

DANIEL NORMAN, OAK RIDGES, ONT.—Seeing that others are sending in reports, I thought I would report also. Of course as my stock is small, only one colony, the report will not be very long. I purchased the bees last Fall about the last of October, and set them out in the garden for nearly a month, then I set them on a stool two feet high in the cellar and covered them over with some mats. There they remained until the snow was gone in April. But in the first week of March I examined them and found about a quart of dead bees, and the sides of the hive were dripping with water. When I set them out there were as many dead bees as when I cleaned the hive out in March, and the lower part of the frames were all mouldy. I removed three frames on which there were no bees, and two of them had no honey in. What will I do with the mouldy comb in the frames?

You will see this question answered in this number of the JOURNAL.

THREE KINDS OF BASSWOOD.

SAMUEL J. CHUBB, TORONTO, ONT.—I send you specimens of three different basswood trees, to show the difference in the time of blossoming. You will see that No. 1 is just out in bloom, while both the others are far behind. No. 3 is, I think, the common American basswood.

The samples arrived in fine condition and we judge that there would be at least two weeks difference in the time of blooming. It would be very interesting, Friend Chubb, if you could give us the names of all the different varieties and the time they bloom, also the length of time they remain in bloom, and any characteristics that you think would be interesting. We have no doubt from the specimens you sent that we could have a continuous yield of honey for six weeks, by planting some of each of the different varieties of basswood. We think this is something we ought to give more attention to. Living in Toronto where the different varieties are planted out in the parks, lawns, etc., you have a good chance of becoming familiar with them, and we think we can rely on you to give us all the information that we desire about them.

SWARMING OUT.

A. CASLICK, TEESWATER, ONT.—On the 10th of June I had two swarms come off at one time one out of each hive. They both lit in one cluster. I did as you said you did with the seven some time ago. I spread a sheet on the ground and put a hive on each end and divided the bees as equally as I could. I only caught one of the queens, as you will see I put them into hives. Two days after they swarmed out of one of these hives, and I put them in another hive—a new one—and put in a frame of comb taken from the first box. Well, on the 13th, the next day, they left that box and went away. I used the Jones' hives. I would like to hear from some of my brother bee-keepers, the probable reason why they left those hives and went away: I did not see them leaving but one of the children did, and by the time I got to the yard they were out of sight.

We should like to know what kind of comb they built, whether it was drone or worker comb. Both queens may have got into one box. In that case the colony that swarmed out may have been queenless, but if they were queenless the comb they built would be drone comb, if not queenless it would be worker comb. Examine the comb and let us hear. Tell us also whether they had honey in the comb? If short of stores, etc., that may have had something to do with their leaving the hive. We have had swarms that seemed determined to leave the hive they were put in, and nothing short of caging their queen on the comb would prevent them. After cutting the queen's wings we have known them to rush out, and she would crawl as far from the hive as she could; and yet we could see nothing to induce them to do so.

FOUNDATION WIRED HORIZONTALLY.

GEO. E. HILTON, FREEMONT, MICH.—In reply to H. E. Hill, Titusville, Pa., I would say: I have about 700 frames in my apiary wired horizontally, the wires being about three inches apart and pulled so taut as to spring the end bar a little, which keeps the wire on a tension. They do not sag or slip down, as the foundation takes bearings the entire length of the wires, neither do they cut into the end bars. All foundation should be well fastened to the top bars.