it causes them to boil all over, and to alight on the nearest objects. They will then rub their abdomens and waists with their legs, showing that the breathing-pores have been irritated by the quantity of smoke. Give them plenty of shade, plenty of room, and large wide entrance.

DO YOU EXPERIMENT? Do not be deterred from trying new experiments for fear that your neighbours may laugh at you. About the only way to learn anything new about agriculture is by experimenting. The farmer who experiments for himself, in his own ground learns a hundred times more than he can by reading of the work of others.

It is worth knowing that sometimes failure brings better results than a success.

SPRAYING TREES IN BLOSSOM.—Your arsenical mixtures can do no good till the fruit is set, therefore to spray while your trees are in full bloom is to waste good time, labour, and material, and may do your neighbour, who keeps bees an enormous injury.

SWARMING.—After swarms may be entirely prevented by running in a "virgin" or better still, a laying queen soon after the swarm has come off, and the old hive moved to a new location. Of course you would not treat your best colonies thus, but would cut out cells and care for them so as to supply the queens for other stocks.

SAVE THE WAX.—Save all the bits of comb and render it into wax, which will always command a price. There are hundreds of pounds lost every year by careless bee-keepers in allowing comb to be eaten up by the worms.

The Chloroform Method of introducing Queens.

(To the Editor of the Australian Bee Bulletin.)

DEAR SIR,—Mr Shallard, in your last number (under the heading "Scraps," which appears to chiefly consist in snarls at beekeepers in general, from Mr L. T. Chambers to your humble servant), having made one or two remarks in exceedingly flippant style *re* the chloroform plan of introducing queens, kindly permit me to comment on them briefly.

Mr Shallard says in his "Scraps":—"I do not like Gaggin's chloroform method at all. I can introduce any choice queens in winter without it." Allow me to mention, parenthetically, that this method applies to ALL seasons, and not winter merely. Can Mr Shallard really do this? Can he at all seasons be certain of successfully introducing any queen to any colony without more than one or two minutes loss of time, as I have claimed can be done by my chloroform plan? If Mr Shallard be so phenomenally fortunate by the ordinary plans, then of course the chloroform method would be wholly unneeded by so lucky and skilful a manipulator of bees.

I believe, however, that even the most advanced and scientific beekeepers should recognise as a boon to them the chloroform method of introduction. When such specialists as A. I. Root, and even the "Great Doolittle" confess themselves foiled in introducing queens—and that they do fail, no matter what ingenious plan may have been employed, a glance at "Gleanings" of August last will clearly prove—then it is time for a new departure in queen-introduction, and the discovery of a surer method. The chloroform plan I have asserted to be such a perfect solution of any difficulties in queen introduction, which most beekeepers of any standing must have experienced in the past. I here give two instances of introducing difficulties.

(1) Refractory colonies are met with that by any ordinary process cannot be induced to accept any queens that may be offered them. The usual plan then is to let the obstinate colony have its way and to present it with a queen cell. What a waste of time, for, even should the queen cell given hatch next day they would not have a laying queen before the lapse of ten days.

(2) Again, even the weakest nucleus hives will rarely accept elderly virgins—I mean those more than three or four days of age—by any ordinary plan. These elderly virgins, being impossible of introduction and therefore of no value to the apiarist must simply be massacred by him.

Now the chloroform plan enables one to introduce a laying queen to the most troublesome hybrids in a space of less than two (2) minutes, and the same will exactly apply to a virgin of any age whatever.

Mr Shallard goes on to say in his "Scraps" that he "thinks the chloroform would permanently injure bees."!!! This sentence does not speak highly for Mr Shallard's knowledge of the action of chloroform. Any treatise on the subject from the physician's most scientific textbook to the Popular Encyclopædia, informs us that the after effects of chloroform are never permanent, or should there be any bad result it is manifested *immediately*. It is as absurd to talk of the "permanently" bad effects of a glass of beer on a human subject.

Mr Shallard concludes by requesting some one—it is a wonder that he would not have some regard to the "permanent" evil effects which in his opinion would result to "someone's" bees—"to try the plan on five hives, and compare these with five others of equal strength, and see how they pan out."

