



The Paris Exposition.

—W. J. BROWN.

Now that it is definitely settled for an association exhibit of honey at the great fair by the Executive Committee of the Ontario Bee-Keepers' Association and the Commissioners of the Paris Exhibition, we hope that every officer and man who has the honor to belong to the O. B. K. A. will do all in his power to do honor and credit to the name of our Association and show the world that Ontario is not only in name a land flowing with milk and honey, but is such in reality. By the arrangement with the commissioners at Ottawa, they assume all costs of transportation of the honey from some central place (yet to be named) in Canada to Paris, all costs as to space, setting up, and glasses to show the honey in, and its safe return here, or its wholesale market value in cash to the contributors.

I trust that the above will be welcome news to every member of our Association.

Some minor details are yet to be settled, which, when finally settled, will cheerfully be given to the Canadian Bee Journal for publication, so that all may know what work is being done and also to any individual who would apply to either myself or Mr. Wm. Couse, our energetic secretary, Streetsville, Ont. Now let every member rally around the standard and do all in his power to assist the executive committee to carry out our arrangement with the commissioners at Ottawa to make a neat and creditable exhibit of honey at Paris in 1900.

[The above reached us May 23rd, too late for insertion in the June number.—Ed.]

Experiments With Foundation of Different Sizes in the Sections.

There were two objects in view in these experiments. One was to find out which size of foundation the bees would start to work on first, second, to find out which section would be filled best and have the fewest empty cells around the sections. Several supers were used having the

sections so arranged that all would have an equal chance of being filled.

Experiment No. 1: Sections with full sheets of foundation fastened on top only. Experiment No. 2: Sections with half sheets of foundation fastened on top, and experiment No. 3: One inch square of foundation fastened on top in the centre.

In every instance, the bees worked first on the full sheet, and these sections when finished had the fewest holes or empty spaces around them. In the sections which had half sheets of foundation the bees did not work as soon as on the former ones, and the sections were not so well filled. The sections which had one inch square of foundation sheets attached to the top were the last worked on. They also had most vacant spaces around the sections. These experiments should be tried again, also others with pieces of foundation attached at different points around the sections.—Experimental Farm Report, 1898.

How to find a Black Queen.

Yours with subscription to THE CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL to hand, for which please accept our thanks. We trust you will succeed in securing the old queen. This is a somewhat difficult operation, especially if the bees are the common black, or nearly so. In such a case when the bees have been smoked for a short time they begin running over the combs, and even boil out of the hives. You probably know that with the Italian bees they remain quietly on the combs, and in forming into clusters the queen can be more readily detected. Again, the color of the queen is against the darker bee. To avoid the tendency for the bees to rush over the combs we generally smoke the bees very gently, then take out all the combs and separate them; this prevents to a certain extent the bees forming in large clusters. Then closely examine the combs, first entirely emptying the hive of bees. If you do not succeed in finding the queen in this way, put a bee guard or queen trap in front of the hive, shaking the bees from the comb as you put the latter in the hive. Then smoke the bees gently, trying to direct them to the hive. It is well to set the hive on the ground, if it is raised and on the stand, the queen and many of the bees might cluster under the bottom board. It is well to shake the bees in a long line connecting the clusters. By so doing, one gets a better chance to detect the queen amongst the bees.—Ed.