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The Southland queen. Vol. III, No. 4 August 1897

Beeville, Texas: The Jennie Atchley Company, August 1897

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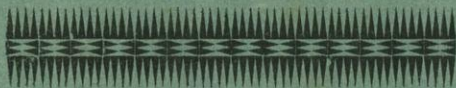
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The 

SOUTHLAND

QUEEN.



BEEVILLE, TEXAS,

August, 1897 

PRIDGEN'S QUEENS

THE BEST!



I PURCHASED two queens from Mr. Pridgen July 23d, 1896, which I introduced all right, but the untested one got lost soon afterwards. I introduced the breeder to a colony or hive, containing about one quart of bees and not exceeding two pounds of honey. The fall was not propitious at all, but she built up fast and her bees gathered enough honey to go through the winter on, as I have not fed a single bit up to date. Her hive now sits in the midst of 33 colonies of blacks, hybrids and thorough-bred 3-banded Italians. Her bees have completed seventy-four 1-pound sections, spring count, and are now in as fine a condition as any hive in my apiary. She is absolutely the **finest queen** in our county, as I know of no one else that has any of Mr. Pridgen's queens in my section of country. I would not take One Hundred Dollars for her to-day, and if I want a reliable queen after this I assure you I am not afraid to give Mr. Pridgen my order. My queen will doubtless sell many queens for Mr. Pridgen during the coming year, as she is one among the finest honey gatherers as well as pleasing to the eye.

E. R. MABUS, Batesburg, S. C.

When you wish Queens like the above send to

W. H. PRIDGEN, Creek, Warren Co., N.C.

Draw Money Orders on
Warrenton, ... Catalog Free.

Wonderful!

Inventions In Apiculture

Work accomplished by Electricity
Fully explained in the.....

PACIFIC BEE JOURNAL

After January, an Illustrated Monthly,
at 50 cents a year. Send for sample
copy. LOS ANGELES, CAL.

I SAY, did you know that
Jennie Atchley
had queens for sale? If you didn't know it before, you have no reason to doubt it now. Write to THE SOUTHLAND QUEEN for her P. O. Address.



T. J. SKAGGS, REAL ESTATE
Co.,
of BEEVILLE, TEXAS,

Wish to call especial attention to their cheap ranche lands in this issue of the SOUTHLAND QUEEN. Well improved ranches of 3,500 acres and over \$2.00 per acre.

Just Think of It! Again

If you have \$800 to \$4,000 to invest in an improved home in town we can fit you up at 50 per cent discount. Always hunt us up if you come to South-west Texas.

T. J. Skaggs Real Estate Co.,
BEEVILLE, TEXAS.

The Southland Queen.

Monthly. Devoted to the Exchange of Thoughts on Apiculture.

\$1.00

Vol. III. BEEVILLE, TEXAS, AUGUST, 1897.

No. 4.

NEWS NOTES.

IN our news notes for July we spoke of the recent rains assuring us of a full crop. It should read fall crop.

WE wish to call your attention to the advt. of Legh Beauchamp in this issue. We know him to be perfectly reliable and are sure he will treat his customers right.

ON page 77 of last month's issue Gustav Kunke's letter should read "expect 5,000 pounds," not "extracted 5,000 pounds," as he is a honey comb man. Sorry to make such a blunder.

THE absence of the usual lesson by L. Stachelhausen this month, is due to our coming out a little ahead of time. Our printer wishing to take a vacation during August printed the issue for that month in July. That will give us all some rest till September.

WE would like to call our subscribers' attention to the matter of paying money to J. O. Grimsley. He is short with us and refuses to make amends. Please do not pay him any more money under any circumstances even if you have an order signed by us.

A BIG mistake was made when we got hold of powdered alum in place of powdered sugar, while making up queen candy. The two very much resemble one another, and in fact the alum candy looked the best, as it was pliant and

stood up well. The result was we had to replace many queens as, of course, all died that were sent out with that candy.

OUR bees at this date, July 24, are absolutely doing nothing. It is unsafe to open a hive one minute unless under a tent. It is very troublesome to cage queens this dry, hot weather.

MR. G. W. HUFSTEDLER has been appointed secretary of the South Texas Bee-Keepers' Association to succeed J. O. Grimsley. Any correspondence concerning the meeting next November will be promptly answered by addressing G. W. Hufstedler, Beeville, Texas.

Do not fail to bring with you samples of honey from the different sources and the time gathered, as we wish to make a record of all the honey furnishing plants of this and other states. We will set apart time for the examination of all the honey brought in.

JAMAICA now has a Bee Supply company. James Doidge, of Mandeville, Jamaica, W. I., writes, under date of July 10, that a bee supply house, or company, has been formed for the purpose of furnishing the West India Islands with all kinds of apiary fixtures. We suppose that our enterprising customer, Doidge, is at the head of the concern. Hurrah, for Jamaica, the land of perpetual summer.

BEE-KEEPERS IN SESSION

AT CAMERON; PERMANENT ORGANIZATION; AN ENJOYABLE EVENT; NEW MEMBERS ENROLLED; SUBJECTS DISCUSSED.

The fourth semi-annual meeting of the Central Texas Bee-Keepers' Association convened at Cameron July 16 pursuant to call by the President.

Judge McGregor welcomed the Association, and in a warm address tendered the generous hospitality of the people of Cameron.

Judge Terral, on behalf of the visitors, responded in a brief address.

After prayers by Rev. A. J. Peeler, the business of the day was taken up.

Roll call and enrollment of new members:

C. B. Bankston, John Cairns, J. W. Pharr, Capt. Len Clinton, J. J. Baggett, Rev. Ed Baggett, J. C. York and Hon. John Hill; Ben Dickey and Frank Vouer, not present. All of Chrisman.

E. R. Jones (president), Mrs. E. R. Jones, W. R. Dennis, F. N. Dennis and E. H. Hensby; G. W. Beardnot, not present—Milano.

F. A. Arnold and Mrs. F. A. Arnold—Hookersville.

E. Y. Terral, H. M. Whites, S. Terral, E. Nabors, S. F. Ozburn, Kenard Hawkins, A. Lain, J. B.

McKenney and R. W. Cage—Cameron.

C. De LaVergne and R. S. Booth—Rockdale.

O. P. Hyde, M. Dentler, Fred L. Henington and J. H. Noe, H. H. Hyde—Hutto.

W. H. Maddley—Rogers.

E. J. Atchley and Willie Atchley—Beeville.

F. L. Aten—Pflugerville.

J. W. Hoyes and Stanley Hoyes—Minerva.

S. D. Hanna and Henry Hanna—Temple.

L. W. Lockerdy—Wilderville.

H. L. Pearce—Rosebud.

B. A. Guess—Heidenheimer.

J. P. Harden—P.O. address unknown.

The Committee on Territory asked for more time to establish the boundary lines of the Central Texas Association. Granted.

