

prices, for I fully the smaller bees that need cash off the small their worth. They to four cents a market for others. e Brother T. Balmer a kick, to keep it used himself in his January, Page 15. feeding is much the a little difference; or those who do making engine yet ), to a success, I claim my last year's management.

with a frown the weather we had last ned to kill off our n the first half of o take the bees out earlier than usual (April), but I paid for they were put out, ce cleansing flight, so very cold, so that them for stores. I es going out after ot find; got chilled, m did not return. I then to save what ted to feed all those Balmer did, which successfully. Those in weight, I took the thermometer 00, and I succeeded 53 colonies, 140 to a g condition. Fruit a just coming in, a everything booming, the once more. But t God rules. Another d the bees could not of the food that was everything in blossom he heavy frosts; but

I was not afraid—thought they gained enough to hold their own. But one morning I went through the yard and found at the entrance of each hive, drone and other brood brought out. That almost paralyzed me, but only for a moment. I am not easily discouraged, knowing that God will help those only that help themselves. I started every Tom, Bill and Jack to make syrup. I had  $1\frac{1}{2}$  barrels of sugar on hand (a good bee-keeper should always be ready and have either sugar or honey on hand for building up) and bought 300 pounds more (best granulated always), and made the whole thing into 1,400 lbs syrup, fairly thin; took as many extracting combs in a wash tub and had filled them up. By 2 o'clock p.m. we were ready to proceed with feeding. There were four to help. My son and I opened each hive, took a quick view of the requirement, took out one or two empty combs, outside of cluster (never disturbed cluster), replaced with well filled combs as needed, which were handed to us by our lady helpers; closed up again quickly, and no harm was done to the brood. We saved every hive, except some which were found too weak or queenless. I reduced by uniting to 135 colonies to fall in work. It never pays to keep weak colonies when the honey flow is on.

Now, my readers can pass their own opinion, whether my system has been a good one or not, when I tell them that these 135 colonies gave me 11,300 pounds of the very best honey and increased to 183 colonies.

About bee-keeping in California versus Canada. As I mentioned before that I was in California for seven months in the winter, you may be sure that I visited as many apiaries, as I could find. Well, most every farmer has a few hives, but there are many large apiaries. Some are are doing very well but others only keep them for the fun of it. Talk about foul brood! If you never saw any

and don't know where to find any, just go out there and you can smell foul brood a mile away.

In the Santa Ana mountains I met Mr. Pleasant, who follows Mr. W. McEvoy's system. A foul brood inspector visited his apiary several times and found it very fairly kept, but five miles from him I saw two yards stinking with foul brood.

I ate three different kinds of honey—sage, orange, and some with no name to it. Sage, which bees can gather in the mountains, with no access to pepper and other useless flowers, which are plentiful, is a very fair clear honey. Orange, if taken in March and April, free from pepper trees, is not clear, but has a fair aroma. The unnamed third stuff, gathered from all creation is enough to kill a horse, if it is foolish enough to take it. Canadian bee-keepers, if you ever want to produce and eat good honey, stay in Canada. But the nice climate, fruits and sunshine are worth while experiencing.

I took with me one five-pound pail of my own basswood, and one five-pound pail of pure dandelion, which you all know is strong and dark. I had about half of the honey left and gave several people a taste of it, and what do you think they said? "What part of heaven have you come from, where such a honey as that is produced?" My proud answer was: "Canada."

Retail prices are from 5 to 6 cents a pound, and California produces an enormous amount of honey at these low prices, and if this really is the case, it is carried out it will certainly hurt our honey industry.

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