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## **The Southland queen. Vol. I [VIII], No. 3 June 1903**

Beeville, Texas: E.J. Atchley, June 1903

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Volume 1.

Number 3.

# The Southland Queen

DEVOTED TO THE EXCHANGE OF THOUGHTS  
ON APICULTURE.

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BEEVILLE, TEXAS, JUNE, 1903.



## BRUSHED SWARMS.

L. STACHELHAUSEN.

A man from Missouri writes me that by making a number of brushed swarms he started robbing in the apiary and wants to know how to avoid this. As this may be of interest to some other beekeepers I will answer it in the Southland Queen.

In working with bees a man should use his own common sense, for in describing a certain manipulation it is impossible to consider all the different circumstances which may be of possible influence. If no honey at all is being gathered by the bees no artificial swarms of any kind should be made. The most danger of robbing is during a slow honey flow, if thin honey is in the combs, which runs out as soon as they are shaken. It is not only this nectar sprinkled over the hive or in front of it which causes robbing, but the combs from which the bees are shaken will induce robbing the same as extracting combs set out in the yard, from which the honey was not extracted. During a very good honey flow you can give back such extracted combs at any time during the day, but not so if the honey flow is moderate. Every bee keeper knows this, and quite the same is true with these combs from which the bees were shaken and from which the honey had run out all over the combs. The

remedy is simple. If the honey is easily shaken out, the bees should be brushed off and not shaken. When I first described this kind of swarms in the "Apiculturist" about twenty years ago I called them "brushed swarms" purposely, but I knew very well that shaking displaces the bees quicker, and that it can be used successfully under some circumstances. If the brushing is done right and with the right kind of brush it does not take much longer than shaking.

Friend Atchley, in the Southland Queen, warns not to set a brushed swarm on the old stand, "because many times swarms will rush out without even leaving a cell behind them," as he puts it. As I can understand from other parts of the article he does not mean that these swarms will abscond, but they will send out a regular swarm with the old queen after they have built a part of the combs and have brood in them. Some years ago I had this same trouble with natural swarms if bees got the swarming mania. Friend Atchley says he can overcome this only by making the swarms so weak that they surely will not swarm. There is another remedy. By some these swarms cast by a swarm in the same year are called virgin swarms. Since I use large hives all the year round and have bred out the swarming fever to a certain extent from my

bees I have no more trouble of this kind, seen in years very favorable for swarming, like the present one.

The cause is not that these swarms are too strong, as the reader may conclude from friend Atchley's article, as such virgin swarms may be cast by strong as well as medium swarms. If a strong swarm has built down all the combs in the hive to the bottom bar in a few days there is not much danger of a virgin swarm; but on the contrary, if only a few combs are built down half way, and now a scarcity of the honey flow or something else causes a stop in comb-building, there is danger of swarming. If the queen is old and not prolific a virgin swarm is very probable. In all these cases the brood nest is too small. Less brood is present than the bees desire, and this is the real cause of virgin swarms. The bees indicate this by building drone combs exclusively, or if the combs are too small and the queen prolific, we will find brood in the undermost and outside cells. A very good honey-flow may prevent swarming now, but otherwise the bee-keeper has to intervene. In this case probably the best course is to spread the brood and to insert a comb with open brood (without bees) from another colony in the middle of the brood nest, and at the same time cut off all



the drone combs. This may prevent swarming until the main honey-flow commences. If no brood comb of this kind can be had an empty comb or a sheet of foundation inserted in the middle of the brood nest is sometimes sufficient.

Of still more importance is to manipulate the swarms in such a way that the desire to swarm is not incited at all. At first only so many frames with starters should be given, as the swarm, according to its strength, will build out fast with worker combs. As soon as these combs are nearly completed we hang some full sheets of foundation between the brood, especially in such places where we find eggs in the middle of the brood combs. If the queen is not too old and unprolific there will be no more danger of virgin swarms. Now, no doubt somebody will say that's old. Certainly it is, because I published this way of preventing virgin swarms from brushed swarms in "The Apiculturist" in 1884, page 400.

If these hints are considered the brushed swarm can be set on the old stand, even in localities and years when the bees are very much inclined to all kinds of swarming. I will not express any objection to friend Atchley's plan of setting the brushed swarm on a new stand, if a large increase is desired and extracted or bulk comb honey, but no section honey should be pro-

duced. I think it is preferable. This plan was considered by me in the article mentioned above. The brood combs are left on the old stand and the most of the field bees will alight on this hive, while in the brushed swarm mostly young bees will remain. The colony on the old stand will soon be strong again and is in the right condition to gather honey if such is in the fields. It can raise a queen from its own brood, but I prefer to introduce a queen-cell on the third day, or still better a young fertile queen if possible. If the colony has to raise a queen it takes about three weeks until this queen is fertilized and laying eggs, and three weeks again until the first young worker bees are hatching. It depends on when the main honey flow will commence, and how long it will continue whether the one way is preferable or the other.

Converse, Texas.

#### LETTER FROM HONEY BUG.

Dear Southland Queen:

Your subjects bid you welcome back to your crown and sceptre.

I, the most amiable and reasonable of men, complain, and justly complain of my bees, and for grounds of such complaint allege that from a vicious, corrupt and perverse spirit they will not conduct themselves as laid down in the books. On suggestion from



her of unexampled excellence I took my books and magazines out to them, and selecting such parts as bore heavily on their shortcomings and misdemeanors, with a gentle musical voice I expostulated with them on the way they had been "carrying on," and proved to them, out of the books, that they did not know how to manage and conduct a bee hive, and that they had no earthly right to go on as they were doing, when the "A B C" conversations with Doo-little, etc., positively and expressly forbid it?

They seemed very much ashamed of themselves and pretty generally admitted that they were an obstreperous and undisciplined lot who deserved to be denied the benefit of clergy. True, one old drone did attempt to croak a lame defense, as I heard him mutter something about "locality," but not believing it original with him, I gave little heed to it, and one pert little lady (she had swarmed once, and hence thought herself "traveled") stepped to the front, gave a pat to her yellow dress in front, and impudently sniggered out, "Why, old master, if those sublime philosophers, those mighty and wise writers who find our lives and economies so simple and easily understood, with no complexity but what is transparent to them—why do they not agree on the mysteries and internal com-

plexity of a bee hive, instead of each one advancing a different solution, and each proving his own to be the correct one?"

I treated her attempted irony and sarcasm with the dignified contempt it deserved, observing my general rule—that her sex must be kept in proper subjection; still I did a little wonder where she caught the idea. On the whole however, they took my scolding reasonably and showed a willingness to do better in future, and a very matronly looking lady in a striped overskirt expressed the consensus of opinion by saying "Well, old master, while we cannot agree or promise to conform ex Atchley to the books, yet we will Root around and Doo-a-little in that direction."

HONEY BUG.

