ANTS VS BEES.

A Practical Beekeeper Gives Some Hints on the Latest Pest and Its Remedy.

Correspondence Deseret News.

SALT LAKE CITY, Sept. 1, 1893.

Many good points have been brought out through the agitation of this ant question. They have come as a new enemy or pest to the beekeepers in some localities, within the last two or three years; hence some of our beekeepers have lost many of their bees before they woke up to the fact that the ants were injuring their bees. Out of about two hundred beekeepers that I have visited this summer I have found ants in from 20 to 25 places and in a few places they were very troublesome. I visited one man three times and not until the ants had destroyed more than half of his bees could I convince him of the bees they were making; but he is now keeping them off, so I have, and he says that the bees are getting along all right.

While I have not been able to find anything yet that will exterminate them entirely, I have succeeded in keeping them from the hives by making stands to set the hives on. If the ground is nearly level, I take six posts about a foot long with three cross pieces and two long sanding for each stand, then I paint a two inch ring around each post. I first used tar but it dries too quick. Now, after many experiments, after pulling on two or three coats of tar to form a body, I used a mixture of about 2-10 tar, 3-10 grease, 2-10 tar and a little over 1-10 white lead. The ants won't go over this—it will keep off a million as easy as one. After it has had two or three coats it will keep them off five or six weeks sometimes without renewing. If it is very hot and there is little or no shade, add a little more tar and white lead. Since I have used this mixture I have not had any bees with ants except once in a while one that they may settle on the ground, if they once get hold of a bee they never let go while there is any life left.

Then ants have been having things pretty much their own way long enough. We have a few red ants, also some large flying ones, but it is these little black pests that are a terror to our bees. One kind is less than 1-8 of an inch long, the other is about 3-16 of an inch. I have hear that some one wrote to one of our bee papers, sometime ago, that the ants did not injure the bees because the bee carried them off. This is a mistake. While it is true that the bee often flies off with the ant, the journey ends in the death of the bee, while the insignificant little villain that gets a free ride is ready for action wherever he may land. Some people think the bees have a tendency to spread the ants in this way. One thing is certain—when they once get started in a hive they seem chosen out the bees if they are left alone, and they have a picnic carrying off the money. Of course each ant carries but a small load, but they generally get force enough to make short work of it.

While I have millions of ants left yet that I would be glad to dispose of at any price, I do not think that I have ever one-tenth as many as I had last year. I have tried a great many things that I have seen in print, such as poisoning and so forth. I have caught a great many with honey and water; but the ill-natured ones like it and crowd in the pan or pail, while the ants, being of a greedy and pugnacious nature, as they run around the pail, never miss a chance to make a dash at the fly; but they miss the fly and their hold at the same time. I have caught a mess of ants half an inch thick this way, also many yellow-jackets and moths.

There has been a great deal of complaint this year by some of our beekeepers of the destruction caused by these yellow-jackets or wasps, and also of the moth. Neither of these pests can do any harm if the swarms of bees are all strong; especially if the entrance to the hive is curtailed to about three-fourths or an inch. I had a weak swarm, the first of any which were attacked by these yellow jackets. I saw that the latter were getting the best of the fight. When I examined the hive I found the bees had a feeble worker but no queen. I stuck them into another hive, then the yellow jackets tried their best to get into the other hives but without success. The few that did succeed in getting in were soon killed and carried out again.

The only advantage the yellow-jackets have is that they get around earlier in the morning than the bees, but if the bees are strong they will soon get rid of them.

But return to the ants again! I have had the best success with boiling water and burning with coal oil; stacked time and coal ashes are good to spread around to keep the ants away from the vicinity of the hives. While we have ants here in Utah our friend Dayton, of California, knocks us out entirely, both for size and quantity. We gracefully surrender our claim and wish Mr. Dayton success in his efforts to exterminate them.

E. S. LOVESY.

HOME DRESSMAKING.

