

MAY

NEW SERIES, VOL. 10, NO. 10, WHOLE NO. 459.

1903



The Canadian Bee Journal



MAY

The quickening year dissolves the snow,
And grasses spring and blossoms blow.
Through greener plains the river pours
Its lessening flood by silent shores.
Again th' awakening forests wear
Their pendent wealth of wreathed hair.

—HORACE.

W. J. CRAIG,
Edth.

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SEASON 1903



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THE CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL.

The... Canadian Bee Journal

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Bee Keepers.*

Published Monthly by
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BRANTFORD, CANADA.

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...The Canadian Bee Journal

PUBLISHED MONTHLY.

NEW SERIES
VOL. X, NO. 10.

BRANTFORD, ONT., MAY, 1903.

WHOLE No
469.

Ontario Bee-keepers' Association

ANNUAL MEETING

(Continued from page 201)

SECOND DAY, WEDNESDAY DECEMBER
17th, 1902, MORNING SESSION.

The President in the chair called the convention to order.

The Secretary read the minutes of the previous day's session which on motion were confirmed as read.

Mr. J. K. Darling read his paper on "Producing and marketing extracted honey" which is as follows:

THE PRODUCTION AND MARKETING OF EXTRACTED HONEY.

The subject assigned me by the committee is not one which I would have chosen as so much has been said upon it in the past, and by men of wider experience and a more thorough knowledge of the business, it may not be amiss however for me to touch upon some points which might raise a discussion and in that way be of more service than would a lengthy essay no matter how well put together.

First,—The Production: It is conceded we must have the bees to start with, and then we must have the man neither can produce extracted

honey without the other, but I would say that the man is of far more importance than the bees. A first-class man could do far more with an apiary of inferior bees than could a useless man with the same number of colonies of the best strain of bees, but both together cannot produce honey if there is no nectar to be gathered as many of us have found out to our disappointment. Granted, all these conditions are favorable, what then? First.—We should aim to produce an article which will sell itself if possible. Second.—Produce as much of it as possible. Quality first, quantity second every time. In "quality"? Flavor first always, then body and color or color and body as circumstances require. This for the home market. For shipping purposes I would put color first, flavor second and body third. Why the difference? For shipping purposes honey must be attractive and catch the eyes as there is a pretty general idea abroad that brightness in color is a sure indication of superior quality and we must cater to it. Now if we can combine the richest flavor and finest body with the lightest color - almost, or quite, water white if you wish—we will have the ideal honey. By actual practice how many get that? You who have been selling honey of different shades direct to consumers may answer that question. Why should not a honey which is a rich straw color or amber but with a fine flavor stand ahead of a water

white which is lacking in flavor?

Question: How can we secure the best flavor with the lightest colored honey every time? Localities differ; seasons differ in the same locality. Pure clover honey differs in shade in the same locality in different years and so does it differ in different localities in the same year. Why is this? How should such honey be graded? I would say that flavor should stand first. Allowing honey to be well ripened in the hive gives it a much firmer body. Does it give a richer flavor? I think it does.

With the particular methods of handling the combs, of wielding the honey knife and of turning the extractor I shall not meddle. Let those who have taken their tons every few days deal with that matter.

Second,—The Marketing:—This is a matter needing our most careful attention. If it is for the home market just show some of that first-class honey to the would-be consumer and if it is sold, at least as much of it as they need for the present,—a word of caution here; don't sell too much honey in one house at a time. Let them clean their dishes every few weeks. A jar of granulated honey on the top shelf of the pantry is not likely to help sell a very fine liquid article which comes to the door. Better let them want honey for a few days. Supply a good article at a fair price and you are tolerably sure of your customers unless you keep them waiting too long.

Is the honey to be shipped and sold to strangers? Well, I give it up. There are commission men, good men and true, some of them. Perhaps they don't know much about handling honey. Then there are men who are prepared to buy all the honey in sight but they are not prepared to pay much for it, "there has been such an enormous crop." Are

they any help in marketing our honey? Then there are some who might purchase a quantity wholesale and pay a fair price. But who will bring the producer and the dealer together?

What about that Honey Exchange?

The President: The paper is open for discussion.

There is one point and that is the quantity you sell to the consumer. I don't like to sell a small quantity to a consumer. If you sell a man a pound or two of honey he comes to the conclusion that it is a luxury but if you can sell him ten or twenty pounds, after they get the feather edge off they think it is not so very expensive and they buy more.

