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Welland—General condition good and losses 5 per cent., caused by starvation and queenlessness; wintered in cellar, put in November 16-29, removed April 10-14; fed on sugar for winter stores; dysentery showing in colonies; clovers wintered well, white plentiful, not much alsike and no buckwheat here.

Wellington—General condition fairly good; loss 12 per cent. from dysentery; wintered in cellar, put in November 20th, out April 25th; fed on honey for winter stores; clovers fairly good shape; alsike grown to a considerable extent.

Wentworth—Colonies in good shape; loss 15 per cent., due to starvation and failing queens; wintered partly in cellar and partly outside, packed in chaff; poorest colonies among those from the cellar; put away November 20th, started putting out on the 12th March, a few each day that was suitable, finished about April 1st; winter stores largely buckwheat honey, but also fed 300 pounds sugar; some little signs of dysentery, owing to cellar getting too warm; white and alsike clover never looked better.

York—Colonies seem in fair condition; loss 12 per cent. here, due to dysentery and spring dwindling; part wintered in cellar, balance outside in double hives packed with sawdust; put away latter part of November, taken from cellar early April; sugar generally fed for winter stores, but small quantities of honey mixed with it; some swarms showed dysentery; alsike clovers in very good shape, and this is about the only crop grown here.

#### A BRITISH COLUMBIA REPORT

I had in the spring four very strong colonies, and I thought I was going to do extra well with them this year, but I went away for a week, and on my return my wife told me that the bees were starving, and I immediately told her that the bees were starving. It so happened

that there was a very cold, wet spell just at that time, when cherries and plums were in full bloom, so that though the bees were surrounded by any amount of blossoms, they could not get out to gather, and as a consequence they ran short of supplies. They eat a great deal just at this time, for they are full of young brood, and these take a vast quantity to keep them going. The consequence to me was that though I had wintered a first-rate lot of bees, owing to this cold, wet spell, my harvest has been very seriously spoiled.

Of course, as soon as I got home I fed the bees with syrup, and it was astonishing to see what a change I made in a day or two. The bees that had been listless and discouraged soon took courage again and started to work and, though they cannot altogether recover the lost ground, they are doing very well just now in July. What swarms I had came off in June and July instead of May and June, and they are piling up the honey now in great shape.

All this goes to show that to secure success in bee-keeping one must be ever on the watch, and never forget that bees are very subject to weather conditions, and one must never let them run too low in supplies. Yet just when they are breeding up to the limit, it is not good to have too much comb occupied with honey, or the queen may not find empty cells enough to lay eggs in, and so the breeding may be checked. One is always learning, and I have learned this lesson, that I must see that my bees have plenty of feed at the end of April and beginning of May, and yet not so much as to hinder the queen in laying eggs.

Cherries and plums are rather a poor crop here, and I think it was because the bees had a poor chance to pollinize the blossoms.

#### Introducing Queens Expeditiously

Some of your readers may be pleased to read how I re-queened three hives of