

FORTY THOUSAND ITALIAN QUEENS ARE NEEDED

This is not a thousand queens to each county in our Province, but it would make a fair beginning to start with, and, if followed up at this rate for five years, it would bring the apiaries of our country up to where they should be. I never found any race or breed of bees equal to the Italians for feeding their brood or gathering honey. I breed from the colonies that gather the most honey, and re-queen all every year. I also buy many queens, and expect to do so as long as I keep bees. Italian queens really cost nothing, because the extra yield of honey they give in one year after more than pays for them, and then it leaves the owners with improved stock of the best kind.

Any colony that has been queenless for some time should have every comb removed and its brood chamber filled up with combs full of brood, which can be easily done by taking a comb full of brood from the strongest colonies here and there through the apiary. It can be three weeks after a queenless colony is given a laying queen before her young bees begin to appear, and for this reason all queenless colonies should be boomed with brood before introducing a queen, so as to give the queen a fair chance, and send the colonies into the fall full of bees. This is about the best time in all the year to re-queen, and I am rushing it as fast as I can. The queen-breeders of Canada and the United States have done more to help the bee industry and put it on a footing than any other class of men that we have in our ranks.

It is a long time since Mr. Langstroth, the father of all modern bee-keepers, introduced Italian queens into the United States, and it is about forty-five years since Mr. Gemmill, the best all-round bee-keeper I ever found, introduced Italians into Canada.

WM. McEVOY.

Woodburn, Ont.

WHAT IS THE TROUBLE?

This spring I put out ninety-five colonies of bees in good condition; now I have only fifty. Have had no swarms. In the colonies the brood cells seemed to be very scarce, not more than fifty, and plenty of honey. Some of the young bees came to maturity, others just cut the cappings. Could any of your correspondents give me any information as to what happened the queens. I do not think it is foul brood. Could you give a more definite description of what foul brood is?

What reports are you getting from other localities of the prospects of the honey crop this season?

ARCHIE McINTYRE.

East Templeton.

[It is very difficult to say what has happened to your bees. Dysentery and spring dwindling might possibly have brought it about, but we do not think so. Queens will not lay unless there are bees to take care of the brood. If your hives ran down very weak during the bad weather in the spring, it would not be the queens' fault. But if other conditions were right they should have recovered long before this. There is a strong probability that it is foul brood. When you saw something wrong, and were not equal to the occasion, you should have sent for the inspector at once. He would have been a great help to you, even though you did not have foul brood. He would have pointed out the trouble and helped you very much. It is a great pity you have allowed the honey flow to pass before calling for help. Remember, the Government is only too anxious to help persons in your condition. It costs you nothing but the price of a post-card to write Mr. Hodgetts, Parliament Buildings, Toronto, and may save you hundreds of dollars.

No, we cannot give a more definite description of foul brood than has already been given during the last few months. We have devoted a great deal of space to this matter, and if it has not been sufficient to guide the inexperienced bee-keeper, he should at once seek aid from the inspector. It is a great pity that your loss should be so great, and a still greater pity that you did not seek the inspector's aid earlier in the season. If

July, 1909

you should time of the passed. W ment at onc know who t Crop report it is good; poor.—Ed.]

Chalm

Correction.

cation was r Beattie, of S to go and in It was arrang quest be atten accordingly se field of action to make is th to whom I h "Observations,

At the time was not awar Beattie in the bees other than Had Mr. Alpaugh his April artic at once that John C. Beattie Mr. Alpaugh's full name, yet, and Mr. Beattie correction. Fro of the Beattie paugh and Mr. known that it the latter's apia

This Mr. Beattie as is possible to despising the of my visit the and, moreover, rather an attrac I look as one of He is very muc disease and has picious cells of l Alpaugh and the will accept this e Inspection.—As written both for