

HONEY PRODUCERS' EXCHANGE.

THIS association was formed in Utica, at an annual meeting of the N. Y. State Bee-keepers Association January 1888, and from Mr. W. E. Clark, Oriskany, N. Y. we receive the following particulars:

The president is Mr. P. H. Elwood; vice-president, I. L. Scofield; secretary, G. H. Knickerbocker; treasurer, C. G. Dickinson.

Its object is to furnish to its members prompt and reliable information as to the honey crop throughout the United States. Six or more reporters are appointed in every honey producing state, who forward their reports to the Secretary on the first day of May, June, July, August and September. The Secretary compiles these reports from each state (separately), and on the 10th of the month forwards to each member of the "Exchange" the reports from the whole United States.

These statistics embrace the increased or diminished number of swarms going into winter quarters, loss in Winter and Spring, condition of bees at beginning of season, proportion of full of crop honey gathered both white and dark, comb and extracted, the quantity of honey in the different markets remaining unsold, with price, etc., etc.

The advantage of this information is too apparent to require any elaboration here. We would say that if you know the honey crop the market is yours, and you can secure prices in keeping with the amount of honey which you know is on the market. The "Exchange" has met with great favor among bee-keepers, several members present at Syracuse (Dec. 11-13), and others from abroad, among whom are many of the largest honey producers in the United States, stated that the information furnished by the reports during the past season had been worth many dollars to them in the disposal of their honey, while other prominent bee-keepers pronounced it the best thing that ever came from an association of bee-men. Feeling assured that you will wish to reap your share of the benefits of these statistics, we extend a cordial invitation to you to join the "Exchange" by forwarding your membership fee to the Secretary, G. H. Knickerbocker, Pine Plains, N. Y., which will entitle you to the reports for one year, and also if you attend its meetings to all the advantages of membership in the N. Y. State Bee Keepers' Association, without further expense. The fee is one dollar per year, but it is hoped that enough bee-keepers will join so that the dollar will cover the cost of two year's

reports in which case you will receive the same for that length of time. Each member will also receive with the report sent out May 10th, a list giving the names and address of all the members and reporters. These statistics will not be furnished to the journals for publication but will be sent only to members. We could not meet our expenses were we to make public our reports.

For the CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL.

EARLY DRONES.

I PUT 185 colonies into the cellar about the 20th of last November, which seem to be in fine condition at present. I do not think I have one dead colony yet. I have put out 30 on the summer stands, and they have been bringing in pollen quite lively; I put out the first few colonies on March the 12th, and among them there was one very strong one, from which there were drones flying. Thinking it was queenless I opened it, and to my surprise, I found it contained a good queen, and enough brood in all stages to about fill one frame. When were the drones raised?

Bees that had lots of stores last fall seem to be wintering well in this locality, but there has been a terrible slaughter from starvation. I know of three different parties that lost about 50 colonies each, or in other words, all they had from starvation.

JACOB ALPAUGH.

St. Thomas, March 28th, '89.

From the American Rural Home.

SEASONABLE NOTES.

IN this, as in all other business, it is far easier to supply a demand than create one.

I have never seen a bee-hive yet that I could not find a good point about, nor one that I could not find a bad one also.

During the summer a queenless colony will hardly ever have any trouble in uniting with a colony that has been hived but a day or two; but if it tries to do so with a colony having plenty of stores during the busy season, they are shown no mercy, but are killed at once.

If increase is wanted, by driving swarms, it is better to leave the old colony, and remove the swarm. As it will be a small one, if done in this way, build it up with the brood from the parent colony, or what is better, from some other one, and make three from two.