This is a very fair proposal of Mr Shallard, and hoping that the test may be applied by more than one investigator who shall report on the method and encourage others to try it, as I have not the smallest

doubt of the success of the experiment if carried but in the manner I have described in the September number of your journal.

I remain, sir,

Yours faithfully,

J. R. H. GAGGIN.

Our Contemporaries.

First on the list is *Martin's Home and Farm*, which is "pegging away" to such an extent that it has doubled the amount of space devoted to bees, and has now two columns filled with pithy little paragraphs on subjects which are either immediately seasonable or else always so. The same description applies to other departments. It is a gem of a farmer's paper, and to the thinking agriculturist one issue should be worth the 2s. 6d. which, only, is the yearly subscription.

We have received, for the first time, copies of the *Canadian Bee Journal*, published at Beeton, Ontario. It is first-class. The present issues are principally concerned with the wintering question, but there are also many topics which will prove of interest in Australia. It is so modest that we are unable to discover from the present issues what is the annual subscription, but we believe it to be a dollar.

No less than five issues of the *American Bee Journal* are to hand. The latest sports a new title page of rustic work and symbols of the industry.

We have not received the *Australian Farm and Home* for the last three months; we don't think it is dead, but have been looking for it with some interest.

The current number of the *Australian Fanciers' Chronicle* commences a new volume, the third, and contains, as well as good things for the *Fancy*, the title page and index for the 2nd volume for those who wish to bind. We wish it success.

Superceding Queens.

DEAR SIR,—I am somewhat amused at some of the answers to the above question. About 15 months ago, I found a colony with old clipped queen and a young one some time after. I found this young queen laying several eggs in a cell, and drone capped brood in workers' cells, and yet there was sealed worker brood in next comb, but I saw no sign of the old queen. The bees being very cross I closed the hive without clipping young queen or destroying her, but marked ticket "Young Queen laying Drone." Somehow that hive was forgotten for some time (about a month I think) until I noticed the card, and fully expected to find all drone brood, when to my surprise on the first frame I took out was the old clipped queen, and on another a young queen about two days old. I left them then for about 10 or 11 days when the young queen was laying and I clipped her. I found the old queen dead on the front board about a fortnight after. I have a colony superceding their queen now, and have had "1 R.C." ever since 23rd January, but as the queen is an imported one, I have saved "R.C." and given to nucleus, but have helped them with sealed brood from time to time. Another has been doing the same since June last, but have not got a young one laying so far, though I left the old one.

As to "Do bees discriminate, etc." I am convinced that they do, that is when the queen lays several in a cell and on the sides, and also when the brood is capped, as they will run about like wild and tear down some of the cappings, they will also run out of the entrance and all up the sides of hives and as a rule are inclined to be vicious. Climate and the weather has a great deal to do with bees' behaviour, but I believe they let the old queen die or go out of hive of her own accord.

"QUEENSLAND."

The Beekeepers' Union.

I should like to see something done about that Beekeepers' Union. I think the first thing to decide is, whether it is to be N.S.W. or Australian.

What we want is, an organization the same as the American Union, and I do not think we can possibly do better than follow in their footsteps. The query is, who is there that can give us the needed information about their constitution.

If I remember rightly they have a manager and a committee of five to advise him and I do not see that any more are needed. If we had a President and Secretary and they had to be present at a meeting or if a meeting had to be called before any action could be taken it would greatly retard the working. A constitution the same as our associations would be of very little use, as no one person can take any action, and as the officers of the union would in all probability be widely scattered, frequent meetings would be impossible. It will be impossible to get a good strong affair without some discussion and I should much like to see the parties interested just give their views through the Bee Bulletin.

Glenbrook. MAJOR SHALLARD.

Bee-Keeping at Deniliquin

For years past bee-keeping has been carried on here on a small scale, but within the last two or three years, more interest has been taken in it, and now there are between 150 and 200 hives in this town, fully half of which are overcome with that contagious disease—foul brood. We started beekeeping early last year, and before the end of that year we had to destroy the whole of our bees, and start afresh (before doing so, well boiling our hives and fittings.) We have a very fair start again and are taking all precautions against foul brood. We are trying Mr. W. Abram's cure

as a preventative, as the saying is "prevention is better than cure," and we firmly believe it to be a good preventive. For instance, last year we had one hive in which we were using the Salicylic Acid as a preventative, alongside the others which got foul-brood very bad, and our neighbours close around also had it, and this hive escaped free from that most destructive disease among our little "working wonders." Swarming only commenced here about a fortnight ago. We have both black and hybrid bees and find them equal workers. The honey flow is beginning to roll in now, as the box-tree and others are in bloom.

