

neighboring properties, or public highways is to be twenty five metres. The mayors, gendarmes, and police are instructed to see this order carried out."

A French metre is equal to 39½ inches in our own country. There is no national bee-keepers' association or union of any kind to work against the decrees, and have them set aside. Something will have to be done however, at once, else beekeeping in France will soon be a thing of the past.

DETECTION OF ADULTERATION IN HONEY.

The Apiculteur gives, in a late number, a test whereby adulteration in honey may be detected. It says:

"The Apiculteur gives a test for discovering the adulteration of honey. If starch be present or other insoluble substances, the honey should be put into cold water, which will dissolve it, and the insoluble additions will be deposited at the bottom of the vessel. Generally, however the adulteration is by means of glucose, whose presence is detected by dissolving ten grammes of the honey in twenty grammes of water, adding to the liquid a few drops of iodide of potassium, which will immediately turn it brown if glucose be present."

DRONES REQUIRE RICHER FOOD THAN ORDINARY HONEY.

At least Pastor Schoedfeld thinks this and his experiments are thus described in the last *Deutsche Bienenzeitung*:

"He finds that drones depend on food given to them by worker bees and that they do not feed themselves. He placed some drones in a double cage, in such a manner that they could not be fed by the workers, but had to rely entirely upon the honey furnished them for sustenance. All these drones died the third day. He then placed the cage so that they could be fed by workers, and found that they lived for weeks, notwithstanding their imprisonment. He comes to the conclusion that drones cannot live longer than three days without the rich food supplied to them by the workers. This also explains how the bees perish in the autumn. They are not driven out of the hives, because such a proceeding would be noticed by the tumult it would occasion. The food is not supplied to them by the workers, and as they are not able to live on honey alone they perish. This is why the slaughter of the drones is accomplished so quickly."

10 CENTS PER POUND FOR EXTRACTED.

The season is getting pretty well on and we do not want to be caught with too much honey on our hands at a high price, we therefore reduce our offer for No. 1 extracted honey, to 10 cents per pound, delivered here, in exchange for any kind of supplies at catalogue prices. We allow 30 cents each for 60 pound tins, of our own make. No allowance for other sizes or styles, but we are willing to return them as soon as we get them emptied.

QUERIES AND REPLIES.

UNDER THIS HEAD will appear Questions which have been asked, and replied to, by prominent and practical bee-keepers—also by the Editor. Only questions of importance should be asked in this Department, and such questions are requested from everyone. As these questions have to be put into type, sent out for answers, and the replies all awaited for, it will take some time in each case to have the answers appear.

Queen and Colony's Strength.

Query 250.—Has a queen anything to do with the strength of the colony and if so describe how and why?

ALLEN PRINGLE, SELBY, ONT.—The queen has all to do with it in a fundamental sense, for there would be no colony, no bees, without a queen. You probably know that the queen is the mother of the whole colony. Hence, if she is prolific, other conditions being equal, the colony will be strong, and if unprolific, weak.

G. A. DEADMAN, BRUSSELS, ONT.—Certainly she has, by depositing eggs in the cell before they can be occupied with honey, besides, if the birth rate is not considerably more than the death rate the colony makes slow progress. With sufficient bees in the hive and plenty of stores this birth-rate depends entirely on the queen. When the colony however, is small, as they sometimes are in the spring, the prolificness of the queen does not avail much as the eggs become chilled or the larva dies from want of sufficient warmth and attention.

WM. McEVoy, WOODBURN, ONT.—Yes, very much. She is the mother of the colony. About the first of June pick out five colonies with poor laying queens and test them with five colonies of your best laying queens. By doing that you will find at the close of the honey season, that you will have more than double the amount of honey and bees from the five having the best laying queens in the honey season. Kill all poor queens and put young ones in their place which you have bred from your best ones or bought.

How Much Drone Comb Per Hive.

Query 251.—How much drone comb should be in each hive, and in a large apiary is it necessary to have some in all?

ALLEN PRINGLE, SELBY, ONT.—A few square inches in a few hives from which you wish to rear drones will do. It is not necessary or desirable to have drone comb in all the hives.

WM. McEVoy, WOODBURN, ONT.—About three frames full of drone comb divided among six of your best colonies will be plenty for one hundred colonies. I don't use that proportion of drone comb among mine.

G. A. DEADMAN, BRUSSELS.—Do not fear but that each colony will have sufficient drone comb though you be ever so careful to avoid it, which you should seek to do except