### INTRODUCING QUEENS.

L. B. SMITH.

I am bound to admit that it is just a little difficult to get up enough enthusiasm to write an article on bees or anything else when one's hopes of a honey crop (for the present, at least) have been blasted by unavoidable circumstances. In the early spring my bees made the prettiest start they have had them to make for many years, and my hopes for a large honey crop ran high, but the late freeze we had the last night of April, followed by eight wee-

drouth, was as disastrous to our hopes of an early honey crop as it was to the life and welfare of the bees. I have been compelled to feed for the past month to prevent actual starvation, and the end is not yet. However, I hope it is near, as wild china and chaparral brush will be in full bloom in a few days. It has certainly been the hardest time on bees in this locality I have known in the 22 years I have been a bee-keeper.

#### INTRODUCING QUEENS.

I don't know that I have anything new or valuable to offer on this subject to the veterans in our ranks, as they most all have their own plans of accomplishing this, and of course their best plans, but for the novice a few words from one that has had twenty two years' experience in the apiary may be of interest and value to them. I am not going to deal so much in the best way or plan to accomplish this as I am in the condition the bees must be in for best results. It is generally known, I believe, that most any plan will work in warm weather when the bees are gathering honey freely and the queens are doing their best at egg-laying. At such times I often introduce them by lifting out the comb the queen is on and caging her and putting another directly on the comb from which she was removed. I am talking about laying queens taken direct from nuclei

in the yard where you wish to use them. It is more difficult to introduce queens sent through the mails. Now I am going to advance an idea that may be new to some, and it may not be correct, but I believe it is. Say, for instance, you have a colony whose queen has just started to laying, and for any cause you wish to remove her, this colony is more apt to receive a queen peaceably under like circumstances than they are one several months or a year old, and the same is true with a colony with a queen several months or a year old. They are more willing to accept a queen near their mother's age than a young queen that has just started to laying. I am not able to give any scientific reason why this is so, but I am almost positive it is a fact, and if such is a fact would it not pay the average beginner to ascertain the age of the queens he buys and introduce them to colonies with queens near their own age? I believe it would, and I have experimented considerable along this line. Another big mistake a great many beginners make is in dequeening their colonies several days before they receive their new queen. This is a bad practice. For best results the old queen should not be removed until the new queen is ready to put in the hive. In fact I often cage the new queen in the hive while the old queen is at large doing duty in



the hive, and remove the old queen a day or two later when I find time, and so arrange the cage that the bees can liberate the new queen in a few hours. This plan has worked well with me, and it has the advantage of not keeping the colony without a queen long at a time, and this is a good big item itself when one is building up his colonies in early spring. The worst time I have found to introduce a queen is late in the fall after the bees have about stopped feeding the queen and she has stopped laying. They don't seem to care much for a queen at such times, and will often refuse to accept one for days at a time.

Rescue, Texas.

### SHORT LETTERS.

I received the April number of the Southland Queen. I was very glad to learn the paper had come to life again—there is so much to be learned by reading it. I was mad when she sold out. There was six months of my time lost and the Italian queen I never got, so if you think the time has not passed to furnish them please send the leather-colored queen. That was the kind I ordered with the Southland Queen. My bees have not done well this season. The hail and rain gave them a great backset. They did extra well last season. Success and best

wishes to the queen. May she live long.

L. E. M. PAYNE.

Cooper Creek, Tenn.

Please send me a sample copy of the Southland Queen and your 1903 catalogue. I had paid for the Queen in advance for 1902, and received in its place the "Lone Star Apiarist" a few months, and as same ceased to be published, I only wondered that I received no other bee-paper for the time I had paid, as I surely did not know that the Queen was being published again, or I would have written you long ago, for I was looking all the time for a paper to be published in the south again.

WALD. C. CONRAD.

Goodwin, Texas.

I received the April number of the Southland Queen. I don't know exactly, but think I am five or six numbers short, as I know only got a few copies.

F. M. MAYBERRY.

Obelisk, Pa.

I am in receipt of a sample copy of the Southland Queen. I cannot tell you how happy I was to receive the best paper that is published on the management of bees. You say you will send the Queen to old subscribers whose time has not expired when you sold the paper. My subscription would have been out until March, 190



I had one year in advance paid when the paper was sold. Please send it. I will send you one dollar as soon as I can. I don't want to miss a number. Send May number and also your supply catalogue when published. Am going to get you some subscribers among my bee friends. I am sure doing some good talking to the folks about the Southland Queen. Long may she live is my good word for the best bee paper published.

MRS. BANNER McCLOWEN.  
Campbellton, Texas.

Thanks for the Queen received today: You will remember that about the last of December, 1901, or the first of January, 1902, I sent in my subscription to the Queen, and I received the "Aparist" until July 1st, 1902, so I am six months loser. You can send me the paper. I love to see her roll up. My bees are doing well this season. Will commence extracting Monday. They are letting up swarming since the honey commenced to come in. We have a strong flow from horsemint, which is very fine. Prospects are good at this writing. Bees have swarmed more this season than for ten years. Best wishes to the Queen and its entire force. R. A. LACKLAND.

Amphion, Texas.

[You must have your paper, as well as all others that have paid for the Southland Queen, and we are truly glad to know that your bees are doing well.—Ed.]

### FROM NORTHEAST TEXAS.

Gilmer, Texas, June 1.

No doubt you will be surprised to hear of my being here in Northeast Texas, but I am here on a professional trip, and so far find it very dull. My prospects for a honey crop at home are cut off, so wife said she would look after the bees if I would go on a dental trip, so here I am. I have been looking after the bee men here, and have found many farmers who have bees in box hives the old way of their forefathers. They don't know anything about keeping bees in the modern style. I heard of one man who keeps bees in standard hives, a Mr. Frank Davidson, Ashland, Texas. I will see him before I leave this country. I have put one young man on the right road in the culture of bees. I showed him how to make hives and frames and transferred some of his bees from the box hives into the movable frame hives, and they are doing well and he is well pleased with the result. He said he would order some hives from you, so better send him a catalogue. His name is Mr. Farrell Ferrell, Gilmer, Texas.

I believe this is a better country for bees than Central Texas. There are many honey plants here that we do not have in our part of the state. I have been in the creek bottoms, and I hear bees working

on every side. There is some linn or basswood here, which will be in full bloom soon. I find a great deal of bitter honey here, which I think comes from the little yellow bitter weed, which the bees work on in the fall.

Well, why did you not publish my criticism of the A. & M. College bee culture report?

C. S. PHILLIPS.

Waco, Texas.

#### FROM NORTH CAROLINA.

It is with much pleasure I write you and to have gotten a copy of the Southland Queen. Glad she has come to life again. I subscribed for the paper, paying one dollar in advance for the same, received three copies and then it changed hands and name, to the "Lone Star Apiarist;" received one copy and then she threw up her hands and died. Hope she will live this time.

