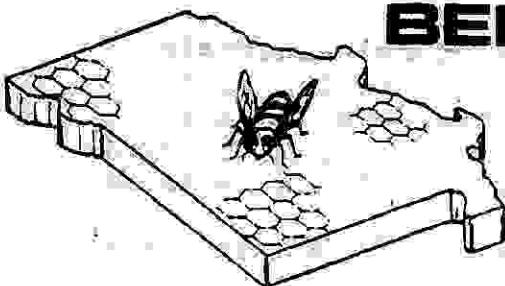


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VOLUME 19

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER
MARCH 1981

NUMBER 1

DEAR BEEKEEPING FRIENDS,

Well, we all survived the snow and cold of February and are now anxiously awaiting the first maple buds, the crocus, tulip and, of course, dandelion.

The Spring State Meeting will be held on Saturday, March 28, at the Agriculture Building at the University of Missouri in Columbia. (A complete agenda and directions to the Agriculture Building are on the last two pages of this newsletter.)

As always, all members are invited to attend the Saturday meeting and the Friday evening Executive Board Meeting on March 27. The Executive Board Meeting will be held at the Best Western Inn (I-70 and 63 South in Columbia) at 7:30 p.m. A reminder - Each local association should have at least one representative at this Board Meeting.

If you wish to stay overnight either Friday or Saturday, the room rates at the Best Western Inn will be

| | |
|------------------|--------|
| Single occupancy | - \$23 |
| Double occupancy | - 27 |
| Double deluxe | - 31 |

Call -1-314-474-6161 and remember to state that you are with the Missouri State Beekeepers' Association.

The agenda indicates that we have scheduled three excellent speakers. Dr. Larry E. Millikan is a professor of dermatology at the Medical Center at the University. His particular interest and research is "Bee Venom and Venom Therapy." Mr. Bill Carlile is known to most beekeepers as the writer of the monthly column "Timely Chats" in The American Bee Journal. And those who attended the Fall meeting in Lebanon will remember Mr. Clarence Feeney who spoke on "Honey Plants" and will now present a sketch of each of us - "The Ideal Perfect Beekeeper". These three presentations should prove both informative and interesting.

Also included is a film from the University of Wisconsin-Extension entitled "Putting Wild Bees To Work". This film covers the biology of two alfalfa pollinators, the alfalfa leaf-cutting bee and the alkali bee. The nesting behavior (provisioning, egg laying, cocooning etc.), parasites, control measures, and economic importance is shown.

And from Ohio State University comes a set of slides "A Bee or Not a Bee" designed to discuss the differences and similarities between termites, ants, wasps, and bees. It shows actual specimens of many honeybee look-a-likes.

A WORD OF THANKS to the Boone Regional Beekeepers who volunteered to provide the cookies and coffee for the morning break. THANK YOU FROM ALL OF US!!

P.S. For the beekeepers of the Midwestern Association, Mr. Carlile's presentation at the State Meeting will not be the same as the one he gave at your February meeting.

SO EVERYONE MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR MARCH 28. SEE YOU IN COLUMBIA!!

* * * * *

Taken from the February issue of the "MISSOURI CROP AND LIVESTOCK REPORTER"

U.S. HONEY PRODUCTION DOWN IN 1980

"Honey production in 1980 totaled 200 million pounds, 16 percent less than the 1979 crop of 238 million pounds. The number of colonies was down slightly to 4.14 million and yield per colony declined to 48.2 pounds from 57.2 pounds in 1979. In mid-December, producers reported 40.3 million pounds of honey on hand for sale, compared with stocks of 37.9 million pounds in 1979. The value of the 1980 crop was \$122 million, 13 percent less than in 1979. The 1980 average price for all honey sales of 61.4 cents was 2.4 cents greater than a year ago.

