

WITH THE MALHEUR COUNTY FARMERS

In the Realm of the HONEY BEE

By L. G. KLINCKENBERG
State Deputy Bee Inspector

SWARMS AND CONTROL

There are several reasons why bees swarm and sometimes from the beekeepers point of view there is a time when they will swarm when they do not have any apparent reason.

In the spring they swarm if the weather is alternately cloudy and sultry as they have to stay in the hives and think they have to swarm to thin out. Sometimes they swarm when their intentions are to supersede. The old queen gets excited when there are a couple of queen cells in the hive, (they have two to four when they want to supersede) and she lays very fast for a short period. This works the bees into a swarm fever and they will then swarm. The natural way for them to do in supersede is to let the young queen hatch and take the place of the old queen. Sometimes the young queen kills the old and sometimes they live in the same hive until the old queen dies. (This is the only time two queens are ever in a hive at one time.) Now the way to control this tendency is to have a good stock of young queens not over two years old.

The next thing is to look at the bees about every ten days and give them plenty of room. This can be done by dividing up, that is give some of the bees in the strong hives to some that are weaker. This makes for an even amount of bees in each hive and the work of caring for them in the honey flow much easier.

If bees are neglected and they get crowded with honey they will fix up a dozen or more queen cells and the queen will place an egg in them and when the time come she will leave the hive with a bunch of her family. Often this condition just before leaving the hive she will lay another bunch of eggs in queen cells and there will be some "after swarms." That is, some of the younger queens will leave with a bunch. Sometimes these "after swarms" are not much bigger than your fist. This is not only unprofitable to keep, but the parent hive is so weakened that it will not make enough honey to pay for keeping it. This is another case where the beekeeper should give them more room.

The time when they swarm is, without apparent reason, it seems to me, that the stock of bees have become run out and need building up. The way to remedy this is to have some new queens shipped in from some reliable bee breeder.

One more reason I can think of is the presence of an abundance of drone comb in the hive. The queens like to lay in this kind of cone (why I cannot say) when the workers are getting some honey and pollen and when these drones hatch they seem to work up the swarm fever.

A way to check the swarming is to clip the queen, but if the hive is neglected until some of the young ones hatch they will leave and take a larger bunch than the old one would leave the hive in a very weak condition.

Good beekeepers have very few swarms. (Next week—Spring work, in the bees)

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MALHEUR COUNTY GRANGE CALENDAR

BOULEVARD GRANGE John Lienhard, Master	Cairo
2nd. and 4th. Thursdays 8:30 p. m.	
BIG BEND GRANGE H. R. Hatch, Master	Wade Schoolhouse
1st. and 3rd. Tuesdays 8:00 p. m.	
OREGON TRAIL GRANGE William DeGruft, Master	Oregon Trail Schoolhouse
2nd. and 4th. Tuesdays 8:30 p. m.	
VALE GRANGE Herb Purvis, Master	I. O. O. F. Hall
1st. and 3rd. Fridays 8:30 p. m.	
OREGON SLOPE GRANGE Lee Sonnet, Master	Park Schoolhouse
1st. and 3rd. Thursdays 8:00 p. m.	
HARPER-WESTFALL GRANGE Earl Flock, Master	Harper Schoolhouse
2nd. and 4th. Fridays 8:15 p. m.	
AROCK GRANGE Ted Hon, Master	Arock
2nd. and 4th. Saturdays 8:00 p. m.	
WILD ROSE GRANGE Edward Fountain, Master	Mt. View Schoolhouse
2nd. and 4th. Saturdays 8:00 p. m.	
EL DORADO GRANGE Floyd Howard, Master	Ironsides
2nd. and 4th. Fridays 9:00 p. m.	
SNAKE RIVER GRANGE Lee Webb, Master	Annex Schoolhouse
2nd. and 4th. Tuesdays 8:00 p. m.	
L. O. N. GRANGE Charles Falen, Master	Cow Creek Hall
1st. and 3rd. Fridays 8:00 p. m.	
KINGMAN GRANGE Dale Ashcraft, Master	Kingman Schoolhouse
2nd. and 4th. Mondays 8:30 p. m.	
WILLOW CREEK GRANGE P. M. Stoutenburg, Master	Willow Creek Schoolhouse
2nd. and 4th. Fridays 8:00 p. m.	
JAMIESON GRANGE Ray Garrison, Master	Jamieson Community
1st. and 3rd. Wednesdays 8:00 p. m.	
MALHEUR COUNTY POMONA GRANGE J. Edwin Johnson, Master	(Places advertised)
Four times yearly	

