

S. J. CHUBB, TORONTO, ONTARIO.—I do not know whether many bee-keepers are aware that there are two kinds of basswood tree, one of which blossoms about two or three weeks earlier than the common American basswood. This is the European basswood, or lime tree, and it is to be found as a shade tree about Toronto. I think this fact would be worth the notice of any bee-keeper who should think of planting basswood shade trees about their premises. I will take particular notice of the date at which they come into bloom this season, and compare it with the common basswood.

J. STEWART. MEAFORD.—I put into winter quarters, 20th November, 128 colonies. and I took out, on the 20th of April, 126, which were all strong with the exception of ten, and I lost four by being robbed after setting them out. I think I can congratulate myself for the luck that I have had in wintering as my neighbors all around me have lost either all their stocks or the greater part of them. I have sold down to sixty colonies. I commenced last year with fifty-one colonies, and increased to 133. Sold five last fall and put 128 into my bee-house, and I extracted 4,500 pounds of honey.

MISS ANNIE MOFFAT, Pendleton, Ont.—Please find subscription to the C.B.J. I think you have supplied a long felt want by publishing your JOURNAL. This is my first letter to any apiarist, but my father, John Moffat, Riceville, Ont., has written to you before. Stock came out fine this Spring, only lost two out of ninety colonies I have been keeping bees for three years, and like it very much. I don't see why more ladies do not keep bees. It is such an enticing study and pastime. I will write to the C.B.J. after a while and let your lady readers see what ladies can do.

DR. DUNCAN, Embro, Ont.—I have Wintered my bees in a cellar; in one part of it there is a furnace for heating the house and a board partition divides the bee-apartment from the furnace room. My bees came out with the loss of twenty out of 136 put in in November last. The cause of loss was lack of stores and dysentery. They were all dry, no mould on the combs; the most of those that had dysentery had a lot of dirty looking pollen in their combs. The cleanest and most healthy were young swarms, second and third, that I fed up with unfinished sections in October last. I noticed the most of them were soiled around the doorway; a larger quantity than usual were dead on the cellar floors. They crawled out of their hives when they got sick. There is more than half of the bees dead in this part.

WM. MUTH, Rasmussen, Independence, Inyo Co., Cal.—While the Winter east of the Rockies has been unusually severe, it has in this State, and even in this locality, at the foot of the Nevada, and 4,500 feet above the sea, been unusually mild. While considerable snow has fallen on the mountains, promising an abundant supply of water for irrigation, we had very little cold weather, and but little rain during the winter in the valley. From the southern counties I hear that they expect a dry season, which means little or no honey. The Spring weather has been very variable, hot and cold spells alternating with each other. My bees commenced swarming on March 30th, three weeks earlier than usual, and have kept it up ever since, getting just honey enough from the willow, locust and wild flowers for excessive breeding, but not storing much as yet. The unsettled state of the weather is keeping back the Alfalfa which is our principal honey source here. The hives are teeming with bees, and when the Alfalfa honey does come, there will be an army of countless workers to gather it.

MOUNT FOREST BEE-KEEPERS.

From the Mount Forest "Representative."

BELOW we give a condensed report of the Bee-keepers' Convention, held in this town on the 18th inst. :

At 9:30 a. m. those present organized themselves into an association, to be known as the Mount Forest Bee-keepers' Association. Mr. T. Martin was appointed temporary chairman, and Mr. Wm. McFarlane secretary. The following officers were then elected:—President, Rev. D. P. Niven; Vice-Presidents, F. Mitchell, Arthur; George Duncan, Arthur; Thos. Martin, Mt. Forest; Samuel Peebles, Harriston; Thos. Smith, Durham; Arch. Coutts, Egerton. Secretary—J. H. Davison. Mt. Forest; Treasurer, J. H. Dickson, Glen Eden; Executive Committee, Rev. D. P. Niven, J. H. Dickson, J. H. Davison.

The President and Secretary then took their respective offices, the membership fee being placed at 25c. per annum for gentlemen, and ladies free. The following gave in their names and fee :

Ladies—Mrs. J. H. Davison, Miss E. A. Hassett, Mrs. T. Conklin.

Gentleman—Messrs. D. A. Jones, N. J. Adie, Wm. McFarlane, Jos. Dawson,