"Missouri's colonies produced 6.57 million pounds of honey in 1980, down 17 percent from the previous year. The number of colonies was unchanged at 124,000 and yield decreased 11 pounds to 53 pounds. The State's honey stocks on hand totaled 1.3 million pounds on December 15 and the average price received per pound was 83.0 cents, down from the 90.9 cents of 1979."

| | Colonies of Bees | | Yield per Colony | |
|----------|------------------|-------|------------------|------|
| | 1979 | 1980 | 1979 | 1980 |
| | thousands | | pounds | |
| Arkansas | 35 | 32 | 45 | 46 |
| Illinois | 36 | 38 | 59 | 49 |
| Iowa | 83 | 85 | 75 | 74 |
| Kansas | 40 | 43 | 50 | 50 |
| Missouri | 124 | 124 | 64 | 53 |
| U.S. | 4,155 | 4,140 | 57.2 | 48.2 |

| Honey Production | | Average Price Per Pound | | |
|------------------|---------|-------------------------|------|------|
| 1979 | 1980 | 1979 | 1980 | |
| thousand pounds | | cents | | |
| Arkansas | 1,575 | 1,472 | 51.5 | 56.0 |
| Illinois | 2,124 | 1,362 | 76.7 | 86.0 |
| Iowa | 6,225 | 6,290 | 56.4 | 60.0 |
| Kansas | 2,000 | 2,150 | 67.2 | 57.7 |
| Missouri | 7,936 | 6,572 | 90.9 | 83.0 |
| U.S. | 237,764 | 199,583 | 59.0 | 61.4 |

* * * * *

FROM AROUND THE STATE

According to Sue Hubbell's letter to Truman Hardin -

"The South Central Missouri Beekeepers Association has spiritedly and formally come into being with dues, officers, and whatnot . . ."

The 1981 officers of the South Central Beekeepers Association are

| | |
|------------------|---|
| President | Sue Hubbell - R.D. #3, Box 319 Mountain View, Missouri 65548 |
| Vice President | Robert Hinds - Rt. 2, Box 55 Willow Springs, Missouri 65793 |
| Secretary-Treas. | J. H. Justis - P.O. Box 42 Mountain View, Missouri 65548 |

* * * * *

Letter from Doug Hartman, the Secretary-Treasurer of the Central Missouri Beekeepers' Association -

"The Central Missouri Beekeepers Association is presenting a short course entitled "Beekeeping For Beginners". At the first class on January 21st, fifteen interested persons listened as the instructor, John Hartman, presented a short history of bees and beekeeping. The classes are being held on the third Wednesday of each month from January through May 1981. Extra classes will meet on the second Wednesday in February and March. Field work is scheduled when package bees arrive, with club members assisting in hiving the bees.

"At the January meeting, the following were elected as officers of the club for 1981. They are

| | |
|--------------------|-----------------------------------|
| President | Tom Whitecotton of Jefferson City |
| 1st Vice President | Craig Oliver of Fulton |
| 2nd Vice President | Dave West of New Bloom Field |
| Secretary-Treas. | Doug Hartman of Holts Summit |
| Liaison Officer | Don Zengin of Jefferson City |

"The Association meets at the University Extension Center on Industrial Boulevard in Jefferson City at 7:30 p.m."

The Laclede County Beekeepers Association held a Beekeeping Short Course at the Laclede Electric Co-op Building each Tuesday evening from January 27 through February 24.

The program was as follows -

- January 27 - History and Background of Beekeeping - Something About Bees Themselves - Purchasing Package Bees
Mike Roling of Springfield
- February 3 Beekeeping Equipment and Gathering Swarms
Truman Hardin of Springfield
- February 10 Honey Producing Plants and Trees and the Value of Pollination
Clarence Feeney of Springfield
- February 17 Cooking With Honey
Janet Morse, Home Economist, and Shirley Ann Wilson of Conway
- Disease of Bees, Prevention of Disease and Treatment and Controls
Charles Wills of Springfield
- February 24 Information for Advanced Beekeepers on Marketing of Honey and Management of Bees
George VanArsdale of Sibley

* * * * *

As of August 1980 the Dallas County Beekeepers' Association came into existence with 23 members. As of February 1, 1981 10 of those members paid their New Year's dues and they added 1 new member. GOOD GOING!!

