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TO BEGINNERS WHO TAKE A FANCY TO BEE-KEEPING

(By George Ott, Arkona, Ont.)

Whatever occupation a young man takes a fancy to he will most likely succeed in, but he must have a system to work by. Without system he cannot succeed in any kind of business. Few young men take a fancy to bee-keeping. Many young men take a fancy to poultry-raising, and should visit some good poultry yards and see the different breeds of poultry they raise, and find out which breed is best adapted to their wants, and find out how to build a convenient poultry house, and get all the information they can. Subscribe for a good poultry journal, and get some books on poultry-raising. Read them and study up the poultry business, and no doubt, with good management, they will have good success.

Other young men take a fancy to fruit-growing, and should visit some of the large fruit farms, where all kinds of fruit is grown, and find out what kinds of fruit are the most profitable and best adapted to the climate and soil. Subscribe for a good horticultural journal, buy some good books on fruit-growing, and read them. Experiment on what is read, and by a good system of management they will make successful fruit-growers.

A few young men take a fancy to bee-keeping. New beginners, before investing any money in bee culture, should invest a few dollars in visiting some of our enterprising bee-keepers who have made bee-keeping a success. If you are living in Canada, subscribe for the Canadian Bee Journal. In it you will find advertised where to purchase good bee books; in it you will also find where those enterprising bee-keepers have their apiaries located. Now make a start on your visits. Tell the first bee-keeper you call on that you intend going into the bee-keeping business and you want some information. He will be delighted to show you his nice

Italian bees. He will show you all through his bee-yard, which is nice and tidy-like; boxed-up hives, all nicely painted up. His hives are all of one style and one size, so that any comb frame will fit any hive and any surplus box will fit any hive—everything all in a uniform shape, just as it should be. He will tell you he runs altogether for extracted honey. His hives are made on purpose for extracted honey. He will tell you he can get more honey per hive by extracting than section honey, but it does not sell for as much per pound as section honey. He will also show you his honey extractor, uncapping can, wax extractor, honey knife and bee-smoker, and show you how to use them, and many other things which are necessary about a bee-yard. He will tell you he winters in the cellar, and will show you all through his cellar, which he built on purpose to winter his bees in. Now when you have got all the information you can from this bee-keeper, go and visit a second bee-keeper who has been also a successful bee-keeper, and who has altogether a different style of movable comb frame hives from the first one visited. He will also be pleased to show you his bees. His hives are nicely painted with different colors. He will tell you he runs altogether for section honey. He will tell you he can make just as much money out of his apiary by taking section honey as with extracted, and with less bother. He will tell you he winters his bees outdoors in clamps, packed between hives and clamps with dry sawdust. He will say he seldom loses a colony of bees when fixed up in this way for winter, provided they have plenty of good honey. He leaves his bees in clamps till apple blossoms begin to show up before he takes them out of the clamps. By this time the weather will be warm, and there will be no spring dwindling. Next go and visit a third bee-keeper. He will also show you his bees. This bee-keeper has all kinds of different styles of