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tales concerning manufactured comb honey are figments of the imagination. Consider that any machinery devised for manufacturing honeycomb would make all parts alike in similar sections. Examine carefully two or more one-pound boxes of honey at your grocer's and you will note differences in the finish of cappings and building the comb fast to the wooden casing, which will at once convince you of the genuineness of the article.

"Not only does the bee excel as an artisan, but also as a chemist. Its honey stomach is the most delicate chemical laboratory in the world. Here the nectar of the flowers is transformed from a highly-diluted sweet, susceptible of speedy fermentation, into the most perfect food product known. This chemical change, inverting the sugar, according to the chemist's phrase, is undoubtedly accomplished in the laboratory of the bee during its short flight from the field to the hive. This chemical reaction is so delicate that no laboratory aside from that of the bee can successfully accomplish it.

"Consider the queen bee, the sole and undisputed monarch of her empire. Endowed with powers superhuman, she governs without exercising visible authority, rules without coercion. Her subjects go about their tasks with that cheerful zeal which can only accompany toil fully recompensed, and offer to men, torn into factions of contending opinion, an ideal social state, where every member of the community is a toiler and all are prosperous, peaceful and content.

"The queen bee is sole mother of the race. 'All life from the egg,' that great biological axiom, is exemplified in the hive. The queen mother, passing rapidly from comb to comb, places a single egg in each selected cell, laying the inconceivable number of 3,000 to 4,000 in twenty-four hours. This labor represents in a single day the expenditure of physical substance equal to two and one-half times the weight of her body. Consequently she does not even feed herself, being always accompanied by a devoted group of

maids-of-honor, worker bees, whose office it is to bring in profusion the choicest pre-digested food to their ruler. Not the least of the wonderful powers of the queen is that of pre-determining the sex of the offspring which shall result from eggs precisely alike under the microscope, but which, in turn, may eventuate into a worker, drone or queen, as their mother may elect."

A METHOD IN BEE-KEEPING

To Keep the Bees at Their Utmost During the Whole Season

A method is useful only when it accomplishes its aims. Therefore, before we devise a system we must know what we are working for. The desire of most bee-keepers is to harvest good crops of honey, without a loss in bees, at the smallest expense of labor and capital.

Since fall feeding and clamp wintering has come generally in use, and is thought the best for most bee-keepers, six months is all we need attend to the bees. During that time it should be our aim to keep them as busy as possible. With natural swarming, or any other kind of division of bees during the season, we can't expect this to be so.

The man's idea is honey, the bee's is increase, with enough to live over winter. With shiftless keepers of bees we see this at its extreme—many hives, but no more honey than a good man would take from one hive. We can't stop the impulse to swarm, but we can bring about those conditions which will make them give it up and take a substitute. The Doolittle method is the best I have tried for comb honey, while McEvoy's, with large entrances, works right for extracted. My extra precaution with an extra strong one is to take away the queen, giving a ripe queen cell. We need no increase before the first of August, when combs and boxes are plenty. My plan is for a 50% increase. Say in a yard you have 20 colonies, all strong at this time of year, and bees not doing much and queens less, on account of the clogged brood-nest and