The election of officers for the ensuing year was proceeded with and resulted as follows: E. Y. Terral, president; O. P. Hyde, vice-president; C. B. Bankston, secretary and treasurer.

A resolution extending thanks to the retiring officers for the faithful and able manner in which they had performed their duties during the past term, was introduced and unanimously passed.

EVENING SESSION.

By E. R. Jones--Resolved, That a collection be taken up for the purpose of defraying the expense

of printing, in book form, the minutes of our last Cameron meeting. Motion past and bill settled.

The subject, "What hybrid bees are best for comb or extracted honey?" was then taken up and discussed.

Willie Atchley—A cross between Holylands and the 5-band Italians make the best hybrids that I have ever used. They will begin working in supers five days before the pure Italians.

E. J. Atchley—I agree with Willie in all essential points. They winter on less honey, and can be stimulated, when necessary, to fill their hives to overflowing with bees for the honey flow, which is a very desirable quality. They are not as gentle as either race in its purity; swarm less than crosses from other races, and make a good all round business bee.

Mr. Aten—I run for extracted honey. My experience is very limited with hybrids as I try to keep my bees pure. I have not tried any crosses except between the Italians and blacks.

C. B. Bankston—I would prefer a cross between Italians and pure Carniolans, or a pure Carniolan queen from imported stock mated to 5-banded drones.

Mr. Medows—Italian hybrids are the best bees for this country.

Judge Terral preferred a cross between blacks and Italians; about three-quarter black.

Mr. Henington—I want Italians crossed with blacks; about half and half.

"What are the best race of bees for Texas?"

Willie Atchley said he had tried many different races but had come to the conclusion that the Holyland bees are the best for all purposes in the South. They are very prolific, yet they swarm less than many other races. They go to work in the supers quicker than Italians, are less inclined to fill their brood nest with honey and therefore keep a larger army of workers in the field to gather nectar. I can safely recommend them to the southern bee-keeper. Carniolans are very undesirable in this warm climate, as they do not cease to breed continuously through the season:

[To be continued.]

NOTES.

—The old queen goes with the first swarm, and a young queen with each after-swarm.

—A bad entrance to the hive is a great barrier to the bees, as is also the surroundings. Clean all weeds away for some distance from the hive.

—The best time to extract the honey is just as the bees begin capping. In this way uncapping is avoided, and the honey is thick and nearly ripe.

—In order to free the honey from small pieces of comb and other impurities, it should be passed through a coarse cloth or wire sieve before sending to market.

MARKETING HONEY.

UNIFORMITY IN SIZE OF PACKAGE;
HOW TO INCREASE DEMAND;

A VALUABLE ARTICLE.

[Concluded on page 100.]

This is another subject much written upon and talked about. However much has been said, the subject is by no means exhausted, and comes up at every convention and will not settle.

Go with me into any grocery store and look at the goods there handled. Everything in the way of liquids, except perhaps vinegar, sorghum and honey, are so put up that they can be handled by the piece. All solids are either in package form, or in such shape that they can very quickly be weighed or counted out. Vinegar, coal oil, and such, are measured out, it is true; but there is of necessity a vessel in each household for these things, and the vessel is taken to be filled again when empty. Just think it over for yourself and answer the question: Is there a single article in the grocer's line so awkwardly handled as extracted honey? I have no particular criticism to make in regard to retailing comb honey, but I must say that extracted is very poorly marketed.

We put up our extracted honey in 60-lb. cans, barrels, etc., and ship to the wholesale or commission dealer. These in turn sell it

out to the retail men in small lots; and when they come to get out the honey find it candied. Even if it did not candy, it is a hard article to retail in this way, because it must be kept warm or else the dealer must spend much time waiting for it to run out. I have retailed a number of tons of extracted honey, and I know what kind of a job it is. If you were a storekeeper and had your choice of selling maple and other syrups in regular packages, or honey drawn out into the customer's vessel, would you not choose the regular package? I am sure you would and that is just what is done.

But how are we to get it into regular packages? There is the rub. We have no suitable regular package—in fact, no regular retail package. The Root establishment is supposed to carry about everything of value going, and I will just look over their lists. First, I find glass vessels. There are the Poulder and Muth jars. 1-pound size costs about 4 cents each by the 100. Other glass packages of 1-pound capacity from 2½ cents to nearly 5 cents each. These are the prices there not delivered to the producer. We must pay freight on these, and then we must be at the expense of casing or crating them in some safe way to ship. The result is, that by the time the honey is ready to go to the wholesale market it has cost us about 5

or 6 cents per pound for packages alone. If the honey is worth 5 and the packing 5 more, there is 10 cents right at your honey house; and by the time we add freight and commissions to both wholesale and retail dealer, say 1 cent freight and 25 per cent. for commissions, it cost twice as much as the best sugar.

Of tin packages, first comes the 60-lb. can. These are wholesale packages, and cost us, the can and freight, $\frac{2}{3}$ of a cent per pound on the honey put in them. Next comes the 12-pound square screw-nozzle cans. These will come at about $1\frac{1}{4}$ cents per pound—possibly a little more. Then there is the “Jones honey-pails with screw-cap,” that the catalog says “are the most convenient pails that we know of, that are suitable for shipping honey in.” One-pound size comes at $4\frac{1}{2}$ cents—all of 5 cents by the time we get it; five-pound pails at almost 2 cents per pound. There are next “tin pails with raised covers,” but these do not seal and will not answer. The last on the list is “Record’s tight-seal cover pail.” These are not made for honey, but butter and lard. I don’t know whether they will shut tight enough to risk shipping honey in them when they are stood on their heads or in any position other than right side up. The cost of these is a trifle less than the others.

These vessels are not crated or boxed ready to ship full of honey. Even if the cost were low enough, every apiarist is not fixed for crating them. By the time we have put the cost of packages considerably above the foregoing figures—just about at what the honey now brings at wholesale in 60-lb. cans and barrels. We can not put honey in packages that cost as much as the honey alone will bring. Suppose the honey worth 4 cents and the packing 4, then the freights, etc., on that, and “where are we at?” Do not forget that I am not talking about the local retail trade from our honey houses, but the general markets.

We must have a regular package. We have a standard for comb honey, sections of certain weight, and so many in a case. A dealer can order so many cases of 12 or 24 pound size; and when he retails it he sells it out by the piece or pound, and no bother; but here we are with extracted honey in all sorts of vessels of wood, tin or glass, some of the packages costing more than the honey itself can be bought for. The only way a retail dealer can get extracted honey to his customers is to get it put up by a local apiarist, or put it in wholesale packages and then re-pack it, and run the cost to or above comb, or draw it out into the purchaser’s pail. If we are to

sell to bakers or manufacturers, then the large can or barrel is all right ; but we want to sell for table use too, and the purpose of this article is to tell why we do not, and how we can get the table trade.

