

THE USE OF BEE-ESCAPES.

Indexed

In preparing bees for winter, every bee-keeper who gets a crop of buckwheat honey and leaves good sealed stores for winter knows what a job it is to shake bees from the combs that two extracting ten-frame supers contain. The honey has to be warmed to extract, whether bee-escapes are used or not. This fall I concluded to try bee-escape honey boards, and let me say right here to beginners, you can do the job in half the time, with no robbing, when it would be almost impossible to work in a yard of 150 colonies the old way by shaking all of the bees off the combs. With the bee-escape you lift off the two supers, after having been freed from bees, pick out six of the heaviest combs sealed right to the bottom bar, carry the other twelve into the honey house and tier them up. The fire gets the bee house very warm while I am carrying my honey in. Now I go to the hives beside which the six good sealed combs of honey were left, covered tight in one super. I life off my bee-escape, shake the bees off of the combs, and replace with the sealed ones. I just shake seven combs. If I were to do it the old way, I would shake the other twelve. I just snatch them off and carry to the bee house about as quick as it takes to tell it, and there is no robbing. I would have tried escapes before, but I saw them condemned by not only practical bee-keepers, but by some of our most extensive bee-keepers; but let me say right here that where one man works alone, the bee-escape is a great advantage in robbing time, when the honey has to be warmed up to extract. I do not use them to take off the earlier honey.

Don't you think, Friend Storer (page 309, C.B.J.) one can overdo the thing by leaving too much honey in a ten-frame hive for a colony of bees to winter and feed upon during spring? I have never left over six good sealed combs, and

never lost a single colony from starvation. Where a person feeds up without going through the brood chamber it is difficult to tell how much a colony really needs, but I have often had to take out sealed combs to allow the queen room to lay, during spring breeding time.

Crop Report

I extracted from 101 colonies, spring count, 3,350 lbs. of clover; from 56 colonies, spring count, 934 lbs. clover; and from 153 colonies I extracted 6,000 lbs. of buckwheat honey, besides leaving plenty of sealed stores for winter.

J. E. FARR.

OFF TO THE WEST

I beg to say that, as I have disposed of all of my bees, fixtures, etc., to Mr. Frank Vallery of Bellwood. I shall have to ask you to discontinue sending me the C.B.J. Mr. Vallery may become a subscriber. He is a first-class man in every respect. No apiarist in Canada can afford to do without the C.B.J. I am sorry to part company with both the bees and your Journal. As I have only one son, who has gone West, scripping 640 acres of beautiful prairie land. I was induced to homestead 160 acres close to him in Saskatchewan. I shall have to go West for three years to prove it up. Wishing you every success with your valuable paper, and regretting parting company with so many bright, intelligent and esteemed bee-keepers, I ever remain, yours with profound respect.

JOHN H. REED.

Mimosa, Ont.

[We regret very much to loose you, Mr. Reed. We sincerely trust that the venture of yourself and your son in the west will prove successful, and that you may before long introduce bee-keeping in your neighborhood. Bee-keeping is bound to have a future in the West, and possibly you are destined to be one of its pioneers. You have our best wishes.—Ed.]

CO-OPERATIVE

Indexed

W. J.

I was at the Bee-keepers' Toronto last month and gave the next address on the matter, I beg leave before the bee-keepers' meeting:

I believe co-operation is the price of honey which have not as yet bee-keepers can dispose of once and get their money for it. I am able them to work than having to write try for a market and consignments, which when you have to freight on a small quantity.

Now in reading over offer some grand suggestions should be taken committee. In forming change I would suggest should be put as low all bee-keepers could small man with 15 or and share in the proportion on equal condition producers. The Honey be able to set the price in a position to advise they should get for the of honey. For instance honey, well ripened, at No. 3 at 9c, and so grade. These figures (trusting they will be serve to illustrate a plan

Now, to finance the work; the honey through the banks as sary, and the produce money. As you say, year, after capital had interest and cost of material