

ntirely lost on any
they not only fail
f it, but they fail to
others the benefit
with the informa-
There is no doubt
being a poor season
any from finishing

who undertook the
reports, from 19
f Ontario. These
91 colonies in the
1,325 colonies in
ng average of 28.3
of 38. Their total
0 pounds, an aver-
per colony, spring
eing white honey
eing dark honey

ves used for the
eight hives each.
ided into Lot A,
ives managed ac-
; and Lot B, four
rm naturally. As
re nearly all new
cent. of natural
was still high, be-
even this was far
was 70 per cent.,
r cent. of swarms
hod described in

y yield was 11
ore from Lot A
hat is, if the col-
experimenters had
ording to direc-
would have been
10,000 pounds,
in the aggregate
ollars by careless
ment, to say no-
runaway swarms,

appreciated the
at, others did not.
f the latter class

is a man whom we shall call Mr. X, for the sake of not telling his name. Mr. X is a bee-keeper in Ontario, who tried the experiment for swarm prevention. He put ten colonies in Lot A to be managed according to directions, and 50 colonies in Lot B to be managed by his own plan, which was simply to let them swarm. He secured 400 pounds, or an average of 40 pounds each, from Lot A, and 1,600, or an average of 32 pounds each, from Lot B, being a difference of eight pounds per colony in favor of Lot A. Now if he had handled the 50 colonies the same as Lot A he would have had 50 multiplied by 8 equals 400 pounds more honey, worth \$48 at wholesale rates. The extra time it would have taken would not be more than six days at the outside. Against this we must balance fully two days' time spent in hiving the 32 natural swarms he had from Lot B, reducing the cost of the extra \$48 worth of honey to four days of time, to say nothing of the time the bees lost swarming and the swarms that went to the woods. Now what does Mr. X think of the experiment? He reports that he has derived no benefits whatever from the experiment. He finds that his own method suits him best, as he has less bother. Does this mean that Mr. X is a wealthy man keeping bees for pleasure, or that his time is worth more than \$12 per day at something else? You may say that he had the extra 32 swarms, but these could have been made artificially during the six days, with no cost to the honey crop.

However, most of the experimenters are able to do arithmetic and figure out profits a little more accurately than Mr. X. The following is a list of benefits derived by individual experimenters:

"Can keep them from increasing so fast and get more honey."—Bruce County.

"Saves time and stimulates my own experience."—Elgin County.

"Had the interesting experience."—Lanark County.

"My own plan is good, but yours is better; it is more systematic."—Middlesex County.

"Better knowledge of bee-keeping."—Ontario County.

"My method was similar to yours, but in 1910 I tried natural swarming, and I am satisfied that the method is better, because you can depend on leaving your apiary for a week at one time; but when natural swarming is practised, you cannot leave and attend to anything else. The only thing I think has to be watched is not to overdo the shifting of brood."—Parry Sound District.

"Pleasure and experience."—Russell County.

"You know what your colonies are like at all times."—Simcoe.

"Your method is the best I have tried yet."—Victoria.

"I have been working on the same plan for years."—Grey.

"Your method is all right, and in some respects is better than mine. It is more thorough."—Middlesex.

"Your method enables me to control swarming."—Middlesex.

"Have a better knowledge of bees."—Oxford.

Last, but not least: "I have used the system for some years very satisfactorily. Had only one swarm altogether from 69 colonies and extracted 9,200 pounds of honey, an average of about 133 pounds per colony." Another bee-keeper ten miles away says: "I do not go to much trouble with my bees now; I am 67 years old." This man had 60 colonies, spring count, and took 5,150 pounds of honey, an average of 86 pounds per colony, or 47 pounds per colony less than the man who cared for his bees. The difference of only ten miles location would not be likely to make so much difference in the crop.