Extracted honey is not nearly so largely used as it should and would be, because it is not put up so that the people can get it as they do the competitive sweets. I know that Mr. C. F. Muth and some others are doing good work ; but Muth can not handle all the honey. What we must do is to get our goods in shape so that, when it is once packed, it is there "to stay till the consumer gets it." Other syrups and sweets are so put up that the packages are regular, go from packer to wholesale house and through the regular channels of trade, in unbroken cases till the local grocer gets it, when the case is broken and the original can sold to the consumer.

But how are we to get it so? At present I can see but one way. We must co-operate. We can establish packing houses at suitable places to receive the product in its vicinity. This house, or association, can have its trademark or label; buy its cans in car lots; can, case, and market the goods in a regular way. You will say, "Why not each apiarist pack his own honey, get his cans from the general house, or depot, and pack

at home?" The reason why this will not work is plain. Suppose the apiarists about Denver would undertake this. Perhaps no two of them would grade just alike. Perhaps one out of 10, 25 or 50, would either ignorantly or willfully pack a lot of off-grade honey. It would, of course, go out with the rest, and eventually damage the reputation of the association or firm which guaranteed it. No ; it must be packed by an experienced packer who knows his business. The farmer may just as well pack his own pork, or the fruit man his own apples ; but these and other products must go to the regular packer. We may pack for the local trade or special customers, but we can not do this for the general trade.

One difficulty that meets us here is that there is not enough honey produced. There, now, won't I catch it ! The idea of saying there is not enough produced when we can not sell what we have ! Yes, I say it, and it is a fact. If there were ten times as much produced there would be some inducement for capitalists to start packing-houses, depots, or honey headquarters in every city, so that, when we have honey to sell, we should have a place to put it. Let me illustrate this: I am supposed to be writing this in Colorado ; but I am really writing it in Iowa. Well, Iowa is a corn, hog and

FROM LLANO COUNTY.

— .

 REARING QUEENS—UNCAPPING AR-
 RANGEMENT—MAKING
 FOUNDATION.

We have had about two weeks' honey flow from mesquite and secured over thirty pounds of surplus to the colony from that source. I will tell you how I manage to get larva the right age for transferring to cell cups. Make a partition in one hive of bee zinc; leave just room enough for one frame and a division board; select the oldest comb you can find to put in there. Keep your breeding colony in this hive and when you want to rear queens put the queen on this old comb in the morning and wait three days. On the evening of the third day you will find that the eggs are hatching in the comb. Now is the time to lift out these old cocoons and drop them in your cell cups as they are all just the right age to make good queens.

To make a good uncapping arrangement get a sound barrel, take out the head, put a faucet near the bottom and a wooden hoop at the top. Now make a cheese cloth bag that will go over the top of the barrel. It should sink two or three inches inside and go half way to the bottom of the barrel. Put a very thick hem around the top of the sack. With a small rope bind the sack to the

barrel below the wooden hoop so it can't slip, then fix a frame of wood to fit on top to stand your honey frames on while uncapping. Let the cappings fall on the sack and the honey will all drip down into the barrel. No ant, bee or anything else can get in, so that your honey, when drawn, will be ready for the market.

Mr. Editor, you will find a sample of foundation enclosed of my own make. What do you think of it for a new hand? I have made about 200 pounds this spring—wife and I. We put 513 sheets through the mill in one day, trimmed the wax sheets and dried the foundation. I have not found it such a hard thing to make as some have reported. I don't think any one will ever make a success keeping bees that can't make foundation.

Friends, don't forget to send to Rev. F. D. Greene, secretary Nat. Armenian Relief Com., room 660, 11 Broadway, N. Y., for literature that tells all about the terrible massacres of Armenians. Hand it round to your friends, and you will find that nearly everybody will give something to help those little orphan children. If you live for ever you will never get a better chance to do something for our Savior.—L. L. Skaggs.

Success is a modest maiden that
 rushes into no man's arms.

NOTES FROM DONA ANA.

—

CROSS BEES; LAZY BEES; SWARM-
ING; MESQUITE AS A
HONEY PLANT.

I have just received the QUEEN, contents eagerly devoured as usual. On page 48 of the June number Judge Terral tells about fighting bees. Say Judge, were not those cross bees some that you got from the woods? Probably they will act better when they become more civilized. I think Robinson Crusoe shut the goat up in a cave when he said, "Hunger will tame a lion." How I do like to catch the "big guns" even if it isn't about bees.

Dr. Stell's report was read with great interest as are all of his articles. Just think, one dollar for a section of honey when I am selling sections of beautiful alfalfa honey at 10 cents each! I am surprised that his black and hybrid bees proved to be better workers than Italians. I suggest that the doctor try a queen from an imported mother, or one of Doolittles. I once got a fine looking queen from a breeder in an eastern state. Her bees were the largest I ever saw but the poorest kind of workers, they really seemed to be lazy.

I have had 115 swarms this season. I returned the swarms to the old hives, caged the queens and also tried other plans that I had read of, with varying success. At

last, partly by accident, I hit upon a plan which proved to be the most satisfactory of any I had yet tried. With all other plans the bees would cease work in the supers, or sulk for eight or ten days until over the swarming fever. My plan satisfies all desire to swarm and keeps them working right along with all the energy and vim which is so characteristic of a newly hived swarm. In a future article I will give the plan in detail if Mr. Editor thinks it would interest the readers of the QUEEN. [Send it along. It will be most acceptable.—ED.]

On page 47 Mr. Stachelhausen mentions mesquite as being a fine honey plant. Yes, sir; you are right. Mesquite is the finest honey plant west, not excepting alfalfa, as to quality. Mesquite blooms at the same time as the first crop of alfalfa. My bees did not notice alfalfa but just roared on mesquite. Now the mesquite bloom is gone and they are working fine on a second crop of alfalfa.

There is another fine honey plant here, the name of which I do not know. It grows about four feet high and is very thick along the foothills; has a small white and blue flower that produces a small pale red berry. It blooms twice a year—in April and September. The honey produced from it is pure white, but granulates quickly in the fall.—W. C. Gathright, Dona Ana, N. M., July, '97.


HUTTO CORRESPONDENCE.

—

GOOD HONEY YIELD — PLAN OF
A MOVABLE EXTRACTING
HOUSE.

We had 180 colonies, spring count, now we have 215; only 35 swarms. Swarming was kept down by destroying the queen cells and extracting from the brood chamber to give the queens room, keeping them strong and in good working condition. The Italians have but one bad feature that I know of, that is they will fill the brood chamber too full of honey, making it necessary to extract occasionally to give the queen breeding room.