Mr. McEvoy: I don't care how much a dealer buys but my experience is when a consumer gets fifty or sixty pounds he gets sick of it and I cannot sell him again.

Mr. Darling: I endeavor to supply a man with ten or fifteen pounds, but where they ask for twenty-five pounds I don't think it is to my interest to give him all of it at one time.

Mr. Dickenson: I can't understand how we are to act when a man insists on having fifty pounds.

The President: Give him all he wants.

Mr. McEvoy: I am speaking of where they never have had much and ordered fifty or sixty pounds.

Mr. Brown: This leads me away back to a few years ago; when I solicited a customer, I went to him and took a pound bottle with a sample of honey in it to show it to him; he examined it and said, "We have got lots of honey just as good as that which we bought for six cents a pound and I was asking seven or eight cents by the hundred." I said I would like to see some of this honey. He went after it and brought a ten-pound tin and he worked for a while before he got the cap off and it just

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flew out somewhat like ginger ale. He said "Take that away, I don't want anything more to do with it." He picked up my pound bottle that I had for a sample and said, "How much of that could you spare?" Well, I says, I can spare a considerable quantity. He says, "Can you let me have fifteen hundred pounds?" I said, "No, I can't, but I will let you have a thousand pounds." After we had settled on a price, he said, bring it on. He was a private individual. I brought him the thousand pounds of honey and that was the last pound of honey I ever sold that man because he got too much of it.

Mr. Holtermann: It seems to me it depends a great deal upon who you are selling to. For instance, here are a lot of men who have been using honey for years and they know all about it and they know just as well as you do what they want and it is perfectly safe to sell to a man like that what he wants. On the other hand there are others who perhaps, get a taste of it and they want to buy a lot of it and perhaps without a good deal of explanation it is not advisable to sell to them. One of the difficulties in connection with this matter is granulation. When you sell a man honey in a can with a small screw cap he can't get at that when it is granulated and he does not know how to liquify it. If you sell to that man and say to him, you put that honey into jem jars when you get home, keep it sealed up and in a dry, warm place and then after the honey is granulated eat it that way, that is alright. But, in the other case, the result is he very often leaves it standing. I believe in advocating more and more to eat the honey granulated.

Mr. Sparling: Everyone does not prefer it that way.

Mr. Holtermann: Everyone does

not, but a great many do. I don't believe there is a better way of selling honey than to sell it in the granulated form, because you take that honey and put it into a barrel and you sell that to a grocer, the grocer puts that barrel of granulated honey in the window and it attracts the whole town and you can sell that honey without the cost of a package every time, because it can be put up the same way as lard. One of the great disadvantages we have today is that the man has to pay for the package every time he buys honey. I know one store, not a very large store, that sold after Christmas three barrels in that way and this fall that same grocer ordered five barrels for a start, as he called it, and he told me that people came to his store to buy that honey that had not been in the store since the last honey was bought. It tastes nice and you can get away from the expense of the package.

Mr. Gemmell: How was the honey retailed?

Mr. Holtermann: Just like cutting cheese; He took a wire and cut a piece off around it and then cut it down.

Mr. Morrison: Do I understand you that he stripped the barrel off the honey?

Mr. Holtermann: Yes. I wrote the an article for the "Canadian Grocer" upon that very subject and had a photograph there as to the way to sell it. I know men twenty miles outside of Hamilton that didn't know I had anything to do with it, tell me of the remarkable sight in the window. If you can get people to talk up your business in that way it helps a very great deal.

Mr. Brown: I think in regard to taking the barrel off and cutting up the honey it would be rather strange if he didn't get flies and other things mixed up with it. You want honey to please the eye as well as the taste.

Mr. Morrison: What kind of a barrel did you use?

Mr. Holtermann: They were glucose barrels; you can get them for 50 or 75 cents and they will run 700 lbs.

Mr. Morrison: Do you line with parafine?

Mr. Holtermann: Better to do it. A pound of parafine will do that work. To get your barrel in the window take the hoops off with the exception of one or two and when you get it in the window take the rest of it off and it stands. We haven't got many flies or much dust in Brantford at this time of the year. That man I refer to is selling it right along at 12½ cents a pound.

Mr. Dickenson: I agree with friend Holtermann that honey in the candied state is about the right condition. I find in our family where we have good honey in both grades, the clear and the granulated and the granulated is taken nine times out of ten. I myself would like to hear an expression of opinion. I prefer it.

