

Notes & Pickings

By D. W. Heise, Bethesda.

Speaking of "cross or snappy" bees while great industry and great gentleness may unite in the same bee. I am sorry to say that the rule is, that when I find extra good workers among my bees they're of the "cross or snappy kind."—Stray Straw Gleanings. The editor wisely says to above: "There are exceptions to the rule, but it seems to be the experience of the majority of bee-keepers that honey-getting qualities are very apt to be combined with crossness—yes, generally so.

"All empty combs not in the hives should be put in moth-proof boxes, hives or rooms, where the temperature is liable to go down to freezing or lower. Combs, after a good freeze, and kept away from further visitations of moths will be safe until wanted again."—Ed. Gleanings. Jes-so, jes-so, Mr. Root. But what about the numerous cracks that will be found in the nice extracting, and even in the tougher brood combs that have been subjected to a freezing temperature for some time. Of course the bees will repair them, but some have been arguing that they will never be quite so strong again.

Rambler, in Gleanings, page 14, has this to say regarding the future management of bees: "The tendency of the times is to the annihilation of time and space, and man is just learning to understand the wonderful possibilities of his mind. The day will come when the bee-keeper can approach the hive and make a few passes over it, and the bees will be-

come as tame as flies; and in order to introduce a queen first make a few passes, and both bees and queen when put together will immediately meet in harmony. In other words, we will hypnotize instead of smoke bees." To my mind that man "Rambler" should be caged as a dangerous lunatic, "What is."

"If there is one item above another having greater importance in the wintering problem, it is the securing of the winter stores near, and about the cluster of bees in time for them to settle down into that quiescent state so conducive to good wintering prior to the middle of October, in the more northern localities. To arrange these stores properly and seal them requires warm weather; hence all will see the fallacy of putting off caring for them until cold weather arrives."—Doolittle in American Bee Journal. Every bee-keeper who has not already, by experience, learned the importance of the above instructions, should paste it in their hat, on the lintels of their doors, yes on the center of their breakfast plate, that it may not be overlooked, because it is the keynote (so to speak) of successful wintering.

Who is the bee-keeper who had the pleasure of attending the Toronto convention, that is not ready to admit that it was the best convention held by the O. B. K. A. for several years past? The kindly feeling and fraternal affection that permeated the entire proceedings was something to be hugely enjoyed by everyone. And the encouragement that W. J. Craig received on every hand as the newly appointed editor of the C. B. J. should, and no doubt has filled him with a zeal and determination to put forth every legitimate effort possible, to make said journal an organ worthy of the support of every bee-keeper in