OREGON SLOPE GRANGE

By Mrs. C. A. Ketcham
Oregon Slope grange met Thursday, April 6 with a large attendance. M. B. Sonnet and George Johnson were reported on the sick list. During the meeting the agricultural chairman, C. A. Ketcham gave a report on the Oregon seed law and urged all to be sure and buy pure seed.

Mr. and Mrs. Ira Wren were obligated in the first and second degrees.

Eleven grangers and three non-grangers, hired a man with a tractor to plow 14 acres for Wm. Stummer, who is recuperating from an automobile accident.

The captains of the membership reported with the Brothers Union. At our next meeting April 20 the Sisters will put on the program and furnish the refreshments. The lecturer put on an Easter program during which there was an egg guessing contest which Bill Bosch won and an egg rolling contest which Mrs. C. A. Karst's side won.

Refreshments were served by Mr. and Mrs. Charlie Grace, Mrs. W. N. Grace and Mrs. Dora Vincent.

4-H HEALTH CLUB

The Oregon Trail 4-H Health club met at the Oregon Trail school house Monday, April 3. The members sang "Oregon My Oregon," lead by Mary Lou Thomason. Jack Marshall is to have a song for the next meeting.

The discussion was based upon "Knowing what foods are essential and try to get them every day."

The program committee consists of Jack Marshall, Mary Lou Thomason and Helen Shoop gave a program which follows "America the Beautiful," was sung by Lola Rookstool, Mildred Adams, Mary Lou Thomason and Bonnie Whipple. "Battle Hymn of the Republic," was sung by Cecil Whitman, Kenneth Davis, Lyle and Payne Conway. Poem "Johnnie's History Lesson," by Bernice Whipple. Piano solo by Mary Lou Thomason.

The meeting was held under the supervision of Albert Hopkins, local club leader.

Nyssa is the Bargain Center.

BOULEVARD GRANGE

Boulevard grange presented the traveling gavel at Jamieson Wednesday evening. Officers present were Master, John Lienhard, overseer, Vern Anderson, Steward, Elwood Hoffman, Gatekeeper, Leonard Goodell, assistant steward, Earl Weaver, lady asst. steward, Vera Weaver, secretary, Harriet Sears, treasurer, Frank Sherwood, lecturer, Helen Davis, Flora, Mary Fairman, Ceres, Mildred Anderson, Pomona, Frances Endicott, chaplain, Mary Bodmer.

Vern and Mildred Anderson and Frances Endicott were substitute officers for those unable to attend.

Others who attended from Boulevard were Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Hoffman, Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Fairman, Elmer Silkett, Violet Marshall, Agnes Jordan, Leonard and Walter Fairbanks, Wayne Harris, Mr. and Mrs. Alva Amidon, Mrs. A. D. Dearborn and Mrs. Irving Drexell.

Other granges being represented were Jamieson, Willow Creek, Brogan, Vale, Morning Star, and Boulevard. Morning Star is located near Albany, Ore. Boulevard had the largest attendance.

John Lienhard gave a very interesting talk on the sugar beet factory and growing of sugar beets.

J. Edwin Johnson of Vale gave a talk on Pomona grange, which will be held at Ironsides on April 22. Initiation work will be given then.

Mary Fairman gave a reading, Mrs. O. D. Dearborn sang two songs and group singing was enjoyed by all.

Jamieson will present the gavel at Endicott grange but the date will be announced later.

The H. E. C. held their last card party at the hall Saturday night, until in the fall, for the farmers are all very busy.

Those winning prizes were Helen Davis high, Mrs. Cliff Jordan low, John Lienhard high, and Frank Sherwood low, Mrs. Art Conner was awarded the traveling prize, Mrs. Earl Weaver, Mrs. Violet Marshall and Dr. Harriet Sears were hostesses.