Mr. Brown: I think if you go into a grocery store and there is a range of both kinds of honey, 9 times out of 10 the grocer will sell the liquid honey in the glasses.

Mr. Sibbald: I take issue with Mr. Holtermann on this question. To show you that people prefer the liquid honey, we have frequently jars of granulated honey sent back to us and they say, we can't sell this, won't you change it and give us the liquid honey. As soon as it granulates on the shelves it seems to stay there, nobody will buy it.

Referring to the paper, there is nothing more important than the quality of the honey. You would be surprised, if you would handle a lot of honey, to find how many bee-keepers produce a poor quality of honey and how hard it is to pick out real nice thick honey. Now the production and sale of such honey is going to hurt the

honey market more than anything else.

Mr. McEvoy: Mr. Sibbald's experience and mine is exactly alike. I have sold 60 tons in little glasses and everywhere in the grocery stores nothing is more important than quality.

Mr. Newton: I fully agree with friend McEvoy and friend Sibbald. People prefer the liquid to the granulated. Last year at Buffalo when the people came in and looked at the granulated and the clear they preferred the clear. We have got to please the eye and when we do that I think we go a long way to please in other respects.

Mr. Holtermann: We can do a great deal in educating the public. I don't propose that every one shall have a 600 pound barrel of granulated honey, at the same time I believe if sold in that form a man can sell more of it than he can in any other way.

Mr. Holmes: The general trend and drift now a-days is to put up all goods in small parcels in the stores; we find dried fruits and other commodities are put up in small packages, and even some lines of sugar are put up in fancy packages.

Mr. Byer: I think we might talk on this subject as long as we like and honey will continue to be sold in both ways. We must use our judgement. I believe every bee-keeper agrees that in selling anything in a glass it must be kept in liquid form. Our home trade is all sold in 5 and 10 pound bottles and the directions are put on the labels how to liquify when it has granulated. I believe nine-tenths of our customers prefer to use it in the liquid form.

Mr. Heise: The practice of supplying a customer with a limited amount when he requires more seems to me to be contrary to all the best principles of trade.

Mr. Miller: I think it is generally

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conceded that it is to the interest of the bee-keeper to put out a nice grade of extracted honey in candied form if he can get the consumer to use as much of it. It has been said it is a matter of education, if so the bee-keepers are the ones who must do the educating. I have been educating my trade to the granulated honey and I put it up in five pound pails, slip cover, and I find no difficulty with my trade in placing it in that way. With the candied form there is no drip, it goes out in nicer form and my customers understand liquifying now.

Mr. Couse: I suppose when a customer comes along that a man likes he wishes to supply that customer with exactly what he likes and wants; he likes to give it to him in as good condition as possible. I have in mind a customer whom I persuaded that I could do the liquifying far better than he could himself; and he always has something to suit his taste; he can have it liquid or granulated, in the glass or can. Try and arrange to suit your customers and I think in that way you can stay with them.

Mr. Whiteside: In producing honey I think we ought to have a little care for the poor and we ought to get it into their hands as cheaply and conveniently as possible. I agree with Mr. Holtermann on the question of having the honey in cake form.

Mr. Morrison: It is a great deal owing to the taste that has been cultivated whether people demand liquid or granulated honey. I do not agree with Mr. Holtermann as to rolling a 600 lb barrel of honey into the window; I think if you did that in Barrie it would be a long time before it would be disposed of. On the other hand I admire the cheapness of it. I have thought for years if we could get a small tin package such as is used for tomatoes and apples, something that the grocers can put on

their shelves it would be less trouble to us.

Prof. Shutt: There are some figures in the remarks I have to make this afternoon which will throw some light on this question of marketing honey, particularly with reference to the scheme that Mr. Holtermann has brought before the meeting. We have ascertained, as probably many of you know that honey is a very absorbitive material if placed in a moist atmosphere; it will increase in weight by absorption of water to a tremendous extent and I fear some of you, or the grocer, might get into trouble or difficulty if granulated honey were exposed without any containing vessel.

When I took this matter of granulated up first it seemed to me there was a popular impression that granulated honey was adulterated and I daresay a little of that old impression still exists and is prejudicial to the sale of granulated honey.

Mr. Holtermann: What Prof. Shutt says is perfectly correct, but when you take the winter season and you put in a window an article of that kind with comparatively little of the surface exposed there is not any great danger.

QUESTION DRAWER CONDUCTED BY
MR. J. F. MILLER.

Question: Tell us how to clip queen's wings?

