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Happiness and Honey

Though the Prime of Life Be Past, Though Ill Health Lay
Claim to Tired and Breaking Nerves, You May Keep Your
Bank Balance Mounting By Keeping Bees

By MARION HERTHA CLARKE

ON MAY 15th, at a meeting of one of the Women's Institutes in the West, one of the members stated she managed to make a comfortable living from bee raising. "I get happiness from honey," she stated.

Happiness and honey! Humming birds and butterflies, flowering trees and singing bees, all the fragrance and sweetness of God's great out-of-doors. Who, then, need fear ill-health or old-age a-creeping.

How many professional men do you know who break under high blood pressure of business, how many faithful women give the best years of their life to the service of teaching, to find themselves facing a blank and penurious future—how many widows left suddenly to bear the family burdens? How many soldiers must meet a disabled future? And when the misfortune of ill-health is to be faced—how few of us are prepared to meet it without financial worry?

Though the prime of life be past—though ill-health lay claim to tired and breaking nerves—though your immediate service to your family or your fellowman may be suddenly halted, you may keep the bank balance mounting and find health and happiness in Honey.

The profession of keeping bees for profit is one that is far from overcrowded. It is a profession that is just in the swaddling clothes of possibilities.

Passing from its place as a mere table delicacy, honey has become a necessity instead of a luxury. You will find it as a food in all the best hotels and restaurants, at all the leading grocers, on all dining cars and ocean liners—you will find it as a medicine in your cough syrup, as a laxative—you will find it on Milady's dressing table. Who has not heard of Hind's "Honey and Almond Cream"?

Bakers are using it in their cakes and cookies. Confectioners use it in their candies. Housewives use it as a cooking ingredient because of its moist qualities. "Honey jumbles," small cakes, made largely of honey, have been kept for a period of twelve years and found to be still as good, almost, as the day they were made.

The demand for honey is far ahead of the available supply. Experts estimate that there is a market for every pound of honey produced with a steadily mounting demand for more.

Bee-keeping is not only a fascinating occupation—it is a highly profitable one, and little expense is necessary beside the initial one of a proper outfit.

King Solomon's command: "Go to the ant, thou sluggard, and learn its

*The King is in the counting-house,
Counting out his money.
The Queen is in the parlour,
Eating bread and honey.*

ways and be wise," has ever been held as a wise command.

True, the ant made good, but it never made anything else. The busy little bee, beside making good, has made a mint o' money for those who were wise enough to pass the ant and develop the bee.

In 1919 a western bee-keeper produced and shipped from his own apiary 336,000 pounds of honey and pocketed \$67,000. Some men labour a life-time for this amount.

A. I. Root, the famous Bee Man,

at 25 cents a pound, they may have been convinced that it sometimes pays to be crazy.

A Profitable Profession

ANOTHER man who kept bees merely as a recreation and relaxation secured 120 pounds of comb honey from a single colony which he sold to his neighbours at 25 cents a pound, receiving a net profit of \$25 a hive.

The possession of one hundred hives would give a very fair income of profit especially if the honey be sold in the neighbourhood at retail prices.

People have a natural aversion to being "stung," and it is this inherent fear that has proved detrimental to the great growth of bee-keeping. Few people know that with the use of the bee-veil, bee-smoker, and bee gloves, it is possible to handle bees as one might kittens—and in a very short time the bees know their owner and offer no resistance.

It is advisable to those who contemplate the pursuit of raising bees and marketing honey to secure competent advice and to make an advance study of bees before beginning. EVERYWOMAN'S WORLD will be glad to furnish any one with the best sources of information on this fascinating subject.

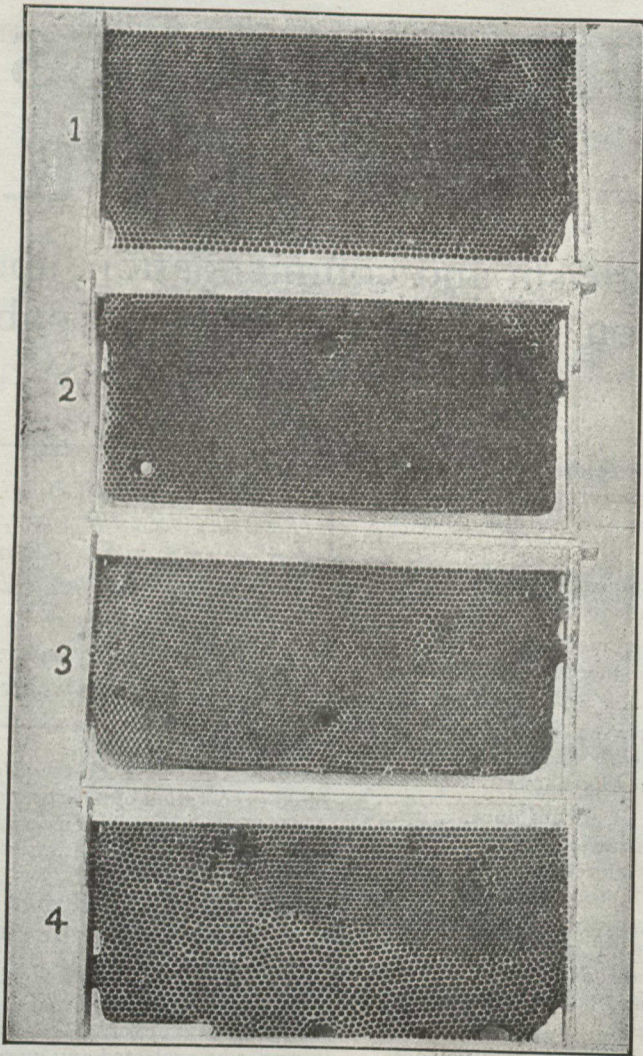
The main object of this article is to interest and encourage those who must "carry on" and space is too limited to go deeply into the science of bee-keeping. It is simple and it is highly profitable. It does not require a great outlay of capital and its returns may be counted by its development.

A truly remarkable instance of the happiness to be found in the honey-bee is instanced by the blind Huber, to whom much of the real science of bee-keeping is credited.

Falling blind in early youth, assisted only by his faithful body-servant, Huber devoted his entire life to the study of the bee. Doubly touching is the story of his patient research. You who have eyes to see and hands to feel may well remember Huber in your periods of physical discouragement.

Huber, who never saw a comb of honey or a singing bee, who with a veil of darkness over dead eyes, penetrated the heart of the hive and with the hands of another to guide his dauntless spirit discovered a great storehouse of scientific knowledge which he gave to the world.

It is not necessary to invest in a "bee-farm." If you are the happy possessor of a farm in your family that is your own good fortune. If you are not, you can start with one or two hives
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No. 1—Perfect, an illustration of a good comb. No. 2 is a fair comb. No. 3 is a poor comb. No. 4—Full of drone comb and good only for wax.

was known to his neighbours as "queer" when he took up bee-keeping as a hobby. Everyone said he had gone "crazy on bees and prohibition."

When he secured 6,126 pounds of extracted honey which he sold mostly



A model apiary in winter.



Bee raising on a large scale in summer.