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"THEBESTO" BEE

VOL. 1

DENVER, COLORADO, FEB.-JUNE, 1923

NO. 9

C. H. P. A. Summer Field Meeting at Lakeside, "White City," Denver, Saturday, June 9. Don't Miss It!

JUST AMONG OURSELVES

Once more Thebesto Bee brings greetings to the members of the C. H. P. A. and its hundreds of beekeeper friends in the Intermountain region. Coming out after the annual meeting of the Association, we want to tell those members who couldn't come or didn't take enough interest to be present, that they missed a good meeting. In another column we have touched the "high spots" of the meeting, but it is manifestly impossible to do more in the brief space at command. * * * One fact disclosed at the meeting was that most members' comb honey went out at \$3.75 and \$3.50 per case, while non-organized beekeepers on the western slope realized about a dollar less. Query: If it were not for the existence of the C. H. P. A., how much better off would the beekeepers be on this side of the range than their brothers of the Western Slope? *

* * * A frequent complaint among non-members and also beekeepers who contemplate a local organization is that C. H. P. A. grading rules are too strict. Too many beekeepers who thus find fault do not seem to realize that these stiff grading rules are the association's big asset. An intending buyer never questions the QUALITY of C. H. P. A. honey. * * * Poor grading doesn't fool any buyer, at least not more than once. And then it hurts the producer more than it does the buyer. "Thebesto Bee" favors local co-operative organizations wherever there are enough beekeepers and enough co-operative spirit to make the thing a success. But it believes intending organizations are making a grave mistake when they contemplate easy-going grading rules which do not assure at least as good a product as C. H. P. A. standards demand. * * * Beekeepers of the Intermountain region may as well face the facts. Greatly increased producing areas, narrowing markets, disorganized distribution, and falling prices. The remedy? There is no cure-all in sight. But the prudent

ones will keep less bees and more storage equipment, cut frills and overhead expense to the lowest point, try to produce a good article and encourage the co-operative spirit in buying and selling. Better beekeeping, better business methods, and greater economy will do about all that can be done just now. * * * President George Miller who went to the hospital in December is slowly gaining in health but was unable to attend the annual meeting. It was the first time in the history of the C. H. P. A. that a presiding officer was absent at the annual meeting. * * * Beekeepers' supplies will be higher. You can help yourself and your association by anticipating your needs and placing your orders now. * * * Three new members were elected on the board of directors this year. Herman Rauchfuss and Fred Wick, both having served for many successive years, asked to be relieved. Mr. Sutton also felt that he could not devote the necessary time to association matters. Wm. Lindenmeier of Fort Collins, Harvey Whitacre of Fort Lupton, and F. G. Rauchfuss of Englewood, are the new members of the board. George Miller was re-elected president, and C. H. Wolfe, vice president. Frank Rauchfuss continues as secretary-treasurer and manager. * Beekeepers throughout the nation will note with sorrow the passing of A. I. Root, founder of the A. I. Root Co., of Medina, O., on April 30. A kindly gentleman of the old school, outliving his generation by many years, yet maintaining interest in everything of the present day up till the very last, his going will leave a void in the hearts of beekeepers that none other will fill. * * * Miss R. B. Pettit, well-known Canadian beekeeper, sister and co-worker of Prof. Morley Pettit of Georgetown, Ont., passed out Feb. 20, while on a visit with her brother to Phoenix, Ariz. Miss Pettit was in many respects one of the most remarkable women in beekeeping. She, too, will be missed by many friends on both sides of the international border.

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Published when the spirit moves, for our members and for western beekeepers, by the Colorado Honey Producers Association, at 1224 Market St., Denver, Colo. Frank Rauchfuss, Manager.

THE BIG ANNUAL EVENT

The summer Field Meeting of the Colorado Honey Producers Association will be held at the White City, Saturday, June 9th, commencing at 10 A. M. The White City is the well known amusement park located at W. 45th and Sheridan Boulevard, just outside of the Denver city limits in Jefferson County and is reached by route 16 and 44 street car lines; to get there by auto from Denver, cross 14th street viaduct. After reaching Lake Place branch off on Boulevard F, turn off on 44th until you reach Sheridan, then proceed north.

Coming from north, follow Broomfield road until you reach Federal Blvd., then follow Federal Blvd. until you reach W. 49th Ave., then turn to the right (or north) and follow 49th Ave., which takes you direct to the White City.

This meeting is open to all that are interested in bee culture and you are invited to come and bring your family. Ask the Gate Keeper about the location of our meeting in the park. It is customary to bring basket lunches. Coffee and ice cream will be provided by the C. H. P. A.

