

When wintered outdoors, they will require more.

H. D. CUTTING, CLINTON, MICH.—From twenty to twenty-five pounds if wintered on summer stands. Twelve to twenty if in cellar.

JUDGE ANDREWS, MCKENNY, TEXAS.—This depends so much on locality that I wish to answer only for my own. I range from twenty to thirty pounds.

PROF. A. J. COOK, LANSING, MICH.—It is safe in any and every case to say 30 lbs. Much less will do under the right management and under the eye of a skillful apiarist.

ALLEN PRINGLE, SELBY, ONT.—My opinion is that if the colony is wintered in proper quarters under proper conditions for quiescence, ten to twenty pounds is enough. If in cold quarters or under other adverse conditions, from twenty to thirty-five pounds will be needed.

DR. A. B. MASON, WAGON WORKS, OHIO.—My opinion is that colonies wintered outdoors require more honey for winter than those wintered in a cellar. The average amount of stores consumed by my bees wintered in the cellar for a few winters past, is six and one-half pounds per colony.

H. COUSE, CHELTENHAM, ONT.—At least twenty-five pounds, as it is sometimes late in the spring before they get new honey. I weighed about twenty colonies last fall, the day they were put into winter quarters, and the average loss in weight when put out in spring was nine pounds. They were in the cellar 141 days.

J. E. POND, FOXBORO, MASS.—I have found from twenty-five to thirty pounds ample, as a rule, to carry a colony through from fall till the incoming spring crop. This, however, is on summer stands; and I have had colonies use not more than eight or nine pounds and others full twenty-eight or twenty-nine, and in one instance last winter a colony starved before the middle of March on more than thirty-five pounds.

G. W. DEMARRE, CHRISTIANBURG, KY.—It requires more stores in one locality than it does in some others. In this locality not less than twenty-five pounds of stores is entirely safe for an average colony. Nothing has paid me better than "lots" of stores in winter and spring. If the stores is good honey nothing is lost if there is a surplus over when the new crop begins to come in, as the old stores will help to enlarge the yield.

A. L. SWINSON, GULF BORO, N. C.—That

there never was a colony that had too much stores, if in the brood hive and of pure naturally stored honey properly ripened. As to how little might be sufficient, I would not care to guess. I don't know. That bees do consume more honey per colony here in the south, during Jan., February and March, I think is beyond question, a certain fact, than ever is in any extreme northern locality during same month. This is due to continuous breeding and rearing of brood during these months.

DR. C. C. MILLER, MARENGO, ILL.—Your question is rather obscure. If you mean differences in weight, I think you will find that of several colonies weighing the same in fall, those having oldest comb will have lightest stores. If you mean how much honey should they have, I would rather have enough so they will not feel they ever need to save at any time from fall till next harvest. Twenty-five or thirty pounds for cellaring; more for outdoors. But when you think you have twenty-five pounds, if you extract and weigh it, you may find it much less.

JAS. HEDDON, DOWAGIAC, MICH.—First, what is meant by honey for winter? In considering the amount required, to last a colony from the time they cease gathering in autumn, till they can fly and be fed in spring, I will state that it is my experience that they consume not over half as much when kept in a suitable repository, as when packed on their summer stands. The number of pounds per colony, as consumed here, varies from four to eight pounds, and safety demands the maximum amount, and much more if the hive is more than eight frames wide, as in that case much will be inaccessible. We use all eight frame hives and figure on about fifteen to twenty pounds for winter and spring, both.

For The Canadian Bee Journal.

#### GENERAL PURPOSE QUEENS.

**M**R. G. M. Doolittle, in reply to query No. 115 in C. B. J., page 691, says: "While thousands of queens, forced into existence through the agency of man are inferior in every way, as hundreds of bee-keepers can testify and would, if they told their honest convictions. Even Mr. Swinson admits this, where he says, on page 853 of *Gleanings* (enclosing the sentence in parenthesis,) 'to get them built perfectly, well fed, and as near the quality of those built under Nature's own impulse and designs.'"

I ask to disagree with Mr. Doolittle, in the opinion that I admit anything of the kind, in the sense that his answer and partial quotation implies that I do. I do admit, and claim, that in rearing good queens, all conditions present and