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king up their lighter colonies, and those which seemed least fitted for survival, but it is likely that the majority let their desire for immediate gain overrule their judgement, and took up the very colonies which the end would have paid them better by being left to live.

♦♦♦♦ I know not how the Italian bee has been treated previous to the last 50 years, but since that time it has rarely been given a much fairer opportunity to show its value than is the black.

♦♦♦♦ I hope before it is too late—before the black bee is hopelessly mongrelized by the Italian—that means will be taken to keep the race intact and pure. There are qualities of great worth in the black bee which it would take many generations to breed into an Italian.

♦♦♦♦ Allow me to name a few of these qualities: Black bees enter sections more readily. They cap combs white. They leave fewer light-weight sections. They husband their stores in times of scarcity. They are less prone to swarm.

♦♦♦♦ Those who denounce the black bees have probably had poor and deteriorated strains; while I have never yet had Italians which would do as well as they are advertised to do. — Allan Latham, Conn; in American Bee Journal.

♦♦♦♦ The black bees of this part of the country have some very fine points in their favor, while they possess some very objectionable features.

♦♦♦♦ They are a hardy race that winter stand the severe changes of temperature without dwindling; are never known to be diseased in any way. Such things as foul brood, black queen, pickled brood or paralysis, do not commence to breed very early in the black bee earlier than the Italians.

The queens are very large and prolific; they cap their honey snowy white, are good workers but not quite as good as the Italians. They will enter the supers almost at once when the first honey flow comes. In the spring they work better in the supers than the Italians, putting all their honey above the brood chamber. If they have the room they do not crowd out the queen like the Italians; they are fine queen-cell builders. Their objectionable points are their ill-temper; they are more vicious than the Italians, when we smoke them down they come back just as quick as the smoke stops.

Not so with the Italian. They are very excitable and will run off the combs when being handled and easily become the prey of robbers or the wax moth. They are very easy to become discouraged and seemingly just give up when they get weak or the wax moth gets into their combs. If we could eliminate these few objections they would be the best race we have; but those three points are very serious marks against them. If anyone has ever seen black bees with paralysis we would like to hear from them.

If as much care and selection was given the black race of bees as has been given the Italians and other races no doubt there would have been great improvements made on the blacks. Their virgin queens are very quick and active. Their drones are the swiftest flyers and very active on the wing. Selection has brought about considerable changes and improvements, and selections should not all be made from the queen side. The drone transmits certain traits to the progeny of the queen that will not come from the queen. Stock breeders use as much care in selecting their sires as they do in the female. The selections