

purpose of this is to prevent failures. The aim of our Government in its Agriculture Department is to *promote* all branches of agriculture—stock-raising, swine-raising, fruit-farming, poultry-raising, and bee-keeping. The principal purpose for which Mr. Pettit has been placed at the head of the Apicultural Department is to promote bee-keeping. Assisting those who are already in the business, and the curing of disease, is not the main purpose; it is second to that of promoting the industry. We cannot promote apiculture by discouraging the farming community from entering into it. It is Mr. Pettit's duty—and he has been doing it well—to set forth the advantages to the farmer of keeping a few bees. His fields and orchards absolutely require them. Honey for the table and a fertilizing army for his fruit and fields is no mean result of a few hives of bees. If this idea is taken hold of by our farmers, the young men and young women will have an opportunity to see its possibilities, and who can say how many bee-keepers of the future will be thus discovered and developed. We believe that bee-keeping offers one of the solutions of that great problem that at present confronts the agriculturist—the keeping of young men and young women on the farm. The apicultural course at Guelph College has, we believe, this as its main purpose. Again, Mr. Pettit is turning out students who have a thorough understanding of bee diseases, and thus giving us a supply of competent inspectors, which we have not had in the past. The benefits and importance of bee-keeping cannot be too strongly or too persistently placed before our farmers. All progressive bee-keepers—at least, those who are not moved by sinister motives—will support Mr. Pettit and the policy of the Agricultural Department in this matter. Bee-keepers will become prominent when they insist upon taking their pro-

per place in the agricultural sun. The students leaving the Agricultural College will soon remedy this difficulty that the *Advocate* refers to.

EUROPEAN FOUL BROOD

The following correspondence shows the value of Italianizing our apiaries with good Italian queens:

Mr. O'Connor's Letter.

Campbellford, Nov. 22nd, 1912

Mr. McEvoy:

Dear Sir,—I will endeavor to explain my experience with foul brood. In the spring of 1910 I had 40 colonies. I sold \$500 worth of section honey and increased to 70. I never get more than \$1.50 per dozen sections, and I do have some very nice honey. In the spring of 1911 I had 64 colonies, four having died during the winter, and two went under after they were set out of the cellar. During the latter part of May I noticed my bees were getting weaker. I looked through a few colonies and found they were diseased. I felt quite sure it was foul brood. Two or three days after Inspector Scott examined them and pronounced it European foul brood. I treated them, as I stated in the C.B.J. The time was about the 10th of June. Clover and raspberry honey was coming in quite plentifully. About four days before I treated them I set one colony on top of another, and in some cases I put three together, so when I treated them they had become as one colony. There was no fighting. I treated them all at the same time and took away all combs and brood. My neighbor a short distance from my place had foul brood in his colonies, so we purchased the queens together. We got one dozen from ——. I also got two from George W. York, editor of the American Bee Journal. I gave my neighbor one of those. The balance we got from ——. It must have been near the last of August before we got the last lot. Some of the colonies I have now are quite black, and they do not do as well as the yellow bees. They were the first I noticed the disease in last spring—that is, the dark bees. We did not have an inspector through here last spring. From my knowledge of foul brood I feel I can detect it at once, so from my own inspection I decided I had the disease all right except in four colonies, which I did not treat, and those four were bright yellow bees. The one I got from George W. York was one of these. This colony swarmed twice this summer and filled one super of 24 sections, and the first swarm which it cast swarmed twice and filled five supers of 24 sections each. All seem to be in good shape for winter. About the 10th of June, 1912, I treated all but four. I saved the most of the brood by stacking it on some of the weaker colonies, and treated them in the evening about ten days later and destroyed all the combs. I never allowed any combs to be exposed. I only changed them once this last spring, as I understand once is enough. My bees increased from 27 to 40 colonies

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