

many cases it will take bees at least two weeks into the clover flow to get ready for work.

The proportionate number wintered in cellars and outdoors varies greatly with the latitude. In all the southern and western counties outdoor wintering predominates, while in the north and east cellars are more popular. Some few repositories built above ground are used, but these do not as a rule give as good satisfaction as the underground cellar well darkened and ventilated. Bees were removed from cellars earlier than usual this year because the excessive heat in March made it impossible to keep them comfortably cool in the cellars. This matter of maintaining a proper temperature is one of the chief difficulties in cellar wintering. A few warm days in March make it necessary to set the bees out, then they suffer in their unprotected hives through weeks of bad weather afterward. The only way to winter bees in the average cellar is to pack and shelter them warmly after setting them out. This the vast majority of bee-keepers will not do, so we recommend packing them warmly on their summer stands in October, for all except the more northerly counties.

Without knowing what extenuating circumstances there may have been in some cases, we would judge that many who wintered outdoors unpacked their hives too early. There seems no reason why bees comfortably packed on their stands should be stripped and exposed to the inclement weather of April and the first half of May. Packing cases should be made so that a super could be put in the hive if necessary before it is unpacked. In fact, many leave the hives in the wintering cases all summer. If the cases are individual this method has some advantages, but where six or eight are in a case it is decidedly objectionable, both from the standpoint of convenience of handling, and the distribution of disease which may be in the yard. Bee-keeping in some of the best counties of Ontario is greatly hampered by men clinging to these antiquated hives, when a single honey crop would more than pay for convenient modern appliances.

Very little disease was reported. Men are not usually proud of its presence in their apiaries, although the disgrace is not in finding it present but only in failing to seek to get rid of it. The Ontario Department of Agriculture is spending \$3,000 this year in a continuation of the fight against Foul Brood. There are sixteen district inspectors in the field and their reports show that there is plenty of work for them to do. All suspected apiaries are being visited first, and any bee-keepers wishing to clear up doubts as to the presence of this disease in their neighborhoods should send word to the Department of Agriculture at an early date. It is quite natural that those who send a special request for the services of the inspector will be more apt to get them than those who do not.

The report on the races of bees shows far too great a percentage of black or German bees kept throughout the province. While these bees have many good qualities they are no better than the Italians in any respect except possibly in the whiteness of capping on comb honey, and