

though I always use scent. In 1886, when bees three miles distant did nothing but rob, bees here were storing surplus honey. The past season my neighbor, W. E. Gould, received an average of 90 lbs. per colony, mostly comb honey. Mr. G. E. Milton, who is located $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles from Mr. Gould, received only $31\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. per colony, a difference of 58 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. per colony. What would Mr. Milton's yield have been, had his bees been obliged to fly five miles?

R. E. ASHCRAFT.

Freemont, Mich., Jan 11, '88.

We have known bees to fly as far again as you mention in favorable localities, where there is an unlimited stretch, especially up the side of a mountain. After the yield is over in the valley, they will go far up the side of the slope. Where patches of timber intervene their flying distance seems to be interfered with. If everything is favorable, however, they will, in instances, fly five miles after stores.

For the Canadian Bee Journal.

The Care of Honey Cans When Once Used.

WHEN putting away empty 60 lb. honey cans is it quite necessary to rinse out with hot paraffine. Will this not taint the honey?

J. FOOT.

Halifax, N.S., 16/2/88.

We wash out the tins and place them on the stove, with the screw tops off, until they become thoroughly dried. They should never be turned upside down, as is sometimes done, to let the water run out. One day we gave instructions to have a large number of 60 lb. tins washed and rinsed well with hot water, and put in the dry kiln on the hot steam pipes to dry; fancy our astonishment on going in later, to find they had taken off the screw tops, and placed the tins upside down. Although they had been in the kiln long enough to dry a dozen times over, they were still about as moist and damp as when first put in, as all the steam arose to the top of the can and could not escape. We had them, at once, turned over, and in less than an hour they were dry; the tops were then put on and the tins set away. Months afterwards when we took them out to refill, we found them as clean and sweet as new tins. As soon as the honey is taken from a tin, it should be thoroughly washed and heated until dry, if

it is to be used again. Paraffining them would not be necessary.

From Gleanings.

Removing the Queen During Harvest.

ALSO SOMETHING ABOUT BEES AND BERRIES.

Q ON page 810, 1887, friend Perkins thinks I would change my opinion if I could visit his place where are three acres of raspberries. I had nearly the same amount on my place at one time, friend P., and bees and berries go nicely together so far as the bees are concerned; but the trouble is, the busy time of each comes at the same time. Mr. Perkins says, "I can tend all three, bees, berries and poultry, and yet have time to play." Yes, and so you could add blacksmithing and tailoring and cobbling, making six lines of business, "and yet have time to play," providing you do *little enough* of each. During the busy season a man can take care of only so many colonies of bees; but there are other times when he has some "time to play." What is wanted is not something that will come just when his time is already full, but something to fill up his play time. In this view I think Mr. Perkins is making a success with poultry but not with berries.

CAN THE QUEEN BE REMOVED TOWARD THE CLOSE OF THE HARVEST SO AS TO GET THE SAME AMOUNT OF SURPLUS HONEY?

Referring, friend Root, to your remarks on page 55, I have had considerable experience in this matter, but am not sure that I know much about it for sure and certain. I have taken away as many as a hundred queens in one season from colonies when they were busily storing, and I never saw a case where I knew that they immediately slacked up in their work. For all that there might have been a difference, for it is not an easy thing to look at a colony and say whether it is doing more or less than it did the previous day.

Although I am not sure that any immediate slacking up occurred, I think there are cases where the bees stored less some time after the queen was taken away than they would have done if she had remained. The fact that such men as Ellwood and Hetherington practised taking away queens during basswood bloom is an argument in its favor. I do not know whether they still follow the practice. Those who favor the plan argue something like this: A bee does not go to work in the field till it is sixteen days old, which, added to twenty-one days from laying the egg to hatching, makes thirty-seven days from the laying of the egg to the time of working in the field. Now, in localities where basswood