

line of Mr. Gray's advice re transferring eggs with a crochet hook. I made one attempt, but owing to the adhesiveness of the egg was not very successful in getting it located in the new cell. I am sure all interested in queen-rearing, and all bee-keepers ought to be, would be glad of further particulars from Mr. Gray. However, if the milk food for the queen larvæ for the full period of development and that of drone and worker bees for the first 36 hours are the same, theoretically, what difference can it make whether we use eggs or larvæ? Of course the bees, when starting queen cells, always begin with the eggs when possible as this gives them an opportunity to prepare the larger cell before the egg is deposited. But if eggs will produce finer queens than larvæ we want to know it, for after all, the queen is the thing.

Experience this year points strongly to the value of re-queening every year. Last year I reared about 50 young queens, only two or three from the swarming impulse, and in almost every case they have given better results than the old queens. The season was early and owing to the dry weather, unusually short, and it was only those colonies which built up quickly which had a chance for gathering a goodly amount of honey, in almost every case the young queens proved their superior ability. Of course the fact that many of the stocks were nuclei, built up late in the season by stimulative feeding, and so practically without old bees, would probably help put them in good condition in the spring.

Certainly there is nothing more uncertain than the honey crop, rarely has there been a spring of greater promise than the one just passed, the clover was a good catch the previous fall, and wintered well; the bees came through the winter with little loss and scarcely suffered from spring dwindling, the weather during dandelion and apple blossom was good, thus enabling them to put in abundant stores; and when the clover op-

ened the fields never showed a greater quantity of bloom; everything looked like a bumper crop. Then came the drought drying up the clover and shortening the season by fully two weeks. The June bugs destroyed many of the basswood buds and with no rain when the blossoms opened, there was little nectar in those that were left. Bit in spite of all it has been a fair year wherever the colonies were in good condition. That's the point—good strong colonies in the spring!

Why is this department advocating an advertising campaign for bringing honey more prominently before the people? First—Because it is the only definite tentative policy before the association, and without some sort of progressive work the organization simply cannot flourish. Second—Because there is a general feeling that marketing conditions might be improved; and lastly, all the indications point to it as the coming policy. Just glance over the programme for the National and see what that indicates, and then ask yourself if you want to see Canadian bee-keepers in the rear.

Judging by the views given in the July C.B.J. of the field meetings recently held, the ladies are taking considerable interest in bee-keeping.

Sometime ago an enthusiastic uncle lent me "Alexander's Writings on Practical Bee Culture." I was much impressed with the possibilities he claimed for saving weak colonies in the spring by placing them over strong ones and decided to experiment with three—not enough to make a fair test—but the results were not encouraging. One, a weak one, disappeared altogether; in a second they destroyed the queen below; in the third both queens continued to lay, but no advantage was gained. Possibly where the main harvest is the buckwheat it might be all right, but I'm skeptical of its advantages for clover. But there was one valuable suggestion gleaned, re