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yet every spare moment and every hour of my time that I could possibly spare from other pursuits was taken advantage of in the study of my little workers, thus adding to my pleasure and knowledge.

My third reason for being a bee-keeper was the pleasure of having pure "natures sweet" on my table three times a day the whole year round and of being able to treat my friends and neighbors and of hearing the hum of the bees in the apple trees and in the clover fields and elsewhere.

My fourth reason was the financial side, I had the idea at one time that there was more money in bee-keeping than in any other line of business on the face of this broad earth but I must admit that while my taste for honey is keen as ever and the desire as strong as it was a quarter of a century ago, and little yet affords me more pleasure than to treat my friends to honey and to hear the merry hum of those dear little bees. I must say I am slightly disappointed in my fourth reason for being a bee-keeper; true, with proper care and management on the part of the manipulator, there is money in bee-keeping, but for one who has made a pile out of it a dozen have made a failure.

For my part I have nothing to complain of in having taken it up as a pursuit, as I like the bees, I like the work, I like the honey and the money that comes in as a result of my bee-keeping—and now see brother Heise come along with his broad axe like a hewer in a lumber camp and make the chips fly.

Spring Management.

The following paper was read by Mr. R. F. Whiteside at the annual meeting of the O.B.K.A.

If the roofs or gables of hives which stand out all winter have cracks through which snow drifts as it piles

up against them, it is well, about the first or second week of March, to examine them and shovel out the snow before it melts. If hives or clamps are completely covered shovel down to the fly holes or at least, to the bottom of the gables or eaves and so keep open while snow lasts as strong colonies are breeding and much more liable to become overheated than in January or February.

According to Ernest Root's experiments, brood rearing is much encouraged if bees are set out of the cellar once or twice in March for a day or two at a time; when we have nice sap weather; it affords them a cleansing, stimulative flight. It is not advisable to leave bees out for good until a few experimental hives, left out all winter, begin to gather pollen, say about April 15th.

When one has all the bees he cares for and swarming is not desired the top boxes may be placed on during apple bloom, two or three brood combs being placed in the super after shaking to be sure of the queen. Mr. McEvoy says, if one or two heavy combs are uncapped and placed in the super, it encourages the bees to store above. When zinc is used, it might be as well not to place it on until after the first extracting, being careful to keep all drone comb as far as possible from the two brood combs.

Baldrige, and I think also the Cogshalls, place only a few colonies above at first if colonies are weak, adding combs as the season advances. His stenographer tells me he unpacks during apple bloom and exposes the honey combs in dead hives if the live ones need feeding.

This year I was frightened by the two reports in our Bee Journal regarding the large amount of honey consumed during winter, so I spent about a week examining every hive. The first day one hive was found