

ment, depleted our spring of '07 we were colonies. Now it is come into the story. I helped with the bees in spring the winter was in Toronto. Like a colony I was filled with a hope for the betterment of the colonies. However, I was wiser to meet my efforts with a colony to teach me somewhat disheartened the humble task of springing up and bringing our sadly neglected

I myself launched as equipment was in some of the most girls could start instead of a good honey both of which would money than I could cumbersome quantity fortunately the hives of the type and I am still hope to change these together with 18 which nothing could year, and general completed my outfit. My first year is not to have you ever thought it is for the average business on her own in not trained for it and I not demand that we in has all the advantages, and unless a woman unusual amount of business has a hard struggle. I has to develop a new and almost a new set of requires considerable now if it had not been to prove my own ing, there were many I'd have been tempted the work while I was being away for a few

days it always cost me an effort to go back to it again; the planning, the deciding, the responsibility, the constant watchfulness, the untiring attention to detail, all were new to me and all were difficult. Many and many a time I failed but there was always the incentive of proving that here was something which I could carry to success to keep me at it. Just here let me say a word of encouragement to the girl who contemplates taking up any business. Don't be afraid to go ahead. You'll have to stiffen your backbone a good many times. There is no reason why you should not succeed in the end. It's all right for the boys to spend the money and fail; that's just the way they learn, and you have just as good a right to do it as they have.

Now for a brief summary of what I have accomplished in my five seasons. I have had no expense for supplies other than honey pails. The first season I had only 300 lbs. of honey and increased from 18 to 35 stocks. The money from the honey was all required to buy sugar for winter feeding; spring count '08, 30, honey 1,000 pounds, price 9c. and 10c., sugar for winter feeding about \$140; colonies put away for winter 45. Spring count '09, 40, honey 3,000 pounds, price 10c., sugar \$40, put away for winter 56. Spring count 1910, 55. Last season promised wonderfully well early in the spring, but later proved a great disappointment. As I anticipated having my sister to help me next season, I was anxious to increase my stock, and was able to bring the number up to 85. I had, however, to feed heavily for winter, which left about a profit of \$60 clear. However, in spite of the apparent discouragement, I feel well satisfied with last season's work, for at last I begin to feel myself master of the situation. I shall have my failures, but I know that there is no reason why I cannot make a good living. Indeed, I know that I can look

after a sufficient number of colonies to net several hundred dollars a year.

Now, apart from the initial difficulties of which I have spoken, what are the special difficulties which we, as women, have to face in bee-keeping? The first difficulties which come to mind with most people are the stings and swarms. Now, there is no doubt that bees do sting, and there is also no doubt that it hurts—but you get used to it, and after you have become seasoned to it, the sting ceases to swell or to annoy afterwards. But I don't think the operation painless at any time. You hear people say sometimes that bees come to know those who work with them, and, in consequence, do not sting them. This may be so, but I think a good deal more lies in learning how to work with the bees. Undoubtedly there are some people whom bees will not sting but they are rare. You need not build much on belonging to that class if you are going into bee-keeping. The strains of bees vary greatly. I have seen some so cross that I wouldn't take them as a gift; while others can be handled with the greatest ease. The kind of clothing you wear also makes a difference. Bees greatly dislike anything black, and will sting it viciously. They also dislike woolly substances, and light colored cotton clothes are the best. Of course a veil is necessary to protect the face.

Now, as to swarming; this is no longer a difficulty, at least, not in the way it is popularly regarded. The prevention and management of swarms undoubtedly makes a great amount of work, but the day of panicking and tree-climbing have gone forever, and each year is improving the methods for the control of swarming. I have not time to tell you now how it is done, and you wouldn't care to listen if I did, but you do not need to think of the swarming as any reason for not going into bees.

But there is one real difficulty for women in bee-keeping, and that is the heavy lifting. Honey is heavy and there