Yours faithfully,

V. & H. GEERS.

Deniliquin.

"Jottings from New England,"

(BY BEE STING.)

Bees wintered splendidly—I lost only five per cent. and they were very weak—all in the open on summer stands; the first winter I did not pack with chaff cushions:

Had a grand start on Wattle and Willow, and are now working on Acacia and Clover, the latter being our main source, from which we sometimes obtain two and three distinct crops.

Swarming is fully a month earlier than last year. So far I have had fourteen, a few of which have been very eccentric, coming out between thunderstorms, etc., and on being hived would not stay, even with frame of brood, one swarm actually coming out in the midst of a shower of rain.

When are queens likely to become mailable matter again?

Why don't bee-keepers agitate for the carriage of bee hives free, on the railway? I have written to the Commissioner, and will report their reply latter on.

Wishing the BULLETIN every success,
I remain, etc.,

"BEE STING."

MAILING QUEENS.*To the Editor of the A. Bee Bulletin*

Dear Sir,—I wrote to the Secretary General Post Office, enquiring if the American authorities had been informed of the decision of our Post-office in reference to getting queens from America, and now beg to enclose the satisfactory reply received. I wrote so as to know if I could order more queens. The difficulty was that the Post Office at 'Frisco would not forward parcels containing queens, which came in the prohibited list of articles as live insects, without the authority of our Post Office. The letter will be information to your readers.

Yours faithfully,

W. S. Pender.

Drumfin Apiary, W. Maitland,
Nov. 3, 1892.

General Post Office

Sydney, Nov. 1st, 1892

Sir,—With reference to your communication dated the 19th ultimo, I have the honour to intimate that the Postal authorities of the United States of America, have been advised of the determination of this Department to allow the transmission through the post of the colony, of packets containing bees, received from America.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

S. H. Lambton,
Secretary.

W. S. Pender,
West Maitland.

The Waste Product Again.*(To the Editor of the Australian Bee Bulletin)*

Dear Sir,—In your last I notice under "A new use for a waste product," that Mr. J. Wilson Green, of Queensland, is in trouble with his calves scouring. If he will warm the milk fed to them by

plunging irons (old plough shares or castings) heated in the fire into it, trouble will soon cease. This plan if regularly practiced is no more trouble than any other for warming milk, and greatly benefits the calves.

Yours truly,

T. A. GRANT.

Glen Elgin, Toolern,
via Melton, Vic.

The N.S.W.B.K. Association.

There appeared to me to be an impression in the Hunter district, that my action in calling the N.S.W.B.K. Association together was caused by Mr. Patten's motion to change the name of the H.R.B.K. Association. This was not so, as if the motion had never been proposed the older Association would have been called together at Christmas. I had been in communication with Mr. T. H. Bradley and others for fully twelve months re the advisability of getting the Association into working order again, but no one seemed to care to spare the time necessary to get it going. The motion certainly precipitated my action, but it did not cause it and there was no discourtesy intended to the H.R.B.K. Association by it. When the Association was first started, it was fully intended to make it the N.S.W. Association in the fullest sense and it has the same aim now. I think the H.R.B.K. Association will admit that it was only the lapse of the older Association which caused them to become in any sense a representative body of N.S.W., and consequently they owe it a vote of thanks for lapsing at such a convenient time.

Seeing that our membership embraces a large portion of the colony and must eventually embrace the lot, I do not see how we could assume any local name.

MAJOR SHALLARD.

Glenbrook, N.S.W.

Good Things to Come.

In next issue of the *Bulletin* will commence a series of articles on queen-rearing, by W. S. Pender. Mr Pender intends giving his experiences in rearing queens by different methods practised by him, and will show where different common methods are defective. Judging from what we know of him the articles will be very practical and will prove valuable to our readers.