The Secretary-Treasurer is Betty Daugherty, Star Rt. Box 180
Buffalo, Mo. 65622

* * * * *

The Boone Regional Beekeepers' Association received the 1981 membership dues from 23 of their group in January. GOOD SHOWING!!

* * * * *

The Laclede County Beekeepers' Association sent in the dues for 15 1981 memberships. Of this 15, 5 were brand-new members. EXCELLENT!!

* * * * *

In their January membership list the Midwestern Beekeepers listed 4 new members out of the 33 members who paid 1981 dues. GOOD START!!

* * * * *

At the January 8 meeting the Eastern Missouri Beekeepers' had 68 members renew their membership for 1981. Of that 68, 14 were new members to the State.

Eastern Missouri's February meeting was on the purchase and assembling of beekeeping equipment. It turned out to be a huge success with over 40 new individuals to beekeeping attending. More than 20 of these individuals took out membership.

The success of the meeting was due in part to the announcements on KMOX-radio at 6:45 a.m. on February 2 and 5 by Bob Hardy and Rex Davis. These radio personalities are widely listened to. Mr. Hardy is himself a beekeeper around Belleville, Illinois.

DUES - 1981

If you wish to become a member or to renew your membership for 1981 remember -

"If the dues of any member is paid through or by a local association of which he is a member, his dues shall be three dollars (\$3.00) per calendar year."

"If the member is not a member of a local association his dues shall be four dollars (\$4.00) per calendar year and paid directly to the Treasurer."

The 1981 Treasurer is Mr. Truman Hardin, 1829 W. Washita
Springfield, Mo. 65807.

The Executive Committee of the local association Midwestern Beekeepers selected Waldo Magers as their local "BEEKEEPER OF THE YEAR". The requirements for the award are as follows: The recipient will be a beekeeper in good standing who has done the most to promote the Association growth; who has done the most to assist beginners in beekeeping and who has done the most to promote the beekeeping industry in our area. No one is to have the award twice within a 10 year period.

CONGRATULATIONS, MR. MAGERS!!

The Executive Committee of the Midwestern Beekeepers also selected a LIFETIME MEMBER - Mr. V. O. Dodge. The award entitles him to a "Paid-Up" membership for life. To qualify for this honor one must be a paid-up member for at least twenty years, having paid dues at least 15 of those years.

CONGRATULATIONS, MR. DODGE!!

LET IT BEE KNOWN

The following article was taken from the Kansas City Star in September 1980 as it appeared in the January issue of the Midwestern Beekeepers' newsletter.

A B-E researcher is buzzing because his bees are on a new fish diet and are producing one-third more honey -- and more bees -- as a result

The bees turned up their antennae at an experiental soybean and powdered milk diet. But they went crazy over herring meal.

"They love it," said Bill Chalmers, a researcher with the University of British Columbia in Canada.

The natural Pollen that the bees normally eat was replaced in tests with tiny herring patties. Not only did the amount of honey dramatically increase but so did the population of the bee colonies.

Chalmers said the fish diet was 76 percent protein, compared to between 35 and 40 percent protein in the other diet foods. And the extra protein seemed to stimulate the insects.

Each individual hive was now eating 10 50-gram fish patties in one or two days, and Chalmers said one of the biggest advantages of the herring meal was its lower price.

Each year hundreds of thousands of tons of herring are caught and converted into fish meal.

"Herring meal costs much less than the other diets, yet it produces more honey and more bees," added Chalmers.

The researcher was given a grant of \$17,000 by Canada's agriculture department this year to continue his studies on bee feeding.

* * * * *

The following excerpts are taken from the article "Sensory Beekeeping" by R. Henry Ford which appeared in the April 1979 issue of The American Journal.

"Sensory beekeeping can be summed up as the full usage of one's sensory mechanisms to better understand the functions of the honey bee. . . . In listening to the "voice" of the honey bee, there is much to be learned. Remove a cover from your hive. Does the voice rise then subside or does it remain at a high note signaling that something is wrong in the hive? . . .

