bee-keepers in this part of the honey-producing world, who emerged with dampened ardor from the conflicts of the preceding unpropitious season.

There was ample nectar in the early bloom to promote brood-rearing, and bees never bred up better, in my recollection. Everything looked bright and encouraging. Colonies were populous and in good condition for business at the proper time; but alas! in spite of all the rosy promises, the harvest time came and went, and we were left with very little surplus to gladden our hearts, and what little we did manage to squeeze out was not of the best quality.

The natural outcome of a season like the one just passed, is too much swarming and too little surplus. Bees seemed to get just honey enough to keep up brood-rearing. My berry business demanded much of my time about then, so that my bees were allowed to do too much swarming; the result was, 30 swarms and 400 pounds of surplus comb honey from 40 colonies, spring count.

A few of the swarms were a little late, and quit housekeeping before buckwheat bloom was fairly over; others I doubled up, fed 250 pounds of sugar and honey, and finally, with many misgivings, I put 59 colonies into winter quarters, many of them not overburdened with winter stores, and a few rather short for the winter campaign. Forty-two colonies having the least stores, I placed in a bee-cellar improvised for the occasion, but the temperature runs too low, and a few colonies have already gone the way of all the earth; but more about this when we "get out of the wilderness."

DIGESTED NECTAR.

While Prof. Cook is undoubtedly correct in a scientific point of view, in defining honey as "digested nectar," yet it impresses me as being about as inelegant as it is scientific. It would be equally correct to say that mutton was digested grass, yet a good many of us would hardly fancy that way of expressing it, because for want of taste and symmetry in the expression it might lead to reflections that would be more productive of ill than good effects.

PLANTING FOR HONEY.

While general, or extensive, planting especially for honey may be neither profitable nor desirable, it is quite clear to my mind that we can do something in the line of planting, that will ultimately prove profitable. Several years' experience with alsike clover has demonstrated clearly to me, that it pays the apiarist to cultivate it. With me it is a surer source of honey than white clover, and aside from that, it makes an abundance of most excellent hay, for which purpose I prefer it to red clover.

I never saw bees work on white clover like they did on alsike last season; the only trouble was, there was not enough of it.

I also plant raspberries for commercial purposes, as well as for the early nectar that they furnish my bees, and I find them very profitable in this way. They help early brood-rearing wonderfully, and have never failed me in all my past experience.

The planting of basswood (linden) can be made a source of profit, as well as a world of pleasure, whether planted in waste places, fence-corners, or as timber belts. It is easy to transplant, grows rapidly, makes valuable timber, and in time yields honey abundantly, besides exerting a beneficial climatic influence.

—SAMUEL RAU, in American Bee Journal.

QUERIES AND REPLIES.

UNDER THIS HEAD will appear Questions which have been asked, and replied to, by prominent and practical bee-keepers—also by the Editor. Only questions of importance should be asked in this Department, and such questions are requested from everyone. As these questions have to be put into type, sent out for answers, and the replies all awaited for, it will take some time in each case to have the answers appear.

WORKING FOR HONEY.

QUERY 227.—We have 34 strong colonies and don't care for increase so much as honey. Would you advise us to put on second and third storys? We use the Jones hive.

S. CORNEIL, LINDSAY, ONT.—Yes.

G. M. DOOLITTLE, BOBODINO, N. Y.—Yes, if working for extracted honey.

W. M. BARNUM, ANGELICA, N. Y.—Yes. "Give them plenty of room."

ALLEN PRINGLE, SELBY, ONT.—Certainly, put on the top storys.

A. B. MASON, AUBURNDALE, OHIO.—Certainly. Give room just a *little* before it is needed.

H. F. HUNT, VILLA MASTAI, QUE.—Yes, but the third story only on strong colonies.

R. MCKNIGHT, OWEN SOUND.—Putting on the upper storeys will materially lessen swarming, and to prevent swarming is to increase your honey crop.

JAMES HEDDON, DOWAGIAC, MICH.—I do not know just how your hive is arranged, but cer-