ction. Foreign bees imported into the d from time to time s that "foul brood" any suspicious case y dealt with. The visely took up the vas too late, and by stopped the impory, and wax into the as now been modified tion only is now imbe accompanied by a has been sterilised, temperature of 212 urs; this, of course. e wax, but is an abgainst carrying dis-

November, 1913

a stock was found out brood. Samples airman of the B.B. and he reported that the was reported to the ultural Department to the hive, bees, and all d, and compensated so appointed a tem who visited all the he district. No service were discovered ces bees were found

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South Africa is an ideal country for beekeeping, certain aistricts having the best flora in the world; the climate also is very suitable, as is indicated by the numbers of nests of wild bees. The temper of some colonies certainly seems to be very uncertain. Beekeepers will tell vou there bees went mad without any reason, and stung everything, killing poultry, dogs, and sometimes horses and cattle. I think myself there is always a reason for their being so very cross; the temperature may add to their irritability. I have only twice seen bees in this state, and I do not wish to see the like again. I think this tendency will in time be overcome by promoting modern methods, by breeding from the best tempered bees, and care being taken in selection of sites for apiaries, thus avoiding the other stock coming in contact with the bees; educating beekeepers will also eliminate carelessness in ignorance, and these serious losses will be avoided. I know of one case where a farmer lost £1000 worth of stock through his calves being attacked by bees. I have found that these very savage South African bees are the best workers. I think the native bees are more sensitive to sounds and disagreeable smells than the bees at home, and think this may be due to the rarity of the atmosphere. The native bees of South Africa all seem to be smaller than the British, but there are various differences to be found even in the inmates of the same hive. The colour, size, and markings of the native bee are very definite. Mr. Attridge says in his book; "At the top we have the bright yellow kind, partaking of the characteristics of the Italian with a shade of Eastern manners, down to the smaller and darker bee, which is not so docile." Neither of these varities, if we can call them such, is constant, as from the same hive both the above kinds are often found, and also another grade, which must not be confounded with the

young bees showing a grey hairy fringe on the abdominal segments.

The bee, commonly called by the Dutch the Kranze bee seems to be the most ferocious of all, and they will attack and sting without any apparent reason. They are very small and dark in colour. When domesticated the wild bees have a great tendency to swarm, but are excellent workers. The agricultural shows have done a great deal to develop beekeeping on the right lines, and the grading of honey by the South African Beekeepers' Association before it goes to the depots for sale has raised the standard considerably. The prices last month were:-First grade sections, 15 oz. to 16 oz., 1s. 5d. each; second grade, 1s. 2d. each. Good sections that have candied, 11d. to 8d. each. Extracted first grade honey, 18s. per doz.; second grade, 16s. per doz.; third grade, 14s. per doz. Beeswax, raw, 2s. per lb.; treated 2s. 6d. per lb.. There is a great demand for wax throughout the whole country, and in the large towns the demands for first-grade honey is increasing, but the beekeepers with a few exceptions, have not learnt the art of sending honey to market. Certainly the conditions for transport are not so easy or so safe as in this country, and the tremendous distance some of the produce has to travel is unknown here. The price of hives and appliances was at one time prohibitive, and but for this, no doubt, beekeeping could have advanced more rapidly. I am afraid this was due to the grasping methods adopted by some of the British manufacturers and their agents, together with the high freightage rates.

The flora of South Africa is in some districts the finest in the world. After the rains flowers spring up all over the veldt, and the natural forests in Cape Colony swarm with wild bees and abound in flowering trees. One tree bears the appropriate name of the "honey bush." The eucalyptus, which is being planted