

Notes From the North-Western

AFTER a rest of five years the North-Western Bee-keepers' Association met at Chicago, on the 11th and 12th insts., when interesting discussions were had on putting bees into cellars, wintering bees, the best size of sections, packages for extracted honey, supers for hives, when to market honey, what hives will prevent swarming and other interesting questions.

Nov. 25th was decided as about the best time to put bees in the cellar; neat one pound sections were better than those holding either more or less, but of the last two, those holding a little less than a pound were considered the most desirable, glass was decided as the best package for extracted honey, each to hold about one pound; most of the honey was sent to market too soon as it should not be offered for sale until the weather was cool.

In talking of alsike clover as a honey plant, all agreed that it was superexcellent and that it was profitable for the farmer to grow. Mr. Heddon put forward a very sensible idea, and warned bee-keepers against giving the seed, free, to all who would sow it within reasonable distance of the apiary.

He says: "To give it away is wrong in principle. The moment that a farmer gets the idea into his head that your bees will get honey from his clover, then he does not wish to sow it. This is human nature. Let me tell you how I manage it. You know that I publish a local paper, out at Dowagiac. Well I sent to Mr. Newman for a cut of Alsike clover. Then I wrote an article on Alsike as a desirable crop for farmers to raise. I spread it on pretty thick but I guess I did not stretch the truth any. But not a word did I say about its honey-producing qualities. Then I went to our seedsman and showed him what I had done, and induced him to put in a stock of seed. I then gave notice where the seed could be obtained. The result is that the farmers have sowed largely of the Alsike. Where a man has no paper to work with, and cannot work with some other fellows' paper, the next best plan is to get some old farmer interested, and let him do the talking."

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Too Many Remedies for Foul Brood.

IN the last issue of Gleanings, the junior editor writes the following paragraph:

There are remedies for foul brood almost without number. One claims that coffee is a sure cure; another that coal oil is the remedy; still another besmears its affected combs with a solution of sulphur, and he avers, that, since then, he has had no more trouble. The truth is, that, just as soon as Brown finds out that there is something irregular with the brood in one of his hives, he jumps at the conclusion that he must have foul brood. He straightway daubs the combs with a mixture of his own "get up." Eureka! it's a success! He must needs go and publish it in some bee-journal. Of course, he did not stop to consider whether the little irregularity in the brood would have got well any way; much less, whether he had the real disease in the first place. There may be some reason in using a remedy that is a well known antiseptic or a germicide; but when a foul-brood mixture is neither, and has no science nor even common sense to back it, it is the height of folly for you to fuss with it. It is well enough for scientists to experiment with a remedy; but a bee-keeper who owns a hundred or even a less number of colonies can not afford to risk his whole apiary. Don't try anything else than the starvation plan, or, in isolated cases complete extermination. These are sure.

Then the senior editor follows:

The above was written by Ernest. I heartily endorse it; and I should say that the same system of reasoning should be applied to remedies for diseases that afflict the human family.

After the very numerous remedies that our friends have tried they fall back on the old reliable "starvation" plan, the very plan that we have preached for years, and one which when properly carried out never fails. No wonder friend Root sells so many of our little pamphlets which gives this method in detail. We shall soon issue a second edition, and in it we shall give a number of new pointers which will make the little book still more valuable.

German Laws Regarding Beekeeping

"USEFUL Hints" in the British Bee Journal gives the following law recently passed by both houses of the Reichstag, and duly signed and promulgated by the