

bees wiped out, one enthusiast going so far as to wish the Provincial Parliament to pass an act ordering the decapitation of every black queen within its jurisdiction, in order to keep the Italian stock pure. Hybrids seemingly have no friends, on account of their vicious disposition.

Market Prices of Honey.

No attempt has been made to get quotations of the market prices of honey, but one may safely presume that those ruling in Victoria and Vancouver are at least indicative of the rest of the province. Here, as elsewhere, the stores prefer a package of such bulk that the price charged will be represented by a coin such as 25c., \$1, or even two coins of the higher values. Such prices as 20c., 65c., and \$1.15, are not popular, either with the trade or the customer. On the other hand, one must of necessity pack the honey in some vessel that is a staple commodity on the market; so it calls for quite a little consideration on the part of the producer to harmonize as far as possible the conditions. In Victoria we find the containers in common use are half-pint, quart and two-quart fruit-jars, United States measures. When filled with water, the contents weigh respectively $\frac{1}{2}$ lb., 1 lb., and 2 lbs. But honey is nearly one-half heavier than an equal quantity of water; therefore, the jars will hold almost $\frac{3}{4}$ lb., $1\frac{1}{2}$ lbs., and 3 lbs. of the product of the hive. Larger quantities are sold in tins, the usual sizes being 5 lbs. and 10 lbs.

The retail prices for the three smaller sizes are 25c., 85c. and \$1.50. The grocer usually pays for them 20c., 67c., and \$1.22; that is to say, he gets a discount of 20 per cent. on the retail price. Probably two-thirds of the sales will be on the 25c. size.

The half-pint jars in gross lots cost 5.2c. each; the quarts in dozen lots, 12.5; the two-quarts in dozen lots 17c.

A little figuring will show that when the bee-keeper sells to the grocer he will get at the rate of 19.7c. a pound for the honey in the smallest jar, 18.5c. for that in the quart jar, and 17c. in the two-quart jar. When the apiarist is located near a city he will generally have no difficulty in selling all his product direct to the consumer at the full retail price, thus getting 5c. a pound more.

Comb honey usually retails at 25c. a section; price to the grocer, 20c. The average section contains 14 czs. of honey, so the bee-keeper is getting at the rate of 23c. a pound. This looks better returns than is got from extracted honey, but we must deduct cost of section and foundation starter, and then the two will come rather close together. Then when we consider that it is generally estimated that a colony of bees will produce in comb honey only two-thirds what it will yield in extracted, we see at once that in British Columbia extracted honey is the more profitable form of honey production. We have already learned that on account of the cool nights the bees make a rather poor showing when working for comb honey.

From Dominion statistics we learn that during the year 1909 there was imported through the ports of Vancouver and Victoria a grand total of 81,431 lbs. of honey. These figures indicate a demand in the province it will take a long time for the bee-keepers to supply.—From Bulletin No. 30, issued by B. C. Department of Agriculture.

A MANITOBA BEEKEEPERS' EARLY Indexed EXPERIENCES.

When a dear old friend in the year '03 said: "You ought to keep bees." I replied, "Why not say rattlesnakes or any other deadly thing." "Pooh, Pooh," he said, and there the matter dropped. Shortly after his son placed a hive of

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bees under a tree in the block at entrance a statute, whilst (tigers I called them) head. For a few days side of the quarter section I noticed that they did not come for me, after a while approaching within ten feet of the trunk of the friendly shade they realized that bees did not "sh" had always imagined. dwell on the spell that tures cast over me from the pleasure I have from standing over their industry. We go so they soon swarmed—day. What was I to do? I had seen a swarm of bees sweet, besides I had I jumped into a buggy friend and saw the first taken. How proud I colonies of bees that having left the neighborhood and trembling I netting over the entrance in the cellar. Five months later, one dead—I month later, my friend and for the first time, of a hive. My bees said; the parent colony died and the old queen had died. On the morning to my friend's, who put a nucleus. Oh, how the next day! A subsequent apiary of 150 colonies attack of bee fever. I bee-book, subscribed for and commenced the study. My new queen soon filled bees and brood. I gave hive on top and they more supers were put on August 5th she