

partly liquify it as it can then be used with a spoon, as a matter of economy it should be thoroughly liquified, as it is not only easier handled, and less is required, but it presents a nicer appearance.

#### HOW TO LIQUIFY GRANULATED HONEY.

All that is necessary is to stand the vessels containing the honey in a pot or boiler of water and warm it, as soon as it is all dissolved remove it and allow it to cool before using. If the honey is granulated very hard, you can, when partly dissolved, take a knife and divide up the undissolved portion, so that it will be more easily acted upon by that which is hot.

#### CAUTION.

Be careful not to allow the honey to reach the boiling point, or it will be darkened in color, and the flavor spoiled, hence it is better to hasten the liquifying as stated above. The hotter it becomes, the slower it is to regranulate, but the danger of injuring it is increased. If sealed down while hot in air tight vessels, it will remain liquid for a long time, but this is not necessary.

#### HONEY IN TUBS OR TINS.

When the honey is granulated in tins or tubs encased in wood you can, by taking off the cover and turning the vessel upside down, lift off the wood casing. If it should stick give it a shake or loosen the sides of the case and the tin and honey will drop out. It can then be placed in a boiler or pot of hot water as previously directed, or if preferred you can with a strong knife take out a portion and put it into a tin vessel and liquify as small a quantity as required. If the whole, however, is done at once it is less trouble, and will not only remain liquid for a long time, but will never become so hard again.

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#### A Swarm of Punic Bees.

##### A DREAM BY A SUBSCRIBER.

**A** FEW days ago it was a surprise to us to see a swarm of bees passing over, headed to the south-east. They were flying rather slow and spilling a great deal of propolis. They were too high to bring them down with a Smith pump; someone suggested shooting into the crowd would bring them down. So a gun was discharged into their midst, but this had no effect in checking their course, only a few that we were fortunate in hitting. On examining these we found they were shiny black bees. One of the little workers was not quite dead, she revived for a short while and said: "Around the

world in one summer, on our way back to Africa." The question was asked why not stay in America? "Oh!" said she, "next year they want to begin breeding us with yellow bands like they did our sisters of Carniola; this we will not stand." At this point the light of life flickered out. After a moment's thought it revealed to us that these were noted Punic bees trying to escape from being changed to another color. Question, where did these Punic' (?) come from?

[In a private note accompanying the above the writer remarks that America's climate has the wonderful power of turning black bees to yellow, and that he is expecting the "Yellow Punic" to make their appearance soon.—Ed.]—Progressive Bee-Keeper.

#### Simcoe Farmers Institute.

**M**R. R. F. Holterman who is "stump-ing" the counties in Northern Ontario with Professors from the Agricultural College, Guelph, and elsewhere, under the auspices of the Ontario Government, paid us a friendly visit and reported that the Simcoe Farmers' Institute met at Bond Head, Jan. 15th, a large number of farmers being present.

R. F. Holterman opened by an address upon "Bees in Relation to Plant Life." After explaining the parts of a flower, he went on to show the numerous devices of nature to secure cross fertilization. The portion of the various parts of the flower and the time of maturing assisted in this. As had been shown by careful experimentation that to secure the best fruits and vegetables it was advisable, and in fact necessary, to secure cross fertilization. It was not always necessary that bees should do this work, but the fruit blossom gave it a far more abundant flora early in the season than natural, and an artificial condition in plant life requires an artificial condition in insect life. The honey bee was not a native of the country, and bees winter over in great numbers and are able to fertilize many blossoms in fruit bloom. The bee had been originally intended for the fertilization of flowers, not primarily for honey gathering.

:: TRY AN AD. ::

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