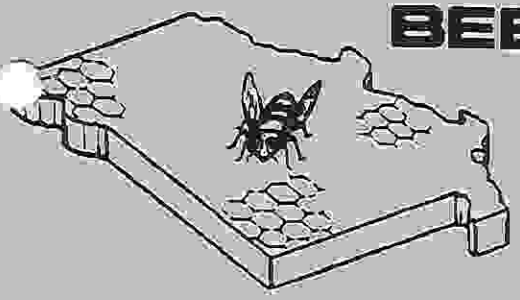
MISSOURI STATE BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION



VOLUME 21 QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER NUMBER 1
MARCH 1983

DEAR BEEKEEPING FRIENDS,

HAPPY NEW YEAR!! It's difficult to realize that we're already into the second month. Only a few more weeks for any real cold or long-term snows. What a mild winter we have had! Not complaining . . . but our tulips and daffodils have been 3 inches above ground since January 10; many trees, especially the maples, have large buds; and our privet hedge, usually completely bare, still has 80% of its green leaves from last summer! I wonder what a very cold snap now would do to Spring.

Also just around the corner is our Annual Spring State Meeting. This year it will be held on March 12 (a week or two earlier than usual). The location will be the campus of the University of Missouri at Columbia in the Memorial Union Building. The Memorial Union Building is the largest building on campus and is located 1 block North of the Agriculture Building. This is the same location as last Spring. Detailed instructions on how to get there are on the back of the agenda.

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Our program chairman Mr. Walter Bigelow has put together what appears to be a very informative meeting. Our featured speaker will be Mr. Glen Stanley, the Iowa State Apiarist, and a long time friend to the Missouri Beekeepers. His program will center around that tasty and sometimes elusive commodity called honey. The morning presentation will outline and discuss what the beekeeper can do to prepare for the honey flow and to aid his bees during the flow. The afternoon presentation will center around the harvesting and handling of your honey crop.

A second speaker will be Mr. George T. Trial of the Missouri Farm Bureau Center. He will speak on Missouri Legislative and U.S. Congressional issues pertaining to agriculture and beekeeping. And Mr. Mike Roling, our President, will present PartII ar Update on the History of Beekeeping in Missouri. (See the agenda for details.)

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FROM AROUND THE STATE

We regret to announce the passing of Mr. Joe Maher during the week of Thanksgiving. He was the cornerstone on which the present day "Missouri State Beekeepers" was built.

"Many years ago the State Beekeepers Association folded because of a lack of interest. Then a beekeeper attended a meeting in Florida and tried to voice his opinion, but they would not recognize him because his state did not have a 'state beekeepers association'. Thus the Missouri State Beekeepers was reborn." The day was October 28, 1961.

From that day on, Mr. Maher gave his time, energy, and services to nurture and raise this small group to the present Association of over 650 members. During the past 20 years, he served in most of the State offices --

President	1975
2nd Vice President	1974
Secretary	1962, 1963, 1972, and 1973
Treasurer	1964 through 1971 1977 through 1979
Editor	Mr. Maher initiated the idea of a newsletter in 1963. And he served as editor from 1967 through 1972, 1975 and 1976.
President Emeritus	1980 through 1982

In 1979 the beekeepers of the state honored him as the "Beekeeper of the Year".

While serving the State Association, Mr. Maher was also continually active in his local association - Midwestern. He served in almost all of the offices in his local. In 1975 while he was State President, he also held the office of President for Midwestern. "Somehow he also managed during this time to send out the Midwestern newsletter each month." And note that he was Editor of the Quarterly State Newsletter for eight years.

Mr. Maher was also active in the formation of many of the local associations throughout Missouri. "He was a State Bee Inspector. And he used his spare time to promote bees, beekeeping, and honey by teaching beekeeping courses and by appearing on local TV and radio."

"An active hobbyist beekeeper for some 31 years. Never too busy to try to help someone or to talk to anyone. A gentleman and a friend."

** Quotes in the above are taken from the text delivered by Mr. Jay Tohtz for Mr. Joe Maher at the Beekeeper of the Year Presentation on October 20, 1979, at Southeast Missouri University in Cape Girardeau.