Mr. Miller: My method is to set the comb on end, following with my thumb and finger, allowing her to run between: just drop them over her shoulder and in that position clip her whilst she is on the comb.

Mr. Brown: What do you usually clip her with?

Mr. Miller: I have always used scissors.

Question: How to get the most honey with the least labor and in the shortest time out of bee-keeping?

Mr. Miller: I think if a man goes in to bee-keeping he must place out yards and detail, a system of close management, so that he can handle those yards with very little skilled labor outside of his own. It has an advantage of specialty and I think bee-keeping should be put on that footing.

Question: Should not some protection be given to bees when first set out? Do queens use queen cells more than once? Should they be broken up?

Mr. Miller: I used to give spring protection. Queen cells, I think all understand, are never used but once and if they are not broken up the bees will cut them out or leave stubs; they will reduce them, never using them but once.

Mr. Fixter: wouldn't it be a very great advantage to locate our apiaries where there is shelter and protection from the cold winds and then close the entrance blocks considerably.

Mr. Miller: I certainly think so if possible. I think they should be looked after in that way: if we can get a sheltered spot the yard will receive great protection from the cold winds and also by reducing the entrance to the requirements of each colony.

Question: Is Prof. Harrison's method of formalizing combs practicable or must we destroy infected combs?

Mr. Miller: I have had no experience with that. Prof. Harrison has given us a great deal on that subject. I think he stated at our last meeting that combs could be saved.

Question: What is the best clover to sow for honey, useful for farmers and fodder?

Mr. Miller: I would say Alsike.

Question: What is the best time for re-queening?

Mr. Miller: That I think would

largely depend on a man's time. I have always found a very good time just after the honey flow, after extracting and the work of the yard was all in hand, to re-queen: say through August.

Mr. Fixter: As to that previous question. Mr. Miller recommends alsike. I think there is better than that; I think you can get more honey from alfalfa and then there is sanfoine. I think if grown extensively we can get more honey and feed more bees on alfalfa and sanfoine than even white clover. I think it would pay any bee-keeper to try it on a small scale and see if it will grow in this locality, and if it will grow at all I am sure it will be a boon to bee-keepers.

Mr. Lott: Will sanfoine stand this climate? We have tried it in our locality and it is usually winter-killed the second winter.

Mr. Fixter: It stands it in our locality.

Mr. Lott: Do you find also that alfalfa is cut before any nectars secreted in it?

Mr. Fixter: That is the beauty of sanfoine. Leaving the question of honey and fodder out of question altogether, as a fertilizer we believe there is a very great benefit from it in that way.

Mr. Holtermann: I don't believe there is any clover equal to alsike. Around Brantford we have had fields of alfalfa and the bees passed right over its bloom and went to the alsike fields. Where there is irrigation and an abundance of moisture there may be something in it.

Mr. Chrysler: We have a good deal of alfalfa in our district and I have yet to find a bee on an alfalfa blossom.

Mr. Fixter: The great advantage of Sanfoine is that the bees cluster on a second cutting just as readily as they will on the first.

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Mr. Miller: My experience with alfalfa has been very much as stated by Mr. Holtermann.

Mr. McEvoy: If you get the honey from it pure, how do you like the quality?

Mr. Miller: I never have had it.

Mr. Holtermann: I have tasted it on the other side; I think it is beautiful honey.

Question: What is the best time to take bees out of clamps, in the spring or just before clover bloom?

Mr. Miller: I have always practiced taking them out as early in the spring as I thought advisable, according to the strength of the colony and condition of the weather. I am always anxious to get them out as early as possible on account of clipping the queens; and yet do not wish to place them out before the colonies are strong, and not retard the brood rearing; usually just before apple bloom.

Question: For extracted honey is it advisable to have an extractor and other tools at each apiary or carry them around on a conveyance, and also strain and put in cans the honey and bring them home as the honey is extracted?

Mr. Miller: My system has been to have a full outfit at each yard and not have more to take from one yard to the other than possible. I also strain and put into the package and draw that home as early as possible.

Question: Do you consider 2,000 cubic inches sufficient space for a brood chamber when it is desired to suppress swarming?

Mr. Miller: That is something I can't explain. I think plenty of room retards swarming but it will not prevent it.

Mr. McEvoy: No. It can be made large enough by removing the brood, and taking one thing with another,

that is my choice. 2,000 cubic inches is large enough.

