

to reap much gain indirectly, and we hope that we are now over the worst of our trials and that a bright future is awaiting those who do not get discouraged and give up the business in disgust.

BASSWOOD STILL YIELDING.

Just as we go to press to-day (the 30th July) we find to our surprise that basswood is still yielding in some localities. Some trees which we examined on high dry ground were not yielding on the 20th, but we find the bees gathering very rapidly from trees in shady localities where the land is moist, and along the creek bottoms the trees are just swarming with bees, and we even found some buds not yet open so that we may expect a little for a few days to come. The weather is also very favorable for the Canadian thistle yield. On Saturday and Sunday (the 28th and 29th) they were storing very rapidly from that source also.

LARGE FINE QUEENS.

Our foreman just tells us that we have got the largest stock of the finest queens that we have had this season and we could send out one or two hundred by return mail. In fact the queens which are hatching now are much larger, finer and brighter than those bred earlier, the weather being so much more favorable for breeding purposes.

THE SEASON THUS FAR.

BELOW we give reports which have been received since the last issue of the JOURNAL, for Ontario. Next week we hope to be able to present reports from Quebec and the eastern provinces. In about a month we hope to hear from our correspondents again, and trust that the reports will be more favorable.

LANARK.

CARLETON PLACE.—Us to the present date there has not been any honey taken in this district. The prospects for a fall flow are poor at present. There have only been six or seven swarms in this district. They would not swarm, no matter how many bees there were in a hive. Thistle is just in bloom, and perhaps we may get a taste.

MIDDLESEX.

FARNHILL.—I have twenty-one colonies, have

taken sixty pounds per colony. Consider the prospects for fall flow good.

MIDDLESEX.

MAPLE GROVE.—I started the year with 14 colonies, have increased to 24 with very little honey coming in. In fact honey around here, and in London township this year will be nothing but a total failure. Bee-keepers who have been in the business for years say it is the worst season they have known. I see a good deal said about queen-excluders, wooden and zinc. I have tried both and find the zinc is by far the best. Indeed, a year like this, when honey is so scarce the wooden ones are not worth the trouble of putting on.

WATERLOO.

KOSSUTH.—I have not taken any honey. White clover a complete failure. Basswood in blossom, bees bringing in some honey from it. They have not sufficient for winter yet. Not likely to have any fall flow in this locality. Have had very few swarms. Increased by the nuclei system. Have in all 112, will likely double them up to 80 or 85 unless more honey comes in than I expect.

LINWOOD.—From my stock of 23 colonies I have had 15 swarms and could have had many more, but when the 1st July came I thought it was too late, so I went through a number and cut away all queen cells. We will have extracted over 100 pounds before this reaches you; I expect to extract 100 more. I have taken off some 30 pounds comb honey and have several cases nearly ready to come off, but the season here is very disappointing. White clover flourished well, but yielded but little honey. Spring crops are magnificent; fall wheat poor.

WELLINGTON.

ELORA.—I went into winter quarters with 60 colonies and came out with 54, but spring dwindle took about one-quarter of the surviving ones. Were not up to the standard of former years, and I sold six of the best, which gave the purchaser good satisfaction as they all swarmed one good swarm each, which they were warranted to do. I have now fifty colonies all told and I don't want any more this season, and all I have do not seem to be able to support themselves, for I keep strong colonies on the scale and find it is getting less each week. They work a little in the morning, and in the evening they cluster about as though there was nothing worth going after. My wife sowed some poppy seed for the sole purpose of seeing the bees show their agility on them, and the mean little fellows refused to give her a free exhibition after all her trouble,