This has been a bad spring for the bees. It has been so cold and wet the bees have not been able to fly more than one-third of the time. There has been plenty blooms and full nectar, but what good is that to the bees when they cannot get to it. Hope it will get better soon. I have about seventy colonies in pretty fair shape for gathering nectar when it gets warm enough. Got no honey last year owing to drouth.

A. J. McBRIDE.

Mast, N. C.

#### INFLUENCE OF THE MALE ELEMENT.

*Will It Hold Good in the Breeding of Bees?—Facts or Theory.*

J. E. CHAMBERS.

The article in the April number of the Queen, copied from the Rocky Mountain Bee Journal, written by Prof. Frank Benton, was deeply interesting to me, though we arrive at very different conclusions respecting the influence of the male element on the temper, markings and constitution of the worker progeny of the two crosses, namely: the Carniolan-Italian and the Italian-Carniolan.

He says that the drone carries the prepotent influence controlling these special characteristics. I wonder if this is a well established hereditary law, or just a theory based on his own observation. It does not seem at all likely that the man of Prof. Benton's high standing would give us theory for fact. His statements carry a good deal of weight from a scientific standpoint, but I cannot understand why it is that I do not find among my 150 Carno-Italian colonies the least characteristic going to sustain his claims, but rather does seem to me that the female element is all in all the most prepotent. I have observed this for a long time, not in connection with bees alone, but more or less with stock, and I have often wondered



if the old and time-honored theory of preponderating male influence over the temper and constitution was not largely a humbug after all. Neither does the self evident proposition that like begets like hold good in the breeding of bees especially, for atavism and tele-gony both remain as unsolved factors, and if true, even in the least degree, may exert a very decided influence. However, the truth as I find it is that in many respects there is no uniformity in the cross-bred bees, except they are always good workers. About twenty per cent have the Italian markings for the most part, but the bands are finer, with a faint suspicion of the silver gray bands of the Carniolans. These are, as a rule, more vicious than those with the decided Carniolan markings. About 25 per cent have the two and three bands of the Italians, with alternating silver gray bands, and are large, robust, fine bees, but like the generality of hybrids are more excitable than the parent stock on either side, but by far the greater per cent have the dark markings of the Carniolans, but seldom equal them in gentleness, though in every other good quality they are fully up to the very best of that race. They are fully as much inclined to swarm as the pure stock. They are very alert and quick in their movements, and according to my observation pos-

sess the full wing power of the pure Carniolans. Last year I saw them at work three miles from the apiary, and by the thousands, and that at a time when no dirth prevailed, and on the 15th of the present month some men at work just three measured miles from home reported that they were passing over them in a perfect roar, going and coming from a field of wild pennyroyal beyond them. This, to my mind, is sufficient evidence of ample wing power. Besides, I have often observed them on very windy days when the pure bred Italians were being blown around to a merciless degree. They always seem able to reach their hives without serious trouble, and I know that they load as heavily as the Italians. Now as to the other statement that we might expect them to be less hardy than the pure Carniolans, and a very little better than Italians in that respect is far from the facts, as I find them.

I had a strong colony of Italians that died out last winter, soiling their combs badly. The odor from these combs was so foul that my wife begged me to destroy them rather than take any risk of getting disease among the home bees, but I determined to experiment a little, and here is what I did: I placed half of them on a strong Carniolan colony. In a short time they were cleaned out, and that



colony is now using them free and clean as they ever were. Last year a strong Italian nuclei developed a lot of dead brood. I removed the queen and gave them a young Carniolan queen. In about five weeks, on examining them, I was much surprised to find only a trace of it left, and now that colony is as good as any I have. This same dead brood appeared among several strong Italian colonies, but I have never known one to clean out the dead matter yet, and all had to be treated a la McEvoy. As a further test of their hardiness I wintered seven four-frame nuclei. Each had about a quart of bees, and not to exceed six pounds of the poorest bug juice honey obtainable. But in spite of the long, wet winter and poor honey they wintered without the least uneasiness or loss, and are to-day fine colonies. To my mind this settles the question of hardiness. I do not claim to be at all familiar with the laws of heredity or breeding, neither do I lay any claim to scientific attainment, but I do claim to be a capable, common sense man, with intelligence enough to understand white from black, and weak from strong. I can also understand how it is possible to get a cross that will be superior to either of the parents, though I am well aware of the position that the so-called scientific men take in regard to this matter, and right here I

wish to state that I cannot understand how any kind of advancement could be possible without at first some variation, or at least deviation from the fixed physical characteristics of parent stock, and in either of the crosses that Prof. Benton speaks of these variations and reversions are to be found. Neither are we justified in assuming that this is an evidence of retrogression.

Relative to the other cross spoken of I do not find the very decided increase in wing power that Prof. Benton so confidently anticipates, neither do I find any decided increase in their temper and hardiness, but I do find a decrease in their ability to rear large quantities of brood, as compared to the Carniolan-Italians. And in my ignorant way that seems the most important desideratum. I cannot conceive of anything more irrational than the belief that a race can be hardy and vigorous, and yet not possess the power to rear and nurse their own species, and that too, under any stress of weather or change of climate. For myself I will always take the pro-races. They can always be depended on to rear enough bees to keep the colony alive. I will in conclusion that I do not care to criticise any man's opinions, only write this in order to correct what I feel sure is a mistake, to affirm that bees neither

their temper exclusively from one parent or the other, but co-jointly from both, and that strength of wing and vigor of body comes as certainly from the one as the other, and that a cross may be superior to either of the parents. In that it may combine and intensify all of the good traits, that such a combination may so mettle the blood of the cross as to render it superior to and more potent than either side from which it sprang. In support of this theory I could cite some pretty strong evidence in the animal world, and quite a bit even among human kind. But I forbear lest it be thought I have an ax to grind, as the saying goes. In justice to Prof. Benton, I will say that I believe that his last contention, that the Cypro-Carniolan is a hardier cross is well founded, but the temper of such bees, after the first cross, would be something peculiarly hellish, and though I do not keep bees altogether for gentleness, neither do I want to keep them for the benefit of their stings. With the Carniolan-Italian cross we have a bee possessed of the following good traits, and when taken all in all there are few races so well on an average; first, great prolificness; second, good comb-builders; third, hardiness; fourth, enter supers promptly; fifth, gentleness. Added to these good qualities are two other good and almost equally desirable ones:

Their ability to winter well under many disadvantages, and the ease with which they can be driven out of the supers. All these good traits combine to make them a very acceptable bee to me.

Vigo, Texas.



Please send me catalogue and prices of your queen bees. Also give me full description of the advantages claimed for the Cyprians over Italians and the advantages claimed for Italians over Cyprians. Do Cyprians winter equally as well as Italians. Can the Cyprian work as deep flowers as the red clover strain of Italians.

ERNEST BENAGE.

Iberia, Mo.

