

bees united that were entirely annihilated by one fighting the other. It is then always advisable to use smoke. If the two families to be united are separated by a wire-cloth screen for a day or two, there will probably be no battle, but when the bees get to stinging each other to death, the only thing to do is to use smoke, sometimes putting a little tobacco in the smoker.

If the uniting be deferred until quite cool weather there is much less trouble from fighting than if the process takes place early in September.

Where one is running for queen-rearing, and he has reached the close of the season with a lot of weak colonies, it is well to anticipate the work of uniting by putting the hives in pairs. All that is necessary then is to take away one of the hives, and after that, put both lots of bees in one. The hive that contains the two united forces is placed about half-way between where the hives formerly stood. This will then catch the flying bees of both hives. If the hives be placed in groups of three, the three families are all placed in the centre hive when the other two are removed entirely.—Gleanings in Bee Culture.

#### ONTARIO CROP BULLETIN

The following statement regarding the condition of crops in the Province, based upon returns from correspondents under date of August 15th, has been issued by the Ontario Department of Agriculture:

**Fall Wheat**—This crop has yielded well, but, owing to the wet, warm weather prevailing at the time of harvesting, considerable sprouting occurred while the grain was stacked. A fair portion of the crop was cut early, and was got in in first-class condition, and in such cases the grain is said to be plump, hard, and of good weight. The straw was rather short, but stood up well, and only slight rust is reported. Scattered mention of the Hessian fly was made, but much less than in recent years. Special mention is made by correspondents of injury to wheat fields by sparrows. Cutting ranged from the second week of July to the end of the month.

**Spring Wheat**—This wheat will not be of as good general quality as the fall variety. It was short in straw, thin on the ground, and the grain is very uneven, both in quality and yield, some very good and some very poor returns being reported. Harvesting began in some parts of the Province as early as the 20th of July, but in some sections the crop would not be got in for nearly a month later.

**Barley**—In Western Ontario the yield of barley has been large, and the crop is regarded as a satisfactory one generally, as the discoloration of the grain is not so serious a matter as it was before the bulk of the crop was fed to live stock. In Eastern Ontario, however, the yield has been rather light and uneven, ranging from 5 to 30 bushels per acre in some of the former banner counties near the Bay of Quinte. The hot weather just before ripening is blamed for this injury by some correspondents, while others attribute it to the heavy rains occurring in the early part of the season and hardening the soil. Like other cereals, the crop is short in straw, but there is much less rust than was expected from weather conditions. The bulk of the crop was cut in the last week of July and the first week of August.

**Oats**—Except in the St. Lawrence and Ottawa counties, and in the northern districts, the yield of oats will be fully up to the average, and on the whole the grain will be much plumper than in the case of last year's crop. Frequent rains at the time of harvesting—and much of the crop was in the shock as correspondents wrote—may detract from the value of the oat crop, as sprouting was threatened, and the straw also was likely to be affected by the wet, so far as its feeding value is concerned. In the eastern half of the Province rust was frequently complained of, but in the more western counties much less mention was made of this trouble. Grasshoppers also attacked the oats in some of the eastern counties and in the northern districts. While some fields were harvested as early as July 20th, some oats had yet to be cut or housed as correspondents reported. Some of the largest yields of oats ever reported to the Department have been received this year from the County of Bruce.

**Rye**—This crop is not largely grown for grain, but where raised is usually cut green for food, or for turning under. The yield varies from 10 to 22 bushels per acre, and is of good quality.

**Peas**—A considerable portion of this crop remained to be pulled when corres-