

prices and a statement in issues of both the *British Bee Journal* and *Record* of market prices of both foreign and British honey in order that sellers may have some guide as to prices. The whole year's sales of honey do not equal one month's imports, so that there must be a demand for the article in some parts and in some trades. I believe there is still a good opening for honey drinks, both alcoholic and temperance." Let our correspondent say that the crop in America is only returning about a quarter this year.

The main things to be gathered from the reports are: "That the north has fared better than the south and that honey this year is of an unusually good quality. Then again how strongly Scotland comes out in its general record. No part of Britain can compare this season with that favored portion of the United Kingdom."

WHAT PROPOLIS IS.

G. A. Stockwell says, in the *N. E. Farmer*: The word propolis is pure Greek, from *pro* for, or in behalf of, *palis*, city. It comes to mean a defense, a protection. That is what it is to the bees, a means of defence in winter; in fact, at all times. The bees defend themselves with propolis, stopping all openings, making the hive tight, even water-tight with it. During the summer a bottom board of a hive was pierced in several places by wood burrowers, but every place was stopped by propolis. Bees will close with propolis a hole an inch in diameter. When cool weather comes, the bees cannot mould this propolis to their needs; therefore, what is done to keep through the winter should be done before the propolis season closes; the bee-keeper should know before this time comes that his bees have stores enough for the winter. To break open the brood-nest in November may be fatal to the bees, or it may not. It is safe to consider it fatal and not do it or have occasion to do it.

* * *

DOUBLE IMPROVED CANADIAN FEEDER.

We observe that Messrs Neighbor & Son have out an invention which they call the improved Canadian feeder. The principle is the same as a Canadian feeder which we make and which was exhibited at the Colonial and Indian exhibition last year. The only difference that we can see is that they have a trough at each end of the feeder in which to pour the syrup. Since that time we

have made a great improvement on these feeders. This feeder is arranged so that the floats similar to the one described on page 591 of the *BEE JOURNAL* of last week, are placed in it one on either side of the entrance in the centre up through which the bees pass. The inside partition of the feeder, instead of wood, as formerly, now consists of pieces of perforated metal which shove down in sawcuts and prevent the loss of bees by drowning when the stores need replenishing. The cover of the feeder is shoved forward sufficiently to allow of pouring in the syrup which finds its level throughout the where feeder through the perforations. The floats are held in position by strips of wood $\frac{3}{4}$ of an inch square which are a little longer than the width of the case and fasten into slots on the sides. The entrance for the bees through the centre is made double bee-space so that a bee-keeper who could feed to advantage in the small feeder may by cutting these feeders directly in two make two distinct feeders by simply using two extra side pieces. Of course the bee entrance would then be at the side of the feeder instead of in the centre. This arrangement very much facilitates the cleaning of feeders after use and the shaking out of the bees where a few feeders have to do duty for a large number of hives. The double feeder holds about twelve pounds of syrup and it has taken a great deal of praise wherever it has been exhibited and our sales in feeders are very much increased.

OUR OWN APIARY.

USING DRAIN TILES AS LEGS FOR HIVE STANDS TO KEEP ANTS OUT OF HIVES.

HERE seems to be considerable diversity of opinion in reference to hive stands. There are localities in the Southern States and other parts where ants are very bothersome, and we have frequent reports of bees being injured by them. Some people suggest placing hives on little stands with four legs, the legs placed in water. In dry weather this water would require to be renewed twice a day. We think that taking a drain tile, where they could be procured, with say an inch hole in the centre, dipping them in coal