

taking charge is supposed to put up all hives, boxes, etc., from the flat.

ALLEN PRINGLE, SELBY, ONT.—If the gentleman gets half the honey and half the increase, he ought to furnish the hives and appurtenances for his own half of the increase, including foundation, and he ought to be at half the expense of Spring feeding where such is necessary either to stimulate breeding or to supply deficient stores. Every Fall when the honey is divided the bees also ought to be divided; and as the gentleman will then own absolutely half of the increase added to the number he supplied in the Spring, and the bee-keeper will own absolutely the other half of the increase, the gentleman ought to bear the whole losses in wintering his own, while, of course, the bee-keeper bears the whole loss of his own. Where the bees are kept on shares for a number of years this arrangement for Spring and Fall must be repeated every year or there will be sure to be a complication and probably dissatisfaction in the end. In the Spring the number of colonies belonging to the other party which the bee-keeper begins the season with after winter losses, spring dwindling, and necessary union of weak colonies is the number to be counted on him and for which he must be responsible.

BY THE EDITOR.—We think the gentleman should furnish all the capital and bees, that is, comb foundation, hives, sections, implements of the apiary, and surplus storage, and give the bee-keeper half the surplus honey, he paying for half of the sections, or cans, if extracted honey.

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS.

BEES BY THE POUND.

JOHN L. PEARCE, WALLACETOWN.—You ask for my report, I am afraid it is rather discouraging but when I look around I find I have been very lucky indeed. I went into winter with sixty colonies in chaff hives and clamps and some in bee house well protected, but none in cellar. I came out with twenty, lost very few till March and the most in April; they are doing well now if the weather comes in favorable. But you see I have a good many empty combs. What is my best movement now, buy bees by the pound, or wait till my own come on? They are rather weak on account of starting to brood so late. Could you sell me bees by the pound, and how

soon and at what price? Last year was my first on the modern system, and I do not intend to quit yet. It has been very hard on bees in this section of the country, some have lost all out of thirty or forty colonies.

You could buy bees by the pound if you chose but think it would be more profitable to purchase full colonies as you would have the hives and combs. You could, if you wished, take 15 lbs., or 20 lbs., of bees from a good strong colony in a season and yet have a colony left and for which you would only have to pay \$8 or \$10. If you purchase bees by the the pound you should get at least two pounds and a good queen in order to make a colony as the season is so late and backward.

DEEP FRAMES, CHAFF HIVES, ETC.

CHAS. THRONSON, CAMBRIDGE, WIS.—Do you think bees winter on deep frames better than on shallow? Do you winter in chaff hives out of doors? How much chaff do you use? I use six inches, is that too much? I am a new beginner and should like you to say what kind of bees you think I had best commence with. This is a very cold climate.

You will see by the back numbers of the JOURNAL how we wintered some packed in chaff and sawdust clamps out of doors, but we wintered a large portion of our bees in bee-houses prepared expressly for the purpose, with sawdust walls, ranging from twenty to twenty-six inches in thickness; the sawdust must be perfectly dry. Six inches of chaff is not too much. We should prefer from twelve to eighteen inches. We think you had better commence with the ordinary Italians, or even Black if you cannot get Italians handy, and as soon as you learn to handle them there will be no difficulty in securing queens of any race that you may desire. There is no difficulty in wintering in your locality, in fact we prefer a steady cold winter. We always have more success in the deep frames and can usually have our colonies strong in the Spring.