

Thousands of tons of nectar that at present go to waste every year on our mountain-sides and in our great valleys will soon be gathered for human food, and British Columbia will advance to the very front rank as a honey-producing region. The delicious flavour of our honey will always ensure for it a ready market once its quality is known.

The one dark spot in the field of vision is the presence of foul-brood. The outbreaks in Vancouver, Chilliwack, and Essondale have been vigorously fought all summer. In Vancouver, 10 colonies were found affected as against 34 last year; Essondale, none as against 5; Chilliwack, 18 as against 5. The increase in Chilliwack was probably due to feeding back affected honey in the open air, spreading the infection to every colony in two apiaries.

New outbreaks were discovered in Nanahuo, Salmon Arm, Rutland, and Lardeau.

All affected colonies have, as in the past, been destroyed by fire.

The rapid development of apiculture in the Province is naturally resulting in a widespread movement of colonies from one district to another, also in the importation of queens from regions outside of the Province, and it is by such movements that foul-brood is largely spread. Up to the present, practically all cases of disease have been discovered by the Inspectors, but the bee-keepers themselves must become interested in the condition of the brood-nests and examine them at least in the months of April and May, reporting at once to the Department any suspicious conditions.

Through the kindness of over a score of the biggest producers in the Province, a very creditable exhibit of British Columbia honey is now on display at the Industrial Bureau, Pender Street, Vancouver. Though the exhibit is small, the manager has staged it in a very prominent position, and has given the assurance that as soon as the bee-keepers are in a position to make it bigger, not only will the necessary space be gladly allotted, but every effort will be made to give it appropriate setting. The writer therefore hopes that every bee-keeper will keep this idea in mind and be prepared to provide a sample jar of extracted honey at the end of the season of 1916.

The honey exhibits at the various agricultural exhibitions have not been as well patronized in the past as they could have been. The Inspectors have made definite recommendations in the direction of simplifying the classes, so that every bee-keeper, even the one with only one hive, could take part. The directors of the Vancouver Exhibition are taking the matter into consideration, and it is probable that in 1916 that exhibition will have only three classes, one for twelve jars of extracted honey, any size; one for twelve sections of comb-honey; and one for an exhibit of bees and queen.

ORDERING SUPPLIES FOR 1916.

In response to the suggestion in last year's circular, most bee-keepers ordered their supplies early, and the dealers were able to handle nearly all orders promptly; in fact, in most apiaries all the needed bee-ware and foundation were on hand before the middle of April. Those who ordered later experienced considerable delay.

The colonies in the Province increase fully 25 per cent. annually, and it is a fair estimate that at least 3 tons of wax foundation are needed to take care of this increase, and in addition much is used in the betterment of existing colonies that have been neglected in the past. As every pound of this foundation comes from outside of the Province, and as it necessarily comes by freight, at least six weeks usually elapses between the placing of an order by a dealer with a manufacturer and its arrival in British Columbia. It is therefore of the utmost importance that each dealer should be informed as early in the year as possible by his customers as to how much foundation they expect to use in the course of the season.

HIVE FACTORIES AND DEALERS IN BEE SUPPLIES.

We now have three efficiently equipped hive factories in the Province, their output being satisfactory to the Inspectors. They are situated at Vancouver, New