THE BENDIGO SHOW.

From the *Farmer and Grazier* of Oct. we clip the following from the report of the Bendigo Grand National Show:

BEE AND BEEHIVE REQUISITES.—An interesting exhibition of working hives of bees, improved hives, and apiary requisites was shown by Messrs. J. B. Gregson, J. G. Greenway, and E. Webb. The two first named gentlemen secured firsts for working bees while Mr. Webb was similarly honoured for apiarian appliances. Mr. Webb is an experienced and practical apiarist from Ohio, U.S.A., and intends settling in the Bendigo district and conducting the industry on an extensive scale.

BEE PRIZES.—Collection of appliances—J. B. Greenway & Sons, 1 and 2; E. Webb, Bendigo, 3. Bees on comb, queen, workers, and drones to be shown on comb of brood—James G. Gregson, Shepparton, 1; J. B. Greenway & Sons, Marong, 2.

Answers to Correspondents.

Some weeks ago we received stamps for a "Queensland Bee Book," but have mislaid the address, kindly drop a post card.

Subscriptions Received.

Subscriptions up to the dates specified, have been received from the following:—

Mr Thos. J. H., Gosford ..	April 1893
Andrew C., Port Macquarrie ..	April 1893
J. W. D., N. Killarney, Queensland	Oct. 1893
John H., Eglington, Bathurst	Dec. 1893
G. W. W., Sherbrooke ..	Aug. 1893
W. C., Braidwood ..	Mar. 1893
John B., Glendonbrook ..	Sep. 1893
W. B., Dora Creek ..	Aug. 1893

Cash received from—

Hebblewhite and Co., Sydney ..	£1 10 0
R. J. Cribb, Brisbane ..	9 0

Going Ahead.

We have been shown the smokers being made by Mr. R. L. Pender, at his works in Maitland. They are large, strong and direct draft, being an improvement on any we have yet seen. There are three decided advantages in them: the valve is done away with, the fire box is attached to the bellows so that the nose points upwards when stood on the ground, and they are all being made rigidly to pattern, so that should it be necessary, new parts can be secured.

We have been using, all this and part of last season, a smoker embodying most of these points, and made by the designer of these, and though considerably smaller, it is a beauty.

He is also making wood separators for sections, which are real "dandies."

Honey as Money Making Business.

It has been estimated that Europe has 12 million bee-hives and produces 307 million pounds of honey, the United States has two and a-half million hives and produces 61 million pounds of honey. The largest apiarist in the world is M. Harbison, of California, who has 6,000 hives yielding about 200,000 pounds of honey yearly. Australia may have twice as many hives as M. Harbison. It is further estimated that a bee must visit 218,750 flowers for each ounce of honey gathered.—*Richmond River Herald.*

Culinary Recipes.

HONEY FRUIT CAKE.—Four eggs, five cups of flour, two cups of honey, one teacupful butter, one cup sweet milk, teaspoonful baking powder, one pound raisins, one pound currants, half-a-pound citron, one teaspoonful each cloves, cinnamon, and nutmeg; bake in a large loaf in a slow oven. This will be nice months after baking as well as when fresh.

HONEY SPONGE CAKE.—One large coffee cup full of honey, one cup of flour, five eggs. Beat yolks and honey together, beat the whites to a froth; mix all together, stirring as little as possible; flavor with lemon juice or extract.

RAILROAD HONEY CAKE.—One cup of honey, one heaping cup flour, two teaspoonfuls baking powder, three eggs, and a little lemon juice; stir all together ten minutes. Bake twenty minutes in a quick oven.

HONEY TEA CAKES.—Three pounds and a half of flour, one pound and a half of honey, half a pound of sugar, half a pound of butter, half a nutmeg grated, one tablespoonful of ground ginger, one teaspoonful of saleratus or carbonate of soda. Mix the sugar with the flour and grated ginger, and work the whole into a smooth dough, with the butter beaten to a cream; the honey and saleratus or soda dissolved in a little hot water. Roll it a quarter of an inch thick, cut it into small cakes, and bake twenty-five minutes in a moderate oven.

HONEY CAKES.—Three cups of honey, four cups sour milk, half a cup butter, 2 teaspoonfuls soda, and flour enough to make a rather stiff dough.