In Parma—
A. A. Frits was a business visitor in Parma on Monday afternoon.

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POULTRY



---And Its Care
By WILEY CLOWERS

This week I'll try to give some suggestions as to the amount of grain to feed along with the starting and developing mash for chicks. Since most chickens in this locality are raised for the pullets for the winter laying flock, emphasis will be placed to their benefit.

For the past several years, many poultry men have followed the practice of feeding both sexes a fast growing ration really designed for early riddance of the broilers. Pullets thus raised are all to often soft and squab-like.

The unusually heavy weight of the pullet at eight weeks does not mean that she will weigh more at maturity than if she had grown less rapidly. She has an inherited weight which will sooner or later be reached on any reasonable ration. It is unsound management to grow pullets like mushrooms for a few months and then retard development by withholding nutrients necessary to normal growth.

The following table gives to average weights per chick in ounces at weekly intervals for properly fed Barred Plymouth Rock and White Leghorn chicks brooded at Oregon State college.

Weeks	Barred White	Rock Leghorn
0	1.20	1.21
1	2.01	1.91
2	3.36	2.98
3	6.80	6.50
4	4.88	4.39
5	6.80	6.50
6	8.90	7.89
8	18.40	17.60

In other words the growth is not "pushed" or "forced" but gradual allowing for firm flesh and good bone development.

Grain should constitute a liberal part of the pullets diet throughout life. Fowls have strong gizzards which can readily grind grains when aided by hard insoluble grit. In proportion to its digestibility, grain is the cheapest feed that can be given to growing pullets.

At least one-third of the total feed consumed by 8 weeks old pullets should be scratch grain.

This proportion may be increased as pullets grow older, by encouraging consumption of plump, palatable, oats in addition to the developing mash or pellets, and scratch grains.

Pullets raised on liberal grain ration take a longer time to develop but mortality after production starts is usually lower, bodies are larger, eggs are bigger, and the production cost is less than in pullets fed into early maturity.

Liberal feeding of scratch grains along with a chick mash starter of approximately 17 per cent protein is a wiser practice to employ from the time chicks learn to eat than to force exclusive mash consumption for several weeks.

In the March 23rd issue of this paper you will find scratch grain formulas under this column.

STOCK AND GRAIN MARKETS

(Editor's Note: The following market information is supplied from material obtained over the Government leased market wire in the office of the extension economist at Oregon state college. The material is in the form of a weekly summary of trends in the livestock market and is not intended to replace spot day by day market reports.)

Cattle Markets

Trading on the north Portland livestock market Monday, was quite active. Prices in the cattle division advanced 25 cents over a week previous with the bulk of fed steers moving at \$8.50 to \$9.15 and one car at \$9.50 a hundred. These prices are practically the same as a month earlier and around a dollar a hundred higher than a year ago.

The better grades of steers at Chicago were around 50 cents lower than they were early in March but medium and lower grades are practically unchanged. As compared with a year ago prices at Chicago were sharply higher with greatest gains appearing on top grades of heavy steers, those classes being around \$3 more than a year previous.

Sheep and Lambs

The lamb market at north Portland came through the unsettled situation of April 3 to 8 with gains of 25 to 35c reported for Monday. Good to choice woolled lambs were \$8.50 and above while shorn old-crop lambs brought \$7.25 to \$7.85. A few medium spring lambs sold at \$8.75. The general level of prices on old-crop lambs is about the same as a month ago but 50c higher than a year ago.

A break of 50c in lamb prices at Chicago the previous week was largely recovered when good to choice offerings Monday were quoted up to \$10.40. This was around \$1.50 more than a year earlier.

With this advance in prices, direct and contract buying in California for future delivery became very slow. Carlot shipments of lambs from the principal feeding areas continued to lag behind those of a year ago. For the week ending April 5 only 373 cars were loaded from northern Colorado, Arkansas Valley, Scottsbluff, and San Luis Valley and Western Slope. This is 200 cars less than the corresponding week last year and about 100 less than the same week two years ago. Since January shipments from the areas have totaled 4185 cars or nearly 1000 less than during the corresponding period in 1938.

