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people whose tastes impel them to keep a few bees, but the great mass of people have found it more profitable to buy their honey, the same as they have learned that it does not pay them to make their own cheese.

Bee-keeping has become a distinct branch of agriculture, and is largely in the hands of specialists. These specialists have implements and methods that answer well their purpose, and the natural question is "What next?" What will be the next stage? What will be the future of bee-keeping?

The answer is not far too seek. The history of kindred industries will be the history of bee-keeping. First came discovery, invention and development; then came specialty; and now comes ORGANIZATION AND CO-OPERATION.

Most emphatically is this an age of organization. An industry without organization is practically helpless—at the mercy of all other organizations. Organization saved the citrus fruit industry of California. But we need not go that far for an illustration. Right here, in this good State of Colorado, with its fields watered from the eternal hills, and robed in the royal purple of alfalfa, bee-keeping would have been robbed of its commercial charm, had not organization come to the rescue.

Organization has already done much for bee-keeping. It has fostered a fraternal spirit, helped to scatter agricultural wisdom from ocean to ocean, protected its members from unjust persecution, and secured favorable legislation. But the dear old association, of which we are all so proud, is even now but the nucleus of what it is destined to eventually become.

Perhaps the next great work of this organization will be the timely gathering of statistics regarding the

prospective harvest, and the reporting of the supply and demand in different localities, thus preventing glutted markets and unprofitable sales. From this, the good work will go on until, if the association does not actually control the bulk of the sales, it will be a potent factor in the regulation of prices.

Honey may never be higher in price than it is now, but it will be produced at less cost. The continued development of specialty, and of organization, will lessen the cost of production. The number of bees will be increased, but not the number of bee KEEPERS. They will "keep more bees." Few bee keepers will be content with simply the home-apiary. There will be an out-apiary for each day of the week. With this style of bee keeping, organization will be an easy matter.

Commercial bee keeping will be in the hands of specialists. In the hands of men who have carefully selected, and thoroughly understand their respective localities. Of men who keep enough bees to fully employ their hands, their brains and their capital. And among these men there will be complete organization and co-operation.

As a foundation for the more perfect organization of the future, let us cherish and foster the dear old Association of which we are now members. Let us pay our dues promptly. Let us encourage others to join. Let us lay aside self and selfishness. And of the talents that we possess, let us give that which will the most quickly and surely help to build up, to strengthen, and broaden its scope. Let us not rest until every bee keeper from ocean to ocean has rallied under its banner, and all can co-operate as the members of one great family.