Friend B—The most that I claim for Cyprians over Italians is that they gather more honey. The Cyprian queens are more prolific and always have a large field force and do not crowd out the queens like the Italians do. I took from a Cyprian colony this spring twenty solid sealed frames of new, white, waheah honey, which would have weighed over 100 pounds net, as the frames were full depth, or brood frames. Besides this we took some extracted honey from the same colony. Many colonies did not fall far behind this record, and we are likely yet to get another 100 pounds from this same colony. The claim made for Italians is that



they are not so vindictive as Cyprians, but really I am so used to handling both that I see no difference, and I cannot get much profit from Italians on account of their desire to crowd the queens out, but they are good bees where there is only one honey flow.

I write to ask about the characteristics of your bees. Which of your breeds is best suited for the honey flows of Louisiana and Texas? I hear that the Holylands are very prolific. Do they swarm very much, and are the Cyprians bad fighters and good workers? Do they swarm much, and do they breed early in the spring. And the Albinos and Carniolans, what of them? The Holylands impress me from what I have read of them as being the bees for Louisiana.

W. G. ASKEW.

Riviere, La.

Friend A.—I think the Cyprians would be the best bees for Louisiana if large crops of honey is what you are after. The Holylands are very prolific and always have a good working force, but they are a little worse to sting than the Cyprians, and they are fine bees for the south. Holylands are good swarmers, too. The Holylands and Cyprians both breed up early in the spring. The Carniolans are good, too, but many object to them on account of their dark color. They are great swarmers and quick to enter the supers and splendid honey gatherers. The Albinos are a good, gentle race, but for genuine get up and go they

are behind the Holylands Cyprians. I think you would be pleased with either Holyland Cyprians.

I wish to ship some bees by the pound. Will you please give me dimensions of a package to ship them in, and how much good candy to put in for each pound of bees to last them a trip of 2,000 miles in last ten days. I also want to make exhibits of bees and queens at our fair this fall. What kind of cage or box do you put your queens in for exhibition at fairs? I am a mechanic and make the packages for shipping bee queens. I am truly glad you have started the Southland Queen again. Please send it along to us. Will you write some for me you think my writing will be any good. The Carniolan queen Mr. Morehouse ordered of you is a large, fine one, and is laying fine. We have some fine ones from her now. Please let me hear from you at once.

T. S. HALL

Jasper, Ga.

Friend Hall.—We now ship our bees by the pound or nucleus combs of honey, and do not use any candy at all. Just make a shipping box wide enough to hold one frame, and deep as a man's body, ventilate sides with wire cloth, put in your bees and queen and then honey in the frames. The honey is enough to last them the trip and you will have better success than with the good candy, as we have tried both extensively and much prefer the combs and honey. To exhibit bees at fairs make simple observatory hives by using glass for side observation and paint



boxes neatly, and one or two combs of nice, white honey and yellow bees make a nice show. If you wish to make the bees show off to best advantage cover the bottom of box and underside of cover with snow white paper and you have a nice reflector. Come on with your articles, Bro. Hall, they will be appreciated.

Please tell me what to do when the queen goes into the upper story, and how to manage to keep her from doing this.

MRS. C. R. WEST.

Ennis, Texas.

Dear Mrs. West—If you wish to keep your queens from supers exclusively you will have to use queen excluding honey boards between upper and lower stories, and any dealer in bee supplies can supply you with them. Lay the unbound zinc honey boards right on the top bars of brood frames and set on your supers and queens will remain below, as they can't get above. It is very necessary to keep the queens out of the supers if you are raising section honey, but if you produce extracted and bulk comb honey you can let your queens go where they wish and it will do no harm, and combs partially filled with brood can be extracted after the brood is sealed and not damage it.

The general tidying up of the apiary may be done in spare time, and the re-arrangement of hives is best done during winter months.

## THE SOUTHLAND QUEEN.

PUBLISHED MONTHLY.

E. J. ATCHLEY - - Editor and Publisher.

Application made for transmission through the mails as second-class matter.

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We have had more rain than usual this spring, and at this writing, June 15, the public roads are almost impassable, and I think our June mesquite is ruined, as the cool weather that came with the rain is causing the leaves to fall from it and the blooms are blighting, and unless we get warm weather with hot sunshine soon our mesquite honey crop will be a failure for this season.

We learn that John Nebel, the senior member of John Nebel & Son, of High Hill, Mo., died a few days ago. He was 69 years old and has been an active bee-keeper

for many years. One by one the old veterans are passing out, and soon our rank and file will have to be made up with another generation of bee-keepers. The Queen force extends their sympathies in the loss of this good man.

Mr. H. H. Hyde, of Floresville, Texas, was married to Miss Lizzie Ellen Adams at 8 o'clock p. m., June 18. The entire Queen force begs to extend congratulations, and wishes them a happy and prosperous journey through life and a home in Heaven in the end. It seems only a little while since Homer was a little tot, and I can yet imagine him hacking on the window sill with a knife, when his mother was too sick to rebuke him for it. Time flies swiftly by and soon all the little boys and girls will be men and women. Mr. Hyde is one of the most successful bee-keepers of today and always willing to instruct others by the use of his pen or otherwise. Here is my hand, Homer, and I am only too sorry that I could not avail myself of the pleasure of complying in person to the invitation to attend your wedding.

We learn that in some states north they are yet feeding bees. In Arkansas they are getting no honey and bees are doing badly, and it seems that if this unfavorable weather keeps up long there

will be a short crop of honey season, and honey should be good price.

It will be a good idea not to tract too close, for it must be remembered that the honey extor is one of the greatest in tions of the bee age, yet one of the greatest enemies to beedon judgment is not used in tak honey. The honey extractor sta and ruins more bees than all drouths and disasters combi and great care should be take using it.

We are having great difficult getting from one apiary to anot this month, and we have b lodged up here at the Moolis y for nearly a week, at the hom the printer, and our whole fan is in the crew this time, trying make our way up the Nueces ri to one of our river bee yards, indulge in a week's fishing, but will yet be several days reach our destination.

The old subscribers are respo ing to the roll-call right along a we are now daily recording th and welcoming them back into t fold. Come on, we will be glad have every one of you back, a all the new ones you may be ge enough to send in.

Beeswax is now on the dow ward tendency, and the price m

soon reach the old figure of 20 and 25 cents in this locality.

Inquiries are coming in concerning the bee meeting this fall, and I will state that it will be held in the court house in Beeville some time in September next, and we expect a large attendance, as the unusual swarming season just passed has hatched bee-keepers by the score, and they are all seeking information. Everybody will be expected to attend that is interested in bee culture living within fifty miles of Beeville, and all bee-keepers far and near are invited.

We are going to run the factory this coming fall and winter and try to make hives and frames to accommodate everybody that calls, as we fell far short of it this season

I found C. B. Bankston a few days ago over in the river bottom with his queen-rearing yard, where he is dishing out queens by the hundred to the thirsty queen buyers of the land, and Charlie is, of course, doing a good business.

