

the care of this small apiary of 24 colonies has been between us. The day we caged the queens he started on his wheel and began work about half-past one. He took a lunch with him but he did not even take time to eat it, lest under the shade of the big maples he would lose sight of the queens before sunset. Well, he got through with finding and caging these but had no time to spare. I would say, however, that it was a windy day and the bees were not only numerous but cross, with two or three colonies of bad hybrids thrown in. In nine or ten days it took nearly as long to examine carefully and remove all cells, and I have found that to examine for queens, and make divisions, takes well on to 6 hours, or fifteen minutes to a colony. This is, of course, when every colony requires some attention that we have to go to the brood nest to do. To go over one hundred and fifty colonies may be an easy matter early in the season, compared to one-fifth that number at swarming time. I first intended including the time and expense of going back and forth, but I will purposely omit this, so that it will apply to a home apiary also, leaving those who wish to figure for themselves the extra expense or time, should they decide to establish out-apiaries in their neighborhood. I look upon a beekeeper who understands his business as a skilled workman and entitled to good pay, not only this, but there are only certain days in the year that he can work with the bees and therefore requires extra pay on this account. Our estimate will be based on one dollar per hour for every hour spent in the apiary on work that can only be done when the weather is favorable. Any work that can be done indoors by hired help, or otherwise, can be estimated accordingly. It is supposed you will "make

hay while the sun shines," and although ten hours may be considered a day's work, you will, during the busy season, be engaged from twelve to fifteen hours, i.e., if you have many bees to look after:—

- April—Examining to see if sufficient food supply; crowding up when necessary and cleaning bottom boards of weak colonies and to see if all have queens, 5 hours.. \$ 5 00
- May—Clipping queens and giving more room when necessary, 4 hours..... 4 00
- May—Giving more room when necessary either in brood chamber or surplus department, 4 hours 4 00
- June—Artificial swarming and putting on supers, 6 hours.. 6 00
- June—Examining brood (removed when preventing swarms) after seven days for cells, 4 hours..... 4 00
- June—Examining parent colony after eight days to see if no cells and all O.K., 5 hours 5 00
- June—Extracting 500 pounds honey, 5 hours, self and man 5 75
- June—Examining 16 colonies (made by removing the brood from old colony) to see if queen is laying, 3 hrs. 3 00
- July—Extracting 500 pounds honey, self and man, 5 hrs.. 5 75
- July—Removing supers and seeing if sufficient left for winter stores, and extracting 200 lbs. honey, 5 hours.... 5 75
- Sept.—Doubling back extra colonies; reserving the best queens, 10 hours..... 10 00
- Oct.—Putting on cushions, fixing up for winter, 5 hours.. 5 00
- Interest on investment, say.. 20 00
- Contingencies, extras, etc.... 6 00

\$90 00

1200 11
colon
The
used to
combs.

DIS

Clove
ar as I
mckwh
stuff is c
rop for

Chard, J

Bees h
andantly
without
as gre
oney di
ary wa

swarms
abundan
not seen
appe
m. De
much
hone:

Monte

The g
ons it
suc
peara:

earl
trant

om v

eric c

most

en ab

armi

larg

me th

awf

ten

fo