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Mr. Jay Tohtz and Mr. Louis Smith taught a beekeeping course at the University of Missouri Extension Service Office in Troy. At the conclusion of the course a new local Association was formed. This new Association named THE LINCOLN COUNTY BEEKEEPERS' ASSOCIATION has a membership of about 17 and meets on the third Thursday of the month at 7:00 p.m. at Dave's Cut and Style Barber Shop. The officers are as follows

President	David L. Crouch, Box 125, Troy 63379 (314) 525-7996
Vice President	Warren Rathbun
Sec.-Treas.	Margaret Hornburg, Rt. 1A, Box 314, Hawk Point 63349 (314) 338-4453
Board Members -	Clarence Bailey (three years) John Miederhoff (two years) Hazel Rathbun (one year)

Refreshment Chairpersons - Hazel Rathbun and Margaret Hornburg

CONGRATULATION to this new association, its officers and members!!!

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In the November meeting, the Central Missouri Beekeepers Association nominated as club officers:

President	John Walther, 1922 North Circle, Jefferson City 65101
1st Vice President	Charles Pattyson, Rt. 2, Holts Summit 65043
2nd Vice President	Dave West, Rt. 2, Box 320, New Bloomfield 65063
Sec.-Treas.	Shirley Brumley, Rt. 6, Jefferson City 65101
Liaison	Craig Oliver, 907 West Avenue, Fulton 65251

Our monthly meetings have been changed to the second Tuesday of each month. This will be in effect as of January. We are hoping this will inspire more people to come to our meetings.

In January we will have classes for any beginning beekeepers. These classes will go thru June. During these classes we will learn the basics of beekeeping including: ordering, handling, basic clothing, equipment needed, and many other valuable information needed for the safe handling of bees.

I would appreciate any information that I could pass along to fellow beekeepers. Please send any information to the address below.

Shirley Brumley
Rt. 6, Jefferson City 65101

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The new slate of officers for the Eastern Missouri Beekeepers' Association is as follows:

President	Curt Dennis, 2415 Johnstown, Florissant 63033 (314) 8384529
Vice-President	Gene Kaufmann, 3743 Druso Drive, St. Louis 63125 (314)8923626
Secretary	Loretta Schook, 9322 Crawford, Rock Hill 63144 (314) 962-5938
Treasurer	Larry Hensley, 13520 Old Jamestown, Florissant 63033
Corresponding Sec.	Sandy Hensley
Program Chairperson	Sharon Gibbons, 314 Quinnmoor Drive, Ballwin 63011
Refreshment Chairperson	Charlotte Dennis
Board Members	Floyd Janitch Ed Kraushaar Marice Swoboda Dolton Ammons

The Fall Coupon Power Drive netted the association just under $800. Another such drive is planned for the Spring.

The Association again held a beginners class on the third Tuesday of January, February, and March. The January meeting saw 72 in attendance. Thirteen individuals were new members as of that meeting.

Curt and Charlotte Dennis provided the honey for the state reception for agricultural educators held on December 4 at the Merchants Exchange. The general theme was "A Taste of Missouri Agriculture".

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The new slate of officers for the Midwestern Beekeepers Association is as follows:

President	Harold Winston
1st VP Programs	Vacant
2nd VP Membership	Paul Clegg, 8500 West Ridge, Raytown 64138
3rd VP Editor	Harry Knowles, 10504 East 59th Street, Raytown 64133
Secretary	Kathleen Leary, 909 East 48 Street, Kansas City 64110
Treasurer	Walt Bigelow, 110 E. Porta Cima Pas, Kansas City 64114
Librarian	Walter Starcke, 5400 Bennington, Kansas City 64129

Auditor	Charles Perrin, Rt. 1, Pleasant Hill 64080
Board Members	A. W. Magers V. O. Dodge

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The 1983 officers for the Two Rivers Beekeepers Association is as follows:

President	Joe Veras, 7 Country Wood Court, O'Fallon 63366
Vice President	Jerry Gifford, Rt. 1, Box 34, Windfield 63389
Sec.-Treas.	David L. Crouch, P.O. Box 125, Troy 63379

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On behalf of the beekeepers of the State, Henry Boeckmann, the past President of the Missouri Beekeepers, donated 6 pounds of honey to be used at the Governor's Conference on Agriculture during the week of December 12. Our product was represented at the Missour Agriculture Products Buffet.

Since only 3 pounds of the honey was used at the Governor's Conference, the remaining 3 pounds was used at the Second Annual EVENING WITH MISSOURI AGRICULTURE buffet for the State legislators on January 24.

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The following puns are taken from the September and October 1982 issues of THE KENTUCKY BEE LINE.