The Bee-Keepers' Review came poking in a few days ago marked X, and before I bursted the wrapper I knew that handwriting, and sure enough it was written by our old friend, W. Z. Hutchinson, and the Review is as usual filled with the best to be had in bee chat, and

one copy is worth a year's subscription, \$1. Send for a sample copy, Flint, Mich.

How natural is the article and portrait of L. Stachelhausen, shown in this issue. Mr. S. will still hand out his valuable information through the Queen.

Bee trees are almost as numerous through this country as hollow trees are for bees to enter, and one could soon start a good-sized apiary from wild bees if he was a good bee hunter.

Two large swarms ran away from our Moolis ranch in March, and we found them snugly hived in two large live oak trees within 400 yards of the apiary. They are pure Cyprians and no trouble to identify them, and then Mr. Goodwin ran one of the swarms to within a few yards of the tree before he lost sight of them.

#### JUNE WORK AMONG THE ATCHLEY APIARIES.

Our June work is much the same as in May, with some few changes. In making the third round harvesting we try to leave all hives a sufficient amount of honey to carry them through July and August, or during our heated summer, as it often happens that our bees do not get enough honey during these months to support them. We



sometimes get a slow flow from grand hania during summer should we get rain, but to make sure that the bees do not suffer better leave them plenty, and if they do get a supply through July and August we are that much ahead. We are making some increase this month by taking a full super of combs and honey with about two frames with brood and bees enough for a fair colony and introducing queens from the nuclei. As the spring queen rearing is over we are cutting down the number of nuclei by uniting four two-frame nuclei and placing the eight combs and bees into a ten-framed brood chamber, adding two combs of honey from other sources, and allow them to keep one queen, and by September or October we expect them to be good colonies and get plenty honey for winter, and these are usually among our best honey colonies the following spring. We fill orders with the remaining queens, and form colonies for them if any are not used in filling orders. We are not uniting all the nuclei at this season, but such as would be likely to swarm out and be lost during the hot months. All that have stores and bees sufficient are left to fill orders and put in colonies that need them.

We must look well to the shading of all hives this month, as the sun is hot from the time she rises until she sets, and the sides or

tops of hives that are exposed to the sun will cause some or all of the combs to melt down. We try to exclude the sun's rays entirely through July and August, and in some summers it is not safe to remove shades till October, or until the weather turns cooler. Some of our apiaries have natural shade of live oaks, but not all of them, and really, we prefer colonies that stand in the sun from December till May in South Texas, as it seems to help the bees to build up and send a better working force to the fields, for less bees are required to keep the necessary heat for the well-being of the colonies, and more honey is stored by colonies that stand in the sun, as a rule.

In closing our June work we try to get the apiaries all wrapped up for a little rest spell, as we call it for fall manipulations usually begin about September 1. The one thing that we have to keep watch out for during July and August is that the watering places do not dry up and the bees suffer for water. I have often seen the bees carry water to keep their hives cool and work like there was pretty good honey flow on. Bees should not be allowed to go far to get water, else they may let the combs melt down and the hives under solid shades. This month ends our spring and summer harvest, and all hands now seek a little rest.

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*FROM OHIO.*

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Please accept my thanks for a sample copy of the new Southland Queen, dressed in her new garb, and containing within her columns matter that should interest every bee-keeper, small and great, in the prosperous southland country, viz: The article by J. F. Chambers of Vigo, Texas, in the April issue, and as I have been a close reader of the bee journals I have particularly noted the same line of thought expressed by Mr. Chambers, and I am glad on behalf of the bee-keepers of the South especially that you have been induced to come to the front and take up the publication of a journal devoted to apiculture for a climate so different from our northern latitude. Surely our brother and sister bee-keepers of the sunny south will hail the publication of the Southland Queen as good news, and bring to each subscriber monthly words of comfort and of great joy to know there is still enough of the faithful left to uphold and push forward apicultural pursuits of the south, even to the foremost rank of the apicultural world, and there is no good reason why the Southland Queen should not become equal with knowledge for the apiarist all over the world to any other bee paper published.

Well, Bro. A., I have been reading your method of manipulating

your bees, and on page 20, second column, you say you do not waste time trying to keep your old queens on old stands, as it will prove to be a failure, as a rule, etc. Then farther on you say there is only one way to keep the old queens on the old stands and not have them swarm, and that is to take all the bees from her except a small force too weak to swarm, etc. Now as to the first proposition as a waste of time, I think you would change your mind very materially on that question if you would have tested the Golden hive method, as I asked you to do some three or four years ago. With that method the bees are permitted to swarm once if they so desire, and then returned to the old stand, queen and all, and the result is that twice the amount of comb honey may be procured by said colony than by any other method known, provided plenty room is given for the bees to store in. Now the second proposition, as you state, there is only one way to keep the old queens on the old stands and not have them swarm. I heartily concur with your solution of that problem. In 1901 I spent the season with my partner in one of the best basswood locations in West Virginia I know of anywhere. We had about 100 colonies there, having the bees in standard hives, to thoroughly test the Golden alongside the usual method. Therefore some



forty colonies were put in the Golden hives and were permitted to swarm once and returned according to the Golden method, and the result was the forty colonies produced twice as much honey as all the balance of the apiary and the increase, and 1902 was a repetition of 1901. The apiary having been sold, the apiarist is changing all standard hives to the Golden hive as fast as he possibly can in order to get ready for the heavy flow of basswood honey, which seldom fails in this locality. Yes, I know some of the said to be knowing ones in apiculture are and have been very prejudiced against the Golden hive and method. Nevertheless orders come almost daily for ten, twenty and twenty-five hives in each order from different parts of the United States from those who had gotten sample hives two or three years ago, although, on account of my health I abandoned the manufacture of the Golden combination hive over a year ago. I notice many are trying to construct their hives so as to get as near the Golden hive as possible without adopting it entirely. The day will come when the Golden combination comb honey hive will become the standard hive of the world.

With best wishes and much success for the Queen,

J. A. GOLDEN.

Reinersville, Ohio.

## BEE MATTERS.

ALBERT GALE.

Some years ago I made it a business to inquire of every bee-keeper I met as to what conditions of season were most favorable to the production of honey. The answers received may be summed up thus: A dry summer following a wet spring will be sure to be followed by a good honey-flow. In some parts of this state these are the conditions now prevailing, and at present in the coastal district especially so round about Sydney some of the indigenous timber trees have produced abundance of bloom, and honey is coming in plentifully. This outburst of bloom is now being followed by the bee-breeding pro ratio, and this is being followed by abnormal swarming. In my own little experimental apiary six colonies threw off thirteen swarms before Christmas. Seven of these I removed to the Hawkesbury Agricultural College apiary. These have thrown off seven maiden swarms, as did also one other, being an increase of upwards of twenty colonies from my half dozen. Of course this season bees will be of far more importance than honey—that is, from a bee-keeper's standpoint. If the flow of honey from our native apple-trees is followed up by other native honey yielding trees coming into bloom, the bees will be



sure to make hay while the sun shines, and in this way slightly make up for the time lost in the past season. In 1892 one bee-keeper informed me that the kind of season he most gloried in was a wet autumn, dry winter, showery spring, followed by a dry summer. This kind of weather, he said, produced the greatest yield of honey he had ever known. Will such seasons follow this drouth? If so, there is yet hope for the bee-keepers. Undoubtedly, the present favorable conditions will go a long way towards building up the decimated bees, thus preparing a foundation for good honey seasons that may confidently be expected to follow the breaking up of the drouth. To this end bee-keepers, both amateur and professional, would do well to sacrifice honey to the production of bees, for undoubtedly they will be required in the near future.