Bees have done well this year, so far, though it hasn't rained any since June 10 and the honey flow has ceased to some extent. We have taken, to date, 4,000 pounds of section and 7,500 of extracted honey, which is only about 64 pounds to the colony. From seven of our hives nothing was taken as there was not more than a quart of bees in them when the spring came. In one apiary of 47 colonies that is run exclusively for extracted honey, the bees being all in 10-frame hives, built up 3-story high, we have have taken 5,000 pounds, an average of 106 pounds to the colony. Several of them have given 190 pounds each. If it rains soon cotton bloom ought to yield a good crop.

Mr. Editor, I wish to tell your readers of a new kind of movable extracting house which we use. Take the side boards off a two-horse wagon; then take four 1x3 inch pieces just long enough not to touch the hind wheels. It is high enough for the fore wheels to cut under while turning. Place these crosswise on the bed, the front one 12 ins. from end of bed so as to leave a place to sit while driving. Take two 1x12 in. boards and nail on top of the cross pieces, the outer edge of the board to be flush with end of cross piece. Now saw off the two middle cross pieces even with inside of the 1x12 pieces. This gives you a foundation about 5x9 feet. For uprights cut 1x4 in. stuff 5 feet long, four for each side, one for middle of front end and two for back end set 28 ins. apart to leave door way. Nail cross pieces on top of uprights made of 1x6 in. boards cut in this way,  to form a slope for the roof. We let into the top edge of these a ridge pole to make everything steady. Side it up with 6 in. ceiling, putting on 3 rounds except at the doorway, and cover all over with wire cloth 42 inches wide; then two ceiling boards will finish it all round to the top. The ceiling is put inside the uprights as the wire cloth is outside. This forms a natural bee escape. Make a wire screen door and hang it with hinges. It can be covered

with duck or enamel cloth. Steps can be made and now your house is finished. Place your extractor in the front right hand corner and barrel opposite with one head out. Draw your honey from the extractor and let it run through a wire cloth into the barrel, keeping the barrel about half or more full. The sediment will rise to the top and can be skimmed off. Draw the honey into your shipping cans through a suitable faucet and it will be as clear as crystal.—O. P. Hyde & Son, Hutto, Tex., July, 1897.

THE WORK OF HONEY BEES

To secure a pound of honey, which is equivalent to something like 3,000 cells, would take a bee several years. In fine weather the bee makes calls upon fifty to eighty flowers in a day's outing. During this time it collects what is equivalent to a grain of nectar, which is a thin sirup and has to be evaporated to make honey. The bee, after working all day, spends the greater part of the night fanning the nectar with its wings to evaporate the surplus water. In this way it shortens its life by wearing out its wings. Langstroth says that a bee at the height of the working season lives about three working days and then dies. Bees frequently perish on the way home because their wings are so splint-

ered and shattered that they refuse to support the body. If a disabled bee reaches the hive alive, it spends the remainder of its days as nurse, housekeeper and in general utility work. A good and fertile queen bee keeps the hive full of bees during the season. When the honey flow stops, she ceases laying at once; then the workers kill all of the drones and manifest other symptoms of a consuming desire for retrenchment.

HOW BEES DEPOSIT POLLEN

I see in a late number that Mr. E. R. Jones seems to be at a loss to tell "How bees deposit pollen in cells." I will help him out by saying: "She comes in with her load, circles about on the comb with half-a-dozen others trying to examine her, selects her cell, balls up over it with legs in, cuts a few steps of a nicely regulated jig, and turns off leaving it for some other bee to pack, unless in cases where the cell is about as full as they fill them."

I often see the performance, and any one can who has gentle bees. W. H. Pridgen, Creek, N.C.

"Has Mr. Hustleton done anything to distinguish himself since he received his appointment?"

"Certainly not. It may take him six months or a year to get thoroughly rested after his exertions to get the place."

WILL OF THE WORKERS.

ITEMS IN SUMMER MANAGEMENT;
 IMPORTANCE OF PROPOLIS
 IN THE HIVE.

Although it is generally understood that the economy of the hive is under control of the workers, still, not a few believe that such matters in which the queen performs a part or function, she may exert a positive guiding influence; notably, such instances as swarming, leaving the hive for mating, and, although in a less degree, in her individual function—egg laying. Seemingly the possession of a sole function should also possess the right to exercise or use it. In considering the matter of egg laying we have a greater opportunity to ascertain many facts pertaining to the executive or governing power of the workers than in that of swarming or mating of queens. We can begin the season with a small brood nest and carefully note all actions until swarming takes place.

During the breeding season doubtless many have noticed the queen surrounded by a few workers, apparently paying her tokens of respect, and much has been written in confirmation of such theories. However, an examination of the colony previous to or after the breeding season will reveal a fact that the workers pay no

more attention to the queen than to each other. Still, if deprived of her presence, they display evident signs of the loss. This, however, simply shows her important relation to the colony, which is recognized by the course of action taken by the bees.

When the breeding season approaches, the nurse bees supply the queen with an increased amount of food, stimulating the ovaries to action and bringing about the laying of eggs. This stimulative feeding is increased until the height of the breeding season is reached, at which time her size and brilliancy are much greater than at any other period of the year. A few days previous to swarming this supply of food is withheld, and with the issuing of the swarm we find her much reduced in size, also greatly inferior as regards color. So this retinue surrounding the egg-layer is not doing obeisance, but utilizing their powers of digestion to the furtherance of brood-rearing, and are servants not only to the queen, but the colony.

I sometimes regard the queen as the greater servant, comparing her to the honey ant, which is only a living receptacle filled by the worker ants until the abdomen becomes distended to an enormous size. Such is the relation of the queen to the colony—she subserves the will of the workers,

and in so doing promotes the general welfare.

The drones are also brought into existence by the same will, which, when the requirements of the colony are such as to render them useless, not only withhold their accustomed food, but drive them from the hive to perish.

If this executive or governing power of the workers is displayed in the general economy of the hive, comb building, breeding and honey gathering, involving an immense detail of work, and the display of various functions, we may logically conclude that it is exercised in swarming and mating of queens. As instance, I once had a prime or first swarm issue two or three hours after removing the old queen, the preparations (finished and unfinished queen cells) for swarming being complete. That instance proved beyond a doubt (to my mind) that the queen simply unites with and is subject to the will of the workers in swarming as in egg-laying.

As regards the mating of queens, I have abundant proof that the workers govern in this matter also. I have a great many times witnessed young queens as they left for mating, and in numerous instances the workers pressed or urged the queen to take flight. Notwithstanding this urgent persuasion, they often manifest great consternation during her absence.

