

that fermentation results from exposure to the air would indicate that the secretion of formic acid is an important factor not possessed by this strain or race of stingless bees.

H. E. HILL.

Titusville, Pa., Sept. 28th, 1892.

FOR THE CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL.

An Encouraging Report.

DEAR SIR,—Although bee-keeping has become so unprofitable through the depreciation of prices that many bee-keepers are growing discouraged, my experience during the past season has not been altogether discouraging.

I bought thirty-five of the new Heddon hives, and contracted with a neighboring bee-keeper to furnish me first swarms for them at \$2 each. Owing to the lateness of the season he had but sixteen fresh swarms up to 20th July, none having issued before the first. As I did not care to take swarms issuing after this date, we agreed to close the deal at that number. They were hived in single cases, and supers were placed on them about the 20th July. Second supers were afterwards placed on some of them.

On the 20th September I took off twenty-five supers which contained about five hundred sections of marketable honey which I sold for ten cents per section, and about one hundred pounds of sections not fully capped which will answer for home use. I have the sixteen colonies well stocked with bees and supplied with honey, and in good condition for wintering.

Yours truly,

J. W. G.

Brighton, Oct. 7th, 1892.

FOR THE CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL.

Wired Frames, Annual Meetings. The Season's Results.

DEAR SIR,—Wired frames are to the front just now, and I see by the C. B. J. that some are in favor of using wire and some are not. Much may be said in favor of either system, but for my own part I prefer the wired frames for the following reasons: First, because I can handle them much more quietly, no matter how heavy the combs may be with honey or brood without any danger of breaking either in handling or in the extractor, and because it is a great support to the combs in hot weather. Secondly, because when swarming it is a pleasure to put the swarm on full sheets of foundation and feel sure that there is no danger of warping or breaking down, so that I feel amply repaid for the time it may take to wire the frames.

As the president has opened up the subject of

annual meetings, it appears to me that these gatherings might be made more attractive and profitable, first by judicious advertising in the local papers, so that we may have a large attendance; Second, by each member having a question to ask relative to the pursuit, and by taking part in the general discussion of the different papers as they come up. It is wrong to go away complaining that a few do all the talking, when perchance those who do so much talking would gladly hear others, should they avail themselves of the privilege. Come with all the knowledge of the pursuit you have got; give it freely, and take all the useful hints you can get, for there is much to be learned during the session and in the friendly chats between. I feel well repaid for attending each meeting, independently of meeting those whose writings appear in the JOURNAL from time to time.

The season now drawing to a close has been a peculiar one. The spring was backward and cold, and the bees scarcely ready for the clover, which gave a very light flow—about one-fourth of a crop. By the time the linden came in bloom the bees were quite ready, and honey came in rapidly for a few days; so that notwithstanding all our troubles the past season has left us a very good crop, and an increase of forty per cent. The bees are breeding much later this year with me than for some years past, but they will go into winter quarters in good order.

Yours, etc,

A. PRICKET.

Nassagawaya, October, '92.

Large Queens, and How to get Them.

SIR,—As a queen breeder I have had many inquiries for "large queens," so that larger workers may be had to get honey from red clover, and I have been consequently obliged to write many letters in reply to these requests.

I am aware that there are many who believe that small queens cannot produce large workers; but if you give the bees new combs which have not been bred in so as to reduce the size of the cells you will get larger bees than from old combs, and consequently the tongue of the bee will be longer. Mr. L. A. Aspinwall of Three Rivers, Mich., takes the right view of this matter, though I fear he will not make a success of his wooden combs, an opinion which I have not failed to advise him of. If, however, beekeepers will only go to the expense of new combs every two or three years, I am quite sure that within that time the bees will reach the honey in red clover. Why not? All other creatures are bred for size, and why not bees?