

the refuse and arranged these, the natural scales, into the word WAX, but before doing so I weighed a number on a pair of jeweller's diamond scales to find out how many went to the pound, for I could not find any reference to this in any of my many books on the bee. I find there are just 192 to the grain and of course 1,474,560 to the pound. This item may be of interest to some of the readers of the C.B.J. In reading the April number of the C.B.J. I find some doubt expressed as to which is the best covering for hives, cloth or board. Well, my experience in Ontario was, best to use both in the proper season; in fall, winter and spring use the cloth, and a good chaff cushion over the bees; in summer, when everything is as it should be, bees strong, days and nights warm, and the honey harvest on, then use the flat-cleated lid next the sections for extracting frames. I found the tops of sections cleaner, and when working hard with the bees, found the flat lid a great saving of time. I would just give it a twist to break connections, then lift off. I usually found many bees on the under side of lid, and when replacing lid on hive would reverse it, that is, put the inside that was, on the outside, and the bees could go home at their leisure. By this method I had no bees to brush off, and none were killed, for I always slid the lid on, and the bees soon made all tight again. In the evening I would scrape the propolis with a flat piece of metal, and all was clean and smooth. I repeat the operation in a day or so; this method was such a great convenience that I am a strong advocate for the flat-cleated cover in preference to the gable roof.

E. F. ROBINSON.

Victoria, B.C., May, 1901.

## DISTRICT INTELLIGENCE.

### District No. 1.

Bees wintered well; spring has been fairly favorable. Considerable robbing has been indulged in. Weather during the past two weeks unfavorable, but grand prospects for clover. Bees in great demand and many bee-keepers are starting new apiaries; everything indicates a good honey season.

W. J. BROWN.

Chard, May 27th.

### District No. 2.

White clover prospects good; can't say about the basswood yet. My own bees came out splendidly; some very strong now. Bees generally have not wintered in this section; many colonies have died and others came out weak.

If wet weather continues clover will "scald out" in low places. Weather has been favorable for building up.

J. K. DARLING.

Almonte, May 23rd.

### District No. 3.

The month of May 1901 has not been a favorable one for bees in this district. Rain, rain, rain, too much rain. A few days ago I sent out a number of letters of inquiry to bee-keepers scattered over these counties and the answers in most cases showed that the stock wintered fairly well, but quite a percentage of loss in many yards has resulted from spring-dwindling. The losses in the different yards ranging from five to twenty-five per cent. Colonies that have "Weathered the Storm" are, at this date in fine condition and the clover is looking very promising.

Bee-keepers should not be afraid to give a full report of their work from time to time so that all may be benefited by knowing the general honey crop prospects, etc.

M. B. HOLMES.

Athens, May 30th, 1901.