

pical honey will ever be much of a factor in the U. S. market, stating as a reason, the fact that said honey is worth more in the European markets than in America. Be that as it may, just a few weeks ago a shipment of honey from Jamaica (which the consignee told me was of excellent quality) was laid down in Toronto at a figure a little lower than what the most of us would care to sell for. However, I suppose we have little to fear from that source, as the island is small, with comparatively few up-to-date bee-keepers. Aside from that, they are a sister colony, at present in desperate straits and it would certainly savor of uncharitableness if we were to begrudge them an entrance into our markets. "Allee samee," wish they would keep their product up to market value.

Speaking about prices of honey. is it not deplorable how the bee-keepers (some of them) will stampede when they see in our daily papers, circulars sent by mail, etc., glowing accounts of the big crop of honey and low prices about to be; originating, of course, from wholesale firms anxious to do business. Am informed that certain bee-keepers, not a thousand miles from Toronto, either, actually sold their clover honey for 6c. per lb. Surely we need a honey Guild or something. Will await with interest our next meeting at Barrie, to see what progress our committee have made along that line.

Brushed or "Shook" Swarms.

This system of artificial swarming has been conducted very successfully by a number of prominent bee-keepers in the United States and the subject is receiving considerable attention at present in the American

journals from which we take the following. We would be pleased to hear from any of our people who may have tried it:

Brushed swarms have been tested by our friend and neighbor, Mr. Vernon Burt, of Mallet Creek, Ohio. He tried the plan on a small scale last year and on a larger scale this year, and both seasons the experiment was attended with satisfactory results. According to his experience, brushed swarms, as described by Mr. Stachelhausen, not only gather more honey, but will not cast a natural swarm subsequently. Indeed, the best colonies he had for comb honey were the "shook" bees. In a word the, *modus operandi* is this: The parent hive is removed from its stand. Another hive with frames of starters, and the supers of the parent colony, are put back on the old stand. The combs are brushed or shaken in front of the entrance, causing the young bees as well as the old ones to go into the hive. The parent colony minus every bee is then set off on another stand. No harm results, says Mr. B., because the hatching bees in warm weather will take care of the other bees.

Our friend thinks the success of the plan lies in the fact that the young bees as well as the old ones go to make up the "swarm," and the reason why it is ahead of the natural swarm is because these young bees—in fact all the bees in the colony—are in a new hive on the old stand, ready for work. He also believes the brushing or shaking causing the bees to rush into the entrance has the same effect in stimulating their energy as when they come out naturally and are hived. Another feature is that the "swarming" can be timed to suit the convenience of the apiarist.

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