One of the most, if not the most, interesting episodes with the bee-keepers is the swarming season. No matter whether he is a professional or one only trying his apprentice hand with a view to becoming a professional bee-keeper or merely a "hobbyist," it makes little difference. Swarming is as natural an instinct in bees as broodiness is in hens. A hen sits to complete the reproduction of her species, as bees swarm for the same purpose. Where bee-keeping

is carried on for a hobby, or where the bee-keeper is only a beginner there is always feverish excitement to catch the early spring swarms. The inquiry made of men with more experience than themselves is, When do you think my bees will swarm? It is much easier to ask that question than to answer it. There are so many contingencies and side issues thereto, all of which must be taken into the consideration of the most experienced bee-men. To catalogue them is a task that few would undertake without misgiving. The circumstantial catalogue of last season would not apply to this, and this season may not apply to the next. But, granted that bees have been well wintered, that they have come through the cold season physically and numerically strong, that they are descendants from ancestors whose chief trait is industry (there is as much difference in the industrial habits of bees as there is among men), that spring arrives with an abundance of pollen and honey-bearing flowers, then, and not till then, may the bee-keeper expect his first and earliest swarms. It is the early swarms that are most interesting from other points than that of profit. "When my bees swarm forth where will they alight?" is another question that the experienced man is likely to answer with, "Oh, give us something easy."

Nevertheless there are one or two moral certainties in connection with the question. It will be somewhere near the hive they issued from, and not too high for easy capture, if it be the first swarm of the season. The reason is that the first swarm is accompanied by the old laying queen. She is in a condition that makes her too heavy to travel too far from home in one flight. Nevertheless as soon as the swarm has fairly settled it should be at once captured. How are you to do it? Well, that is an easier question to answer than the former one. Bees when swarming always put on their very best behavior; but you must bear in mind bees sometimes take very strange fancies. If the bees have settled on a bough roll up your sleeves—you are safer that way; take a candle box or something equally light and shake the bees into it and place it on the ground, seeing that the bees have easy access to the interior. What is the next step? Of course you have already got your hive in position, with a sufficiency of frames with starters attached. If such be the case commence the transference of the swarm from the candle box to their permanent abode as soon as possible. It is not necessary to wait until sundown, or until every bee has settled in the box. The few bees that may be unwilling to settle will either fol-

low the swarm or return to the parent hive.

The transfer may be effected either by shaking the swarm down on the frames of the new hive—the cover and quilt having been removed—or if the hive be on the ground, by tumbling the bees over in front of the entrance. I prefer the first mentioned method. In either case it will not be long before the bees enter; but we can not always be certain that the swarm which enters the new home ever so docilely will be satisfied with it and remain. Sometimes a swarm will appear to be quite at home for a day or two, then without a minute's warning off they go. This annoying trait is peculiar to some families of bees, and it is not easy to control. One of the means of making certain of their remaining in the new hive is to place therein a frame of open brood from another hive. The method has the disadvantage of weakening the colony from which the frame is taken, but is generally quite effectual.

In placing hives on stands or on the ground, be sure to have the place perfectly level, so that the frames will hang plumb. Great care should be taken to correctly and evenly space the frames.

I have been asked whether I believe in artificial swarming. Yes, that is the practice known among practical apiarists as dividing



swarms. It is a very good thing, especially if, during the swarming season, there is no one about to watch the swarms.

Another correspondent asks if the clipping of the wings of the queen bee is to be recommended. This practice is advisable if you live in closely settled suburbs and may have to get over other people's fences in search of errant swarms, otherwise there is not much in it. As I have already pointed out, the laying queen which accompanies the first swarm cannot fly far, although she can fly well enough to cross a fence, and under the circumstances the clipping of one of her wings would probably save some inconvenience; but in the case of virgin queens, which accompany the after swarms, the operation would be rather difficult, and one must always be prepared for a rather merry dance after such queens.—Agricultural Gazette.

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### "THE QUEEN BEE."

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### CONTROL OF SWARMING AT OUT APIARIES.

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OREL L. HERSHISER IN R. B. J.

There are various "hopeful fields" for the apiarist, some of which are esteemed by their advocates to be "The Most Hopeful Field." A "field" that appears to the writer at least to be classed as "hopeful" is the quest of knowledge as to a rational system for the control of the swarming propensities of bees in such manner as not to diminish, but increase, the honey crop. Particularly is such a consummation desired by the specialist, to whom the expense account in the management of his out apiaries is the item which determines the success or failure of the enterprise.

If swarming can be brought under practical control without any diminution of the honey crop, and by such routine labor as can be conveniently arranged for a long step in advance in the science of apiculture will have been taken, which will lessen to a great degree the uncertainty of success with



out apiaries, especially those that are run for comb honey. Are we not in possession of sufficient knowledge of the habits and natural instincts of bees, which, if properly classified and used, will eliminate their desire to swarm? With our present knowledge can not we perform the swarming function, to all intents and purposes, and in just the manner that will give the greatest and surest returns in honey and the control of increase.

It has been repeatedly alleged that a colony with a young queen will not swarm during the season in which she is reared. Apiarists, whose careful observations entitle their statements to belief, inform us that the colony is safe from swarming only where the queen is reared therein and is of the current season's breeding, and that introducing a young queen, of the current season's rearing, to a strong colony, offers no safeguard against swarming. If this is not an absolute certainty, it seems fair to assume, in view of the statements by experts on these points, that the likelihood of a natural swarm issuing from a colony that has reared a young queen during its current season, prior to swarming time, is quite remote.

Again, swarming is usually defeated, but perhaps with less certainty than by the above method, if the colony is "shook" from its

combs and hived on starters of the old stand; and not only is swarming defeated, but in the hands of the careful and skillful apiarist, an increased amount of the finest comb honey is produced.

Further, it is well known that colonies build up in strength and numbers with greater rapidity if a second brood chamber is added as soon in the spring as the weather conditions and the strength of the colony will permit, giving the queen access to all the brood combs, and that colonies so treated enter the sections readily when the super is substituted for the upper section of the enlarged brood chamber.

