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Bill's hiving off a painkiller

by ALEXANDER KENWORTHY

BEEKEEPER Bill Flynn believes his 20 million bees are making life easier for arthritis sufferers after accidentally finding a dramatic improvement in his daughter's condition.

It happened when Jennifer, an arthritis victim since childhood, was given the resin propolis which bees collect from trees to seal their hives.

Propolis was only recog-

nised as a treatment for wounds and sore throats—until 65-year-old Mr. Flynn made the discovery three years ago.

Mr. Flynn, who has 400 hives around Longfield, Kent, is now marketing the propolis in capsule form to thousands of customers.

So Mr. Flynn buys supplies from members of the 400-strong Bee Farmers Association, has it refined and sells

the capsules for £5.40 a hundred.

"All my sales come through personal recommendations from people who have benefited," said Mr. Flynn, a beekeeper for 35 years.

"They say it eases the pain of arthritis and improves mobility.

"I am now exporting supplies to America, Germany, the Channel Islands and Ireland."