

The Union defends its members from the assaults of the enemies of the pursuit—no matter where they may happen to reside—if upon investigation, their lawful rights and privileges are found to be unjustly assailed.

The objects of the Union are well known. To defend bee-keepers against persecutions. this it has ably done in the past. The editor of the CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL has been a member for years. Remember you must join the Union before any indication of trouble breaks out or it need not protect you.

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When at the St. Joseph Convention we received in a private conversation some pointers upon color in Color in Wax. wax. One of the members present, unfortunately we have forgotten the name, stated: "If you have dark wax and wish to improve the color you can do so by melting the wax and then adding to it a comb having an abundance of bright pollen. The idea is that the pollen has coloring matter and colors the wax." This information may be of use to those having dark wax, at the same time we would urge our readers to render wax in such a way that it will not require the addition of pollen.

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The discussion is growing very warm over the five banded bee question and the indications thus far are Five Banded Bees. that their reputation is on the wane. We are as anxious as any one to

have bees which will give large yields of honey, which are easily handled and which have beauty. No person in a normal frame of mind will object to the beautiful about him. We enjoy pleasant scenery, a pleasant and beautiful home, live stock of all kinds which are an ornament to the farm. We even enjoy looking at handsome men and beautiful women irrespective of our own sex. This power of appreciating what pleases in various degrees and cultivated in various degrees, yet were we to surround ourselves with stock upon the farm ornamental and not useful, were we to engage

a man or a maid to perform our work simply on account of their looks, it would be better for us to give up business or for our friends to lock us up in a lunatic asylum. We think it would be well for bee-keepers to examine themselves and see what leads them to be favorably impressed with the "five banded Italian bees." Is it not their beauty, should they not rather regard that as very secondary and look for the primary requisites before launching out in eulogies. We have tried various five banded queens from what were supposed to be leading breeders of these bees. They have thus far done nothing remarkable in the direction of good works whatever they may do during the coming season. Thus far we have not found them particularly good for building up, rather to the contrary. Next, although they showed no marked trait when in a normal condition, we have found the workers in two instances, being every instance in our case, very irritable when in that condition. We remember a queen secured from a lady in the south in the fall of 1893, a good big price was paid for the queen and also a second purchased although going into winter quarters strong in bees it was in poor condition in spring and was on only three frames when the next poorest were on eight. After a great deal of trouble and the refusal on our part to add another \$5 to the returned queen and get a "first-class" we had the offer to give us a \$5 queen half the price of the first, this we accepted and the queen came to hand with the admonition that for \$5 the progeny would not be all five banded. They cannot therefore be considered a very fixed strain of bees.

Last year the Ontario Agricultural and Experimental Union took in hand to make tests with these five banded Southern queens. Five queens of the leather colored Italian strain were also supplied, in all 25. The queens were supplied between July and October 2nd and they are to be tested for gentleness, longevity, honey gathering qualities etc., etc. Thus far every one having the leather colored Italian and the five banded Italian without soliciting this