

get so that it is a pleasure to me to see so many getting pleasure and use from it. As a bee-keeping friend said the other day, you have to take both hands with a wheel-barrow. This alone would deter me from using it in apiary work.

Communications

Chicago, Ill.

Editor C. B. J.—

Los Angeles, Cal., has been selected by the executive committee as the place for holding the next annual meeting of the National Bee-Keepers' Association, and August 18, 19 and 20, 1903, are the dates.

The main reason for deciding on Los Angeles was on account of the low railroad rates in force at the time of the Grand Army meeting at San Francisco which is held the same week, and the same rates apply to Los Angeles.

Further particulars will appear in the regular official notice to be issued by the Secretary of the Association later on, as soon as definite arrangements can be made as to hall for holding the meeting, hotel accommodations, etc.

We may say that San Antonio, Tex., and Salt Lake City, Utah, made honorable and strenuous efforts to secure this year's meeting of the National Bee-Keepers' Association, but those who have had the most experience know that in order to have the best and fullest attendance, the meeting must be held when low railroad rates all over the country can be taken advantage of, and the Grand Army beats them all in that line. So that had great weight with the committee in deciding the matter.

GEORGE W. YORK,
Sec. Executive Com.

Temperature of the Hive.

The wintering of bees will always be a subject of interest to bee-keepers. The bees store honey, it is said, to provide for winter; but for reasons best known to the bees, when their colony has room, and room to spare, they store and will keep in store ten times more honey than they consume in winter. That they store the excess of honey to meet possible contingencies is not tenable. They will not store pollen to last two winters, but they will store honey enough to last them several winters and summers. They store most honey in climates where there is least winter to provide for, and where there is no winter at all they store honey out of all proportion to their needs. It must be that honey, like wine, is improved by age, and that the bees want for food—both in summer and in winter—honey that has been stored for a length of time in their combs. The large stock of honey, which must in time become old, conduces in some way to their welfare, and they are so liable to die from disease or other calamities as when their stock is small.

If we suppose a colony of bees in a glass hive tight at the top and open at the bottom—the thickness of the glass of no importance—and the hive placed, say, on two sticks to keep it off the ground, and covered with two or three feet of snow, the colony would be in the most favourable condition for wintering in a rigorous climate. The temperature of the hive would be at the freezing point, but it would make little difference to the bees when the temperature was a few degrees higher or lower. At the lower temperature the bees would consume water from