Here we have the fragmentary knowledge necessary, if comprehensively used, for the evolving a perfect controlling of a non-swarming system, viz: The colony should be built up as rapidly as possible as strongly as possible by the use of an additional brood chamber, making the hive two stories high as soon as the chamber in which the colony has wintered is crowded with bees and the spring weather conditions are favorable. At the approach of the first surplus honey season—usually white clover, alfalfa, the east and north and alfalfa the west—and when the hive, in both sections of the brood chamber is literally full of bees, a shake, when, if the bees swarmed nat-

ally, the brood would not chill after the swarm had departed, remove the lower section or portion of the double brood chamber with the queen to another stand, which should be alongside of the old stand and contiguous to it. In fact, a stand large enough for two colonies to be placed upon, side by side, is the ideal arrangement for this purpose.

In place of the lower part of the brood chamber thus removed substitute a brood chamber with clean frames of starters. Now all the field honey gathering bees will return to the old stand, leaving the brood chamber with the queen with sufficient young bees that have not flown to take care of the brood; and this removed portion of the hive is in the best possible condition for rapid increase of bees, that is, rapidly hatching brood and not enough honey being gathered by this colony of young bees to keep the cells filled with honey as they hatch. Empty combs should be substituted for any combs that are full of honey, in order that the queen may be allowed to lay to her full capacity. The bees occupying the hive on the old stand will at once commence to rear queens, and in due course of time a fine batch of queen cells will be found in the upper chamber, usually along the bottom bars of the frames, one cell only of which should be allowed to hatch and the

queen to become fertile in the colony. By the time the young queen begins to lay practically all the brood in this upper chamber on the old stand will have hatched. Now remove the colony with the old queen to a new stand, preferably about ten feet to the rear of the stand from which originally taken; shake the bees clean from the combs in the upper story of the colony on the old stand that has reared the young queen, in front of their hive; remove this upper story, with the frames shook clean of bees, and place it as an upper story to the hive with the old queen; place a super of sections on the hive in place of the upper story that has been removed from the hive on the old stand.

Now we have a colony working for comb honey that has a young queen that it has reared—the first requisite of non-swarmer; it is a colony the brood chamber of which is supplied with starters and contains little or no brood, a second requisite of non-swarmer, and a colony that, to all intents and purposes, has swarmed, a third requisite of non-swarmer. Besides, the hive with the super is in the best possible condition for a crop of fancy comb honey, providing the foregoing manipulations are performed at the proper time, and the hive with the old queen is in fair shape to gather a very satisfactory crop of extracted honey, provided



the honey flow, continues long enough for it to rear worker bees, with no likelihood of swarming, because the season therefor will have passed before it attains to sufficient strength.

If no increase is desired, when the colony on the old stand is prepared for comb honey work, move the colony with the old queen on the opposite side of the colony on the old stand, with the entrance as near as possible thereto and facing in the same direction, and in one week return it to its original position on the now opposite side of the hive, and repeat this moving to opposite side and back again weekly through the season to keep the colony with the young queen at all times well supplied with worker bees.

Thus we will have the work of two queens in the comb honey colony, instead of one, resulting in a greatly increased production of fancy honey. At the end of the season the old queen may be disposed of to the best advantage of the apiarist, and the combs she has occupied may be extracted and stored for the following season's use.

Buffalo, N. Y.

[The chief objection we see to this system is, if we wait until the young queen begins to lay before putting a super on the comb honey colony at least half of the harvest will have passed before storing in

the sections is begun. This means a loss of half of the honey crop. The strong points in favor of the system are, the swarming fever under control, and we get the work of two queens concentrated in one hive. If we are wrong in our deductions, we hope friend Hershiser will hasten to make corrections and let in more light.—Ed.]

### Queen-Rearing.

HENRY ALLEY IN GLEANINGS.

It seems to me that the method now used by many who rear queens are not the best, nor do they conform very near the most natural ways that is, the ways the bees do it, not meddled with after being made queenless. It is not my purpose to criticise any method used, yet I do not think good queens can be reared by some of the methods now being practiced; in fact, I know from actual experience that first-class queens can not be reared while there is a fertile queen present in the hive. Now, why is this so? Perhaps I can best explain the reasons why in this way: What are the conditions under which bees rear queens? I know of only three reasons why bees will rear queens:

1. When preparing to cast a swarm.
2. When about to supersede an old queen.
3. When deprived of their queen by accident or otherwise.



Pretty good queens can be reared by almost any method while there is a good flow of nectar in the fields. But the honey-flow season is very short, and the queen-dealer must commence to rear-queens before there is much natural forage, and continue to rear them long after the time the bees can collect honey from flowers.

I will not discuss the question under the first condition, only to say that not so good queens can be reared, even under the swarming impulse, as can be reared at other times, even when feeding has to be resorted to to keep up proper stimulation. I am aware that the old well-read bee-keeper will make some remarks here. Well, let me explain what I mean, and I believe that a good many bee-keepers will agree with me.

I am on the point that as good queens can not be reared by bees having a laying queen as can be done by queenless bees. Now for the reasons why: Except at swarming time bees do not feel the need of more than one queen in the colony. Now, if cell cups are given a colony over the brood nest, does any one believe the bees feel that more queens are needed? If the presiding queen had a chance to destroy those cell cups she would surely do so, and the bees would not oppose her in her work. This is not so in natural swarming unless the notion of swarming had

been given up; nor is this so when cells are being constructed to supersede an old queen.

Queenless bees can always be depended on for rearing queens of the best quality. Of course all understand that I do not mean bees that have been queenless for a long time. Only bees just made queenless will produce first-class queens, and they will rear only one batch of good queens; so don't work them too hard.

I do not believe the best queens can be reared by using artificial cell cups. I think eggs furnished to bees from which they can select the egg will produce much better queens. It is all very nice and very scientific, preparing and fixing up the artificial cell cups; but I can get bees to build more cell cups than I need, and as they can do it so much quicker and better than I can they are allowed to do it.

I am rearing queens by an entirely new method. I now have in my yard some of the largest and finely developed queens that can be found in the country. No queens are better reared over the brood-nest, nor by any plan that permits a laying queen to be present while cell-building is going on. I am using only nature's ways. Isn't it just as natural for bees to rear queens when deprived of their queen as it is during swarming time or when superseding an old

queen? I am using nature's ways only in accordance with common sense, and as long experience dictates.

Some one has said that more poor queens are reported now than twenty years ago. Well, that statement ought not to surprise any one. Where one queen was reared and sold twenty years ago there are now over one hundred sold. Just look at the number of queen dealers rearing them by the thousands! It will make no difference by what method queens are reared, more or less poor queens will be sent out, and more or less poor queens will be reported.

