

after severing his connection with D. A. Jones and engaging in business for himself, he could have made more money by exporting Italian queens for they already had a reputation, but he had by this time been so favorably impressed with the Carniolan bees that to carry out the spirit of the work which he had undertaken securing valuable races of bees, he was compelled to locate in Carniola. Carniola is a province in Austria area 3800 sq. miles, located well south in Austria. It is not as far south as many think, its latitude being about the same as that of Main and Northern Wisconsin. Except in the south-eastern portion of the province there are many mountains, some 10,000 feet high and clothed with glaciers the year round. One large stream enters from the south coming down the mountains.

The plains of Carniola are 1,000 feet above the sea level. The elevations in the country are from 500 feet to 10,000 feet. This race of bees is found in the mountain districts all over the province over 1,000 feet above the sea level.

Carniola was settled in very early history by people from the north and east, settled in days when there was no sugar. The Latins came and brought their bees. A system and climate condition has prevailed for centuries that has influenced the bees. The winters were long and severe, four deg. below zero was the lowest temperature he knew of; in the upper part of the province the snow fell to depth of four to six feet. Sudden changes in spring were most remarkable, at one moment bright sunshine, the next a dense fog would sweep over the country resulting in the death of many bees. Under these conditions only those colonies having strong bees and very prolific queens could survive.

The hive most commonly used is not a frame but a box hive. The general size three feet long, twelve, fourteen and sixteen inches wide, generally fourteen inches wide and seven to eight inches deep made of three-quarter inch lumber. The entrances vary greatly from the entire width of hive to four inches wide with a depth of three-eighths to one-half inch. The hive is sheltered by a shed with a roof, sides and back with the front open. For the winter, the hives in the shed are packed at sides and back with straw or leaves, a large quilt is dropped over the front of the shed suspended at the top and during very cold weather a hinged trap door is suspended in front closing the shed and protecting the bees against snow and wind, the bees are supposed to have an abundance of stores and generally winter well. The combs of the hive are not much manipulated. During the latter part of February the bee-keepers begin stimulative feeding the bees find the stores given from the rear of the hive, if the bees have plenty of stores, this stimulative feeding is not practiced so early, but it is general practiced in March and April. Extractors are not generally used but "stamped" honey is fed which has been pressed or stamped out of the combs. This kind of honey gives not only a carbonaceous food necessary for the production of heat and energy but the honey thus taken is full of pollen grains, the muscle or lean meat producer of the bee. It also contained particles of wax. Honey mixed with a little rye flour would give the same results. The object of the feeding is to develop a powerful colony by swarming time. The bee-keepers allowed all the swarming that would, their object being to get an increase of from 100 to 300 colonies by the buckwheat time.

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