"If you are a good listener, you can hear the deep voice of the drone and the high voice of the worker. If you listen even closer, when the bees are around your ears, you can tell if they are pleased or upset at your presence. . . .

"The majority of the written materials that have been contributed to the world of beekeeping have stemmed from direct observations.

"Time spent observing your bees from inside and outside the hive is most advantageous. . . .

"Look at your hive as a home. Is the house holding up? Is the family healthy? And, what about the neighborhood? Remember, your seeing is believing!

"Odors play an important role in the hive. Each "honeyflow" has its own distinct odor which emanates from the hive. At different times of the year you can distinguish the odors that are unique to individual floral sources.

"A second odor is the fear or alarm odor given off by the bees when they are upset. Sometimes you wonder if skunk and the honey bee are related. . . .

"An unhealthy hive also gives off its odors. After a long winter the bees may have dysentery, a very recognizable odor, indeed. If you have a hive with AFB you can recognize its odor as well. . . .

"Get in touch with your bees. Become friends with them. The first time that you go into your hive without gloves be gentle. Move very slowly and make as little disturbance as possible. Place some honey on your finger tips and let the bees lick it off. You let a dog lick your hand to pick up your scent so why not the bees? Oh, by the way, try not to laugh too hard with all those little tongues tickling your fingers.

"Pollen, royal jelly, honey and wax - all of these can be tasted. Using a pollen trap, trap some pollen and sort it by color. Then taste each color pollen and you will find each has a separate taste all its own. Honey, too, has a variety of tastes at various times of the year. Experiment and be your own connoisseur of local honey. . . .

"Finally, the sixth sense - that sense which enables you to discover and create your own "personal" approach to the art of beekeeping.

"What is right? What is wrong? Are there exceptions to the rule? Is there a different approach? These are questions that are continually confronting the beekeeper, whether he is a novice or a professional.

"Manipulate your sixth sense by sorting out the facts and figures and organizing them into a good feeling about what you are doing.

"The concept of sensory beekeeping has great potential once it is realized by the beekeeper. Enjoy it! I do!!"

Poison for Ants

Mix 2 cups sugar, 1 tablespoon borax and 1 1/2 cups water.

Dissolve all sugar and borax. Pour syrup into a shallow container and place in a shallow depression in soil. Choose an ant runway if possible. Cover container and syrup with heavy board. This solution apparently destroys the ants' nest when it is carried back by the ant

Source - Ed Numm, Shellbrook, Sask.

"What sets the creative person off from the rest of us is that he or she has somehow managed to hold onto a childlike curiosity and an unbounded sense of creative possibility. To help rekindle your own curiosity, start by widening your horizons -- especially your reading horizons. Ray Bradbury, a prolific writer of science fiction, stuffs his mind with everything he can lay his hands on -- essays, poetry, plays, lithographs, music. "You have to feed yourself information everyday," he says. "When I was a kid, I sneaked over to the grown-up section in the library. Now, to make sure I'm fully informed, I often go into the children's section."

The above was taken from "You're Smarter Than You Think" Condensed from THE KIWANIS MAGAZINE by Dudley Lynch in the READER'S DIGEST, November 1978, page 252.

It has been my experience that the most direct, informative, and enjoyable books on a subject can be located in the children's section of the local library. The subject of bees and beekeeping proved to be no exception.

One evening in February, after I had browsed through the magazines at Kirkwood Library and checked out a couple of books, I decided to take a quick turn through the children's section, hoping to insure a few moments of quiet the next day as my children paged through Dr. Seuss, etc. As I flipped through the card catalogue of children's books, I idly wondered if any children's books on bees were amongst the shelves.

With only twenty minutes until closing I opened the "B" drawer, expecting to find one or two books listed. To my amazement, 19 book titles were arranged under BEES. I jotted down titles, authors, and catalogue numbers and quickly made my way to the stacks. I inquired of a librarian reshelving books in the next aisle if any limit was imposed on the number of books on a particular subject that could be checked out at one visit. When she answered, "No", I emptied the 595.799 section and headed for the checkout desk. After taking the vital information, the librarian kindly offered a shopping bag for my haul.