This is but natural when we consider that the perpetuity of the colony depends upon her safe return. Queens sometimes leave and return several times before accomplishing their object. Upon several such occasions I have seen the workers prevent their entering the hive and by force compel them to take flight again. I take this opportunity to remark that the queen is exceedingly timid when leaving for the purpose of mating and most carefully marks the location of her abode.

I well recall the days of primitive smokers; Quinby's original being a plain tin tube about five-eighths of an inch in diameter, five or six inches long, and provided with a plug at each end. One was sufficiently long to serve as a mouth-piece and removable for cleaning and filling the tube. Through each was bored a small hole for the passage of air and smoke. Tobacco was used as fuel.

Mr. Quinby's addition of a bellows certainly marked a new era and obviated the intense strain caused by constant blowing into the mouth-piece to keep it ignited.

I now use the Bingham smoker and regard it perfect in construction and working. While I have no special fuel to recommend, that which produces the largest and most satisfactory volume of smoke is from spongy and partially decayed wood (notably white birch),

but it also produces the greatest accumulation of carbon or sooty condensation. To remove the accumulation a little gasoline poured into the barrel and cone will aid in burning it out. Separate them (take off the cover), using two or three teaspoonfuls for each, and carefully ignite, using a long stick. A single application will soften it and two or three will burn it to a crisp. I usually scrape out the accumulation after being softened, which lessens the amount to be burned. Care should be exercised not to burn the bellows. It is needless, perhaps, to add that this method of cleaning should only be undertaken when all fire and heat are absent.

The prevention of condensation causing the accumulation is extremely desirable, and far outweighs any method of removal. Thus far I have obtained a reasonable degree of success, and believe we shall yet have a complete preventive. My present plan is to use a little bees-wax within the cone. By reason of the heat it spreads rapidly over the entire inner surface and to a great extent prevents adhesion of the carbon particles. As yet I have not tried paraffine wax, but believe it will answer, although it melts at a lower temperature and possibly will need replenishing more frequently. It certainly is less expensive.

All bee-keepers of experience notice a gradual change in the disposition of bees as the season advances, when they become more irascible. The temper of all creatures largely depends upon whether they are occupied or idle. During the honey yield irritability manifests itself much less than in time of failure. While our bees are occupied we are also moving more frequently among them. At this season the fielders are rapidly wearing out. Their wings are reduced in many instances to half their original size; and, in consequence, they become fatigued, alighting upon the ground at various distances from the hives. In walking among them the casual observer will fail to see these veteran toilers, and in consequence many will be trodden upon. A few crushed bees, whether under a super or upon the ground, will call others in defense. I am exceedingly careful in this respect, and avoid as much as possible the treading upon or injuring a bee, although it may have outlived its usefulness. As stated in a previous article, I use no bee veil; neither do I possess one, and I attribute the amiability of bees much to humane methods in their management.

Although much prejudice exists against propolis as a coating of the hive, making it impervious to air and consequent dampness, we

ought not to lose sight of its importance. Certainly nature provided the proper material to carpet the home of the bee. Aside from its use as a cement or gum, it serves as a foothold, and without its use I believe comb honey would be somewhat darker through compulsory travel upon it. The bee can walk or cling to propolis or wax more easily than upon board surfaces. However, we measure its importance from our standpoint, and although perfectly adapted to the requirements of the bee, still we feel as though the frames are less movable, and our fingers and clothing become soiled by it.

I append this item more especially to furnish the Review readers a simple plan for removing it from clothing. Having used it for three years I cannot recommend it too highly as completely removing every trace from any fabric. It is simply to rub the soiled portion with a small piece of ice, when in less than half a minute it is rendered brittle, passing imperceptibly away.—L. A. Aspinwall, *The Bee-Keepers' Review*, July, 1897:

DESCRIPTION OF OUR HOME

As some of our readers have been for some time asking for a photo of our home, we have endeavored to comply with their requests. The persons shown in the cut are the entire family including Aunt Min-

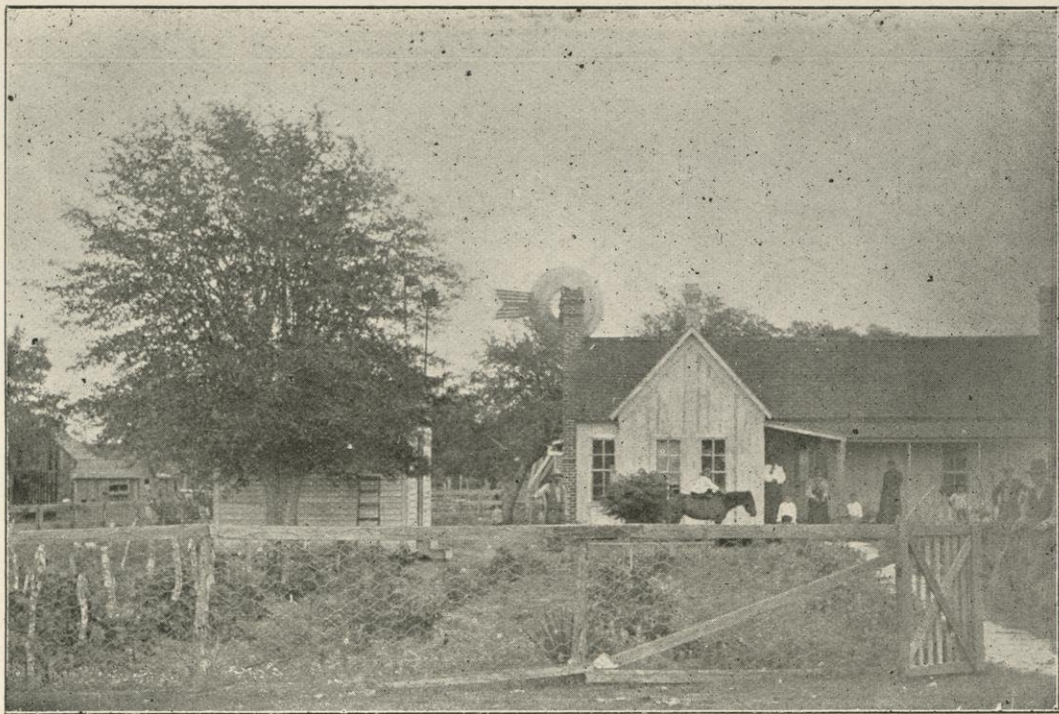
erva, the colored cook. The horse-back rider is Leah, our 10-year-old daughter, on her Shetland pony. The building under the large live oak, to the left, is the office. There is a ladder leaning up against the wall of the office. The buildings in the rear and further to the left are the harness house and barn. The windmill that furnishes water for all the place can be seen over the house. The water is carried by piping to all the principal rooms of the dwelling house, to the printing office, (the printing office will be shown later,) and to the factory. Hydrants are placed at convenient points for water for various purposes. The rear of the house, consisting of dining room, kitchen and hallway, where the cistern stands, are not shown. The fence in front shows to be close to the house, but is over 100 feet away, which leaves a large yard that is occupied by a small vineyard.

