

feature of them is that in the even-numbered years the crop is good in the Dry Belt, while in the odd-numbered years the Wet Belt has its turn. If the past conditions hold good, the bee-keepers of the Lower Fraser have a good prospect ahead of them for 1919.

WINTER STORES.

The outlook for wintering is good. Stores were of excellent quality and the weather has been mild, so bees should be in good condition when the season opens in March. The one need, then, for quick breeding-up is plenty of stores, as at least 1 lb. of honey a day is needed for the brood at this season of the year, and very little is being brought in. In an average hive it takes about 20 lb. to winter a hive from the middle of September until the middle of March, but the bees will consume just as much from the middle of March to the middle of April; hence it is not stores for winter alone one leaves in the fall, but stores for winter and spring, the latter being the most important.

FOUL-BROOD SITUATION.

American foul-brood is apparently well in hand. During 1918 it was found in three apiaries in the Okanagan region, in one in the Kootenay country, and in seven in the Vancouver District. A very virulent form of European foul-brood has appeared in Surrey, where forty-five apiaries were found affected, and in the region round Vancouver in thirty-three apiaries. These were treated mostly by dequeening, then requeening with Italian stock in twenty-one days. European foul-brood spreads very rapidly, making jumps for which no explanation has so far been found. It is much easier to control than American foul-brood, but unless taken in hand at once will soon wipe out the bees of a district. The day for easy-going bee-keeping in the Lower Fraser region is now past; each bee-keeper from now on must attend regularly to his bees or go out of the industry. He must be a first-class bee-keeper or nothing.

MOVEMENTS OF BEES.

To-day we have in the Province about six times the number of bee-keepers there were in 1911, and that means there was a very free movement of hives during the past eight years, with the natural consequence that foul-brood has had every opportunity to be spread into all regions. To prevent as far as possible the dissemination of disease by this means, the Government passed an Order in Council prohibiting the movement of bees unless they had been inspected and found free from foul-brood within a period of not more than thirty days. Any bee-keeper, therefore, who wishes to move or sell bees must apply for a permit to the Department of Agriculture to the local Inspector, who will examine the hives at the earliest possible moment.

HONEY EXHIBITS AT VANCOUVER.

The third exhibit held by the Bee-keepers' Association of British Columbia at the Vancouver Exhibition again proved worth while. A new feature was the quick sale for members of many tons of honey by the association sales-agent to wholesale houses. The association expects to supervise the honey exhibits at New Westminster and Victoria in 1919 as well as those of Vancouver.

The mild winter indicates a big demand for bee supplies in 1919; a list of dealers can be supplied on application to the Department of Agriculture at Victoria.

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