Here are a few of the gems that I located!!!

BEES AND HONEY by Oxford Scientific Films

Fantastic color photographs preceded by a short opening text provided information on the life and habits of the honeybee. The incredible camera techniques used and rare color close-ups obtained make nature and its creatures more familiar and accessible to all ages.

CLOSE UP OF A HONEYBEE by Virgil E. Foster. Photos by Martin Iger. Excellent, close-up black and white photographs of the honeybee with a text that is straightforward, quick-moving, informative and factual correct.

HONEYBEES by Jane Lecht

This book is one of the series of Books for Young Explorers from the National Geographic Society. If you are familiar with the National Geographic, you are aware of its excellent quality. This book ranks among the best. And the text is, at one and the same time, very informative and simple and clear enough for a preschooler. A beautiful book!

THE HONEYBEES by Franklin Russell

A beautifully illustrated book which follows the yearly cycle of the bees. Each illustration on each page resembles a silk screen and the text is poetically written.

HERE COME THE BEES! by Alice Goudrey. Illus. by Garry Mackenzie

The artist has worked, with visible success, to make his pictures as authentic as possible and scientific in their detail. The text is simple, straight-forward and lucid. Its accuracy has been checked by John C. Pallister, Department of Insects and Spiders, the American Museum of Natural History.

So check your local library and you too may be pleasantly surprised!

C. Boeckmann

Shirley Sipp's "Old Time Beauty Secrets" taken from THE MOTHER EARTH NEWS, No. 55, page 68.

At Night: Rub a mixture of honey and glycerin onto your face, then wipe it off gently - after a while - with a soft cloth.

Once a Week: Add a teaspoon of honey to one mashed apple; mix them together; and put this "cream" on your face and neck. Leave it in place for half an hour and then rinse with whey or cold milk. (Make sure your husband will be gone awhile before you start this treatment.

However, a word of caution: Anyone can be allergic to almost anything - so check out any unfamiliar substance before you rub it all over yourself. To do this, just place a small amount on the tender skin of your inner arm and cover the area with an adhesive bandage. Then wait 24 hours and have a look. If the patch shows any reaction, such as redness or obvious irritation . . . that ingredient just isn't for you

"Next to being shot at and missed, nothing is really quite as satisfying as an income tax refund." - F. J. Raymond

"I use not only the brains I have, but all I can borrow." Woodrow Wils

Excerpts from a feature article in the "Dallas Morning News" on June 22, 1977, sent to Bill Garesche from George McBlair of Dallas.

Dateline: South Woodstock, Vt.

You get more talk than service down at Clyde Wood's garage these days. "Limited service: too much New Deal and old age", reads a sign posted on a grimy window.

You probably won't get to borrow his tools either, according to another sign: "No tools loaned: reasons same as you might have for not loaning your wife".

But you can get honey as sweet as Wood's talk is tart.

Wood, who should have died in 1935 but wasn't ready, credits the venom from his 40 swarms of bees with saving his life.

As the New York Cancer Research Institute put it in a 1965 annual report that Wood fingers like a precious Bible, "Why do beekeepers have the lowest incidence of cancer?"

"Perhaps it is because they are continually receiving injections of bee venom, i.e. bee stings, which cause an acute inflammatory reaction liberating histamine which then activates the reticuloendothelia system - another important defense mechanism against cancer."

Wood puts it another way: "I wasn't exactly reconciled to pushing up daisies."

At 79, he still isn't ready. But Wood, who bills himself as "the beekeeper who eluded death", loves to tell the story.

"It was Hodgkin's Disease," he intones. "I was doomed. It spread to my lung, my spleen, and my arm."

Wood recovered.

His love of bees, whose angry buzz his speech resembles, began as a child, when he discovered his first wild hive.

A lot has happened since, he says Men have invented pesticides and "gone about the business of eradicating themselves". Farmers have sold out and taken the clover with them.