I will not learn to doubt my kind,
If man is false then false am I;
If on my self I can't rely,
Then where shall faith a foothold find?
—Christian Era.

There are in the United States 70,000 bee-keepers. The average product of each hive is twenty-two pounds.

Paper flooring is in use in Germany. It is laid in a pasty mass, smoothed and then pressed. Footsteps on it are noiseless.

The cheeks become pale from fear because the mental emotion diminishes the action of the heart and lungs and so impedes the circulation.



HOME OF THE ATCHLEYS.

OUR JAMAICA LETTER.

PROTECTION FROM HEAT NEEDED
RATHER THAN FROM COLD—
SEVERE DROUGHT.

Your letter of 29th ultimo to hand. Thanks for prompt attention in sending catalog and sample copy of SOUTHLAND QUEEN. I like the paper very well and have enclosed 25 cents for a few back numbers. I will not order an untested queen just now, as we are having one of the worst droughts Jamaica has ever seen, and colonies being weak bee moths have a harvest. We are sure to lose some colonies, so prefer to wait a little before ordering. I reside in the metropolis and keep my apiary two miles from the city.

The plants that yield the most honey in my district are logwood, lignum vitae, cashaw and guniep; the honey got from the first of these is the best. Our honey crop begins in October and ends about the end of May. From this you will see that we need no advice re wintering, but rather protection from heat.—P. L. Duquemay, Jamaica.

THE BUFFALO CONVENTION

The next annual convention of the United States Bee-Keepers' Union will be held in Buffalo, N. Y., commencing at 10 o'clock a.m. of August 24 next, and closing on the afternoon of the 26th.

Papers are to be read by W. Z. Hutchinson, R. F. Holtermann, E. Whitcomb, Hon. R. L. Taylor, Mrs. L. Harrison, R. C. Aiken, G. M. Doolittle, Dr. J. P. H. Brown, Hon. Eugene Secor, Geo. W. Brodbeck, M. B. Holmes, A. E. Manum, E. Kretchmer, and P. H. Elwood; to which will be added the President's address, and, perhaps, the General Manager and Secretary may have something of interest to present.

The programs are now printed and in the hands of the Secretary. There are six bee-keepers' songs, with music, in the program, and abundance of time is allotted to the discussion of all papers and for the asking and answering of questions.

Several of our well known bee-keepers, such as A. I. Root, Dr. Miller, S. T. Petit and others who are not on the program, will be present to help make the convention interesting and instructive.

It is probable that suggestions will be made at this convention in the line of so amending the constitution of this Union as to remove its objectionable features and add such other provisions as may seem desirable, and suggestions in this line by those not able to be at the convention can be sent to the Secretary, and others have been made in the bee papers.

Mr. O. L. Hershiser, of Buffalo, has charge of arrangements at Buffalo and will attend to the matter of hotel rates. He writes: "I purpose obtaining accommodations in private families for all who prefer such to hotels." Members of the Union can learn in regard to hotel rates by applying to the Secretary at the place of meeting.

A. B. MASON, Sec.

MILAM COUNTY DOINGS.

—

A GOOD HONEY YIELD—APICUL-
TURAL EXHIBIT FOR
THE COUNTY.

I have got a little over 1,000 sections of honey from 14 colonies that I moved here just four weeks ago, besides about 200 pounds of extracted, and the brood chambers solidly filled with honey. I lost about 150 pounds by not having foundation when I needed it. My bees were in bad shape for comb honey when the horsemint came in on account of a four weeks' dearth, yet my best colonies that were given a super of starters Friday evening drew out of the combs, filled them and commenced capping the next Wednesday evening. Can you beat it? Remember my bees were not strong, and they run the honey in the brood chamber as fast as the brood hatched. The 14 colonies have not got brood enough at this writing to fill eight Langstroth frames. I am going to draw out the combs having no brood and replace with frames of foundation immediately.

What are the characteristic markings of the Syrian or Holyland bees, also the Cyprians? Is there any difference; if so, say what? The general supervision of the Cyprian Dept. of the Milan Co. Farmers' Institute has been put in my charge by the managers of the

Institute. Its success or failure will all be charged to me, but, although this work is new to me, I will do my best. Judge Terral has promised his assistance, and we are going to have an apiarian exhibit, "and don't you forget it." Will send you a copy of our premium list. All bees entered will be scored according to markings and disposition of their respective races. If it will not be asking too much, will you send samples, in cages, of model Holyland and Cyprian bees. I am levying the above requests on you in the interest of apiculture, and do not propose to pay for it, but certainly you would not object to being reimbursed for your outlay in postage. Or perhaps it would sound better to ask you to donate the necessary information and bees in the interest of apiculture, but I like to be understood.—E. R. Jones, Milano, July, 1897.

[Please read editorials of June QUEEN for description of Holyland and Cyprian bees. We will donate a fine Holyland or Cyprian queen to the Institute, if you will tell us when wanted. We do not make any charge for helping public institutions like that where the information goes to help the general public, and especially for apiculture. Yes; send us a premium list and we will publish same and otherwise help in the matter. —ED.]



OUR SCHOOL

++++++

....INSTRUCTOR....

Mrs. Jennie Atchley.

LESSON 25.

(14) Find enclosed \$1 for one year's subscription to the SOUTHLAND QUEEN. Will you let me begin at the foot of the class? I have a swarm of bees that has just been hived and find them queenless; will they build comb?—Wm. Longnecker, Chewsville, Md., July 1897.

(14) Yes; the bees will build comb, but it will likely be drone comb, or a greater part of it at least. I would suggest that you give such a swarm a frame of brood and honey and let them raise a queen from the brood you give them, or at once give them a queen and they will likely be all right in either case. We prefer a queen and frame of brood both, if it can be had, for best results.

(15) I have read the QUEEN and am now reading Lessons to Beginners in your catalog, both of which I enjoy very much. There are lots of wild bees around here. I have taken four swarms from trees lately. I am going to try Root's plan of hunting them when I get more time. Do not queens lay longer in the south than in the north? Is it too late to transfer bees or divide them? How late

will it do? What do you think of cotton as a honey plant?—Walter I. Herbert, Utopia, S.C., July, '97.

(15) Yes; we think queens last longer in the south than the north, and of course they lay more, as strong colonies are kept up for nine months of the year and hives are never clear of brood. No; it is not too late to transfer. We would advise putting in with the bees about 20 pounds of honey, and if they have not got that much put in what they have with them and they will be just about as well off in their new home as they were in the old one. We know cotton to be a fine honey plant in this state.

