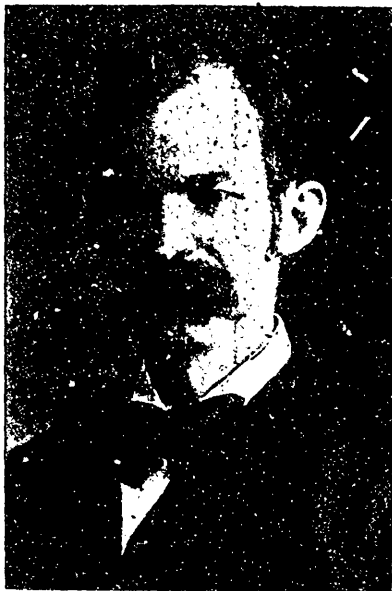


The Past Season.

—ALPINE MCGREGOR.

The honey season is now over in this locality and I have to report another failure for the incomparable (?) basswood. Instead however, of the delicious flavored basswood nectar, the bees are bringing in a sweetish, sourish, yellowish juice which I at first



F. J. DAVIS,

Vice-President Brant Bee-Keepers' Association.

thought was the secretions of the aphides or plant lice described by Prof. Cook. The basswood leaves are covered with the exudation of these insects. This is the first time I have noticed it in an experience extending over fifteen years. I have not noticed any bees on the leaves, however, and investigation has nearly convinced me that the above described juice is being gathered from milk weed. Should like to know your opinion. The sections now on the hive which are unfinished are spoiled with this stuff.

Alsike clover was in bloom about two weeks before it began to "give down" to any extent, but about the last week in June the "flow" commenced in good earnest. From 40 colonies worked for extracted honey I have taken nearly two tons, about

three-fourths of which is fine well-ripened clover honey. 20 colonies run for comb honey yielded probably 40 finished sections each. A large number are still on the hives. I should like to see reports from other localities in order to judge as to the demand and price of honey.

I hived nearly all my swarms this season which were very large on 6 and 8 frames of wired foundation. Most of these clung to the brood chamber till all the foundation was drawn out and then swarmed again after filling one super of sections. I was not smart enough to hive any on starters as I have done in the past but I imagine had I done so I would have got more comb honey. Perhaps the reason the bees did not enter the sections sooner was on account of the cool weather and light "flow."

The hives from which first swarms swarmed the second time were raised on blocks from bottom boards. I was surprised at this as many of my colonies worked for extracted honey did not swarm at all, though they were very strong and occupied two and three stories.

I should like to see a photograph in the C. B. J. of the different grades of comb honey. It would be appreciated by more than the writer.

Inglewood, July 21st, 1898

[The honey flow generally has been above the average, clover has yielded well, basswood or linden has yielded but little. As to grading comb honey there appears to be quite a diversity of opinion. If some of us will get together at the Toronto Exhibition and select a dozen sections as they should be in each grade we will have them photographed and illustrated in the Canadian Bee Journal. —Ed.]

Varieties of Honey.

We want as great a variety of honey as possible from different parts of the Dominion and would esteem it a favour if bee-keepers, who are willing to send one pound samples, will write to me stating the kind of honey it is. I am anxious to get some samples from all over, but more particularly the newer parts of Ontario, Quebec, Manitoba, N. W. T., British Columbia, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and Prince Edward Island.

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