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ATTENTION, SUBSCRIBERS!

With this issue we have corrected our mailing lists, and if each one will take a look at the printed address tag on their paper they will see just how they stand, and if any one finds he has not received proper credit let him address us at once and we will correct the error.

Please attend to this at once. And, again, if anyone owes us we would appreciate it if they would pay up at once, as we need money very much.

DAIRYING.

For all the discouragements that attended some who tried dairying last year we feel sure that considerable progress was made towards a better system of dairy work, and that our home product stands better in our own markets than ever before. Butter making for immediate home use is one thing, and good butter for shipments to market is another. We eat the fresh churning from spring pastures with a keen appreciation of the grass flavor that is so apparent, yet the same butter, if taken to market as it is, to be retailed to city trade, will have lost that freshness and flavor we enjoyed and will become flat or rancid in a few warm days, unless it is subjected to more perfect and more thorough preparations. Taken from the churn, you do not care if the butter-milk is not worked completely; you do not notice what sun and air soon detect, and nature soon exposes—that this butter was from cream a little old perhaps, and certainly not from a scientific creamery. There needs to be but the least lack of care for nature's detectives to find it out and expose the fact in a taint that we did not notice when we praised the grassy fragrance of the new churning.

The most careful housewife cannot, with all the care she is capable of, do perfect work. It is simply impossible for her to equal to work of a creamer that takes the milk, fresh from the cow, and while yet warm separates the cream, ready for churning. It is done by giving a swift, rotary motion to a large can, that contains the fresh milking. Cream rises in any case, and is skimmed off by the old process, but by the new it rises as the milk revolves and comes up on the inside edge of the can that contains it, to find its way out of the can by a series of small holes, along the sides, but considerably above the milk level. By this simple process—which is perfectly effective—the cream is separated while the milk is yet fresh and entirely sweet and pure. All the art a perfect housewife is capable of cannot equal this mechanical effect. Her butter cannot compete in the market with this, from a great creamery that provides every possible appliance to insure cleanliness and perfection; that converts the new milk into butter and makes it so scientifically pure that it will keep sweet to the taste where the best butter the old process can turn off will spoil.

Mr. J. B. Knapp, of Portland, who has a dairy farm on the Columbia, mentioned the creamery we have in mind, lately, in his article on butter making. It seems he is agent for its sale and having used it himself can speak positively of its efficiency. The management of such creamery requires a large supply of milk and can be best carried on where a neighborhood combines to create a milk supply. We must come to co-operation in order to achieve the best results. To insure perfect dairy-work it is necessary to carry it on extensively and under a system that is invariable. We know of good butter makers who find their reward in the business by supplying butter to regular customers at a fixed price. They have choice cows and make golden butter and their brand is desired. This is done everywhere and it is not necessary that the parties shall live close to towns to have regular customers. Sometimes parties in Tillamook ship to Portland by steam sloops; or from dairy farms on the Columbia, or from stations a hundred miles away, along the railroad, they ship regularly. Dairying is becoming more

of a business, is conducted more on scientific principle, and is more remunerative. Not only so, but it is pleasant to read, as we do, that Oregon "gilt-edged fresh-rolls" commanded a better price than the choicest sent either from California or from Iowa.

THE SEASON.

It would hardly be possible to suggest a more favorable season than we have had for farming operations during the present spring. The weather has been varied enough to furnish sunshine and showers, and not too much of either, for the good of all growing crops. The season is more than usually backward and late in some respects, but we have passed into a time of cool north winds and sunshine without any frost to threaten garden or orchard. The fruit trees are passing out of bloom into fruitage, and there is reason to anticipate the largest and finest yield of fruit possible at a time when our market is increasing along the mining districts on the rail-ways that connect us with the East. Last spring was unfavorable to Willamette wheat fields and the average yield was only about one-half of what we usually harvest. This shortage, coming when prices were so low, left us minus about two millions of dollars from what we had reason to expect and made harder times than Western Oregon has ever known.

So far as appearances now go, we may expect a good harvest of small grains and a good season for all crops. Times are brightening from anticipation, if not from actual realization. The wool clip is certain to be large and the staple good, as the fleece has had no severe weather to weaken the evenness of the fiber. East of the Cascades there has been sufficient rainfall to bring forward all crops and the prospect is that the harvest will be as good, if not even greater than in 1885, when they had immense yields the country over.