Reports indicate that there are still about 550,000 lambs for shipment from these feeding areas which amount is approximately the same as was available a year previous.

Hog Markets

A decline of around 50c occurred in the hog market at north Portland Monday when good to choice light butchers brought mostly \$7.00. Markets at San Francisco and Chicago were likewise unsettled at prices approximately \$1 lower than a month previous and \$1.50 to \$2 less than a year previous.

The downward trend in hog prices throughout the country during the past year when prices of the result of a marked increase in hog population. On January 1, 1939, the number of hogs on farm in the United States was estimated at five million head more than a year previous. As hogs on farms January 1 are chiefly spring and fall pigs, which normally are marketed by the end of the summer, it seems likely that hog slaughter during the spring and summer will continue relatively heavy.

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In December farmers indicated a substantial increase in the number of sows to farrow this spring and with a continued favorable corn-hog ratio, since their intentions were declared, these plans seem likely to materialize, and if so, market supplies for the winter may also be quite heavy. Of course, much depends upon the size of the feed crop this summer.

MITCHELL BUTTE

Mrs. Savage who for the past week has been visiting Mr. Tom Lowe has left for Nampa. Friday was sale day. Earnie Smith sold five young hogs and two sheep, Clyde Mitchell sold a heifer calf.

Albert McGinnis is able to be up a little. Richard started back to school Monday. Sharon June is a little better. Lois is in bed with a bad cold, and Mrs. Donald McGinnis is in bed with the flu.

Callen Connaughey is sick with the flu.

Mr. and Mrs. Harold Fivecoat were callers in Nampa Wednesday afternoon.

Howard Connaughey was kicked in the face by a colt he was trying to brake last week but no serious injury resulted.

Mrs. E. B. Smith and children, Mr. and Mrs. Virgil Packer and children, Mrs. Clyde Mitchell and Loretta and Mr. and Mrs. Harold Fivecoat and Larry attended Sunday school at Owyhee Easter.

Mr. and Mrs. Harold Fivecoat and Larry, Mr. and Mrs. Virgil Packer were Sunday dinner guests at the Chas. Davis home in Oregon Trail.

Miss Aileen Talbot entertained at dinner Sunday for Ewen Chard and family of Oregon Trail and E. B. Smith and family and Leo Chard.

Mrs. Clyde Mitchell attended the party given for the old members of the Merry Matrons club at Oregon Trail.

Mrs. Houston Dunaway, Charline, Linville and Ellen McConnell were Boise visitors Wednesday.

James Wall is visiting his grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Tom Lowe during his spring vacation.

Mr. and Mrs. Don Linville and boys were dinner guests at the Donald McGinnis home Wednesday.

Lois McGinnis was a week end guest of her cousin Virginia Mae Jarvis of Adrian.

Clyde Mitchell attended the sale at Nyssa Saturday afternoon.

Carl Dunaway spent his spring vacation at San Francisco.

Rescues Purse—
Mrs. L. A. Cunningham and Mrs. Harold Bayer were bus passengers to Ontario on Saturday. When leaving the bus they found a purse lying upon the opposite seat and immediately gave it to the driver who in turn recognized it as the property of an elderly gentleman who was even then some distance from the bus. He was however able to overtake the passenger and return his lost property to him.

NIMBLE FINGER 4-H CLUB

The meeting was held on April 1 at the B. F. Rookstool home with Ruth Scatts and Peggy Chard social leaders. Seven members were present.

Refreshments were served at the close of the meeting.

We met at the Joe Stam home to practice our play on April 7. We will have a style review, play on "How is Your Manners," a song acted out, a pep song, reading and several other numbers at the last day of school picnic at Oregon Trail All other 4-H clubs will take part. It is free of charge and everyone is welcome.

Matron Recovers—

Mrs. Ruth Brooks is able to be out again after a months illness at her home.

Sons Return—

Boyd, son of Mr. and Mrs. Burdall Brown who had been at home from Moscow on a ten days spring vacation left again on Sunday evening to resume his studies at the Idaho university.

On the same day his brother, Lewis returned to Nyssa from Lewiston, Idaho, where he had visited with Mrs. Brown's sister during the vacation period.

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