(16) Will 2-frame nuclei build up and make colonies by winter if sent now? We have plenty of alfalfa in bloom which will last three months or more. I will thank you to advise me with your experience and judgment as I am anxious to get started again. I find your journal very instructive, and if I could have had the knowledge long ago that I have gained from these two numbers of the SOUTHLAND QUEEN I do not think I would have lost all my bees, altho' I have read Root's A B C.—A. Fiske, Hayden, Colorado.

(16) FRIEND FISKE—If, as you say, you have plenty of clover and forage for three months, I should judge that 2-frame nuclei will build up to full colonies and give you some surplus; at least they will if your flowers furnish honey. Some

times clover and other flowers are abundant but the atmosphere is not right for the secretion of nectar. Thanks for kind words. We appreciate them, and will do what we can to give information for our readers and friends.

(17) Don't you think that if the Italians and Holylands were crossed it would bring about a fine bee for honey? I am of the opinion that the Italians are not the bee for this country. What kind of a disposition bee would such a cross make anyway?—P. J. Foster, Throckmorton, Texas.

(17) Yes; we know that such a cross is good, for we have tried it for years, and this year proves it more to our satisfaction. The bees are no worse to sting, that we can see, than Italians, and are very easily handled. Try them and report.

(18) I am now a subscriber to the *QUEEN*, and E. J. A. says I am entitled to an untested queen bee, for which I thank him. Before saying what kind of queen I want I would like to ask you a question. Last year I started with 4 swarms of black bees. I Italianized them with queens from Root, and now have 10 colonies, and also 2 hives of black bees. I intended to Italianize these two latter on, but I read so much about the Holyland bees that I am undecided as to what to do. I want bees that will fly far, scuffle hard, and winter on summer stands with slight protec-

tion. I am afraid this is not an *AI* honey section, and unless bees fly far, say 2 or 3 miles, and are always strong enough to take advantage of any sudden flow, I am afraid I will not raise "honey by the ton!" My Italians are good bees, but I want to know if those "Holy fellows" are better? I am trying for comb honey at present.

—E. G. Money, Campbell, Va., July, 1897.

(18) FRIEND MONEY.—If you are going to run for comb honey and want bees that will rustle and fly far in quest of stores, and if you can stand bees that are a little more in favor of protecting their stores after they fly far and rustle hard for them, then get Holylands. Italians are not, as a rule, good for comb honey. They will crowd the brood nests, and are slow to enter the sections. The Holylands are better cell builders, better comb builders and, all in all, a great deal better bee for profit in this latitude than the Italians or any other race that we have tried. They are always in shape for any honey flow that may suddenly fall.

(19) I have just received and introduced some queens to colonies that I had made queenless five days previous. I destroyed all queen cells before putting them in. I kept careful watch and found no queens thrown out at entrances. After five days I opened the hives and found queen cells in all of them and seven queens laying. I destroyed all cells again. Two

days later I found all nine of the queens; eight were laying and no more cells started, except in the hive where the queen was not laying I found cells with large larva in them. I have been in the bee business since 1877 and never saw bees act that way before, except where queens were old or drone layers. Please tell me what you think is the matter?—Jos. Schandoney, Chatsworth, Cal., July, '97.

(19) FRIEND S., — From your description of the catastrophe we cannot see anything wrong. In the first place when you introduce queens to colonies during a honey flow, and especially where they have cells started, the queens will sometimes tear down all cells and lead off a swarm, even before she lays a single egg. Again, queens, as a rule, do not tear down cells until the larva or young queens turn brown or are far enough advanced to have a full shape of body. The bees often stop proceedings when a queen is introduced before cells are sealed and tear away the cells that are started, but if any cells are sealed the queen waits till there is a full shaped queen in the cells and then tears them out or gnaws a hole in and the bees do the rest. The queen that does not lay may lead off a swarm when cells are sealed. Such troubles were the outcome of our directions not to remove the old queen till the new one arrives and make one operation answer for both taking out old

and putting in new one. If divisions are made and queens to be introduced to queenless half, don't divide till you have your new queens ready at hand to place them in at the time you divide and, as a rule, no such trouble will be experienced as the queens are out and laying usually before the bees have any cells sealed or building stops.

SOLAR WAX EXTRACTOR.

A solar wax extractor is needed in every apiary; several are kept running in many large apiaries. Extractors to render wax by steam are also used. To the latter class belongs the improved Swiss wax extractor. This implement, invented in Switzerland and improved in America, consists of a tin or copper vessel with a circle of perforations in the bottom near the sides to let in steam from a boiler below, and within this upper vessel another receptacle—the comb receiver—made of perforated zinc. Within a few years wax extractors employing the heat of the sun and known as solar wax extractors have come into general use.

The essential features in all the forms that have been devised are a metal tank with a glass cover and usually a wire cloth strainer, below which is placed the receptacle for the wax, the whole so arranged as to enable one to tilt it at such an angle as will catch the rays of the sun. The effectiveness of the solar wax extractor is increased by having a double glass and also a reflector, such as a mirror or sheet of bright metal. An advantage of the solar extractor is the ease with which small quantities of comb can be rendered. By having this machine much is therefore saved that might be ruined by wax moth larva if allowed to accumulate, besides serving at the same time to decrease these pests about the apiary. The wax obtained by solar heat is also of superior quality, being clean, never scorched or water-soaked, and also light in color, owing to the bleaching action of the sunlight.

MARKETING HONEY.

[Continued from page 86B.]

cattle country. There are here always corn, hogs and cattle; and since these things are always here, and in abundance, there are always places to market them. Buyers ride the country hunting up the products. In Colorado, where I live, wheat is the main product and hogs are scarce. Well, Colorado has wheat elevators everywhere, so there is always a place to put wheat; but if you want to market a hog you must hunt up a buyer. Now, don't you see the point? Our honey is always hunting a market, like the Colorado hog.

Since, then, we do not produce in quantities that will cause the market to come to us, we must take measures to help it to come. We can organize in some way that we may have market places that take our honey, put it into shape and find customers. There is all the work of introducing our goods, that the small producer cannot do; but if it were packed in regular cases and weights, so that the travelling salesman can represent the goods and take orders just as they do for other lines, honey might be sold so as to create a demand that we know nothing about now. Thousands upon thousands who never eat honey would do so if it were to be had as conveniently

as maple syrup. I see no reason why honey may not be put up in cheap cans as fruit is now put up. Put up in this way it might go into the homes of the poor people who never see honey. We have been working the fancy trade by the use of glass and other expensive packages at such prices that it must be a luxury, while the poor people and laborers have been left out. There is yet the question of honey candying, local markets, etc., that will receive attention in our next article.—R. C. Aiken, *Gleanings in Bee Culture*, June 1.

