

view, says that he has obtained the best results by putting the escape in the center, and then have four strips of wood tacked to the top of the escape-board, each strip extending, diagonally, from the escape to the corner of the board. Then when the bees begin racing around the edge of the board, looking for an outlet, these strips lead the bees to the center where the escape is located.

The season has been a very disappointing one to the majority of bee-keepers. As we said in our last issue, "lots of bloom and nectar" but the weather did not admit of it being gathered. We have endeavored to obtain faithful reports from directors and others, and so far as we can ascertain throughout the province of Ontario, at least, there has been about a good half crop of clover honey. Basswood was a complete failure. Comb will be scarce and poorly filled. When asked about prices we can merely say that we see no reason why they should be lower than last season. Do not all rush on the market once.

A good deal has been written and said about finding the queen. Adrian Etaz, in "Gleanings," however, has struck a point the importance of which has been generally overlooked, the rapid handling of the combs, he says:—

"Smoke a little at the entrance to keep the sentinels from getting 'sassy.' Then remove the cover (and super any) and smoke over the top enough to quiet the bees, but not enough to drive the queen out of the

hive and hide in the queen-trap, which should have been placed first. Smoke down the frames at the ends, not in the center, and also between the walls of the hive and the end combs; then again at the entrance, so as to drive the queen up the combs if she happens to be on the bottom of the hive. This is rather long to read, but takes but little time to do. The object is to have the queen in the center of the brood-nest, or thereabouts. Now take out one or two combs at one end and put them in the comb-basket. Then begin at the other end and take the remainder out, putting them also in the basket. Do this as rapidly as possible, so as not to give the queen any chance to leave the combs while you are taking them out."

It has been our impression for a long time that the worker bees accompanying the queen in the ordinary shipping and introducing cage are rather against her safe introduction than otherwise. The plan advocated by some one lately in one of the American Journals (we cannot locate it just now) of allowing the workers to escape from the cage and of putting in their places some young bees recently hatched from the queenless colony is a good one and one which we have tried successfully in critical cases. Mr. Arthur C. Miller believes in what he calls the "direct" method, and gives it in the "American Bee-keeper" as follows:—

Among all the systems I have found the "direct" method of introduction is the safest as well as the most expeditious and economical. It matters not to me whether the old queen has just been removed or has been out