BEE SUPPLY SITUATION

The G. B. Lewis Company reports that they have the largest run of business they ever had. Although they are working a full crew, they are way behind on making deliveries. Evidently the good crop eastern beekeepers had last year encourages them to order their supplies in time.

We have at present a very good stock of most everything needed by western beekeepers and can make prompt shipment. **Send in your orders now, and make sure that you will have supplies when needed.**

Our prices are lower than the same quality goods can be bought for elsewhere. Our Spring price list of bee supplies was mailed to all of our customers May 1st. If you have not received this new price list, drop us a card and we will mail you another one.

On May 18th No. 1 Standard sections were advanced by factory \$1.00 per thousand. Commencing with that date our price of Lewis No. 1 grade sections will be one dollar per thousand more than the price originally quoted on our Spring price list.

Root Honey Extractors have been advanced 10 per cent over their this year's catalog price. Advances in other lines of bee supplies are likely to come, as raw materials are still raising in price.

BEE MORTALITY IN THE VICINITY OF DENVER

Ever since Cottonwood trees came in bloom the bees along the river course in the vicinity of Denver, especially from Denver north, have been dying off in considerable numbers. Some colonies being reduced to just a few hundred bees and the queen, others are in fair working condition yet, while here and there a colony has died out entirely. The same trouble has happened in previous years already, and no one is able to tell us what the cause of it is. The writer has taken the matter up with Dr. E. F. Phillips of the Department of Agriculture, and we hope that they will see fit to investigate the cause of this loss.

TABULATION OF RETURN ON HONEY REPORT SENT OUT

MAY 17th, 1923

What is the percentage of loss of colonies since last fall? 12 less than 5 per cent less; 23 between 5 and 10 per cent; 19 between 10 and 15 per cent; 5 more than 15 per cent.

What is the cause of this loss? 34 report loss due to queenless; 3 report loss due to spring dwindling; 4 report loss due to starvation; 2 report loss due to wind and being hailed out; 2 report loss due to poor stores; 2 report loss due to winter killed; 1 reports loss due to shortage of feed and winter killed; 1 reports loss due to shortage of honey on account of open winter; 1 reports loss due to being weak; 3 report loss due to natural causes.

What is the condition of colonies at present? 22 report fair; 29 report good; 7 report very good.

What are the prospects for honey from alfalfa and sweet clover? 19 report fair; 35 report good; 1 reports very good.

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CAUTION

Extracted honey producers should make sure that all honey is well ripened before it is taken off the hives and if a honey pump must be used, to see that it is used carefully so as not to get the honey in a foamy condition.

Sixty pounds net weight must be put into each five-gallon can and it certainly will pay a beekeeper to have an accurate scale handy to make sure that he has the required amount in each can. The Federal net weight law requires that each container of honey must have the net weight on it and for the purpose of marking 60 lb. cans, a stencil is perhaps the simplest way of marking.

The color of the honey should also be indicated on each can so that in case a crop is secured that varies in color, it can be separated by the beekeeper with very little effort.

BIG DEMAND FOR HONEY BOOKS

Orders for copies of the recipe book, "Honey, How and When To Use It," from non-members as well as members of the League are arriving every day. If every consumer who has a copy of this publication buys an extra five-pound pail of honey this winter, the increased sales will equal the honey production of some entire states.

The beekeeper's name and address will be printed on the first page without extra charge when the order is for two hundred or more copies.

| | |
|---------------|---------|
| 20 booklets | \$ 1.25 |
| 100 booklets | 4.50 |
| 1000 booklets | 33.00 |

Ten per cent discount to affiliated members of the League. The postage is extra; weight, 6 pounds per 100 copies.

HONEY SAMPLES

For sending honey samples by mail, we now have three sizes of containers. Bottles with cork holding 1½ and 4 ounces respectively. Also round tall jars with duplex cap, holding 5 ounces of honey. This last size is large enough to give your customer enough honey to try it out at his breakfast table and for this reason will bring more orders than the small sample. All three sizes are supplied in substantial mailing tubes. Consult our price list on them; we have a good supply on hand.

BEES WINTERED WELL

The past winter has as far as the intermountain region is considered been an ideal one for the wintering of bees. There have been no long spells of extreme cold at any time. The forepart of the winter was just cold enough to keep bees from flying too much and the absence of extreme cold kept them from starting brood rearing too early. February and March were cold months but all colonies having queens and plenty of good stores, are now in good condition.

Dandelions are blooming and as there is sufficient moisture in the ground there should be plenty of wild flowers blossoms to follow.

