

when hiving some more swarms which came off.

I felt somewhat doubtful as to the probable result, but found at the next examination that in every instance the foundation below the brood had been drawn into beautiful straight combs, excepting that they tapered off from top to bottom and were not fastened to the bottom bar. I next put the brood chamber down, the lower body on top, and a super of drawn combs as a third storey, the object being to get the combs from foundation fastened down and the brood-nest established in them, with the view of eliminating any combs containing drone cells by again reversing the position of the lower and centre bodies later on, and inserting a queen-excluder between them.

As to the number of all worker combs obtained from starters, I had on the average eight out of every ten. Where a young queen was introduced at the time of hiving almost no drone comb was built.

Now I do not advocate this as a good plan, but mention it to show what is a good method one season is not necessarily so in another. I have on a previous occasion hived several swarms on starters and found three weeks later no combs had been built, and there was no brood, while others hived on drawn combs at the same time had established a fair brood-nest in them.

For the average season I find the best plan is to hive swarms on clear drawn combs with an empty body underneath, in which they can hang in a cluster. They may build a little comb on the bottom bars of the frames, but this they will soon neglect. In a week or so I put a set of full sheets on top and withdraw the empty box from below. It is natural for bees to hang in a cluster for some days after swarming, and when given this opportunity they are less inclined to turn

out—that is to say, swarm again within a few days, as they do some seasons. Of late years, however, I have had so few swarms that I am not quite sure that it may not be due to a general inclination to less swarming.

The honey flow from red box was very heavy while it lasted at my out-apiary; the average per colony was 40 pounds.—*Australasian Bee-keeper.*

### WEATHER REPORTS FROM THE PROVINCES

Issued by the Minister of Trade and Commerce

**MARITIME PROVINCES**—In Prince Edward Island heavy rains during the latter part of July interfered with the gathering of hay, much of which has been badly spoilt. The crop too was short owing to the effects of last summer's drouth. The condition of the grain crops continues to be very favorable. In Nova Scotia a long drouth in June and July retarded growth. Heavy rains which followed interfered with the hay harvest, but greatly improved other crops. The hay harvest in New Brunswick is abundant but very late, only a small proportion having been cut at the end of July.

**QUEBEC**—In this province the crops have never recovered from the ill effects of the cold and wet spring; they were put in late and a long period of drouth followed the excessive rains of May and June. On the whole, therefore, the crop prospect in the province of Quebec at the end of July was distinctly unfavorable, though in some places much needed rains were, though late, beginning to effect a slight improvement. A correspondent near Quebec city writes: "At the present time one may state that the harvest in general in the district of Quebec will be the poorest for 25 years." Our correspondent at Mont Carmel, Kamouraska, writes, "A quarter of grain did not come up owing to drowning out.

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**ONTARIO**—Co throughout this it is difficult t isations. One the effects of wet spring con harvesting of later than usu wheat is poor; ceptions. This in southwestern peninsula, where ly report losse through winter generally good, ports of good ha as to quantity ; pondent at Gleng states that noxiou mustard, quackgr ting very numero and he wonders could be taken t careful to preven correspondent, in marks as a pleas pearance of the 1 that some attribu a parasitic insect correspondent at land, states that Maedonald College judges for the inte petition for Onta they had recently portion of the two tiacular attention to crops. They estim and corn at about crop, potatoes and and mangolds at a t noted also that t crops varied very calities it was excell

**NORTHWEST PROV**