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failed her she was obliged to return to our home in Chard again. As to my bee-keeping experience there it was short lived and no profit from 17 colonies of pretty little yellow bees, which I took for Italians, but proved to be pure bred imported. They would follow me and sting me two acres from the yard.

I received a surplus of about one pound of honey per colony, or some other black stuff—blacker than Laing's buckwheat honey, and that was black enough. So I must say that any part of this Province of Ontario that I have ever been through, is far ahead of that part of California for the production of honey. However, I must say that I do believe that along the foot-hills near the great orange groves, there is some years an abundant crop of honey harvest, as in my rambles I have seen some very fine looking apiaries and I also had the pleasure of meeting nearly all the leading bee-keepers of California at their annual meeting in Los Angeles, including Prof. Cook, Mr. Benton and scores of others, as also our old time friend, W. L. Cogshell, of New York State. In my next letter I will try and give my reasons why I consider Ontario better adapted for bee-keeping than Southern California, and then I will expect to meet my Waterloo.

So wishing all your readers a Happy and Prosperous New Year, not forgetting Brother Hurley.

W. J. CHARD.

B. C. A GOOD HONEY COUNTRY.

Indexed
When to Feed Meal as a Substitute for Pollen—Should Bees Face the South.

Could you kindly inform me in your next issue upon the following points:

- (1) How and when is rye meal fed to bees?
- (2) When bees are packed upon their stands in winter, should the opening be so arranged that the sun strikes into the

hive in the warmest part of the day?

So far it has not frozen here except a little at night.

One of my hives is so placed and the others is not. In the first the bees were flying to-day in large numbers, while none came out of the other.

I notice in your November number a reply to correspondent from "Devon," England, in which B. C. is depreciated as a bee country. If Mr. Robinson, the authority, of Victoria quoted, is speaking of coast conditions, would say that the Victoria climate is not representative of the whole of B. C. The Kootenay and Okanagan for instance, have ideal climates, and wherever the country is well cultivated the pasture is abundant for bees.

I can refer you to successful bee-keepers in West Kootenay.

Among the advantages of this country are: Absence of disease; scarcity of bees, hence good price and demand for honey, owing to small local production.

Hoping that B. C. will not be ignored in future.

J. C. CAMPBELL.

[1. Meal should be fed to bees only where there is an absolute need. There must be a dearth of pollen before this plan is resorted to. A good plan is to spread it out on a sheet or horse blanket outside near the bees on a day when they can fly freely. They will take it up when no other pollen is to be had.

2. By all means let them face the south, when it is possible, or south-west. In the early days of March, however, when the sun shines brightly, while yet the air is cold, it is best to shade the entrances, as many bees come out on such cold days and get chilled, and thus are unable to return to the hives. But later on in April and May, the sun at the entrance is very helpful.

Thanks for your valuable information in reference to British Columbia and the Okanagan Valley, as a good honey country.—Ed.]

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