

prefer heavy or light colonies for wintering?

G. M. DOOLITTLE, BORODINO, N.Y.—Medium.

O. O. PORPLETON, WILLIAMSTOWN, IOWA.—I prefer heavy ones.

PROF. A. J. COOK, LANSING, MICH.—I keep good strong colonies at all seasons.

H. COUSE, THE GRANGE, ONT.—Strong colonies for outdoor and medium for indoor wintering.

H. D. CUTTING, CLINTON, MICH.—Just a good average colony; not too light.

DR. C. C. MILLER, MARENGO, ILL.—Strong in bees, with more than enough honey to last them.

DR. DUNCAN, EMBRO, ONT.—I would prefer heavy, if well stocked with bees. They will be ahead of others next spring in brood-rearing.

DR. A. B. MASON, WAGON WORKS, O.—I would prefer neither. A colony that clusters nicely on about five Langstroth frames suits me best.

M. EMIGH, HOLBROOK, ONT.—I find a good medium preferable. Would prefer heavy to light. The best colony I had this year was wintered on three frames, but this is an exception and not the general rule.

ALLEN PRINGLE, SELBY, ONT.—If they are to be wintered in a cool or cold place I would prefer the heavy colonies with plenty of stores—if in a proper repository with temperature just right the lighter colonies will be all right and they will require much less feed. It is mostly a question of conditions.

JAMES HEDDON, DOWAGIAC, MICH.—In all my experience I never could see that the strength of the colony had any effect on the disease, diarrhoea. Perhaps if we were going to winter outdoors, with scanty protection, but plenty of stores, strong colonies would be best. I prefer plenty of accessible stores in either case.

DR. J. C. THOM, STREETSVILLE, ONT.—Heavy stocks. Those that have surplus sealed honey left after warm weather comes in the spring are of the stocks that I can count on most certainly for least dwindling, most rapid breeding and general business in spring, and also least danger of queenlessness. Your queen may be found missing any day in stocks short of honey in spring.

J. E. POND, FOXBORO, MASS.—I prefer colonies for wintering to be as full as possible. The more

bees the better for my use. As I winter on summer stands I think my position is correct. For wintering in special repositories it is possible that medium colonies may be equally as desirable. I am aware that some bee-keepers of experience differ with me, but I winter my bees safely always. Do those who differ do the same?

G. W. DEMAREE, CHRISTIANBURG, KY.—I some years ago tested this matter pretty thoroughly in this way. I took the figures 100 as an average colony, and after I had gone over my apiary, in preparing the bees for winter, I found that I had marked about fifty hives from seventy-five up to one hundred and fifty, 100 being the average in size as far as I could judge. When in the following spring I went through the apiary and again re-marked the hives, still retaining 100 as the average, it surprised me to see how often the result was reversed. The experiment convinced me that all things else being equal I prefer a colony rather under, than over the average.

BEES IN MANITOBA.

WE are asked very often, and particularly during the past week while at the exhibition at Toronto, have we been plied with questions, whether bees could be made to pay in the great northwest. We give below an extract from *The Emigrant*, published at Winnipeg, which we found on our desk upon arrival home:

"There are over a dozen bee men in Manitoba and the Territories who have been keeping bees for some time and whose reports are very favorable to this fascinating and profitable industry. Other apiarists of experience elsewhere state that the honey yield and favorable gathering season are of the best, and it is very probable that this, the great Northwest, will before very long become a prominent honey exporter. This will be news to many not familiar with the approved modern system of bee-keeping or with sources of honey supply but it is only another instance of the assertion that the capabilities of this land are but partially known, that they will yet astonish the present occupants, and that they cannot be all tapped by a few years' knowledge or work."

SUNDRY SELECTIONS.

A REPORT FROM D. W. METLER—HONEY DRW FROM HICKORY LEAVES.

D. W. METLER.—As I have never seen anything from this locality about bees in your valuable JOURNAL, I take the liberty to send a few lines on comb honey—I use the Monarch hive exclusively. In the early part of the season the bees