

never tried bees on the open prairie, I know others who have and the result has been failure, partial or entire. Wind is the main cause of this, but the comparative scarcity of pasturage may have a lot to do with it. Pasturage here depends entirely on wild flowers and it may be easily understood that highly cultivated wheat land is altogether unsuited to the needs of the apiarist. In the neighborhood of timber, bees get protection from the prevailing winds and gather lots of honey and pollen in the early Spring from willow, soft maple and wild fruit bushes. The first super honey generally comes from the raspberry. From the end of June till frost a slow but steady flow is obtained from various wild flowers. Until comparatively hard frost, a certain amount of winter stores are gathered from the wild aster.

The summer crop of honey is of first class quality, not quite as white as white clover, but very clear and pleasant to the eye and taste. It sells here much more freely than Eastern honey, which is suspected; in many cases, I fear, justly so. Certainly I have tasted "honey" peddled around here and purporting to have come from Ontario, which had never seen the inside of a hive. Eastern producers should look to this, or they may lose a good market.

In certain parts of Manitoba, I believe a considerable quantity of clover is grown and that probably alters condition. In this part of Assiniboia there is not a single acre of clover, nor do I think it probable that there will be in the near future, as even the hardiest varieties are winter killed.

The foregoing, I think, practically covers the locality question. Now to take the second item: The man.

It is no use saying that to be

successful a man must be able and willing to use both brawn and brain, because every person thinks himself capable of fulfilling those conditions. In the first place anybody who has little or no knowledge of the art must be content to lose money for a year or two, or, shall we say, to invest it in the "bank of experience." Bees themselves are not cheap here, (a colony of Italians costs from eight to ten dollars f. o. b.) and supplies and freight charges soon mount up. While he is learning his business, the beginner must not expect large profits.

Then he must make up his mind that bees are not to be a side issue. A great deal of nonsense is occasionally talked in farming papers about "bees working for nothing and boarding themselves." While this is literally true, the assumption deduced from it that bees will give profitable returns without attention is entirely false. At certain times of the year, they require more looking after than any farm stock. A man who has got to be away in the hay or harvest field at these times, will be well advised to buy his honey and leave raising it to others.

The third item: The hive. I use the standard eight frame Langstroth. Larger hives may perhaps be better as some assert, but they are not so convenient to handle, especially in putting them into and taking them out of the cellar.

The wintering problem has never caused me any trouble. I simply put every colony into the cellar under the house. I keep roots in the cellar and am frequently down there with a lantern, but this seems to affect the bees very little. The outside ventilators have to be kept closed in the winter and the true leading into the house is the only source of fresh air. I am quite

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