LITTLE IMPROVEMENT NOTED

The honey situation has not shown any signs of improvement. When sugar advanced to \$10.00 everybody thought that this would at least mean more activity and better prices for honey, but it has not worked out that way yet. It is evident that most of the heavy users of sugar were put wise and stocked up with lower priced sugar. Their supply is now running low and some of them will look around for some other sweet that can be had at a lower price. The probabilities are that honey prices will firm up some and that it will be possible to move the unsold stocks at fair prices.

HONEY PRICES

For the benefit of beekeepers who may have extracted honey to sell yet, we are giving herewith our retail as well as our wholesale prices on white extracted honey in various packages such as beekeepers are usually putting out.

| | Retail | Wholesale |
|--------------------|--------|-----------------|
| 2½ lb. cans | .58 | \$10.44 Case 24 |
| 5 lb. pails | 1.00 | 9.60 Case 12 |
| 10 lb. pails | 1.90 | 9.12 Case 6 |
| 1-60 lb. can cased | | 8.40 |

Protect the retailer when selling honey direct to consumer. Make this a point in soliciting business from the retailer, and when selling the retailer honey, see that he gives it a place where the customer can see and examine it.

Jefferson County has an appropriation of \$200.00 for Bee Inspection, H. H. Jacobs, Inspector.

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OPERATIVE MARKETING LAW

House Bill No. 330 by Messrs. Calkins and Swinehart, usually called the **State Marketing Bill**, has now become a law. Dr. Calkins, the introducer of the bill, is an extensive Colorado bee-keeper and a member of our Association.

Thebesto Bee is pleased this bill was passed. We understand it was drawn up by Mr. Aaron Sapiro, the noted expert on co-operative marketing of farm products, and it certainly has many admirable features. We advise everybody interested in better marketing methods to secure a copy and study it.

CARTONS FOR COMB HONEY

That comb honey should not be exposed to dust and flies is a matter which ought to be evident to any retailer. However, nearly every big city has dealers that offend the discriminating buyer by doing this very thing of displaying comb honey on the sidewalk without any protection whatever.

Slip cartons attractively printed will overcome these troubles. We shall be glad to send a sample printed carton upon request.

PRESERVING TIME SOON HERE

Beekeepers who have not had their family try out the use of honey in place of sugar for preserving fruits, should interest themselves in this now.

Honey is used for the preserving of fruit in the same quantity as sugar. A most excellent jelly can be made by the use of honey and fruit juices.

GET A REAL FUNNEL

Honey producers who are obliged to fill 5-gallon cans in a room where flies are present, will find the use of a strainer funnel as advertised in our late price list, of great benefit. The price of this funnel is \$1.00 and we guarantee that it will give satisfaction.

Learn from the spider and the bee
Two styles of business strategy.
Alone, the spider spreads his snare,
If business comes, he gets his share.
Together, bees far better thrive,
They bring the honey to the hive.

QUEEN BEES

We do not handle Queens, but are always glad to answer inquiries as to where good Queens may be obtained.

HONEY IN SMALL PARCELS

Now is a good time to sell honey in jars and pails. Why? Pantry stores are pretty well used up by the housewives. People are longing for a change. There is now less competition by other beekeepers. Grocers are pretty well cleaned up on honey.

If you have the time to pack honey, try out your market and see if the above statement is not correct.

Dadant's new vertically wired Brood Foundation for slotted bottom Hoffman Frames will be carried in stock by us at Denver. Insofar as this item is not mentioned in our price list, we wish to call attention to it.

Beekeepers can save money by clubbing their orders for comb foundation and taking advantage of the 100-pound rate packed in 25-pound boxes.

If you do not have our Spring price list, send for it today.

When using hives that for some reasons have been burned out inside, be sure and scrape out carefully the inside of such hive bodies and supers to remove every particle of charcoal. We have known of cases where this fine charcoal got into the extracted honey and it would pass through several thicknesses of cheese cloth.

FOR SALE

One share of stock.—A. Zimmerman, 2638 East 2nd Ave., Denver, Colo.

A share of stock in C. H. P. A. which I will sell for \$45.00 cash, wishing to go out of the bee business.—W. H. Bartleson, 1227 Euclid Ave., Berkeley, Calif.

175 colonies of bees in 8 fr. hives, 800 8 fr. supers, all necessary equipment including 6,000 sections, 100 extra hives complete; practically new outfit; price \$4500.00.—L. T. Lang, Longmont, Colo.

Having disposed of my bees, I offer for sale my one-fifth share of stock in the Association for \$10.00.—W. E. Taylor, 45 Paulhan Ave., Los Angeles, Calif.

50 colonies bees in good eight and ten frame hives; new equipment for extracting. Inquire of Wm. Lindenmeier, Fort Collins, Colo.