

this last summer, and from appearances seem to be in very good shape.

I thank you very much for the interest you take in bee-keeping. If you condescend to write me again with a view to setting me on the road to prosperity as a bee-keeper, please do not enclose a stamped envelope.

Yours truly,

WM. O'CONNOR.

#### Mr. McEvoy's Reply.

With pure and *well-bred* Italian bees and *proper management* every kind of dead brood except foul brood (the ropy stuff) can be kept out of every apiary, and one-third more honey secured.

In 1911 black brood broke out in the apiary of Mr. Wm. O'Connor, of Campbellford, Northumberland County, Ontario. Mr. O'Connor treated all his colonies in the most thorough and profitable way and Italianized every colony. I was surprised when I read Mr. O'Connor's article in the CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL stating that black brood had broken out in his apiary in 1912 after his thorough treatment and cure in 1911. I have so much faith in pure and well-bred Italians that I could not see how it was possible for his dead brood to be black brood if Mr. O'Connor's Italian queens had all been pure and well-bred. I wrote to Mr. O'Connor, asking several questions, and when I received his letter I saw that it was in the public interest to get it published, if he would give his consent, which he has done, and I now enclose it for the C.B.J. to publish.

Mr. O'Connor bought one dozen queens in Quebec. Half of these were for another bee-keeper. He then bought two queens from Mr. G. W. York, who was editor of the *American Bee Journal*. One of these was for another bee-keeper. He bought all the other queens elsewhere. I find that most of the queens that he bought were a miserable mixture of Italian and black bees, and among this miserable mixture black brood broke out again. The queen that Mr. O'Connor got from Mr. York was worth over \$50.00. It kept free from

disease right among black brood colonies and filled a super of twenty-four sections and swarmed twice, and the first it cast swarmed twice and filled three supers of twenty-four sections each. Total number of sections, eight dozen, at his selling price, \$12.00. Four young colonies of this choice stock I value at eight dollars each. Honey and increase in bees from the York queen in 1912 I value at \$44.00.

This shows the great value of pure and well-bred Italian bees over miserable mixtures of Italian and black bees.

Italian queens are greatly traded on, and many queens are sold for pure Italians when they are not.

In *Gleanings* for June 1st, 1911, p. 330, Mr. S. D. House, of Camillus, N.Y., one of the best bee-keepers in the world, says: "The cure and extermination of European foul brood depends upon Italian bees, and that spread of the disease will not cease until the bee-keepers of this continent Italianize their apiaries before the appearance of the trouble." And farther down the same page Mr. House says: "A pure Italian apiary will not contract the disease unless it is directly introduced. Finally, the disease will not destroy a normal pure Italian colony, even if no assistance is given them except a natural flow of honey."

Mr. Charles Stewart, one of the New York State inspectors, when speaking in the Ontario Bee-keepers' Convention in 1911, said: "I can take you to Italian apiaries in New York State that have stood all through this disease for fourteen years and have never yet had a colony develop it." Mr. Stewart also said: "I would like to make the matter of Italianizing emphatic. You cannot afford to neglect it. Italianizing and shaking has been the salvation of the New York bee-keepers."

I have during the last thirty-six years bought more Italian queens than any man in the Province of Ontario. I have a number on the front of every hive,