

convention hours. By such intercourse we often learn more of value than we do during the hours the convention is in session. "But," says one, "I can go over to A's and chat with him on bees, and save the expense of attending the convention in some distant town or city." This is so, but you cannot see B, C, D, and so on to the end of the alphabet, with whose names you are familiar through reading their articles in the bee papers, many of whom you could not see except at a cost several times that of going to a convention. I fear we do not prize these social privileges high enough. There are things which pay besides money-getting, and the social part of life is one of them. To best illustrate this, I will give a little anecdote. A miserly man in this vicinity hired a man who was in the habit of attending fairs and places of social enjoyment, and after his going to such places several times, when the employer thought it was a waste of time, addressed him thus: "My friend, let me say to you, you are squandering your time in attending these fairs and picnics. If you would stay away from them and work, you would save one dollar a day, which, if laid up, would so accumulate that in old age you would have quite a snug sum saved, that will now be wasted." The laborer listened patiently till the lecture was finished, when he straightened up and said: "Mr. B., I expect I am going through this world now for the last time, and as this is so, I must get my pay as I go along. I never expect to come this way again, so of what use would the snug sum be to me after I have passed away? I propose to take some good of life as I go along as my pay, instead of spending my life for naught save money."

Our second object is to get all the information we can, so that we can put it in practice during the next season, and, if of value, impart this value at some future convention, through the bee papers, or to some bee-keeping neighbor. To best do this, I place myself in the position of a reporter, as it were, and jot down on a book the leading thoughts of each speaker so that when I arrive at home I can go over this report, digesting it. What I think of value, I write out in my reference book, under the month during which it is applicable. This reference book has also in it all the good things I read about bees, each one put down under the proper month, so that under June we find what A said at the convention regarding the best method of artificial swarming, and what is said on certain pages of different papers about putting on sections, etc. Thus we have all the good things stored up from

the convention and otherwise, applicable to the month of June before us, in such a shape that we can give them a practical test, no matter what time of the year we heard or read them, and tell at the next convention of that which proves of value, and throw the rest away, by crossing it off the book. Just the same of all the other months of the year. Thus we become, not only growing bee-keepers ourselves, but help others to grow as well. Thirdly, we want to examine all the implements, hives, etc., to see if any of them, or parts of the same will help us in securing our product in better shape, or give us more than we already secure with our fixtures. To illustrate: One little thing I learned at a convention several years ago has paid me all I ever spent in attending conventions, not only through the peace of mind it gave me, but in causing my honey to bring me more per pound year by year than it did before. It was this: Formerly my shipping cases had always bothered me in leaking to a greater or less extent, so that when I piled them up one top of the other, the top one would leak a few drops of honey, more or less, on the next case below. When they were shipped the dust would settle and stick to these dauby places, thus spoiling the beauty of the very nicest cases I could make, and causing those who handled the honey to feel unpleasant, or refuse to handle "the sticky" at all. I tried halving the joints of the cases together, and numerous other ways, but they would always leak more or less till I learned at a convention that a sheet of good manilla paper folded around aboard so as to make a tray which would just slip into the bottom of the cases would catch and contain all the drip. By putting little strips of wood across the bottom of the cases, top of the paper tray, one-fourth of an inch square, the sections were held above the drip, should there be any, and thus all was kept clean and nice for the retailer. So I might keep on giving many other things which I have learned, and other ways of making a convention pay, but it would make this article too long. The above is sufficient to direct the thoughts into a right channel, and cause more to attend conventions, and attending try their level best to not only get good unto themselves, but also to impart much good unto others.

Borodino, N. Y.

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In preparing celery for the table it is advised that only enough be used for the meal, as it spoils quickly after being wet.