

both apiaries once a week. If run in that way and the honey extracted when two-thirds capped there will not be 2 per-cent of swarms.

In my supers I have 8 combs in 13½ inch space not as stated formerly in a misprint 13½. These supers filled will hold 63 lbs of honey and 50 lbs is a fair average weight for them. This season is one of the poorest I have seen for sixteen years.

The bees had been working for some days on buckwheat which was scarcely at full bloom. Mr. Post brings his out apiaries home at the close of basswood for the buckwheat flow, and as before stated, I was in the largest apiary in Ontario.

Mr. Post, when buckwheat begins to yield, takes out one comb, spreads the remainder and thus has his combs ready for winter. An average colony is put on scales and all supers kept off the hives until that hive has gained 20lbs when he considers the hives are in condition for winter. The combs have then been shouldered out and the capped and bees are not likely to carry this honey above. At this season whatever increase is desired is secured. Whilst we were speaking two swarms issued. The hour was 9.30. The queens wings are clipped and being distributed over a large area, there is no difficulty about swarms uniting or queens getting into the wrong hive. The old hive is placed on a new stand and the bees and queen shortly enter the new hive. Mr. Post remarked, as the bees were returning. "Who says this is not better than climbing trees, but at the season one must be a little careful. I have seen a swarm led out by a virgin queen and the old queen remain on the combs when of course the swarm would cluster and leave unless hived."

Mr. Post's experience warrants him in expecting from buckwheat nothing less than 20 lbs per colony surplus, besides the bees securing enough for winter, and he knows from many years of experience that well ripened buckwheat honey is just as good as any other honey for winter stores. He also said there was a peculiarity about buckwheat close to the lake shore where the dews are heavy, very heavy, it yields freely and according to weather in morning, in afternoon or all day, but ten miles or more inland it does not do nearly so well.

A difference in growth can be noticed, inland the stem is red and woody, on the lake shore it remains green and very soft.

At 10.35, 10.45, 11.10 and shortly after noon more swarms issued, making six during the day of my visit. Mr. Post said—Localities vary very much and few realize the great difference there is and guide themselves accordingly. Take the spring for instance,

we are in Prince Edward County, the county which produces more apples than any other county in Ontario, yet I have never seen a cell of fruit bloom or dandelion honey and unless bees get 35 to 40 lbs of honey in the fall of the year they are starving, so in the spring I practice stimulative feeding. This feeding is not begun until the first brood hatches. It makes me smile to hear directions given about uncapping fruit bloom honey and I cannot help wishing these fellows had a season's experience in my vicinity. Some may say I do not winter my bees well, but I had bees hanging out over the whole front of the hive in May, so if there was any honey in the flowers the bees were strong enough to get it. It may perhaps be owing to the chilly winds from the lake. But when buckwheat comes we can tell our big stories, then the people without our experience will say we yarn. The poorest I ever did on buckwheat, I extracted an average of thirty pounds per colony besides getting 20 lbs per colony of winter stores. I generally get an average of 50 lbs per colony from buckwheat and I have had them do this in one week. Bees do not work on buckwheat alone in the mornings. Sometimes they work all day, sometimes morning only and sometimes most in the afternoon.

The day I was there the one on scales gained 4½ lbs. In another number I will give some of Mr. Post's methods how to hive swarms on full sheets of foundation. Taking extracted honey building in the spring etc. I feel very much indebted for valuable information received from Mr. Post, which he has obtained through long and practical experience. Mr. Post's son Ernest promises to be one of our leading bee-keeper's with his fathers experience to begin with, a fair education and a keen interest in the pursuit he cannot help quickly becoming one of our most successful bee-keeper's.

Mrs. Post has for profitable pets two beautiful Jersey cows, and some of the children have pigeons. I keenly regretted that owing to lack of time I was unable to accept an invitation to take a sail on the Bay of Quinte and the lake, but in these hurried visits pleasure can only be followed when it is combined with business. In my next I shall say a little about Mr. B. O. Lott of Anson.

Uffington, July 21, 1894.

Please find enclosed one dollar, subscription to the CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL. I am pleased with the JOURNAL and wish you every success.

J. BULL