Why were the bees afraid of the beekeeper? He was a veiled threat!

How often do bees get paid? Beeweekly!

What did the bee say when told there was a big honey flow? Super!

How would you describe the pretty queen bee? She was very combly!

How did the bee order her eggs and beecon? Honeyside up!

How does the queen punish the baby bees? With beeswacks!

When a bee doesn't like someone, what does she say? Buzz off!

EDITOR'S NOTE: I didn't say that they were good! Do I get to retire now??!!?

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LET IT BEE KNOWN . . .

JANUARY

"Sometime in January the queen will begin to lay eggs in the center combs of the winter cluster. A large cluster of bees with an ample amount of honey and pollen will begin to raise brood without interruption. Young bees will emerge to daily replace the old bees which normally die . . ...
Ideal overwintering weather consists of alternating cold and warm spells. This gives bees the opportunity to move around, to do some routine housekeeping such as removing dead members and feces from the colony, and to transport honey to the cluster. . . .
The winter cluster makeup is important because it determines whether the bees will be able to consume both honey and pollen during the coldest weather. If pollen is not available the bees cannot produce royal jelly necessary for feeding the queen and young larvae. Brood rearing will slow down and stop about 2 weeks after they exhaust the pollen supply."

Taken from "HONEY, Guidelines for Efficient Production" by Dr. Walter L. Gojmerac, published by the University of Wisconsin Extension Service. Buttletin A2083. It is $1.75 and may be ordered from the Agricultural Bulletin Building, 1535 Observatory Drive, Madison, Wisconsin 53706. It is well worth the money and will be referred to in the following pages.

FEBRUARY

"A February inspection can save your colonies from a major cause of winter losses - starvation. . . .
On a quiet bright day when the temperature is above 32 degrees F., open the colony carefully and slowly. Blow enough smoke over the bees so they won't fly up and become chilled. The bees should go down between the combs. You can often see the brood without removing any combs. At this time the frames of honey and pollen should be next to the brood and cluster of bees. If these combs are empty or contain honey only around the edges, then feed sugar, or move combs of honey in to replace the empty combs. When the colony is open, also check for pollen. If none is within the cluster, broodrearing will stop shortly. To avoid this, feed pollen suplements or place combs of pollen from other colonies inside." Taken from "HONEY, Guidelines for Efficient Production."

MARCH

"What you do during March and April will partly determine the size of the year's honey crop. It is during this time that you can build large colonies." Taken from "HONEY, Guidelines for Efficient Production".

"In some cases colonies will have too much honey, especially in the upper brood chamber, and this will delay the progress of the colony. There are other instances when colonies are short of normal food supply and in need of extra combs of honey. When it is all said and done there is no easier, or better way to feed bees than with combs of honey. All the supplemental feeds in various kinds of feeders require a considerable amount of effort on the part of the bees in transforming it into honey and storing it where it is available for future use. Feeding sugar syrup or liquid honey tends to stimulate brood rearing and unless you are prepared later on to take control of all colonies through brood equalization, many colonies will swarm. The end result of that is that you have produced many bees by supplemental feeding that have left you for new homes. Sometimes, when bee colonies are really short of food and no combs of honey are available then sugar syrup must be fed for the mere survival of the colony. Bees can generally survive for a while on dry sugar if conditions are such that they can get out to gather water to use with the sugar. The feeding of dry sugar will not stimulate brood rearing to the point of creating a swarming condition." Taken from THE BUZZ published by the Iowa Honey Producers Association.

For emergency spring feeding, "sugar dissolved in hot water makes satisfactory bee feed. You can make this by dissolving 2 pounds of sugar in 1 pint (pound) of hot water. Adding fumagillin (Fumicil B) at this time helps reduce Nosema, a parasite. At this time of the year the colony will be expanding. The workers will be cleaning soiled, Nosema-infected combs. Fumagillin will keep the infection low." Taken from "HONEY, Guidelines for Efficient Production".

NOSEMA

"The organism causing this disease is a one-celled animal (a protozoan) Nosema apis. This organism is widely distributed in nature and is also found in wild bees. You can assume Nosema is present in your colony. It lives in the intestine lining of the adult bee. During growth this pathogenic organism destroys the lining, shortens the life and sometimes causes dysentery. The Nosema organism multiplies by producing spores. These spores accumulate in a bee's rectum and are voided with excreta. During summer bees usually defecate outside the hive, naturally reducing infection within the colony. However, in the winter bees don't fly outdoors so they soil the comb. Other bees attempt to clean this, become infected, and spread disease. Nosema spores remain viable for months on combs, but some fumigants and heat will destroy them. During spring expansion the disease can again spread when healthy bees become infected by picking up spores when cleaning the soiled comb." Taken from "HONEY, Guidelines for Efficient Production."

