

tion chiefly to the "fat body" of the caterpillar, they are obtaining proteid from its juices without injuring the vital parts of their host. What little we know concerning the economy of another great class of social insects, namely, termites, or white ants, all tends to impress upon us the importance of protein from the insects' point of view. The food of these animals consists in the first place of the wood and other material through which they are boring. Such crude material contains a very small percentage of protein. The food which one of these insects obtains from the secretions and exertions of the other members of the community all tends to furnish protein in a more concentrated form. But the termites go further than this. By the simple process of eating every particle of the dead members of the community, they keep the aggregate amount of protein available from the one to the other with scarcely any diminution or loss whatever. Other insects supply food to the larvae by storing up half dead caterpillars or spiders in the cells, or choose the muscular tissues of beetles for the same purpose. In each case the explanation is the struggle for nitrogen.

Apply these illustrations to the case of the bee. The question at once arises—"Can these insects always obtain sufficient protein to properly nourish the young?" In other words, If the disappearing disease and other forms of sickness to which the bee is liable, are to be largely attributed to feeble constitution, is this enfeeblement due to the fact that the larvae did not obtain the proper quality of food? We must draw a sharp distinction between the proper quantity and the proper quality. The former may be all that is desired, while the latter is altogether wrong. Considering the fact that nitrogen is always scarce in

vegetable products and that nitrogen is all important for the proper development of the working tissues of the bee, it is practically certain that if there be anything wrong in the quality of the food it must be on account of a deficiency in nitrogen. The frailty of the constitution of the bee would thus be directly attributable to the supply of proper food; and that this factor is of the utmost importance with regard to the economy of insects is highly probable. Most naturalists hold that the sex of some insects depends upon the quality and quantity of the food supplied them immediately after hatching, and if this assumption is well founded we are certainly justified in assuming that the vigor of the adult worker will, to a large extent, depend upon the quality of the food supplied, while its tissues are being built up in the larval form. Even if it be proved that the internal organs of the larvae subsequently disappear, before those of the imago are formed our assumption still holds good, for, during the chrysalis stage no further food is taken and the organs of the new animal are developed from the remains of the old one. A proper supply of protein in the food is therefore essential to the proper development of the working bee.—Journal, Dept. of Agriculture.

KEEP YOUR TEMPER.

Be good-tempered. It pays in every way; it pays if you are an employer; it pays if you are an employee; it is profitable in every walk of life. And this is taking the most selfish view. You owe it to others to be good-tempered; you owe it to your own manhood, to your own self-respect. In making others comfortable, you are making things agreeable for yourself; you are gaining and keeping goodwill, which may be of value and help to you hereafter; you are accumulating a capital of popularity and good report which may be used to advantage perhaps at a critical time. Good temper is a great factor in success.—Business.