

will, we trust, be rigidly enforced. Mr. Drury has the thanks of all beekeepers for his action, as well as for the promised distribution of a pamphlet now in course of preparation, pertaining to the same question. Mr. Drury has been an honorary member of the O. B. K. A. for three years.

FOR THE CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL.

A Swarm of Bees—Bees Dwindling.

UNDER the title "A Swarm of B's," the following lines by A. M. Morgan, appear in the Girls Own Paper for May, and although these bees are not such as we are most interested in, they do valuable service in this world. In fact they form the most important part of our "bees."

"Brimming brooklets bubble,
Buoyant breezes blow,
Baby-billows breaking
Bashfully below.

Blossom burdened branches,
Briared banks betide,
Bright bewitching bluebells,
Blooming breed beside.

But beyond be breakers,
Barr blasts brooding black,
Bitterly bemoaning
Broken barks borne back.

BEES DROPPING LIKE HAIL.

You say "Those living farther south of us may escape the experience we have had." Well, perhaps they may, but if I have escaped any of it, it must have been bad indeed. My bees have been dropping like hail at times during the last three weeks; some days the bush, the fields, the roads, and even the river, have been strewn with them. Several strong colonies of foragers have been so thinned that doubling was necessary. Those having few field bees have suffered least and are now building up nicely. The honey flow has been very good in this section, black willow, dandelion, numerous wild flowers and even some grass blossoms yielding abundantly; and so eager were the bees to get it that I had to shut them in entirely, on some cold and windy days, to save their loss by chilling. Had the weather been warm I would have had a surplus already; as it is a few of the brood chambers are so crowded that I have had to remove some honey. The supply of pollen is exceptionally good and it seems to me that the bees are carrying the largest loads I've yet seen. That from the dandelion is of a richer orange than usual. Dandelion blossoms too are of a deeper color, and are larger than I ever saw them. Wild cherry has yielded bountifully for three days and fruit bloom is just com-

mencing, but white willow is very late. Oh, for some warm weather.

Yours sincerely,

G. B. JONES.

Toronto, Ont., May 20, '90.

FOR THE CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL.

Moving Bees Short Distances.

AFTER bees have marked their location it is better to let them remain in that place or position for the season, but if they must be moved, it can be done, but not without loss of bees. The amount of loss, like most things, depends on the way it's done. One man claims that he moves his whole apiary fifteen rods during the honey harvest without loss of bees, and without taking any precaution against loss, except moving them after they had ceased flying for the day. It don't seem to me that he could do it without heavy loss. It ain't according to nature for a bee-tree to migrate, or go dancing about the field. Bees are as unerring as nature, and possessing business qualities, first mark their hive and location, then leave their hive for business, and expect to find it where they left it. Still if they must be moved, then stop them in before they fly in the morning, and treat them to alternate smoking and rapping on the hive with light sticks, repeating this at intervals according to season, and if it is hot weather be careful about melting down combs. Use good judgment and watch them. The principle is to get them thoroughly scared, and while in this condition move them where you want them, and open them at once, placing a board in front of the hive, or making it look strange in some way. If they fly too freely at first, smoke them accordingly. It is unnatural for bees to be moved, and I don't think any person can tell you how to do a thing contrary to nature without loss. You will lose from two dozen bees to a teacup full from each hive the best you can do.

If beekeepers would note in their books during the year, the different experiments they wish to try, then set apart one or two hives for that purpose, and work intelligently, there would be greater advancement in the pursuit.

JOHN F. GATES,

Ovid, Erie Co., Pa., May 17, '90.

We do not know that we have ever tried just the plan that you mention, but we have tried a good many; the one that we found the most successful is as follows: opening the hive to be moved, we lifted out the frames, shaking the bees off into the hive, and placing the