

is a rule give as good underground cellar well-labeled. Bees were reared earlier than usual this year because of the excessive heat, in order to keep them in the cellars. This year, by giving a proper temperature, the chief difficulties in cellars on warm days in March were to set the bees out, then to remove unprotected hives of bad weather after they were ready to winter bees in order to pack and shelter them before setting them out. This year, if bee-keepers will not mind packing them in summer stands in October, the more northerly

what extenuating circumstances may have been in some degree that many who unpacked their hives seems no reason why they were packed on their stands and exposed to the influence of April and the first killing cases should be avoided or could be put in the store if it is unpacked. In hives in the wintering. If the cases are individual, has some advantages, but are in a case it is possible, both from the convenience of handling, and of disease which may be kept in some of the Ontario is greatly clinging to these and a single honey crop pay for convenient

partment of Agriculture is spending \$3,000 this year in a continuation of the fight against Foul Brood. There are sixteen district inspectors in the field and their reports show that there is plenty of work for them to do. All suspected apiaries are being visited first, and any bee-keepers wishing to clear up doubts as to the presence of this disease in their neighborhoods should send word to the Department of Agriculture at an early date. It is quite natural that those who send a special request for the services of the inspector will be more apt to get them than those who do not.

The report on the races of bees shows far too great a percentage of black or German bees kept throughout the province. While these bees have many good qualities they are no better than the Italians in any respect except possibly in the whiteness of capping on comb honey, and they are a sure prey to the European Foul Brood which has swept so disastrously over many parts of the United States and has done great damage in some parts of Ontario. It is impossible to cure this dread disease so well in any except Italian bees. On this account, as well as for other reasons, we would urge strongly that all apiaries in Ontario be Italianized as soon as possible.

All kinds of hives are used, from the "barn" down through the list of the twelve-frame, ten-frame, eight-frame Langstroth, the Jones, Richardson, Gallup, Quinby and home-made. Only one man was brave enough to say he used box hives, and the number of combs, he said, was "Goodness knows how many, I don't." After all, the kind of hive for one to use is the kind he has the best success with, but when one is just starting or is seeking uniformity of fixtures there seems nothing to gain and much to lose by adopting a hive which is a little different from everything under the sun.

The chief difficulties which bee-keepers have can be summed up in the two great problems of apiculture—swarm control

and wintering. In many cases the trouble is summed up in the words of one man who said his chief difficulty was to "get the old woman to watch for swarms." The interest that is taken in this problem of swarm control is shown by the fact that when the Department of Bee-keeping at the Ontario Agricultural College sent out notices that instructions would be supplied to all who cared to conduct an experiment in the control of swarming, more than three hundred and twenty-five men and women from every county in Ontario, and from other Provinces from the Atlantic to the Pacific, made application for the circular of instructions on this important subject.

A great many stated that they had not time to give the bees attention because their busy time came at the same time as the heavy work on the farm. The solution to this difficulty is to have plenty of store combs and supers. Stack these on the hives from time to time as needed, and systematically keep the bees busy and contented, so they will not think of wanting to swarm, then neither the "old woman" nor the old man will be worried getting the swarms down from high trees or seeing them go to the woods.

The wintering problem needs to be just as carefully studied. No colony ever dies without a definite cause, which should be carefully sought out and prevented next time. Plenty of good stores, good queens, warm packing, shelter from winds, all these and many others are factors in successful wintering. If the bees are always prepared for the hardest kind of winter they will get through the easy ones all right.

Prospects are right for prices this year as the markets are bare and honey has become a staple which dealers look for regularly.

[We have pleasure in reproducing the above report of Mr. Pettit. The statistical tables accompanying the report we have omitted for lack of space. We highly commend Mr. Pettit's suggestions on feeding and wintering.—Ed.]