

this colony with its hundreds of prolific mother, each having enough to do at home in rearing her own children, and a crowd of lazy drones who could do nothing but play in the sun. How were the daily needs of the hive to be satisfied, leaving out of account the provision that must be made for the coming winter?

Right here was a triumph of self-sacrifice. Motherhood was to be a privilege of the few and not of the many. In common with all of the classes. Hard times had already bred a lean material, and among them, and it was discovered that famine ratios in the nurseries meant a considerable increase in what we now call worker, which are simply immature queens.

THE WORKER-BEE

These workers differ from the queen in that their abdomen is comparatively short and rounded, that of queen being larger and longer and coming to a fairly sharp point. The worker-bee has a complicated system of wax-secreting discs or glands under the hard plates of her abdomen. On the hind legs the workers have a curious contrivance which beekeepers have named the pollen-baskets. It is a hollowing of the thigh, the cavity being surrounded with stiff hairs; and within this the pollen is packed and carried home to the hive to feed the young.

In the queen both the cavity and hairs are absent and also the wax-secreting glands. The color, too, of the queen is generally different from that of the worker-bee, her body and legs in most cases being a much redder brown.



Yield, 1913 Over 100 lbs. each.

DRONE-LAYING WORKERS AND QUEENS



An Ideal Spot for an Apiary.

The worker-bee is capable of producing her kind, yet only the male of the species. It sometimes happens that a hive will lose its queen, during the winter when there are no eggs in the hive, due to the fact that the old queen has outlived her usefulness. The following spring a worker will commence to lay industriously, only to add to the hive a crowd of useless males that will soon be the sole representatives of the doomed household.