

my knowledge. I never saw them gather honey or pollen at so great a distance, and at present I cannot believe they will fly from five to nine miles for honey, and will not believe it before I see it.

EDWARD J. KUBBEL.

Spring Branch, Texas, March 28th, '92.

It is very common for bees to go farther than two and a half miles when gathering honey. If pasture is plentiful they will not travel this far but will gather it within a radius of less than a mile. I once recollect a large quantity of clover which was yielding abundantly just across the road from our apiary and it seemed by watching the bees as if almost every bee from the yard would cross the road and pitch down into the field, when walking through the clover they would rise up in swarms around us. I never recollect having had honey gathered from clover as rapidly as on this particular occasion. Have also known bees to go many miles in times of scarcity, there have been instances where bees have gone more than two and a half miles. For instance, when they are surrounded by belts of timber, then a clearing, they will very seldom rise over very many belts of this kind, for after searching in one or two, they will not usually fly over the next field but where the range is perfectly clear and there is nothing in the shape of hills or woods to prevent them from seeing or flying, they will go more than double as far in search of stores. A few years ago a man who had a quantity of buckwheat in bloom, with a large number of yellow bees on it, thought there must be a swarm of Italians in the woods, as there were no italians. in fact no bees, in that locality, so with a couple of friends he went to the field got some of the bees in a box and commenced lining them, to his surprise they took in the direction of our apiary and there being only one block of woods between the apiary and the buckwheat, we thought as a matter of course, they must be in the woods, so after getting them to work thoroughly on the honey, we took them in boxes to the woods and commenced cross lining, as we term it, in order to find the point where they were located, we also carried some through the woods on the opposite side to see which way they went into the timber, when they turned back and we were not a little surprised to find they

started straight across the field for our apiary, and we were not long in proving that they were none other than our own bees. It has been my experience that where there are a large number of colonies in an apiary, they frequently go farther in search of stores than where there are only a few.

Lectures on Bee Keeping at the Yorkshire College.

THE first of a series of lectures on bee-keeping promoted by the West Riding County Council was given on Friday, March 11th at the Yorkshire College, by Mr. R. A. H. Grimshaw, of Horsforth, the Secretary of the Yorkshire Bee-keepers' Association. It is intended to give the lectures fortnightly, on the second and last Fridays in each month. During the summer the gatherings will take place in the lecturer's bee-garden, when the theoretical teaching will be carried out in practice as far as possible. Mr. Grimshaw on this occasion described the operations of a prosperous colony of bees. He explained that it was nectar, and not honey, which was gathered from the plant, but that the nectar was converted into honey by the bees. Having described the nature of the different kinds of flower and fruit blossoms, the lecturer showed that the bee, by visiting flowers of the same species, fertilized the seeds with pollen brought from another plant, and produced finer and better fruit and more satisfactory plants than would otherwise be the case. In support of this, he cited some of Darwin's experiments. Mr. Grimshaw remarked on the lack of statistics in this country with reference to the number of bee-keepers and hives. In Europe and America there were proper statistics compiled, ranging from Greece, with its 30,000 hives giving a yield of 3,000,000 pounds of honey per annum, to the United States, with its 2,800,000 hives, yielding 62,000,000 pounds of honey. Europe and the United States together produced the vast amount of 81,696 tons of honey per annum. It was, he said, desirable that the practice of bee-keeping should be spread in this country, because, at the present time, we are paying large sums of money for foreign honey. Last year honey to the value of 38,247l. was imported, and the quantity landed at our ports during last January alone was worth 13,000l.—B.B.J.

Secretaries of Associations will confer a favor by sending in reports of their meetings. Letters addressed to the editor and marked printer's copy will carry with a one cent stamp.