

given off by the body of the mother, and has developed without its having coalesced with a male cell. Only one parent has supplied a germ cell, and surely we are justified in asserting that in consequence the drone has but one parent.

* * *

A letter from J. E. Hand, printed in "Gleanings" raises a very important and interesting point in the matter of feeding. Mr. Hand has found, and many others too, that feeding with thick syrup is productive of too much excitement in an apiary and conducive to robbing, but that a very thin syrup, sweetened water in fact, when fed out-doors nearly reproduces the conditions that obtain during a natural honey-flow. Mr. Hand mixes the sugar and water in the ratio of one to nine. He is able by means of this "artificial flow" to raise queens as easily as during a natural honey flow, and he claims to have solved one of the problems that confront the queen-breeder during a dearth of honey. We have reproduced Mr. Hand's letter in our "Reviews and Comments."

* * *

A bulletin on agriculture is being prepared by the Dominion Department of Agriculture, which, on completion, will be published both in English and in French, and will be distributed throughout Canada. In addition to general instructions in bee-keeping, it will contain an exhaustive account of bee-diseases and their treatment. In some parts of the Dominion, we have found, methods of bee-keeping have not reached the high level of excellence that they have in Ontario, and the scattering broadcast of such a bulletin should be productive of much good to the bee-keeping profession generally.

* * *

The Division of Entomology at Ottawa, since its organization, has taken a very keen interest in apiculture, and more particularly in the question of bee-diseases, and during the past year or two,

has been keeping in close touch with the Provincial Departments of Agriculture. Dr. C. Gordon Hewitt, the Dominion Entomologist, fully recognises the necessity of undertaking a vigorous campaign against bee-diseases, and we believe he is a man whose name will become very familiar to Canadian bee-keepers in the near future.

* * *

Mr. David Chalmers furnishes much food for thought in his "Observations" this month. "Is the most being done," he asks, "with the funds at our disposal, in the matter of eradicating foul brood?" The tenor of his article shows that he believes much remains to be done, and other prominent bee-keepers have written us to the same effect. As Mr. Chalmers points out, the fault lies chiefly at the door of the careless, ignorant and callous bee-keepers, who do not, and, possibly, will not, carry out the instructions of the Inspectors sent to help them. He makes a strong point in favour of quarantine stations—a suggestion in which he is supported by at least one other inspector. Mr. Chrysler in his report last year stated as follows: "I consider the most effective way, and probably the speediest way of destroying foul brood throughout Ontario, and cheaper in the end, is for the Department to instruct inspectors to have every diseased colony that was not destroyed, shipped to some central place for treatment or destruction, and that the owners receive a small compensation." Another inspector recommended that in all districts where disease was known to exist, the removing of colonies of bees without permission of the authorities should be prohibited by law. For our part, we believe that the funds set aside for the purpose are quite inadequate, and we feel that the time has come for the bee-keepers themselves either to agree to make a voluntary tax, or to urge Government to pass a measure having as its object the raising from among the owners of hives a fund that will enable more energetic and more

effective work being done on the bee pest.

* * *

Bee-keepers would do well to welcome such a proposal of the nature of an "insurance" policy. It is quite possible that such a plan might furnish the means of compensating the owners of colonies burned by the inspectors. The matter is well worth consideration.

* * *

We have on hand, for our next issue, a very useful contribution by Mr. Sladen, (Fellow of the Society of London), the English queen breeder. Mr. Sladen, in addition to being a bee-keeper, is well-known as an expert, and is an acknowledged authority upon the various races of bees. He was but fourteen or fifteen years old when he began his first work (on the honey bee, I believe), and since then he has written a great deal on various subjects connected with the natural history of bees, and the queen-rearing ("Queen Rearing in England") is a valuable work which has placed him in the front rank of bee writers on apiculture. Some years ago he journeyed to Italy to study the various races of bees, and is no man living who is better qualified to write upon the question of queen-rearing than he. His work is good enough to deal with the question of "The Bee for the Breeder."

* * *

In our present issue, we have a letter from a reader, who, having been interested in Dr. Miller's article, asks for directions as to how to make a start. The bee-keeper who desires to Italianise his yard must first of all choose a good Italian queen. The best obtainable Italian queen should be the best obtainable. The bee-keeper should raise every colony in his yard that has not been Italianised, and the young queens will mate