

The School Teacher-Beekeeper

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THE combination of school-teaching with beekeeping has attracted many of America's school-teachers to try it out and the practical results which have been obtained have placed it beyond doubt that the teacher who is willing to employ and study Apiculture to help her, can derive assistance both in her work at school, in her efforts to swell

sion of the lesson. The scientific fact that the majority of people are more ready to receive impressions through the medium of their eyes than through any of the other senses, and the fact, that in the honey bee we have a living creature which can be brought into close range is the basis upon which my confident assertion rests. The location of the teacher's school is no hindrance to using the honey bee as an illustrating medium and the range of subjects which can be illustrated are adapted to the twelve year old child and the college graduate. The installation of an observation hive right in the class room can be carried out quite successfully and direct illustrations in Nature Study, Entomology, Biology, Co-operation and Sociology can be suggested without much effort.

It is a sure rule that we cannot express ideas until we have acquired them, and even in this sphere a good teacher with disposition for close observation and research work can receive a stimulus from the study of Apicultural Science. There are many branches of beekeeping, which are only partially known, and the study of bee behaviour and colony life can be conducted in the crowded urban centres as well as in the rural sections. The relationship of the honey bee to the rest of agriculture; its reaction to the different environments in which it is placed; its highly specialized nature and the scope of its instinct are all avenues of thought which refresh the mind and offer an incentive to get out into the big out-of-doors and investigate more thoroughly the wonders of Nature. These new ideas can be used to put life into the lessons of the class room.



W. A. WEIR, '18

the bank account and in her efforts to keep fit for her arduous duties.

The leading theme in a teacher's work is to convey ideas and facts in an impressionable manner. Her Apicultural studies assist to some degree in her efforts. Every teacher realizes that the keynote to success in teaching is to awaken a lively interest in the subject at hand. It is only when the interest is fully awakened, that the scholar is prepared to concentrate his mind sufficiently to receive a permanent impres-