

## The Apiary.

THEORETICAL IDEAS NOT WANTED.

Jane Points Out the Errors of an Editor  
—Deserved Criticism.

EDITOR RANCHE AND RANGE:—  
I saw an article in one of the journals of this state, written by the editor, and as he advances some new ideas regarding the management of bees, I cannot forbear criticising his statements a little.

1. He "sprinkled flour on his and found them eight miles from home." He must have wet the bees first, as I cannot make the flour stick.

2. "If you wish strong colonies in the spring, never put one of the brood frames in the extractor." I think it an advantage to extract from the brood nest in some cases, to give the queen more room, where there is a continuous honey flow for four months.

3. "Wire your foundation in the brood frames—that is the only way to get them straight. If you don't you would better quit keeping bees," I would better quit, for I use no wire. I did when first starting in the business, but have better cards of brood without wire. It may be I did not know how; I had no wheels to work.

4. "As soon as a swarm comes out, have an old tin pan ready—no, I mean spray pump (and drown the queen.)" Italian bees are civilized and can stand drowning. If they are civilized they will settle ninety-nine times out of a hundred without being baptised. What few bees that are not drowned will settle on a low bush. Give them a good bath in ice water, or, if you are afraid they will get away, dip them once into a kettle of boiling water, then shake them into a hive, give them a frame of brood with larvæ and eggs and if there are enough bees alive to raise a queen you may have a colony in the fall.

5. "Beekeepers should use shallow frames for extracting; then the queen will not lay in the super." I think that depends on the time of year and condition of the bees.

6. "Use no zinc boards." I think that is conditional.

7. "Use no cloth between the top of the super and the cover, and have your sections all stained on top."

8. "In winter a cushion of chaff should be used to prevent sweating. The whole colony clusters in the top and center of the brood nest." Can't be much honey in that hive,

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as they do not cluster on capped honey. My bees generally cluster on the southern side and lower part of brood nest.

9. "If you do not want your bees to swarm cut out the queen cells once a week." Bad advice to beginners, unless they know whether the cells are for swarming or for loss of queen.

10. "The old queen will kill the larvæ of a young queen." That makes Mrs. Jane smile.

11. "It is a poor plan to double up weak colonies." From the mouth of a babe you may learn wisdom; but I never did winter two weak colonies without doubling them up.

Would write a letter on that subject sometime, if some editor would furnish stamp and paper, but have said enough on bees this time—may be too much. But when I see any thing funny in a bee journal, written by the head apiarist—excuse me, friends, for saying what I think.

### BUZZINGS.

BY JANE.

Put all waste pieces of wax in your wax extractor.

California apiarists are jubilant over the prospects of a bountiful honey crop this season.

Black honey-dew from the popple

or quaking bush tree, causes Mr. Lee to take off all section supers in the home yard.

We made our first shipment of comb honey this year June 10th—just one month earlier than any previous year.

Mr. Brown, of Fairview, thinks it advisable, when giving new swarms full sheets of foundation, to leave one frame empty in center of hive for the bees to build drone comb in. I think Mr. Brown will change his mind in the near future.

A Parker man, in looking over his bees found one colony droneless. He was much worried over the matter, but after some study settled the difficulty by borrowing a handful of drones from another hive, and giving them to his droneless colony. But he is only a beginner.

The Utah State Beekeepers Association in their last semi-annual convention, among the many subjects discussed, took up that of the marketing and transportation of honey. It was shown that honey had been put on the market at ruinous and unnecessarily low price, thereby demoralizing home market. Certain remedies were discussed. Yakima beekeepers would do well to take the above subject under consideration.

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