

There is nothing on the farm that requires so little care in proportion to the returns as the bees. This is why they are often kept with rather small returns—because the care they need is so small that it is often utterly neglected.

They require only a little attention, but what they do require they must have promptly. It must be understood that the profits are as great as from any other part of the farm provided the same care proportionately is exercised in looking after the bees as is usually given to other stock or to the garden. There are but few people who do not like honey, its production in sufficient quantities for family use is neither difficult nor expensive. Even if one does not



Worker



Drone



Queen

consider the sale of any surplus, he will find himself well repaid for investment in a few colonies by the pleasure and satisfaction of having pure and wholesome honey for his own table.

CONDITIONS IN THE HIVE

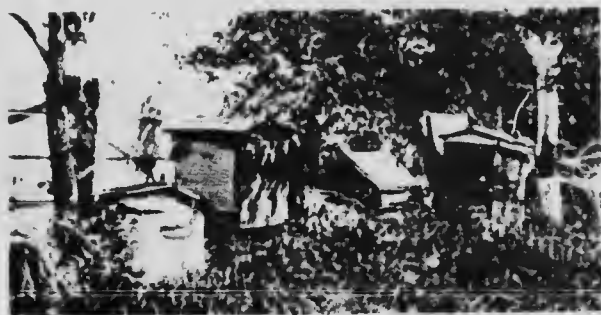
To be a successful beekeeper, one must have a fair understanding of the domestic life within the hive, and must know just what to do and when to do it.

The honey-bee belongs to an order of insects that, as a rule, congregate in large numbers as found in the hive or colony. Inside the hive will be found three distinct forms of adult bees—the queen, the drones and the workers.

THE QUEEN

Only one queen is normally found in each colony and her duty is to deposit eggs from which all bees are hatched. In appearance she is much longer than the worker and is also slightly thicker and broader. However, on account of her lengthened abdomen she appears much more slender and wasp-like than a worker.

A good queen during the height of the honey season will deposit as many as 1,000 to 3,000 eggs per day and usually she will continue active egg-laying for two, or even up to five years.



A Neglected Apiary—Honey Crop, 1915, NOTHING.