HELP WANTED.

I am a widow with five children to support and educate. I own land and have about 35 acres in cultivation; have a few cattle and hogs, also 35 colonies of bees and want to increase to 100.

Now my object in writing this is secure help. I expect to sow down most of the land in cultivation to small grain and clover, and want a good, smart, intelligent, useful and gentlemanly boy or young man to assist with the work in the apiary and to help cultivate about 20 acres of land. In plain words I want a hand that is a gentleman and will do any and all kinds of work that has to be done. There will be no very heavy work, and a smart boy of 15 or 16 years can do all I will have to do. I have riding plows to cultivate all the land and my boys of 12 and 8 years, could do all the plowing if they did not

have to go to school. I will pay reasonable wages and give a good hand a chance to have something for himself. I also have a bicycle that I wish to sell or exchange for bee supplies and queens, or any useful article on a farm. The wheel cost \$65, is in good order, and was used about six weeks. I am offering it at a discount in trade. Hoping this will meet the eyes of some one who will be interested will write no more—Mrs. L. M. Phillips, Valley Springs, Texas.

[We are always willing and ready to give as much free space as our journal will bear to widows and orphans. If the above meets the eye of any of our readers that know of a person suitable for the

position that needs a job, please convey the news to Mrs. Phillips and we will feel thankful to you for it. We assure you that Mrs. Phillips is reliable and will give the right person a good chance, as we know whereof we speak.—E.D.]

ERRATA—On p. 99 Jos. Schandoney's query should read, "queens will not tear down all cells but lead off swarms."

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Untested, 60 cents; Tested, with Five-band Bees predominating, 75 cents; Select Tested, producing nearly all Five-band Bees, \$1.00; and all Yellow, \$2.00.

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Published Monthly.

E. J. Atchley, Editor and Business Mgr.
— Assisted by —
Willie, Charlie and Amanda Atchley.
Mrs. Jennie Atchley, Ed. and Manager
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Entered at the Post Office at Beeville, Texas, for transmission through the mails at second class rates.

BEEVILLE, TEXAS, AUGUST, 1897.

Do not forget the South Texas bee meeting at our apiary first Wednesday and Thursday in November. Everybody is invited and we expect a grand meeting. No hotel bills to pay when you attend Texas bee meetings.

WE are looking forward to a good fall crop and trust that our expectations may be fully realized.

OUR factory is yet running on full time, and a full set of hands are at work running three saw tables, dovetailer and plainer.

OUR summer honey flows have all come and gone, and only our Holyland bees have given us any surplus to date, with about 1,000 pounds taken in March from an out-yard 15 miles from home.

WE believe that every bee-keeper who was at the convention, with the exception of one or two, that were not already subscribers to the QUEEN, gave in their names and cash for a year's subscription, and some subscribed for two years. We wish to extend our heartfelt thanks for the support of the Central Texas Bee-Keepers' Association and also for support from all sources.

A HOLYLAND Queen offered by our Mrs. Atchley to the ugliest person at the Cameron meeting, created quite a little fun. The premium was awarded to S. D. Hanna, of Temple, Texas. Mrs. Henderson, of Cameron, a lady photographer, was judge. While she was taking a survey for the ugliest person, Mr. Hanna combed his hair down over his face and made a wry face at the lady, and she at once caught on to the idea

that Mr. Hanna was willing to be called the ugliest man in Texas for the sake of winning a fine Holyland queen. This relieved Mrs. Henderson very much. We heard a young lady remark afterwards that Mr. Hanna was the best looking man in the crowd. So you see that elections do not always go as they ought to.

SEND us your reports and tell us what you have made or lost, your success and failures, and may be somebody will learn a great deal from your failures as well as from your successes.

WE show our readers the Home of the Atchleys in this issue and will show the factory and printing office in the next issue, and then we will take up the honey plants that yield our crop. The home and those that stay there is described in another page of this number.

To say that the Cameron meeting was a success puts it mild, as we considered it a grand success. Forty-two members enrolled, permanent organization effected, and over 3,000 colonies of bees represented. More of the convention will be touched upon, editorially, when we have ready for these pages, a cut taken from a picture of the convention while in session. A full report of the Cameron meeting commences with this issue and will be concluded in the September number.

KIND expressions are coming from far and near showing that the SOUTHLAND QUEEN is appreciated. It is the aim of The Jennie Atchley Co. to make this journal indispensable to bee-keepers in all lands where bees are kept.

WE have received for the month ending July 20, over fifty subscribers and still they drop in almost daily. If our list still continues to grow we shall, in the near future, enlarge the QUEEN to 28 or possibly 32 pages each month. Many thanks, friends, we think that we know how to appreciate all such favors, and will try to show our appreciation a little stronger than this by giving you a better paper than ever before.

W. H. MADELEY, of Rogers, Texas, had the misfortune to lose a fine mule a few days ago by bees stinging the animal to death. We would be glad if we could impress upon the minds of bee-keepers that it is very dangerous to allow stock to run loose among bees or be hitched near them, unless there is some person near at hand to remove them before the bees get much start at stinging. When bees get on horses or mules they will lay down and commence wallowing, which enrages the bees the more, and if some one does not rush to the assistance of the animal the bees will soon sting it to death.

—THE best honey is apt to crystalize, but this may be prevented by keeping it at about 80 degrees. Unripe honey will granulate quicker than well evaporated.

—IT has often been asserted that the brilliant colors of many flowers serve to attract bees and butterflies to them. Experiments recently reported to the Belgian Academy of Science seem to show that the perfume rather than the color of the flower is the real attraction. Bright-colored blossoms were covered with leaves and papers pinned closely over with them, yet the insects not only visited the hidden flowers, but endeavored to force their way under the paper in order to reach the blossoms, which they could not see.

South Texas Bee-keepers' Association.

Meets at Beeville, first Wednesday and Thursday in Nov., 1897. No hotel bills to pay. J. O. GRIMSLEY, SECY.
Beeville, Texas.

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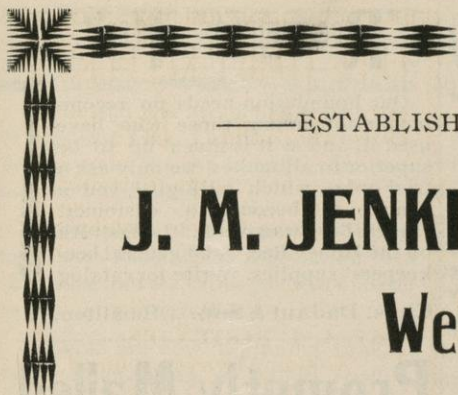
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