There has been but little loss on the ranges, and cattle are now thriving on the new grass. Immigrants who came to our country, see that we possess in climate and soil all that has been claimed and send back word that is encouraging to others who are looking towards the Pacific. The only reason why we are not prosperous is because all the world is suffering depression of trade and reduction of values. Immigration is very light from the fact that even at recent low cost of transportation, the farmers in Nebraska, Kansas or Minnesota cannot sell out there to move here. Some who have done so, are satisfied with Oregon and prefer it to California.

Crop Review.

CHICAGO, April 25.—The Farmers' Review will print the following crop review, based on its returns from its correspondents, up to last night:

The weather has been exceptionally favorable during the past ten days for spring wheat seeding, and has been improved to the utmost in Wisconsin, Iowa, Nebraska, Minnesota and Dakota. Fully one-half to two-thirds of the entire acreage in Dakota and Minnesota has already been seeded, and under conditions which could hardly have been excelled. Seeding is progressing favorably in Wisconsin and Iowa, but in Nebraska complaints of wet weather still continue, and considerable land which would otherwise have been devoted to wheat, has gone to flax and oats. While these reports are not yet complete, the indications are for a slightly decreased acreage in Wisconsin and Minnesota, and a considerable increase in Dakota.

The reports from the winter wheat States show little variation from those of the previous two weeks. The Kansas bulletins do not indicate any improvement. The outlook at the best is that the yield will not exceed one-third to one-half of an average crop. In Dickinson and other counties the failure is almost total, and the fields have been plowed under and devoted to oats and other grains. The reports from Michigan also show very little or any improvement. The prospects are for from 65 to 85 per cent. of an average crop in the different counties. Reports of damage from the Hessian fly come from three Michigan counties, and from Raccoon county, in Indiana, but the injury reported thus far is not serious. The generality of the reports from Indiana and Ohio are very favorable, while the reports from Missouri and Tennessee continue very flattering. The weather of the past two weeks has been extremely favorable. With the exception of one county in Kentucky, Johnson, where there is the promise of not to exceed half a crop, the returns continue very favorable.

The Republican State Convention has met in Portland and nominated the following: Congress, Binger Hermann; Supreme Judge, John B. Waldo; Governor, T. B. Cornelius; Secretary of State, Geo. W. McBride; Treasurer, H. L. Marston; Supt. Public Instruction, E. B. McElroy.

Full weight seedling powders at Port & Son's drug store, 100 State street.

The Apiary.

BEE NOTES FOR APRIL.

BY E. Y. CHASE.

Purchasing Bees.

When one contemplates engaging in a business enterprise of any kind one of the first things to do to insure success is to know how, when and where to purchase the stock necessary for a beginning. As a mistake in this matter may cause vexatious loss and much disappointment it is well to give to beginners in bee culture a few suggestions. It may be laid down as a rule that to insure the best results a judicious expenditure of money is indispensable in the beginning. Pains has been taken in these essays to point out the peculiarities of the different races of bees, and indicate the best appliances—and I here repeat that poor or indifferent stock is not cheap at any price and requires just as expensive an outfit as a colony worth ten times as much. One colony of Italians, well fixed, will produce four fold more than the best colony of blacks, and the latter will be infinitely better than a colony of blacks with a poor queen, i.e., either an old queen or one that is not prolific. Therefore, the bee-man who points with pride to his numerous stocks, is not so well off as his neighbor who owns one-fourth as many, unless in his stocks quality as well as quantity is considered; in other words one first-class colony in a first-class hive is far better property to own and will yield more profit than four poor or indifferent ones, and will not cost so much. Persons are often deterred from purchasing nice hives on account of the expense, thinking that as they own ten, fifteen, or more stocks they cannot afford to buy for all. Such persons would much better expend the money they can spare and perfectly fit up a portion of them and let the rest go, than to half-way furnish the whole lot.

A good colony of Italians put up on full frames of wired foundation sixty pound boxes with inch starters and tin or wooden separators complete, is cheap at fifteen dollars. They will more than pay for themselves in one season. A colony of blacks, with a queen not over a year old, and the same fixtures is cheaper at ten dollars than the same in a box hive at three dollars, for if the bees can be bought at the latter figure, to put them in a good hive would cost another dollar, five five dollars; total, nine dollars. You have in this case bees on old crooked combs without wires, probably containing foul brood or moth eggs, maybe both; perhaps the queen is old. The man is lucky who can get a half crop of honey from them the first season.

An apiarist who makes a business of raising bees is not likely to propagate poor stock, even if he raises only blacks his self interest will induce him to breed only from his best queens. A hive purchased from him is worth far more than a dollar, more than one picked up haphazard, and transferred into the new hive. It does not help the matter to purchase a new swarm for with this, he always gets an old queen; better buy the hive from which the swarm has just issued and get a young queen.

