

this can best be done by a good percentage of acid being given in food when workers or queens show signs of ill health or flagging energy.

For the CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL.  
Endorses C. B. Jones.

FROM the standpoint of a practical bee-keeper I would like to add a few words to those of Mr. Steinhoff, in approval of Mr. G. B. Jones' efforts to interest the public in the honey bee. I have heard two of his lectures and so fascinated was I with them that at considerable inconvenience and when very tired I went a second time to each. The intense interest and the enthusiasm of the audience (many members of which, like myself, have gone twice) showed that a door is open for these lectures, and I believe that Mr. Jones should be encouraged and helped by bee-keepers in the good work he has begun, for incalculable benefit to the fraternity must result.

I have kept bees many years, during which time I have read and studied much, but I have never seen the cream of all apicultural knowledge so carefully collected and excellently compiled for the object in view (or for any object) as it is in these lectures. I don't think any intelligent person could listen for ten minutes to one of them and not become greatly interested. The lectures are composed of deliberate assertions of most positively established and intensely interesting facts—no drawing on the imagination or propounding and denouncing of theories, but positive though astounding truth clearly put about these marvellous creatures and their life. Amusing incidents in bee life are most aptly put, so that there is no dryness or weariness in the story; in fact so free are these lectures from any tendency to fatigue the audience that people sit for two hours and then, after most flattering remarks are made by movers and seconders of votes of thanks most enthusiastically carried, they call for more information and ask curious questions.

Every bee keeper should hear Mr. Jones, and I would respectfully suggest that the Ontario bee-keepers' Association arrange for a course of these really useful lectures in Toronto during the next Industrial Exhibition, they could be made then a great treat and instruction for bee-keepers and their friends in the city at the time. Might it not be advisable that the association should engage Mr. Jones to give these lectures through the country this winter.

JACOB SPENCE,

Toronto, Sept. 5, 1889.

## HONEY.

THE SEASON WORSE THAN THE TWO PRECEDING.

THOSE were false prophets who predicted a good honey crop this year. It is even worse than the two or three preceding years. The Middle Atlantic States have been subjected to a literal downpour of rain for the last three or four months, with a fair prospect of a continuance of the same. Apple-bloom was about two weeks earlier than common, and the weather was warm and reasonably fair, so the bees did well and got a good start. Some of the strongest colonies prepared for swarming. Locust, which is abundant here, and poplar (tulip) came into bloom early, following closely the fall of the apple-blossoms, and the bees for a day or so after the opening had warm weather, and fairly tumbled over each other when carrying in their harvest. But the second day after the honey-flow, came the flood of rain, which did not let up till the locust and poplar blossoms were destroyed. White and alsike clover were in the meantime pushing out their blossoms, but the bees could snatch only an hour now and then—seldom a whole day—to gather the nectar. Some of the very strongest colonies filled a case of sections, mostly in a skimped, rounded-off indifferent manner, after their fashion when supplies are scarce.

The rain has continued, day and night, all the time; and the bees had to live partially on what they had gathered. If it ever clears up the asters, goldenrods, heart's ease, and other fall honey-producing weeds will give a good fall crop, the wet season having given them a good start; but that little champion "if" stands in the middle of the path of prediction, defying the wisdom of sages. No honey worth naming is the return from all of the Atlantic States, which I believe will include all the country east of the Alleghanies.—E. E. EWING, in Gleaning. Rising Sun, Md.

## WEIGHING BEES.

THE EXACT NUMBER OF BEES IN ONE POUND.

A GREAT deal has been written about the "little black bee," the insinuation being that in size it is greatly inferior to the Italian. The so-called black bee was the bee of England and America until less than fifty years ago, and any English statistics that we may have prior to that time, undoubtedly refer to the black bee.

In writing the article "Bee for my Dictionary of Practical Apiculture," I wished to give as accurate data as possible in regard to