

orange belt, as Santa Barbaro, Los Angeles, Redlands, Ontario, Pomona, Santa Ana, and all along the Southern P.R.R., and the Santa Fe. I found them well pleased with the co-operative system; not one I found would go back to the competitive packing houses again. They are getting higher prices and better markets for their fruits. I endorse every word the Editor said in his article, pages 326-27.

Now, brother bee-keepers get a move on and help the co-operative movement; it pays!

After writing this I read the articles of W. Moore and F. L. Pollock about co-operation, in C. B. J. of February. Mr. W. Moore says: "Should the members of the association be obliged to sell their honey only through the association; I would say, decidedly no!"

I agree fully with Mr. Moore in this respect. The rules of the exchange (or what ever name may be given it), must not compel a member to spoil his local trade; that is individual work. The home market should never be neglected, for it will dispose of almost half of our output. But on the other hand I would state that I produce from four to six tons of No. 1 honey yearly. I have built up a very fair home market, and as yet have never kept any over to the next year; sold all before the new honey came in. Now, if I became a member of the honey exchange and would be compelled to sell only to same, I would certainly say: "Thank you, gentlemen!" But here is the key, leave each member free to supply his home market, and sell to the exchange what he can or will not bother to handle any longer. But by leaving a member free to keep up his home market, each member must pledge himself to respect and be governed by the prices of the exchange. No one should dare to under-sell the association. I think that most of the smaller bee-keepers will benefit by becoming members of the ex-

change to obtain better prices, for I fully believe that most of the smaller bee-keepers are the very ones that need co-operation for they rush off the small crops of honey for half their worth. They under-sell from two to four cents a pound and spoil the market for others.

Now, I want to give Brother T. Balmer's spring work ball a kick, to keep it rolling. As he expressed himself in his able article in C.B.J., January, Page 15. My system of spring feeding is much the same as his, with only a little difference; and to give beginners or those who do not control the honey-making engine yet (as Mr. Hand puts it), to a success, I shall endeavor to explain my last year's experiment in spring management.

We all remember with a frown the severe cold and wet weather we had last spring which threatened to kill off our pets by wholesale. In the first half of April I was tempted to take the bees out of cellar, two weeks earlier than usual (about the 10th of April), but I paid for it. The day after they were put out, after they had a nice cleansing flight, the weather changed to very cold, so that I could not examine them for stores. I lost many eager bees going out after something they did not find; got chilled, and the most of them did not return. I shaded the entrance then to save what was left. I then started to feed all those the same way as Mr. Balmer did, which I always have done successfully. Those that seemed light in weight, I took chances with when the thermometer showed from 55 to 70°, and I succeeded in bringing out of 163 colonies, 140 to a fairly good working condition. Fruit bloom and dandelion just coming in, a few warm days and everything booming, I sat down to breathe once more. But alas! Men think, but God rules. Another lasting cold spell, and the bees could not go out to make use of the food that was there for them, for everything in blossom was cut black by the heavy frosts; but

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I was not afraid—t enough to hold the morning I went thru found at the entrance and other brood bro most paralyzed me, ment. I am not knowing that God v that help themselves Tom, Bill and Jack had 1½ barrels of su bee-keeper should al have either sugar or building up) and b more (best granulated the whole thing int fairly thin; took a combs in a wash tub up. By 2 o'clock p.m proceed with feeding to help. My son i hive, took a quick v ment, took out one outside of cluster (n ter), replaced with needed, which were l lady helpers; closed and no harm was don saved every hive, e were found too weak duced by uniting to in work. It never colonies when the h

Now, my readers opinion, whether my good one or not, wh these 135 colonies gav of the very best hon 183 colonies.

About bee-keeping Canada. As I ment was in California fo the winter, you may ited as many apiarie Well, most every i hives, but there are i Some are are doing v only keep them for tl about foul brood! If