"Most often Nosema is not easily recognized as there is neither obvious brood destruction or conspicuous death of workers. The general behavior and physical appearance of infected bees do not change

until immediately before death. Microscopic examination is the only method of positive diagnosis. As a result, Nosema disease is largely undetected and often confused with other diseases. If your colonies are not doing as well as anticipated and there are no symptoms of any disease, chances are good that Nosema has infected your apiary.

Research over the years has identified and clearly defined the effects of Nosema on the apiary.

Vitality and effectiveness of the workers are reduced.

Productive life-span is shortened.

Ability of infected nurse bees to feed the brood is greatly reduced. Dwindling population or lack of build-up result.

Infected queens lose the ability of high egg production. They are usually superseded or otherwise they must be replaced.

Infected nuclei will not maintain queen production. Queens from such nuclei are usually infected.

The presence of Nosema in packaged bees has been found to be extremely common. The infection, of course, is detrimental to the development of the colony and its ability to produce honey.
With packaged bees, the infection accelerates as the colony develops during the three or four weeks after installation when birth rate is zero. Infection may be of only a minor nature in the South, but when sent to Northern apiaries, a light infection can become a serious problem. This isparticularly true when the spring is cold and wet. The crucial period for the queen is during the first three weeks after installation, a period of great stress for the nurse bee population. Treatment of all packaged colonies is recommended as a precautionary measure to ensure freedom from Nosema during the crucial stage of early hive development." Taken from "Nosema in Honey Bees" published by the Abbott Laboratories, North Chicago, Illinois 60064.

"Fumidil B is available through bee supply dealers. Use 2 pounds sugar, 1 pound (pint) water and add 1½ teaspoons of Fumidil B per gallon of liquid sugar syrup. Be sure the sugar syrup is cold before adding the drug. Fumidil B is a dry powder. You will find it easier to mix if you combine the powder first with a small quantity of water and then add it to the cold sugar syrup." Taken from "HONEY, Guidelines for Efficient Production".

"Packaged colonies: At least one gallon of medicated syrup.

NOTE: Medication should not be given during or immediately before the honey flow." Taken from "Nosema in Honey Bees".

Mixing TM

"What is the "recipe" for mixing Terramysin dust to feed bees for controlling American Foulbrood disease?

This question came up at the last Apiary Inspectors of America meeting. 'After much discussion' reports Iowa's inspector, Glen Stanley, 'we finally decided to take our problem to the laboratory and work out a formula that would be easy to mix and simple to use by beekeepers out in the apiary.'

TM FORMULA

We recommend two feedings early in the spring and two after all surplus honey supers removed in the fall. Mix only as needed, not in advance.

TM 25 - one teaspoon of TM 25 contains the 200 milligrams suggested for each feeding.

6.4 oz. Packet = 50 teaspoons

6.4 oz. packet TM)
1½ pounds powdered sugar) Mix well

Use 2 tablespoons or 1/8 cup of mixture per feeding.

Feeds about 50 colonies one feeding.

For feeding 1 colony, mix 1 teaspoon of TM + 5 teaspoons of powdered sugar.

TM 25

1 pound of TM 25)
3-3/4 pounds of powdered sugar) Mix well

Use 2 tablespoons or 1/8 cup of mixture per feeding.

Feeds about 125 colonies one feeding.

TM 50

1 pound of TM 50)
7½ pounds of powdered sugar) Mix well

Use 2 tablespoons or 1/8 cup of mixture per feeding.

Feeds about 250 colonies one feeding.

In each case apply the feeding to the colony by sprinkling the mixture on the top bars over the brood nest. NOTE: Do NOT FEED during or immediately before the honey flow.

"Colonies with ample pollen will replace their fall populations by the time new pollen is available. Usually they are strong enough to replace stores consumed during the winter with nectar from willows, dandelions and fruit blossoms.
Colonies unable to rear brood for lack of pollen may not collect sufficient nectar to maintain their colony weight during the early honey flow. These colonies seldom reach maximum production strength by the time the main honey flow begins.
If combs are disease-free you may exchange combs to equalize pollen reserves among colonies in the same apiary. Colonies that are queenless when the flora is abundantly producing pollen accumulate large reserves because they are not using it to feed larvae."
Taken from "HONEY, Guidelines for Efficient Production".