HONEY GINGER SNAPS.—One pint honey, three-quarters pound of butter, two teaspoonfuls of ginger; boil together a few minutes, and when nearly cold put in flour until it is stiff, roll out thinly, and bake quickly.

HONEY APPLE AND BATTER PUDDING.—Three pints thinly sliced apples, one pint honey, one pint flour, one pint corn meal, small piece butter, one teaspoonful soda, the juice of two lemons and their grated rinds; stir the dry soda into the honey, then add the apples, melted butter, and a little salt; now add the lemon rind and juice, and at once stir in the flour. Bake one hour. Serve hot or cold with sauce.

GRAPES PRESERVED WITH HONEY.—Take seven pounds sound grapes on the stem, the branches as perfect as possible, pack them snugly without breaking in a stone jar. Make a syrup of four pounds of honey, one pint good vinegar, with cloves and cinnamon to suit (about three ounces of each), boil well together for twenty minutes, skim well, then turn boiling hot over the grapes, and seal immediately. They will keep for years, if you wish, and are exceedingly nice. Apples, peaches, and plums may be done in this way.

PRESERVING FRUITS.—Put honey and fruit in a vessel, then put the vessel in a kettle of water and boil, the same as with sugar.

HONEY PRESERVES.—All kinds of fruit made into jam with honey instead of sugar are nice. For grapes, pick from the stem and pack into a jar until it is full, then turn cold honey over them until they are covered well. Seal up without any heat, and keep in a cool place. After a few months they will be found to be delicious.

ROSE-HONEY (*rhodomeli*), made of the expressed juice of roses and honey, is held in high favour for the sick.

HONEY CURRANT WINE.—To three quarts of juice add three pounds of honey and water to make a gallon, let it ferment four or five weeks, with open bung, and keep the barrel always full, in a warm place, then drain, and put into another barrel in the cellar. It makes a delicious drink.

METHEGLIN.—Mix honey and water strong enough to carry an egg; let it stand three or four weeks in a warm place to ferment; then drain through a cloth, and add some spices to suit the taste.

HONEY can be used in cooking anything, just as sugar is used, merely using less milk or water than called for when sugar is used, on account of honey being a liquid.

MILK AND HONEY.—Take a bowl of milk and break some light wheat bread and also some white comb honey into it. This is delicious—the proverbial “milk and honey” of the ancients. If comb is not at hand use extracted honey.

HONEY CAKE.—One quart of extracted honey, one half pint melted butter, one teaspoonful soda, dissolved in one half tea cup of warm water, one half of a nutmeg and one teaspoonful of ginger. Mix these ingredients, and then work in flour and roll. Cut in thin cakes and bake on buttered tins in a quick oven.

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G. M. DOOLITTLE.

I will sell **Untested Queens** from this queen 7/6 each or 4 for £1. They will be sent along as early as I can breed them. Now, if you want any, order early.

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(Established 1887.)

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 hives this coming Spring, as I have decided to follow Manum's plan of not keeping queens over one year old. I shall have some hundreds 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,
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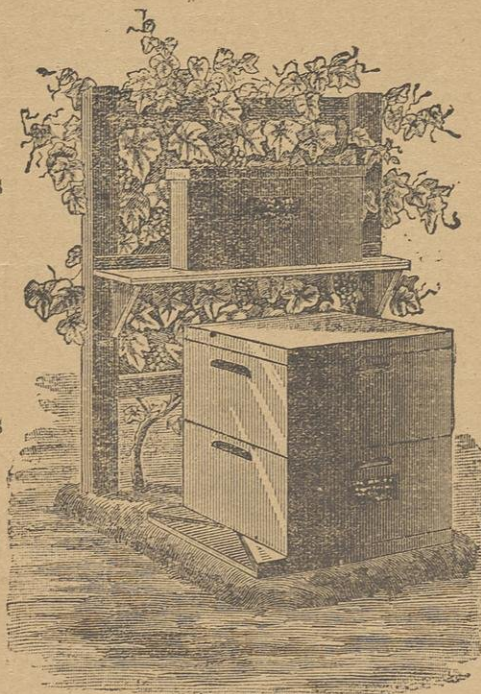
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