

Canadian Thistles.

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ORDER SUPPLIES EARLY.

By the time this number of THE CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL reaches its readers, the first month of what is generally considered spring will have arrived. Apiarists possessing fifty colonies or more, will, or ought to be, making calculations and preparing for what we all hope will be a good season.

A great saving of anxiety, to say nothing of a probable loss of a portion of the crop, will result by timely attention to what may be necessary when the proper time arrives for moving swarms, supplying sections and frames with foundation, etc. The above rule will apply to the small producers with equal force; in fact, very often, they are the ones who send in these orders last, and expect to be served instantly. I do not suppose, however, that the above advice will be accepted any more than it generally is, but I will relieve my conscience by stating, that those who wait until the last moment, are the ones who will suffer most by their negligence.

A MID-WINTER FLIGHT.

The weather for the week ending February 12th, was a marked contrast to the one just preceeding it, giving the bees an excellent opportunity for a mid-winter cleansing flight, which in my locality, was freely indulged in, especially on the 10th inst, to the great delight of the insects.

I must confess that it afforded me pleasure to see the manner in which they availed themselves of the opportunity, as the last sporting spell of any consequence took place on or about the last of November. Of course two and a half months is not too long for bees to be confined to their winter quarters, providing the stores are of good quality and abundant in quantity, as well as the hives having been timely and properly packed. At the same time a good flight is a great aid to colonies having late gathered stores, and a benefit to any colony in normal condition, as brood rearing receives a stimulus which instead of doing injury as in an earlier stage of the winter, results in producing young bees at a time when they will be of

benefit in replacing the older ones as spring approaches.

MACHINE FOR SCRAPING SECTIONS.

Improvements are the order of the day, and we now have illustrations in the American Bee Journal, Gleanings, and the Review, of machines for removing propolis from sections of comb honey, invented by Messrs. Aspinwall and Golden.

Anything to save time and labor is a bonanza now-a-days, and an apparatus for serving such an end is not to be "thrown under the fence" until it has had a fair trial, or the day arrives when we can harvest choice comb honey free from propolis altogether, either by inventing new supers (of which we now have galore), or by rearing a non-propolis gathering race of bees.

It is a well known fact that some colonies, apparently of the same strain, or race, are much worse daubers of the resinous substance than others, and that localities and seasons also differ in respect to the amount utilized. One thing appears certain, that in order to have a minimum of glue we must have a good flow of nectar, and have the sections removed as soon as the harvest is over, if we desire as little work as possible on this line.

FOUL BROOD ONCE MORE.

The December issue of the Review contains on its 10th birthday, two articles relating to foul brood, furnished by Messrs. Taylor and Baldridge, which are worthy of mention, and are certainly worthy of perusal. I cannot, however, agree in toto with Mr. Taylor's statement that it is unnecessary to first place the bees on starters for say 4 days (or less) before allowing them to work out foundation in order to effect a permanent cure.

Now I do not wish to dispute the success that Mr. Taylor has had, but I do know for a fact, to follow such advice in all cases, and under all circumstances, according to my own experience, is not sound or judicious, and I therefore make this statement in order that amateurs may not be led astray.

Mr. Baldridge's way of treating the disease is novel to say the least of it, and although I have never practised his method, still I see no reason why it should not succeed. The fact that Mr. B. says it is a success in his hands ought to be a sufficient guarantee for giving it a fair trial.

I believe, and it is now generally conceded, by those having had ample experience with the disease, that if the affected honey remaining in the diseased colony