By the way, some one has said in these columns that a queen is worthless unless fertilized in 21 days from the time they are hatched. This year I had nine queens that were thirty days old before they were given a chance to mate. Six of them mated all right. One of them was sent to Arthur C. Miller, of Providence, R. I., to see how she turned out. Right here let me also say that these queens were confined in nursery cages the entire thirty days. They were not in the least injured by the long confinement. The above statement, like many others that get into the bee papers, can easily be shown to be incorrect. Why not have more discussion on queen-rearing? It is a subject that can not be worn out very easily. Better queens can be reared than are now being sent out by a large number of "queen-dealers." In the production of queen-bees man can outdo nature. I can show that man can beat some of nature's

ways in many respects, and yet is only nature's ways used in practical, common sense way.

When bees rear queens while they have a fertile queen in the hive they do not act as though they had any interest in the work. 'Tis kind o' do as you please. But when bees have no queen the conditions are quite different. 'Tis a case of compulsion—do it or get out of existence. Bees in such a condition work with a will, and the result is good queens.

Wenham, Mass.

[We have tested all the different methods of rearing queens; and the one that we get the best queens from, the longest lived, is the one having its foundation in Doolittle's book; and I dare not say I publish in these columns just what is said of them, for it might be construed as big flaming advertisement for the Royal Company.

But the Doolittle method does not depend on upper stories, and when it does use them it is only under certain conditions. Those conditions are explained in his book. Sometimes we use the drone cup plan and sometimes the artificial cup but with either we graft the cells. By so doing we can, if we choose, rear thousands of queens from the best breeder in the yard. But if we give a frame of eggs from that best queen, and let the bees do their own selecting, as you tell about only a few of those eggs will be utilized for the queens, while the rest will be used for common bees. By the grafting plan we are enabled to use a very large percentage of all the eggs a choice queen may lay for the purpose of rearing queens and not bees.

Our own experience, and it covers 25 years, would not be altogether in line with what you write, although we would agree with you in some of your propositions. While we have cells built in upper stories, under certain conditions, a great majority are built out in supersedure colonies or those actually queenless. I do not believe that there is any method known—and we have great respect for our veteran queen-breeder, Mr. Alley—that will produce better queens than we are now rearing.—Ed.]



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**T. F. BINGHAM, Farwell, Mich.**

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### PRICE OF CAGES.

- 1 cage, complete, cells compressed  
postpaid..... 75  
1 cage, cells not compressed, post-  
paid..... 50  
2 cages, cells compressed, with hold-  
ing frame .....\$1 25  
2 cages, not compressed, with hold-  
ing frame.....1 00  
6 cages in flat, blank shells included.2 50

E. L. PRATT, Swarthmore, Pa.

## A Live Bee Journal

Is a necessity to every bee-keeper. You will find such a one in the **Rocky Mountain Bee Journal**. Send for it. It will keep you from going to sleep. Send 10 cents for three back numbers of different issues, or better still, fifty cents for a year's trial. Address the publisher,

H. C. MOREHOUSE,  
Boulder, Colorado.

## Advertisers' Editorial Page

N. B.—A page under this heading will be open to our advertisers, and they will be allowed to make—free of charge—an announcement of special importance to their customers, such as change of prices, reference to regular ad, arrival of new goods, etc.

T. K. Massie, of Tophet, W. Va. who is the author of "The Queen Bee," places an ad in this issue. Send for catalogue.

## Here's a Pointer for You

I am now better prepared to supply you with queens and bees than ever before, as I have more bees now, and double my regular number of queen-rearing yards. I can supply you with queens and bees of almost any kind, which I breed in separate yards from six to twenty miles apart. Three banded Italians, five-banded goldens, Holylands, Cyprians Albinos and Carniolans. Send for price list.

WILL ATCHLEY,  
Beeville, Texas.

## "THE QUEEN BEE"

Is receiving words of highest praise from the prominent bee-keeper who have read it. Thousands upon thousands of dollars saved directly and indirectly to bee-keepers if its teachings are followed. Order copy today and get your money back if you are not pleased with it. Price only 25 cents in stamps.

Don't fail to send for **World's Fair** edition of my catalogue, to be issued in January next.

T. K. MASSIE,  
Tophet, W. Va.



# Farm and Ranch Contest.

## WINNERS IN THE CONTEST.

In the \$250 contest for local agents, which closed January 1, 1903, the winners of the prizes were as follows:

D. M. Jordan, Oglesby, Texas, number of yearly subscriptions taken, 75, prize \$50.

M. A. Brown, Stone Point, Texas, subscriptions, 61 3-4, prize, \$30.

A. E. Edwards, Greenville, Texas, subscriptions, 31 1-2, prize \$20.

Geo. B. Simmons, Ben Franklin, Tex., subscriptions 26, prize \$10.

L. Childs, Fairfield, Texas, subscriptions 13, prize \$10.

M. Lister, Cleburne, Texas, subscriptions 11, prize \$10.

Hattie B. Christie, Hammond, La., subscriptions, 10 3-4, prize \$5.

A. J. Reeder, Granger, Texas, subscriptions, 9, prize \$10.

Farmersville Times, Farmersville, Texas, subscriptions 8, prize \$5.

A. S. Davis, McGregor, Texas, subscriptions, 7 3-4, prize \$5.

K. McGinnis, Terrell, Texas, subscriptions 7, prize \$5.

Green W. Butler, Mexia, Texas, subscriptions, 6 1-2, prize \$5.

Ferry Clements, Borney, Texas, subscriptions 6 1-4, prize \$5.

Lulu M. Brewington, Rosebud, Tex., subscriptions 6, prize \$5.

J. M. Fletcher, Atlanta, Texas, subscriptions \$6, prize \$5.

T. L. Haynes, Tioga, Texas, subscriptions 6, prize \$5.

Sherman Democrat, Sherman, Tex., subscriptions 6, prize \$5.

E. K. Rudolph, Van Alstyne, Texas, subscriptions 6, prize 5.

The remaining ten prizes of \$5 each, amounting to \$50, were divided among the following agents, each of whom secured five subscribers: E. G. Armstrong, Bartlett, Texas, \$3.57; Minnie F. Armstrong, Gainesville, Texas, \$3.57; T. D. Ball, Decatur, Texas, \$3.57; H. A. Carpenter, Franklin, Texas, \$3.57; Clarksville Times, Clarksville, Texas, \$3.57; Thomas M. Danforth, Goliad, Texas, \$3.57; A. P. Ernest Senior, Texas, \$3.57; B. G. Haskell, Stockdale, Texas, \$3.57; T. M. Harrison, Centerville, Texas, \$3.57; A. J. Keith, Mabank, Texas, \$3.57; C. A. Moore, Poolville, Texas, \$3.75; Florence Sheasby, Elgin, Texas, \$3.57; J. T. Triplett, May, Texas, \$3.57; W. H. Webber, Lampasas, Texas, \$3.57.

In making the awards two six-months subscriptions or four three-months subscriptions counted as one yearly subscription.

It will be noted from the list above that in many instances the commission and prize money received by the agent amounted to as much or more than the total sum sent him to Farm and Ranch.

Write for particulars of the new \$250 contest, closing June 1, 1903.

## ADDRESS

# Farm and Ranch

Dallas, Texas.