

kind of bees has more to do with surplus honey crops than the management?

You ask what has been done toward permanent improvement, and refer to the opinion of professional beekeepers. I suppose you would call me a professional bee-keeper; at any rate, I keep bees for the honey I can get from them. I am ready to take my "affydavy" that my bees are improved to such a degree that year after year I get from them crops of honey such as I cannot get from the best stock I can buy. Also I have improved (?) their viciousness to such a degree that they are holy terrors!

Your closing quotation concerning the bee is "that little change has taken place in her characteristics in 3 or 4 million years." That's a clincher. Only it happens not to be true. Good authorities sometimes say foolish things. If little difference had taken place there would be little difference in bees, and any practical beekeeper knows there is a big difference in bees, in other things as well as in color.

Dr. Bonney admitted in his article upon which Dr. Miller has been passing comment that there was no work in all apiculture that paid so well as "weeding out poor stock." Says the Medina doctor:

Let's shake on that. It's only another way of saying that nothing else pays so well as "improving" your stock. For you hardly brimstone your poor stock to get them out of the way. You weed them out by requeening with better stock. What is that but improvement?

Those "Stingless" Bees.

Everybody's talking about them. (By the by, we learn from the *American Bee Journal* that something yet more amazing has been produced, to wit: "illuminated bees," obtained by crossing the ordinary bee with lightning bugs!) Dr. Miller apparently has none of the "stingless" variety, for in the notes just quoted he tells us how he has increased the viciousness of his bees until, in his very expressive phrase, "they are holy terrors." Mendelism tells us the why and the wherefore of this reversion to ancestral type—and

we may, we suppose, take it for granted that viciousness resulting from the crossing of two different races is an example of reversion. May we ask Dr. Miller whether it would not be worth his while to raise his queens from a colony in which the viciousness does not exist in such a great degree? For our own part, we should say that it is much easier to preserve the quiet temperament of a race of bees than to endeavor to regain it after it has once been lost.

Apropos of Dr. Bonney's contention that no change has taken place in the character of the bee, we should like to remind him that the same may have been said at some time or other in reference to all of the various forms of life that have been modified in recent times. The modern sweet pea, in all its beautiful colors and forms, has been obtained from, we believe, a small, common wild variety, found in the southern portions of Europe. A chance break from the normal, due, we learn, to the accidental dropping of a simple character, results in a succession of new varieties. The difficulty in recognizing a "sport" is, in the case of the bee, the main obstacle to obtaining a greatly improved insect. Yet, as Dr. Miller points out, much improvement has been effected, and that during one person's lifetime.

Hardy Bees.

The strongest colony we have seen this fall is one that wintered last season without any sort of protection whatever. For a few days in the spring it stood two storeys deep in water. This colony, together with another one, had been neglected since the previous honey flow, and the two were left with two supers of honey on. In spite of the severe winter, absence of protection and the flood, these two colonies must have come through in tip-top shape,

for when we ago the hives honey. The w one that has bee-keeper.

Fall Breeding.

So far we ha approach of wi ally large patch even at this la to late feeding into winter qu good shape, an such excellent e a bumper crop

Stores For Winter.

We believe tha portant factors i is having good st who is as success any man we know that brood-nest a the bees to winter sugar syrup. He FEEDS! Some of in certain district that it proves too digestive organs o ing with sugar syr to.

CANADIAN N BIT

BY ARTH

It was with great the Editor's articl tional and the hon September issue, an mentioned, and as I hibitor at this Ex years, I can doubtles on the situation for s who are interested.

Let me say boldly during the years I ha