APRIL

"Packaged colonies usually require 10 to 12 weeks to reach maximum population. A 2-pound package supporting a good queen will develop a full strength colony in practically the same time as a 3-pound package. A 3-pound package is suggested if you start on foundation. The extra bees can build comb, but if you have drawn comb, a 2-pound package is adequate to rear brood. . . .
If you provide enough honey and pollen, packaged colonies established 10 to 12 weeks before the honey flow can develop to full strength in almost any weather conditions. When reserve pollen is not available, it is safer to delay the installation until the beginning of the dandelion bloom." Taken from "HONEY, Guidelines for Efficient Production."

Installing Packages and Releasing Queens

"On arrival, gorge the bees by spraying. Use a thin syrup of equal parts of sugar and water containing Fumidil B. Feed it warm. Spray the package on all sides several times. . . . Remove at least five center combs from the brood chamber. This will allow space into which you can shake bees. If possible give them extra combs of honey and pollen. Otherwise provide sugar syrup. Use the deep side of the bottom board to allow room for the bees to spread under frames when they are replaced. Reduce the size of the entrance to a very small opening and plug the auger hole loosely with green grass or thin paper. If the weather is warm, it is best to wait until evening to avoid robbing. Just before opening the package, spray the bees thoroughly again to quiet them and prevent them from slying. Shake the bees into one end of the package. Cut three sides of the screen on the upper end. Remove the queen cage. Then shake the bees into the hive. Dislodge any remaining bees. . . . Spread the bees over the bottom board with a hive tool to prevent mashing when the frames are replaced.

"Spray the queen thoroughly with warm sugar syrup to prevent her from flying. . . . Carefully rip the screen from her cage, hold it low over the bees and slowly shake her into the cluster. Do this after all the frames are replaced. Watch her carefully for she must not be hurt.

"If you provide combs of pollen and honey you don't need to do anything more at this time. In about 2 days the queen should start laying. You may need between 15 and 25 pounds of honey per colony for feeding the packages. . . You can fill empty combs with sugar syrup and give them to the packaged bees the same as combs of honey. Provide at least four combs filled on both sides. Three to five days after installation inspect the colonies to see if all is well.

"Observations over a number of years suggest that if you release a queen immediately into the packaged bees she will begin laying at least 3 days earlier than if introduced by the cage method. Bees may drift from packages that do not start brood rearing quickly to packages that have their brood nest well organized.

"If you must install packaged bees on foundation, wait until the beginning of the druit and dandelion bloom. Then feed sugar syrup of two parts sugar and one part water liberally until all combs on the brood chamber are drawn or a honey flow develops and the bees stop taking syrup. If possible, provide one or two dark brood combs so that the queen can begin laying at once. Feed these bees sugar syrup with the inverted pail rather than the bottom board (Boardman) feeder because if it is cold bees may starve rather than feed from the bottom board feeder."

Taken from "HONEY, Guidelines for Efficient Production".

Dividing An Established Colony

"On a warm day take the colony apart. Inspect the brood chambers. If you locate the queen, place her in the first or lower brood chamber with eggs and brood. You can remove sealed brood and place it in the second brood chamber. Be sure there is pollen and honey in this chamber.
Place the inner cover over the lower chamber. Cover the escape hole with a pieee of masonite or fiberboard. Now place the second brood chamber over the inner cover. You now have two separate colonies - one on top of the other. The top one is queenless. Be sure there is pollen and honey in this chamber and that the top auger hole is open. Some beekeepers turn the auger hole entrance so it faces in the opposite direction of the first brood chamber. Now place the queen cage in the top unit between the two center frames. Place it at an angle with the candy plug upward. This plug will be eaten away and the queen released. . . . The reason for the plug upward is if a nurse bee dies or is killed in the queen cage her body will not plug the opening which could prevent the queen from being released. After several days check to make sure the queen is released. As a rule you will see eggs." Taken from"HONEY. Guidelines for Efficient Production"

"If you are interested in dividing the colony but don't have time or cannot locate the old queen, you might try the following suggestion. Divide the colony by using the inner cover with the escape hole closed or sealed, as described earlier. After 1 week inspect each

chamber. The queen will be in the section that has eggs. The queenless section will be without eggs, or will have the beginnings of queen cells. You can introduce your extra queen into this section. Be sure to destroy the developing queen cells."

