

Hives.

When I mentioned at the Ontario Bee-Keepers Convention that we were getting 250 hives Langstroth pattern, but twelve frame, I little thought that there would be so wide spread an interest taken. Some have written at the close of the season asking the result of the season's experience, others have asked many questions at the Toronto Exhibition. To give the result in the Canadian Bee Journal will perhaps save personal correspondence, although if the correspondent will send a stamp for reply, I will try and answer any further questions within reason.

I find there is a growing interest and demand for large hives. The reason why it was thought wise by me to adopt a large hive was that from twenty years' experience with bees and information gleaned from experts all over the country, including conventions, I came to the conclusion that large strong colonies gave the best honey yield. Keep bees together and make them comfortable by giving plenty of room, shading and ventilation, and the large colonies give the best results. I find this season that an average queen is perfectly well able to utilize a 12-frame Langstroth hive, and where the honey flow is of as short a duration as with us in Ontario the best financial results can be obtained by a system as nearly non-swarmer as possible.

It is our full intention to go right on, and more, a young man of considerable previous experience, who spent the summer with us, from observation has ordered some fifty hives to be made the same time as ours are to be made, by the Goold, Shapley & Muir Co., Limited.

Again, we had an apiary with John Clark, Onondaga. He keeps some twenty-six colonies and as the result

of his season's observations he is putting in an order for forty of these large hives. Others are doing the same. The Bow Park Co., Limited, with which I am connected do not manufacture supplies and the Goold, Shapley & Muir Co. do not intend to stock this hive, but doubtless they will be quite ready to supply the hive to any, providing they put in their order before they manufacture this order which we are putting in for some 400 hives. Work will probably begin on these hives about Nov. 15th or Dec. 1st, as we intend to get our supplies in plenty of time this coming season and have everything in shape when the bees are set out next spring. —R. F. HOLTERMANN.

[Since Mr. Holtermann wrote the above he has returned from extracting buckwheat honey at an out-apiary of 81 colonies and reports that while the bee-keepers in the vicinity secured practically no surplus buckwheat honey, his bees secured over 3,000 lbs. surplus. This speaks well for the large hives.]—ED.

My Experiments with "Shook" Swarms.

By Wm. Moore, Little Current.

I have been making some experiments in swarming during the summer and as I see the same matter is being discussed in some of the journals across the line, I thought it might be of interest to some of the less experienced readers of your Journal, and perhaps some more experienced ones especially those who have tried the plan I have been experimenting on may give additional information on the subject.

To begin with I do not like natural swarming. It's all right of course for those who are prepared to handle properly, but I can't, it's too much

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