

Agriculture

Bees

The success of bee culture in this county is not only assured but is getting to be quite an industry.

Mr. Chas. Lee, who lives near Yakima city, has sixty nine swarms and he brings great quantities of honey to the city for sale.

His boxes are well filled and the honey is of a delicious flavor, the bees drawing their sweetness from the alfalfa meadows.

Mr. Lee figures on getting 100 pounds of honey per swarm this year which is his first and to greatly increase the yield hereafter.

Mr. Kunz, a neighbor of Mr. Lee, has two swarms that yielded 240 pounds each and from four swarms he took 800 pounds--Yakima Herald, August 20, 1891.

ees

There will be a convention of bee keepers held at the office of J.G. Lawrence in the court house Saturday afternoon, September 15, for the purpose of organization and mutual benefit.

It is desired that every bee keeper in the county be present and that an association will be formed which will do much to advance this growing industry--Yakima Herald, September 13, 1894.

Bees

The state of Washington Beekeepers association was organized with eleven charter members.

J.W. Beck was elected president; Charles Lee vice president; Orlando Beck, secretary; L.C. Brown, assistant secretary and Isaac Hays, treasurer--Yakima Herald, Feb. 21, 1895.

A number of the leading beekeepers met in Beck's hall on First street Saturday and still further perfected the organization of which John P. Berg is president and Calvin Fulkerson secretary.

There are now eight members of the organization and it is hoped that at the next meeting, March 23rd, all that who are interested in the bee industry, no matter if they only have a few colonies, will be present to listen to the discussions.

On this occasion the organization will be completed and the subject, "The Necessary Condition for Producing Honey" will be taken up.

A few queens are missing. Isaac Hayes finding four absentees out of 94 colonies. Mr. Lee also found one dead swarm. J.P. Berg, the president of the association is a veteran beekeeper and fully up in that knowledge which is essential to success. He is the possessor of 75 colonies which he brought here from Michigan--Yakima Herald, March 14, 1895.

Beekeepers throughout Central Washington have had a successful season, many swarms producing as high as 144 pounds of honey, while the average is placed at from 80 to 100 pounds.

Alfalfa is pronounced an excellent producer of honey and the industry in the central portion of the state promises to develop to good proportions--West Coast Trade, Oct. 22, 1896.

The bee industry is growing very rapidly in Yakima county and it is estimated that there are now 2,000 colonies scattered about the various valleys.

Mr. Henry Pressey sold the other day 3000 pound cards or frames to one man and when questioned about the industry he stated that it was becoming quite a factor in the prosperity of this city section and that there was more engaging in it than ever before.

Asked regarding the principal producers and the colonies handled he said he had no definite information but gave the following approximate statement:

Charles Lee 100 colonies; Shanks 100; Rigg 100; Wilder 100; Berg 100; Si Woolsey 60; Hess 50; Shannon 50; Watt 30; Traynor 40; Lem Brown 60; Chamberlin 30- Yakima Herald, May 27, 1917.

Charles Lee furnishes some interesting facts to The Herald regarding the bee industry which has increased 000 in six years from about a dozen to 4,000 colonies.

This year has been an especially favorable one. At Mr. Lee's home yard his colonies increased from 84 to 119 and on the 8th of June he took off 70 gallons of honey, equal to 40 supers whereas last year he took off his first super on July 1.

In 1896 Lee & Son shipped 7,000 pounds of honey to Spokane and points east and sold 3,000 pounds for home consumption.

There is no market to the west on account of competition from California, the transportation cost of the California product to the sound cities being onlye one-twentieth of what it is from Yakima.

Lee & Son handle 314 colonies having the bees of Messrs Sanford, Weikel and George Stephenson on shares.

Last year Mr. Lee's spring count was 47 pounds to the colony.

Among others who are largely interested in bee culture are J.P. Burg with 135 colonies; Isaac Hays, 140; Si Woolsey 65; Lem Brown, 60; Mr. Shanks, 45; Cornett & Watt 50; Mr. Carn of Snipes Mountain 70 and J.H. Conrad, 20--Yakima Herald, June 17, 1897.

The beekeepers of Yakima are much disturbed by the appearance of what they term "foul brood," in some of their hives. A few prominent beekeepers met at the court house last Saturday to take measures to secure legislation looking to the extermination of the pests by destroying or burning the hives that are infected. An adjourned meeting will be held next Wednesday at the office of Representative Englehart--Yakima Herald, Dec. 22, 1898.

The beekeepers' association in this city last Saturday was attended by about a dozen interested apiarists who were enthusizstic about the project of forming a state organization for the advancement of their mutual interests in many directions, not the least of which is the securing of supplies in large lots at greatly redu ed prices to the members of the association.

A temporary organization was effected by the election of J.W. Thornton, president; Mrs. B.J. Cole, secretary and Mrs. Susan Thornton, treasurer.

It was decided to limit the membership to those actually engaged in raising bees and producing honey and a resolutio was adopted making eligible to membership only those who have at least 25 colonies of bees.

The names of those who formed the association follow: J.P. Berg, Anson S. White, H.H. Cole, Virgil Sires, J.W. Thornton, B.J. Cole, Robert Long, Mrs. Walter Griffiths, Mrs. B.J. Cole and Mrs. Susan Griffiths-pThe Yakima Herald, Oct. 12, 1904.

Indications are that there will be shipped out of this city before the end of the season in the neighborhood of ten carloads of honey. Besides this large quantities of honey are produced for consumption here and in the neighboring towns

James W. Thornton who has 300 colonies of bees says the season is at its height and the prospects for a great honey yield are excellent.

Mr. Thornton has about a dozen colonies at his Fruktvale ranch where he raises queens to supply the colonies in the alfalfa fields--The Yaki Herald, July 22, 1908.

Election of officers at the fourth annual meeting of the Yakima County Beekeepers' association in the Commercial club rooms this afternoon resulted in the choice of Harry N. Paul of Mabton as president, D.H. Pierce of Sunnyside was chose vice president and J.O. Kane of Parker was reelected secretary-treasurer.

Fifteen beemen from all p ts of the county attended the meeting which was presided over by M.J. Leak of Naches, retiring vice president in the absence of J.B. Ramage, retiring president who was unable to be present because of illness.

Question of where to hold the meetings caused considerable discussion. It was declared by some of the members that most of the beekeepers live in the lower valley and that some of the towns down there are more central than Yakima.

Among beekeepers present were J.B. Espy of White Swan, Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Worth of Wapato, C.W. Higgins of Wapato, W.D. Rose of Sunnyside, Mrs. Virgil Sires of Yakima and Harold Cissna of Yakima, The Yakima Daily Republic March 28, 1925.

Wenatchee, July 30-A shortage of 6,000,000 lady bugs was reported this spring by Clark Turnner, ladybug kin who is conducting a new industry in North Central Washington, that of furnishing ladybugs to orchardists.

Despite the hard winter on ladybugs Turnner sold nearly 3,000,000 this spring. They are gathered in the higher regions of the Cascades and in certain crevices are very thick.

The red coated little insects are shipped to the fruit ranches and planted about 1,000 to the acre. Breeding several times during the season they multiply very rapidly and are a natural enemy of the green and woolly aphids peach tree louse and other orchard pests..Yakima Republic, July 30, 1925.