"Now you have two options. (1) First, you can take off the top colony and place it on a separate bottom board so that you have a new colony. You may have to equalize them by switching brood later by taking sealed brood from the strong colony and placing it in the weaker one. (2) Or you can leave the colonies together and in a week or so replace the inner cover with a queen excluder. This will keep the queen separate, but allow the workers to mix. You now have a two-queen colony."

"Experience shows that strong colonies produce more honey than weak or small ones. This is the basis of the two-queen colony. Strong colonies are more efficient not only because of the larger population but also because a much larger percentage of the adult bees are available for honey gathering. Fewer of them are required to stay in the hive to take care of the brood and other housekeeping chores.

Bees	Brood	Ratio of Brood/Bee %	Lbs. Honey
15,000	11,850	79	25
30,000	18,300	60	68
60,000	15,000	12	154

These figures show that as a colony increases in population the ratio of brood cells to bees decreases. As the population increases the honey gathering efficiency increases. This is why it is desirable to have the peak population at the beginning of the main honey flow." Taken from "HONEY, Guidelines for Efficient Production".

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EDITOR'S NOTE: Come to the Spring State Meeting and hear a continuation of the seven pages. In his morning presentation Mr. Glen Stanley will have more to say on this topic. He will give various tips and techniques and variations on the methods herein described. Also he will surely address that beekeeper's nemesis - Swarming.- and lesser problems of drifting and to reverse or not to reverse. Also there is the whole subject of supering - technique and timing.

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"A mom found her little boy sitting on the porch shaking a jar and she wanted to know what he was doing. He said, "I'm making honey." She replied, "Here, let me see that jar." Sure enough, the little boy had in his jar a honeybee and two flowers!"
Taken from THE KENTUCKY BEE LINE, August 1982

The following article was taken from THE SCOTTISH BEEKEEPER, November 1980.

A SILLY OLD BEE

Before retiring near my married daughter and her family, my wife and I frequently spent our holidays with them. During one holiday I became very troubled with my water works, which made me feel so ill I agreed that they should 'phone their doctor to come and see me. Here I may add, I'm a very stubborn character and usually won't have a doctor or his medicine, but on this occasion, I accepted the course of tablets he prescribed, and his instructions that if I was able, I had to attend his surgery in four days time at a precise time with a sample of my water. Sure enough, I duly felt less pain, and somewhat better, and as requested, called on the doctor.

The morning of my visit, my son-in-law, a beekeeper, and also a friend of the doctor, asked if I would do him a favour and present the doctor with a jar of honey. . . . On entering the surgery the doctor was deeply engrossed writing out a report on the previous patient. He excused himself, and continued writing with an occasional word of welcome to me . . . Perhaps it was quite an inappropriate time for me to present my son-in-law's present, but I tried not to interrupt his writing unduly, as I placed the jar of honey on his desk, and muttered a few words about its sender, etc. A few more minutes elapsed and then he turned his attention to me . . .

Looking slightly vague the doctor picked the jar of honey up and tilted it first one way, and then the other. His expression changed to one of bewilderment momentarily, then quickly altered to an amused look as he gradually concentrated his attention on me and the reason of my visit. I could have howled with laughter a he held up the jar of honey. You should have seen his face as for a few moments he imagined it to be my sample of water . . .

While more sober beekeepers may not see the funny side of the above tale, they may now smile as I try to tell of my introduction to their craft.

More frequently than I wish, I use my old age as an excuse for my inabilities. True my hearing and eyesight are not as they used to be, and since returning in the South of Scotland I have to cope with the local accent; collectively this adds to my difficulties when trying to "pick" my beekeeper friends' brains.

One very kind local gentleman offered to make me a hive, when during a conversation I expressed interest in Beekeeping as a retirement hobby.

During late July, 1978, I was told of a swarm and also how to capture same. Having gone through this experience, readers will know how I felt, when I captured and hived my swarm. I was a beekeeper now! Or so I thought, little realising at the time that this was too late in the year, especially so with the prevailing weather, to be capable of supplying me with honey. However, it did get honey which I left with them, and with the addition of some feeding they survived the winter.