A SHORT, STOUT PERSON THE HARDEST TO FIT.

The Waist For a Slender Person—How to Make Different Styles of Waists—Fastenings Back and In Front—Cutting the Evening Gowns.

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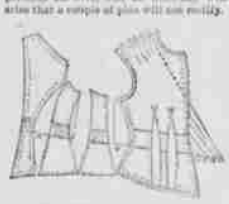
In cutting patterns the beginner will find it rather difficult to draft for persons whose figures consist of the usual proportions—for instance, one that is short and stout being the hardest of all figures to fit. So when the dressmaker has to make a waist for such a person, the latter way is to draft a diagram, with the bust and waist measure as the only guides, and then measure the length of the waist under the arm and draw a line around the waist to the right length and measurer inch wide. Then draw another parallel, exactly parallel, where waist line follows and lay this to side, and set the intervening space out, bringing the bottom up to the upper line, and the waist will then be in proper proportion as above, and an difficulty will arise that a couple of pins will not readily.



METHOD OF DRAFTING PATTERNS.

The diagram shows the two lines between which to cut, and whatever is cut out should be taken from the outer center. This diagram shows an allowance for fastening them behind. If one then only is used, let it be taken from the middle, and the proportions of the whole will remain unchanged.

When the waist is for a very slender person, the outer back should be cut down and enough taken off to bring it to nearly the right width, and half an inch should be cut off both sides of back side back and side front pieces.

The darts should not be cut in so deep, and the whole front is narrowed by taking off from one-half an inch to as much as is necessary on the front and also on the sides and arm seam.

Once the dressmaker has drafted a well proportioned diagram it is better to follow it, making some changes are necessary to adapt it to different figures.

The proper way to cut the waists and trying on the goods and then fitting it by pinning it in is as old as dressmaking itself, and no matter how adjustable a "system" may be made to look by means of tin or wire supports the waist has to be fitted from the inner.

When the waist is made for a very slender person, it can be made to take a generous form by inserting a piece of wigan or tailor's buckram across the back part, basting it up in the darts and quilting it into the lining. This will hold the waist out sufficiently full to give it a graceful shape without being cumbrous or too warm. Habits are made this way very often.

When the over waist, before the dressmaker's hands is to be cut short and round, it should be cut off at the lower line on the diagram and finished under a belt or with a smooth edge, as is preferred.

If a waist is to be a gathered French or shoemaker style the front under arm piece is omitted, and the front parts are cut off at the waist line and extended out under the arm, following the line marked x, and so darts are cut in the outside, though if desired the lining can be fitted with darts and the outside gathered down.

For a French waist or blouse only three pieces are required, the two fronts and the back, which is all one and can be cut by laying back and side back pieces together and following the line marked x, which gives the required fullness. If the dress is for a slender person, the back part should not be so wide and can be cut down the center of the side back to the waist line and square to center of back. There should be no seam in the center of the back, which should be cut length wise of the cloth.

To make a surplice waist the goods should be gathered onto the shoulders, as marked with O, and drawn across the bust to the left side, leaving the neck V shaped. The left side fastens at the closing line, with the buttons or hooks and eyes. The fastening is not seen, and the folds on the left side are arranged in the same way, coming from the shoulders. The belt for the pointed left laps accurate over on the left side about four inches. The surplice waist is one of the prettiest, particularly for summer goods, and slender figures, but it must be draped either on the person or on a fit figure which is not so easy done from the person, as the folds cross, be arranged so that as soon as the belt is fastened they will fall naturally into place. They cannot be tacked or fastened except at shoulder and waist. Surplice fronts have plain gathered backs.

In gathering French waists the gathers should not reach under the arm, but all the space under the arm that would be cropped by the side pieces should be left plain.