Of course these remarks will have no effect on those who persist in thinking that any kind of a box is good enough for bees; that foundation, surplus boxes and separators are all humbugs, and only devices to pull money out of the pockets of the gullible.

April 25, and the first swarm of the season. It was a rouser! It seemed hardly possible to put all in the hive: full Italian queen one year old; but not purely mated; bees show some common blood, but were quiet and good natured. Last year just about this time I had a swarm of Italians come off which gave a hundred pounds surplus, partly comb, partly extracted. This one to-day was hived on full frames of wired foundation and proposed to place upon them immediately seventy-two pound section boxes with inch starters. They will certainly fill them all this summer, and yield some extracted honey besides, and still have enough to winter on. We will see and report. Black bees show no signs of swarming as yet—behind as usual.

Italians vs. Blacks.

SILVERTON, Or., April 12, 1886.

Editor Willamette Farmer:

As a reader of your valuable paper I wish to say that I appreciate the efforts of E. Y. Chase to interest and instruct those who are interested in bee culture, and I have learned to look for the "Bee Notes," etc., which appear from time to time in the columns of the FARMER.

If our ideas conflict on some points it

is with due deference to his opinions that I speak them out. Speaking of the different races of bees he says "the Italians are a very pretty bee and generally more quiet than the Blacks, although when they do point their weapons toward an enemy they mean business, I tell you. On the whole, though, they though, they are more pleasant to handle than the black bees. But really what we want of the bee is honey, is it not? and if they gathered no honey, they would be of no more value than the common house fly. So the bees that give us the most honey are the bees we want. I have had some very nice Italians, but never saw one of them get honey out of the common red clover, but the alsike which is of a light red tint, is frequented by both the Italians and Blacks, and with us the yield of honey is nearly or quite two to one in favor of the black bee. My best Blacks made 160 pounds of comb honey which I took away (surplus) and the Italians eighty pounds, and this rule held good through the apiary. So "who shall decide when doctor disagree."

I did once think the Italians superior but that was when I contemplated rearing queens for sale. Since I did not do so—the difference if any is on the other side. Excuse me, my friend Chase, but it is a fact, and I were to rear queens, I would breed from the best bees regardless of color or name. Remember that the Italians have been bred up and the Blacks let to run down. Who else has tried the different races of bees alone for honey, side by side. I would like to hear from you. Perhaps in my case the locality makes this wide difference of opinion, or experience. Let us hear from other localities, where bees are raised for honey alone. The advice in regard to hives is good, but no one must expect the hive to make the honey, it is getting the bees where they can be handled to the best advantage that brings success to beekeepers. I think I can get a little ahead of the quotation from Gleanings. From sixty-three colonies in the spring, I took 7,200 pounds of honey nearly all comb—an average of 112 pounds per colony—there were a few swarms that made but little which brought the average down below where it would otherwise have been, and had I run for extracted honey the average would have been much greater. I use the simplicity hive. Most certainly our markets will be supplied with Oregon honey and not only that but every farmer can supply the household with the purest sweet, without buying sugar. All kinds of fruit may be put up in honey caned, preserved and jellied, if the honey is nice, and the flavor will be fine. Honey can be used in pie, and cake making also, try it. Ments cured where sugar is used is better by using good honey, try it. E. S. Brooks.

A FRIENDLY WORD.

In these hard times we cannot afford to lose a name off our list and do not wish to annoy subscribers by demands for pay, but the plain truth is that back dues on our list now amount to thousands of dollars and we cannot do without it.

An easy way to pay dues and one too, that will greatly benefit us and cost you nothing, is to get four new names at \$1.50 each and get your own free as a premium, and we aim to make advertisers pay as much as we can towards expenses and so reduce the price of subscription.

You can do us a favor while you earn your paper free. So, if you will try to get four new names—a club of four—write and tell us and you can send names as you get them. We will keep the account.

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Potato Pudding.—Five eggs, one-fourth pound of butter, the juice and rind of two lemons, one pint of milk, one cup of white sugar, and three fair sized potatoes. Boil the potatoes until thoroughly done, then mash through a colander with the butter. Beat the whites and the yolks separately, and stir the yolks in with the butter and potatoes. Then add the sugar, milk, and the juice and rind of the lemons. Beat well together and lastly add the whites of the eggs.

For general jobbing and repairing go to P. J. Armstrong & Co., at A. Kelly's old stand on Commercial street. Wagons and buggies for sale at Eastern prices made by themselves.

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