

adjoining counties are good for a crop of honey, if—our bees were only in shape to gather it. It is with a feeling akin to mortification that I admit that for the first time in my bee-keeping experience our bees are not in any shape to take advantage of the flow. Having the hives boiling over with bees and no nectar for them to gather is not half so provoking as to see the clover yielding honey profusely and colonies not in condition to profit to any extent, and then to hear that in the east the weather conditions have been perfect, bees are in No. 1 condition, etc., almost moves one to envy. But then we had the best end last year, so go ahead brethren sweat over the hives and then worry about selling your big crops. Relief from these exertions is the one bit of silver lining we are to see on the dark clouds surrounding the horizon.

York County Ont.

Cheap Increase

One of the problems in many parts of our country this season is the replenishment of our winter losses. This can be done rapidly and cheaply by the nucleus method, and its simplicity commends it to those not highly skilled in apicultural manipulations. Take a frame of hatching brood, well covered with bees, a laying queen, or a ripe cell, and place them in the centre of a hive of drawn combs. A frame of honey or sugar syrup should also be included. The earlier after the weather becomes warm and settled these nuclei can be formed, the better, though in Colorado they will succeed if started as late as the first of July without feeding. It requires from six to seven weeks to develop them into full colonies, and they will be in prime condition to gather surplus honey from the fall flow. Fifteen or twenty good colonies may

be easily increased to a hundred in this manner; and if the season is fairly good, they will more than return their cost. They make the very best colonies for the succeeding year, as the queens are young and will be at their best. I made nearly one hundred such nuclei between June first and July first, last year. With the exception of one, all wintered well and to-day they are among my best colonies.—H. C. Morehouse in *Gleanings in Bee Culture*

In the *Schweizerische Bienenzeitung*, Jos. Theiler, the manager of the insurance department of the Swiss Bee-Keepers' Association announces that he is prepared to take insurances from affiliated societies on behalf of their members. He does not insure single bee-keepers, so that anyone wishing to have the advantage of insurance must belong to a bee-keepers association. It would be a good plan if the same system were adopted in this country, and bee-keepers only joined those societies who would undertake insurance for them. — *British Bee Journal*.

Prevention of After-Swarms

Prevention of prime swarms is not one of the easiest of problems, prevention of after-swarms is much easier. The following plan will generally prove successful in preventing all after-swarming:

When the prime or first swarm issues put the swarm on the old stand, placing the old colony that is in the old hive close beside the swarm that is now on the old stand. A number of queen-cells are in the old hive, and when the first young queen emerges from its cell an after-swarm is likely to issue. This after-swarm may issue about eight days after the first swarm issued. Instead of waiting for that, however, you will remove the old