

he can best do so with a large hive. I am not saying that this system, the system of giving the bees but little care, will give him the best returns, but that determined to follow out that system the large hive will answer his purpose better. Why? Because having more room the bees are less likely to swarm. Having more room below, the bees, at the close of the honey season, are likely to be better provided for stores and where the supers are removed and the bees allowed for winter what stores they may have below, they will be better provided. Again, in spring many colonies in smaller hives do not build up as quickly as in the layer, not because there are more bees in the layer, but because in the layer brood chamber there is more honey that the bees can turn into brood, or, what is quite as likely, there is more room for brood rearing and the bees can convert the honey into brood, which the bees are less likely to do in a smaller hive unless the position of the combs is changed.

Layer hives may also in some respects be an advantage with a prolonged honey season if the honey gathered is light honey, but I doubt if it is when the light honey flow is of short duration and the second flow dark honey and that in the average locality an uncertain crop such as buckwheat, golden rod, boneset and aster. Why? Because with a short light honey flow, the bees which are bred during that flow come too late to assist in gathering honey; the honey then which is consumed lessens the light honey crop. The entire question is one which cannot be hastily settled. Locality and management have much to do with the matter, but management even more than locality.

A correspondent in the British Bee Journal asks,—One of my hives swarmed to-day (June 15) and I have hived the bees on six frames in a temporary hive. Now supposing a second swarm should issue in eight or ten days, would it be safe to unite the two lots, putting the drawn-out combs into a new hive and shaking off the bees amongst those of the new swarm. 2. The queen of the prime swarm was hatched in 1897. Would she, or the virgin queen at the head of the second swarm, be most likely to conquer in the inevitable battle for supremacy? 3. I am not anxious for increase of stocks, having eight now on my front lawn, and I should like, therefore, to do something to avoid having more. The reply is as follows.—The difficulties of uniting after a lapse of

ten days are the same as with two swarms from different hives. Your proposed plan would probably, therefore, result in most of the bees of the second swarm being killed, unless proper precautions are taken. 2. We should expect the virgin queen to be the victim, but it is not certain. Our advice is to return the second swarm to the parent colony on the morning of the day following its issue. If this is done there is not much fear of the swarm coming off again, and no increase of stocks will follow.

[I would prefer very much to return the second swarm to the parent colony the evening of the second day, there can then be no swarming until next morning and the two queens being in the hive during all that time are much more likely to have a royal combat before morning and more likely of leaving only one queen and therefore lessening the chance of swarming out. Again, I would rather expect the young, strong and more active queen to be the victor as the old queen is handicapped with the large ovaries and eggs, but I certainly would not unite the second and first swarms.—Ed.]

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### Canada's Greatest Fair.

This year will mark the coming of age of Canada's Great Fair and Industrial Exposition, which will be held in Toronto from August 28th to Sept 9th. It is just twenty-one years since Toronto Exhibition was established as an annual institution under the present management. During that time it has increased five fold in every direction, and to-day can fairly lay claim to have assumed a national character. Last year upwards of 300,000 people attended, and this year such arrangements are being made as will warrant the expectation of a still larger attendance. Many entirely new features will be presented, while the exhibits, with an increased amount given in prizes (totalling \$35,000), will undoubtedly crowd the six hundred thousand dollars' worth of buildings to their utmost. The usual brilliant military spectacles will be given, illustrating recent famous feats of arms on land and sea by both England and America, and arrangements have been made for an illustration of wireless telegraphy, wireless telephoning and the improved X rays. In short, the Exhibition will be more than ever up to date.