Without good clover, clover honey has become scarce. And that, says Wood, is the worst part of all.

But bees haven't changed, and of that Wood is glad. The stocky, white-haired mechanic, who thinks nothing of reaching bare-handed into a hive and pulling out bees by the handful, has harvested as much as 5,000 pounds of honey in a single year.

"Shoot, just 'cause they can sting you, doesn't mean they have to," he says, wagging a finger in the dust of the old garage.

In handling bees, the Golden Rule has stood wood in good stead. He says it has netted him 10 consecutive years of harvest averaging 107 pounds per hive - compared to a statewide average of only 20 to 30 pounds.

The bees and the chipmunks who live behind Wood's garage are better friends than men, he says. "The damndest fools on this earth got two legs."

"Dinner", comes a call from the apartment over the garage, where Wood lives with his wife of 56 years.

He glances nervously overhead and keeps talking. "I started keeping bees in 1932. I've been secretary of the Vermont Beekeepers Association for 17 years," he says, talking fast now.

(Continued on page 12)

MISSOURI STATE BEEKEEPERS' SPRING MEETING

University of Missouri

Agriculture Building

Saturday, March 28, 1981

A. R.

8:30 - 9:00 Registration - no fee

9:00 - 9:05 Meeting called to order by President Robins

9:05 - 9:10 Invocation by Minister Clarence Feeney

9:10 - 9:15 Welcome by Dr. Flerney Jones

9:15 - 10:15 DR. LARRY E. MILLIKAN - "BEE VENOM AND VENOM THERAPY"

10:15 - 10:30 Introduction of State and local officers and the new organizations

10:30 - 11:00 Cookies and coffee provided by the Boone Regional
Beekeepers' Association

11:00 - 12:00 BILL CARLILE - Writer of "Timely Chats" in The American Bee Journal

12:00 - 1:15 Lunch (On your own)

F. I.

1:15 - 1:45 Film - "Putting Wild Bees to work"

1:45 - 2:45 CLARENCE FEENEY - "THE IDEAL PERFECT BEEKEEPER"

2:45 - 3:30 Slides - "A Bee or Not a Bee"

3:30 - 4:15 President's message and the business session

4:15 - 4:30 Attendance prizes

Directions to the Agriculture Building are given on the next page.

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING - State officers and delegates from the local Associations plus other interested beekeepers will meet at the BEST WESTERN INN (I-70 and 63 South) in Columbia on Friday evening, March 27, at 7:30 p.m. for a business session. The phone number of the BEST WESTERN INN is 1-314-474-6161. Please make your reservations early and please mention that you are with the Missouri State Beekeepers. Room rates will be Single - \$23

Double - \$27

Double Deluxe - \$31

ALL ARE WELCOME!!!

To get to the Agriculture Building from

I-70 East of Columbia

Leave I-70 (left-hand lane) and turn into the Business Loop 70. Turn left at Tandy Avenue (first set of stop lights) and follow this road south to the second set of stop lights. Turn right on Rollins Street and proceed to stop sign at Hitt Street. Turn right and park in Visitors Parking Lot $\frac{1}{2}$ block up Hitt Street. Agriculture Building is across the street.

I-70 West of Columbia

Leave I-70 and turn onto #740 Bi-Pass. Follow #740 approximately 5 miles to the junction of Providence Road. The football stadium will be ahead and on your right. At Providence Road turn left and go approximately 2 blocks to Rollins Street. Turn right on Rollins and follow it to Hitt Street. Turn left and park in the Visitors' Parking lot $\frac{1}{2}$ block up Hitt Street. Agriculture Building is across the street.

From #63 South

Turn left onto Stadium Road and proceed to College Avenue. Turn right on College to the first stop light. Turn left on Rollins Street and turn right on Hitt Street. Park in Visitors Parking Lot $\frac{1}{2}$ block up Hitt Street. Agriculture Building is across the street.

MISSOURI STATE BEEKEEPERS' ASSN.
619 Mendelsohn Drive
Kirkwood, Missouri 63122

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