

It has been estimated that a large, thrifty, well-flowered basswood will fully supply a colony during its flow, and I do not think the estimate is out of the way. When clover is secreting nectar, a field of 20 or 25 acres of thick white or alsike clover will keep a good-sized apiary going." Pretty big claims to be sure, and, while they may be correct for Minnesota, I believe the most of Canadian bee-keepers will agree that these "estimates" are too high for our locality.

As to the clover, as Mr. Facey says, it all depends whether it is "secreting nectar" or not; and this reminds me that up to date (July 1st), although the clover has been in full bloom for a few days, with ideal weather, yet practically no nectar is coming in. The clover is now looking good, and why it is not yielding is a question; anyway, it begins to look as though last year's record may be repeated.

Building Up Weak Colonies in the Spring.

Orel L. Hershiser, writing in "Gleanings," outlines a system of building up weak colonies for the honey-flow. Briefly stated, his plan is to equalize, by drawing from the very strong to build up the weaker ones, so that all will be in condition to take advantage of the honey-flow. This has always appeared to me to be too much of the "robbing-Peter-to-pay-Paul" nature, and, except under extraordinary conditions, I doubt very much if the time spent in so much manipulation is paid for in the end. Whether it is because I use a large hive I know not, but for some reason I rarely have many of the very weak colonies that we hear so much about, so perhaps I am not qualified to pass an opinion on this equalization system. But I do have colonies that are not as strong as I would like them to be, sometimes, and to remedy

such conditions it is difficult to know just the best course to take.

A few years ago we had about twenty colonies in one yard that had, at the opening of the clover flow, an average of about five of our large frames well filled with brood. As an experiment the brood was taken from ten and given to the other ten colonies, and as the flow was rapid but very short, I have good reason to think that much more surplus was secured from the ten strong colonies than would have been obtained from the original twenty weaker ones. With a prolonged flow, no doubt the difference would have been in favor of the twenty colonies left without any doubling up. A very serious objection to this indiscriminate mixing of brood combs is the danger of foul brood, i.e., if one's hives are within robbing distance of an infected locality. Perhaps friend Hershiser has not this danger to combat with, so he is free from any apprehension on this score.

Queens Slow to Enter Combs Under Brood-nest.

Frequently I have made reference to the fact that, without an excluder, even with my big hives, the queens will every time go into the supers. This spring, during fruit bloom, I put twenty colonies of medium strength each over a set of brood combs, in the hope that the queens would descend and occupy all with brood by the opening of the clover. At any rate, the combs would be well cared for until wanted for nuclei, as increase was what I was after to make up for a heavy winter loss in the yard in question. A number of colonies were given a set of combs over the brood-nest, and while nearly every colony so treated has brood in the upper storey, out of the twenty where the combs were put below the brood-nest, in only two cases have the queens gone below.

Markham, Ont.

.....
 "How do
 Mr. Taylor
 queen except
 to change a
 queenless, I
 the conduct
 tell, if they h
 ing, running
 towards your
 wings lifted a
 tion, you can
 They are all
 am in doubt,
 cluder on the
 up, let the que
 I hardly ever c
 because the be
 to work that t
 bly accept the
 know that I re
 that was quee
 queen early in
 Mr. Abbott—
 queen and you
 Italian.
 Mr. Taylor—T
 day or two to
 had lost a que
 anxious to get
 and that runnin
 a slight shakin
 that they are lo
 Mr. Abbott—I
 all the progressi
 most in advance
 was R. L. Taylor
 Mr. Taylor—N
 Mr. Abbott—B
 the hive should
 two for the bees