

Deadman, of Brussels, in August, 1901, when on a visit and not intended for publication. I have been keeping bees for some 15 years with somewhat varied success. When I commenced, I was, as I am still, a travelling agent, dealing in sewing machines and musical instruments, and as I was advancing in years I was looking for something that would give me some employment, and possibly some returns, when I became too old to travel, but long before I felt like giving up the road I found myself with a yard of fully 100 colonies of bees. For a few years I found it more profitable to hire a man for some, three months in the early summer than to give up my business; but last season, although 70 years of age, I did the work myself, (my partner, nearly as old as myself, helping me a little in the extracting room) and I attended to the Division Court business of the township, of which Court I am the clerk, done a considerable insurance business and conveyancing, as well as keeping up the sale of machines and musical instruments. Not so bad for an old man, is it? especially as the crop of honey last season was somewhat large, running up to fully 10,000 lbs. I have only had one season of larger return since I have been keeping bees and that was in 1899, when it ran up to fully 11,000 lbs., averaging about 120 lbs. per colony. Last year the average would be about 110 lbs. My greatest average in any one year was 125 lbs. per colony.

I use the Richardson hive, mostly those made with bevelled joints and sun caps and don't have to keep the covers on with stones. My yard, as will be noticed, is rather contracted for such a large number of colonies, being only about 60 ft. x 70 ft., the rest of the ground being taken up with buildings and garden. The

small building to the right is my extracting room, size 10 x 14

My bees are usually very cross, last year particularly so, and this, in the judgment of such practical bee-keepers as Deadman, Alpaugh and Sibbald, was probably due to the congested state of the yard. This I intend to overcome by removing about one fourth of them to an out yard this season. It may be possible that if I were to devote my whole time to it I might make a greater success of it, but I find that my winter losses are not greater than of those who devote their whole time to them, and my average yield of honey per colony is about as good as that of the specialist.

I might mention that at the time the photo was taken I was in the yard taking out combs for extracting.

A. BOOMER

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Communications

EDITOR C. B. J.

Dear Sir,—Your favor of Feb. 24th duly received; also Bee Journal for January explaining Prof. Harrison's success with formaline gas in destroying foul brood germs in all stages of foul broody honey combs.

Everyone interested in the honey bee will be pleased to learn of Prof. Harrison's experiment, and I assure you that if it proves to be practically a success for the average apiarist to destroy foul brood germs in all stages and conditions, whether in the larva or pupa which has just died or in the putrid mass which has dried down in the cell a year or more old, and as I understand him the honey that is in the comb is also disinfected at the same time.