1979, I acquired more hives and bees, I must surely get some honey for my mornings toast! I joined the S.B.A. and my local asso-

ciation. When the season ended I was delighted to 23 lbs. of heather honey as a reward for taking the bees there.

Ah! 1980 would surely be one of those years I had heard of from the local beekeepers. My bees had survived the winter, but as I write this, September 14th, the wind and the rain have been disastrous hereabouts. On reading my S.B.A. magazine I am somewhat consoled that even experienced beekeepers are indicating that the season could again be a poor one.

I felt my inexperience sadly, as I talked to some of the friends I'd made and they related to me, that they had already removed some earlier blossom honey and also some "BELL HEATHER" honey! So as mentioned earlier, I used my old age as an excuse for my inabilities. To improve my knowledge, I did attend a series of lectures . . . To date I've not had much honey and no sympathy from my wife who finds I've pinched her sugar.

How I wish I'd started beekeeping years ago when I did have good eyesight, etc. or even started during one of those bumper years I only hear about. I may be slow to learn and observe these days, but one can't deny that beekeeping is anything other than a most fascinating subject, and pastime. It would be a bonus if I could test my repaired hernia trying to lift a "Full" super or two . . . Regardless of my excuses, my enthusiasm grows for beekeeping.

I must continue to read more books and "pray" for better weather and additionally subject my patient friends to lots more silly questions about beekeeping. Pity I put the "birds" first when I was younger, but I did find a forgiving wife, who puts up with my eccentric ways . . . One feels it a shame to remove honey from such hard working bees , but given a chance I guess I'd do so.

May I conclude by expressing my appreciation to the writers and lecturers, who so patiently try to impart some knowledge into such silly old beginners as I, whose experience may be limited, but gratitude sincere.

P.S. - September 11, 1980 - Just managed between squalls to get my hives home from the heather, and am awaiting a lull in conditions to open same. They feel heavier than when I took them there!

S. O. BEE

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STATISTICS

In flight the bee's wings vibrate at a rate of 200 to 250 cycles per second, and more rapidly at its highest speeds. This compares to the dragonfly at 28 cycles per second and the mosquito at 500 to 600 cycles per second.

The average cruising speed is about 15 miles per hour and up to 25 miles per hour for short periods. It is thought that the bee travels faster against the wind than with the wind.

Taken from the TENNESSEE APICULTURE, June 1982

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MISSOURI STATE BEEKEEPERS' SPRING MEETING

University of Missouri - Columbia — Memorial Union

Saturday, March 12, 1983

A.M.	
8:30 - 9:00	Registration
9:00 - 9:05	Meeting called to order by President Roling
9:05 - 9:10	Invocation
9:10 - 9:20	Welcome and Introduction of officers
9:20 - 10:30	MANAGEMENT FOR HONEY PRODUCTION by Mr. Glen Stanley
10:30 - 11:00	Coffee Break
11:00 - 11:45	PICK A CRISIS - YOUR CHOICE by Mr. George T. Trial
11:45 - 1:15	Lunch (On Your Own)
P.M.	
1:15 - 2:30	HARVESTING AND HANDLING HONEY by Mr. Glen Stanley
2:30 - 3:00	HISTORICAL NOTES ON BEEKEEPING IN MISSOURI (PART II) by Mr. Mike Roling
3:00 - 3:45	Business Meeting
3:45 - 4:00	Attendance Prizes

ALL are invited to attend the Executive Board Meeting on Friday, March 11 at 7:00 p.m. at the Best Western Columbia Inn, I-70 and 63 South. Phone number: (314) 474-6161.

Room Rates: Single: $26 plus tax
Double $31 plus tax
Each additional person $5.00

When reserving your accomodations, please state that you are with the Missouri State Beekeepers.

I-70 East of Columbia
Leave I-70 and turn into the business loop 70. Turn left at Tandy Avenue and follow this road south to the second set of stop lights. Turn right on Rollins Street and proceed to the stop sign at Hitt Street. Turn right and park in the Visitors lot ½ block up Hitt. The Agriculture Building is across the street and the Memorial Union is 1 block North.

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 lot ½ block up Hitt Street. The Agriculture Building is across the street and the Memorial Union is 1 block North.

From #63 South
Turn left onto Stadium Road and proceed to College Avenue. Turn right on College to the frist stop light. Turn left on Rollins Street and turn right on Hitt Street. Park in the Visitors lot ½ block up Hitt Street. The Agriculture Building is across the street and the Memorial Union is 1 block North.

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

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

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