

WOMAN'S DEPARTMENT

CONDUCTED BY

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Material for the department was running low this month, so in a moment of madness the editor took to making rhymes. The result she offers with apologies to the readers of the C.B.J.

Summer and Bees.

Have you seen the meadows glowing with the clover all abloom?

Have you smelled its fragrance blowing thro' the balmy month of June?

Have you heard the bees a-humming thro' the long and sunny days?

Have you seen their wings a-flashing in a busy, busy maze?

Have you watched them coming in, like a cloud from the field?

Laden with the choicest sweetness that the blossoms yield;

Have you listened in the moonlight to their deep, persistent hum?

Have you felt your pulses quicken with the harvest that's to come?

Have you peeped into the hive when the combs are growing white?

Have you seen the rich drops glisten as you hold them to the light?

Have you weighted up a super when it almost broke your back?

And placed an empty underneath for those busy bees to pack?

Have you heard the mad vibration of a myriad wings in air?

Which tells you very truly that a swarm is surely there;

In a high old orchard tree seen them cluster, rich and brown;

Have you climbed a wobbly ladder and brought it safely down?

Have you seen the basswood laden with its sweetly scented flowers?

Which the bees come to rifle thro' all the daylight hours?

For there's nothing in this world tempts the bees so far afield,

As those clustering pearly blossoms with their precious sweets unsealed.

Have you carried in the heavy combs all ready to extract,

And seen the white wax crinkle up at the uncapping knife's impact?

Have you filled up with honey the pails so bright and clean,

And sent it to the markets—a food fit for a queen?

If you have, you've learned a secret from the golden summer day,

Which takes you close to nature's heart and teaches of her ways,

For the heart of all the summer is the humming of the bees,

In the fragrant clover blossoms and the whispering basswood trees.

In an editorial in the July C.B.J. the beneficent effect of gentle stimulative feeding is spoken of. I made a slight attempt at it this year, but owing to absence on institute work was unable to give it any sort of thorough trial. However, the necessity for it here most seasons, seems somewhat doubtful; that is if colonies are put away with abundant stores in the fall. Thorn trees are scattered all about the country, and their bloom follows almost immediately on the dandelion and apple blossom and last up to the clover, thus bridging over the dangerous interval. I should like to know if those bee-keepers who so strongly urge stimulative feeding have much hawthorn within reach of their yards.

Up to the present I have not had the necessary time to experiment along the

line of Mr. Gray's advice, I tried to set eggs with a crochet hook, but owing to the attempt, but owing to the egg was not getting it located in the cell. I am sure all interested in bee-keeping will all bee-keepers ought to be glad of further part of Gray. However, if the queen larvæ for the future development and that of the bee for the first 36 hours theoretically, what difference whether we use eggs or not. Of course the bees, when started, always begin with the smaller cell as this gives them an opportunity to pare the larger cell before it is deposited. But if eggs are used, the queens than larvæ we get for after all, the queen

Experience this year has shown the value of re-queening. In the year I reared about 50 young, two or three from the stock and in almost every case the better results than the previous season was early and of good weather, unusually so. Only those colonies which were quickly which had a chance of getting a goodly amount of honey in every case the young bees showed their superior ability. Owing to that many of the stock were built up late in the season, feeding, and so practical results, bees, would probably be in good condition in the spring.

Certainly there is nothing to be gained than the honey crop there been a spring of dandelion than the one just passed, a good catch the previous year. Dandelion is treasured well; the bees can winter with little loss and are benefited from spring dwindling during dandelion and apple good, thus enabling them to use their abundant stores; and when