

to do about it? We will assume that a city or village ordinance has been passed, and that your bees have been declared a nuisance. Do not move the bees if you have used reasonable precaution, but write at once to the Manager of the National Bee-Keepers' Association, whose address will be found in the back part of this book. If you are a member of the Association you will be entitled to protection, and possibly all or part of the court expenses will be paid by the organization. But the Association does not undertake to defend its members against criminal carelessness of such a kind as I have already described; but when the bee-keeper has exercised every precaution, then it endeavors to protect his rights. This means, then that you should become a member before you get into trouble. The annual fee for membership and protection is \$1.00.

Well, we will say the attorneys have been retained, and the Association is back of you. Any number of decisions have been handed down to prove that bees are not a nuisance per se; that, when they are properly kept, and due precautions are used, they can not be driven out of the corporation. There are several precedents from various courts even from the Supreme Court of Arkansas, to show that bees have a right to be kept within a corporation like any other live stock, so that any ordinance not in conformity with these decisions can be cleared up constitutionally. Several ordinances declaring bees to be a nuisance have been repealed.

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This has been a hard winter on bees. My bees have not had a good fly in five months today.

I have ten dead colonies out of ninety packed away out of doors in coarse boxes.—James Martin, Simcoe.

Tid Bits From Our Contemporaries

HOW STRONG COLONIES ARE MADE TO HELP THE WEAK

After the bees are taken from the cellar, and have a good flight we commence at one side of the yard and examine every colony carefully. Those that are weak in bees, yet have a good queen, we mark; and as soon as they have some larvae in their combs, which is usually in about five days after setting out, each is taken to a good strong colony and set on top with a queen excluding honey board between. If there is no larvae at the time in the weak colony I give it a comb from the strong colony, so as to keep the bees from leaving their queen and all going below, I close up all entrances except that of the strong colony. The bees will divide themselves about equally between the two queens; and in about four or five weeks can separate them, and in nine times out of ten, I have two good strong colonies. For twenty years I have treated all my weak colonies in this way in early spring. Sometimes I have had 100 weak ones on top of strong colonies, and I don't lose five per cent. I think it is a much better way than to try to build them up alone, as there is no trouble from robbers, and they don't require any attention until it is time to separate them. Don't keep them too long as the young bees when over two weeks old are liable to sting one of the queens.

E. W. Alexander in the Bee-Keeper's Review.

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