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it is well to at we band with energy, we ever got g more than eat deal, and

I venture to say we will get a great deal more.

Now, the condition of the bees in the country I suppose I am not in a position to speak of at all like the inspectors of apiaries, who would state as to whether they find the bees in better condition or not, but I venture to say they will report the bees are clearer of disease than they were a number of years ago.

In reference to the crop report, as I have said before, I have confidence in it. I have been on that Committee a number of years, and I still have more confidence than I ever had that we can estimate pretty accurately the condition of the crop report in Ontario. I am surprised that we can do it as well as it has been done, but if you have done a thing several times it begins to give you confidence that you can do it well.

Now, I don't know that we have ever been a cent out in all the crop reports we have got. I don't know that we have ever suggested honey should be sold for five or ten cents, and it was not sold for those prices. Even this year it was doubted as to whether we were correct or not that the probabilities were there was a fairly good crop of honey. However, when we simmered the whole thing down, it was found that some sections hadn't much and others had quite a little, but we still found there was no honey at all in the hands of the dealers—there was a clear market—so we based it on a good many grounds; and I believe from the reports that came back you can accomplish a great deal in a crop report.

#### OUR CHRISTIAN FRIEND

R. F. Holtermann, in "Gleanings," April 1st:

"After reading all the valuable articles written by Canadian bee-keepers in the March 1st number of 'Gleanings,' I do not know in which to feel the greater pride—the Canadian bee-keepers or 'Gleanings.'"

#### Chalmers' Observations

At your request, Mr. Editor, I herewith advance some observations which led me to suggest quarantining colonies of bees affected with foul brood as being the safest and surest way of handling them.

My proposition would be to have a public or general quarantine station in each township, and let every bee-keeper of any importance have his or her own private quarantine as well.

I made arrangements to this end four years ago with a farmer two miles distant from my apiary, but have not so far carried it into effect. What led me to that was through observing how bees of one colony will mix with others. I purchased a queen bee from the late Henry Alley some years ago which produced very yellow workers. Those bees, either through mistake or stupidity, entered and were received into the first, second and third hives to the south (the latter being 21 feet distant) and one hive to the north of their own (7 feet). Knowing this to be a fact, apart from drifting and robbing, is there not a great risk in allowing foul brood colonies to remain in a valuable apiary? Then when it comes to the time of shaking, I consider there is less or more danger of bees hunting for and entering neighboring hives, seeing the inside conditions of their own are so transformed. I expect it is to try and obviate this danger that Mr. McEvoy advises shaking in the evening.

But the greatest need for quarantining is to have stations where diseased colonies owned by careless bee-keepers or bee-keepers of dwarf-like calibre could be run in and treated by a competent person, and not the curing alone, but the careful disposal of the combs containing the disease. The latter phase has given me no little concern ever since foul brood struck this locality.

Right here I might cite a case which came under my notice this winter, and the party wasn't by any means a man