In cutting or diagramming for evening gowns the dressmaker must diagram first for a bodice, which is the fundamental principle of all waists, and then cut out the top as desired—V shaped, round, square, heart shape or square neck—first marking about where it is to be cut and allowing it at least two inches higher than it is to be cut final. The neck should never be cut to finish until fitted on. Dressing for the coiffure makes it appear lower than it really is. Puffed sleeves of tulle, lace or silken gauze make it appear higher. Pointed waists look more slender, but round ones are better preferred last year.

To build a waist for one in the back the figure must be set in lining form and sewed together and carefully fitted, after which the muslin can be put on and should be tried on again until all the wrinkles shown. The back seams are not so neat here the muslin up more, as the boning usually do. If extra bones are needed, there must be a place which lays nearly at least two inches of the same goods, so that if the cords break no gap is seen. Hooks and eyes have other faults the under side, and the lacing is more flexible. The back must be strongly boned when it closes in front and. Yet elastic is pretty for evening and now come different.

OLIVE HARPER.

Disinfecting Sand Wastes.

It is probable that the next century will witness all along the blackest, shortest parts of the Atlantic coast covered with pines and vegetation to the water's edge. What can be done in this direction is apparent at the seaside hotels. An area covered by barren beach of drifting sand is altered as the site of a seaside resort. Nothing could be more unpromising than this sand, so far as producing any beauty of vegetation is concerned, yet in very few years grass, flower plots, vines and trees cover the leveled off sand hills, and picturesque grounds that are a thing of beauty surround the hotel.

As the country is more closely settled, it will be necessary to convert sand wastes into vegetable gardens and woodlands. Science has already shown the world how this can be accomplished. On the southwest French coast villages were formerly swallowed up by drifting sands, driven by fierce winds. More and more of the country became covered with dunes, till it seemed as if the whole coast for several miles inland would be eventually abandoned to the sand dunes. Six hundred miles of coast line were then rendered barren. Then the government took measures to stop the desolation. Piles of wooden shelters and brush were laid along the coast in a line. The sand drifted into these and was caught, in time making a dam well and covering the brush. Then other timbers and branches were laid upon the first one, and again the sands blew over and among them and made a fixed wall, 40 feet yet. The dunes were laid about 300 feet from the water's edge.

In time a line of mound reaching along the whole coast was found. It sloped toward the sea gently, but more steeply toward the land side. Hardy grass and plants that would grow in sand were sown upon the slopes. Something behind the wall forest trees were planted, and in time the vegetation became so firmly fixed as any in France, and the settlers were no longer swallowed up by sand. This began in 1787. The whole northwest coast is now covered with a fine growth of valuable forest trees.

Natural Bread.

A new notion is that yeast bread is not healthful to put into the human stomach. But there is one food that many millions of human beings use as bread the year round, and we have no record that one of them ever had dyspepsia. That food is the banana. With the millions who use it as bread it is like the colored brother's opossum—"good for to bake and good for to fry," as well as to eat raw. There are two principal varieties—the one to be eaten raw, the other cooked. The fruit that comes to us is of the kinds to be eaten in its natural state, though when cut in slices and fried crisp in butter it makes a dish most palatable.

The banana is of the lily family of plants and in itself contains all the elements necessary to sustain life, which is more than can be said of either wheat or potatoes. Further, the ground that will grow 25 pounds of wheat or 99 pounds of potatoes will produce 400 pounds of bananas. The dark eyed son of Italy who eats the natural bread through the streets is therefore fully justified in singing as he receives, "Changa banana, cosia piera."

Finally, if you want a dish this hot weather that is eminently filling for the money and palatable as filling, slice into a deep dish some ripe bananas that have been in the ice chest several hours. Sugar them to taste and pour over them a pint fruit juice that you yourself expressed. With pineapple juice over them they will be a feast fit for the angels.

Unless some smart city is about to incorporate Turtle will have the next World's fair. Warned by the example of Chicago, she has given herself plenty of time to prepare. Her exposition will come off in 1896.

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