

We had a good white honey crop here last season, but not much buckwheat honey, which is generally our main crop. Our black brood locality is recovering and apiarists are learning how to more successfully handle the disease.

I forgot to say that our 20 inches of snow nearly all melted and ran off and caused high water, and some damage, March 2nd, and now our fields are almost free from snow and our roads are muddy.

I see no reason why we should not look for a good crop of honey the coming season. We usually take our bees out of the cellar the latter end of March or fore part of April.

The Commissioner of Agriculture, Chas. A. Wieting, appointed two agents as bee inspectors in 1889 and two more inspectors in 1900 for the State of New York. These are what are called civil service appointments. I trust that much good has been done by us. We are the bee-keepers' servants, but we do need more scientific work to help us out, and this is the reason that I am so much interested in Prof. Harrison's experiments with foul brood at your Agricultural College, Guelph. Very respectfully,

N. D. WEST,

State Bee Inspector.

Middlebury, N. Y.

Spring Time In The Bee Yard.

EDITOR C. B. J.—

I have been going to write something for the Journal for a good while. I have been in the bee business for about ten years on a small scale and have found nothing pays so well for the amount invested, supposing there is a right kind of management and at the proper time.

The first warm days that come in February or March I begin to look after my bees. First I take a long

wire with a bend on the end of about two inches and I go to the entrance of each hive and scrape out all the dead bees that lie on the bottom. If there are any of them that want feeding I can usually tell by the amount of dead bees near the front of the hive inside. Here "a stitch in time saves nine." In this case I open the hive and take out one or more racks of combs and replace them with fresh cards of honey, having made them nice and warm. I always keep some fall cards on hand for that purpose. If you cannot get all the dead bees out with the bent wire wait until some day when the bees are having a good fly, then open the hive, take out two or three racks at a time, being careful not to get the brood chilled. You can thus scrape all the dead bees off the spines by moving the remaining racks of honey first to one side and then to the other. I believe that cleanliness is a great prevention of foul brood and mothering. The offence of the dead bees, I believe, is what first causes the disease for it takes them a long while in the spring to clean out the hives themselves and the more backward the spring is the worse for the bees. I never take my bees out of their winter cases. All I do is to remove the packing so I can get at the top of the hive, and when the cold winds blow they are warm and in the intense heat they are cool. My bees are always in good shape for the apple blossom and better for the clover. In the spring lots of stores and plenty of warmth is what makes strong full colonies, and a profit later for the bee-keeper. I use the Jones hive winter outdoors.

BERT TRICKER

Simcoe Co., Ont.

[We are pleased to hear from our Friend Tricker, about your line of management; and while your the