Mr. Holtermann: This question of the size of hive is one which has been before the bee-keepers for a good many years. It is not a new matter at all. The Dadants I believe have been using large hives for fifteen or twenty years and there is nothing original on the part of those who are using large hives now, they are only following some one else. I believe when I get a poor bee-keeper who cannot get his hive well filled with brood early in the season he had better have a small hive, but if you come to one who will look after his business, and whose business is bee-keeping, during the bee-keeping season, he will have no difficulty in getting an eleven or twelve-framed hive filled. There is no use though having a few bees and trying to put them into a large hive.

Mr. Morrison: Would Mr. Holtermann use a twelve-framed hive if he was in a locality where there was only a clover honey flow—no basswood or buckwheat?

Mr. Holtermann: I am not in that kind of a locality.

Mr. Dickenson: Locality is everything.

Mr. Morrison: Yes, in that case.

Mr. Holtermann: If you only have a clover flow and a flow of short duration I believe it is all the more important to keep your bees together. The shorter your flow the less you can afford to let your bees divide up, and by having a large hive you get that.

Mr. Post: Yes, and there is also another advantage. If you have a large hive you can make a small hive of it. If the bee-keeper does not get his bees in good condition in the spring I suppose the small hive is just as good, but if in good condition he could use a large hive to bet-

ter advantage than the small one. For extracted honey it requires a large hive. I can't see where a small hive comes in play at all. You have either got to allow the queens to go into the top stories and lay or you will have swarming. I am in favor of a large brood nest.

Mr. Dickenson: Mr. Post is in a different locality. We simply get no buckwheat honey or white clover honey. There is some basswood but it is getting less all the time. We have to depend now on the clover. I prefer the nine frame Langstroth.

Mr. Heise: In my locality this year we had practically nothing but a clover flow. While we had a slight buckwheat flow there was nothing stored in the supers. The majority of my hives are ten-frame, eleven inches deep the same length as the Langstroth. I have yet a few ten-frame Langstroths and with an exclusive clover flow my average this year was 133 pounds to the hive. I am bound to say that those in the Langstroth ten-frame hives put up the most honey in every instance. Another peculiar thing is the idea that was brought out that with the larger hive swarming could be controlled more successfully. This year and a year ago in my yard, while I only had six colonies in Langstroth hives, those were the ones that did not swarm with the exception of two, while the others invariably swarmed. There may be other conditions that brought that about.

Mr. Fixter: This is one of the experiments we have been carrying on for a number of years with different sizes of hives, and in our locality we can get more honey out of the Langstroth hives than out of the large ones. We have the eight-frame hive but would prefer the nine-frame.

Mr. Post: That is the size of hive I use.

Mr. Holtermann: With my friend, Mr. Heise, how does he account for it? There could not have been as many bees in the ten-frame hive, that is sure. It is impossible, because we know with the same number of bees in the ten-frames as the twelve-frames, other things being equal, they would get the swarming impulse sooner. The shorter your flow is the less you can afford to let your bees divide up and swarm. It is all in a short time but if there is more produced in the beginning of the season I can afford increase, if I am going to have a later flow, because those bees can do something. If the flow is only short I am producing bees for practically nothing. It makes no difference what sized hive you use.

Mr. Chrysler: I find I can fill a large hive with bees and brood as easily as I can a small one in my locality, where I have a good big flow of fruit bloom honey.

Mr. Dickenson: I frequently have in my locality a complete failure of the fruit bloom. What do you do then?

Mr. McEvoy: I don't believe in a hive over 2,000 cubic inches. You can make it as large as you like by tiering up. Mr. Post is in a buckwheat section and if I were there I would perhaps have to do the same. With large brood chambers they will store too much honey in them and not enough on the top; they will come out a little short in the surplus.

Mr. Post: Then you would have to feed for winter.

Mr. McEvoy: There again, Mr. Post, we maybe winter a little differently. You winter in the cellar. Some person told me it was twenty five below zero down at Ottawa; my locality before I left it was above; there is a difference of thirty five degrees. I winter on summer

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stands and if I have to fit up a hive the brood chamber is pretty big. If I had to feed up for winter I would rather feed a smaller hive in good shape than put the same amount in a larger hive and not have it all sealed.

Mr. Dickenson: To show the difference in locality, my plan is to get as much honey down in the brood nest as possible after the white honey flow is over. Mr. Post will take off two crates of honey. He wants to get the honey up in the supers. I want the honey carried down.

(Continued next month.)

Victoria Co. Bee-Keepers Organize.

On Friday April, 10th, a number of the bee-keepers of Victoria and adjoining counties, met at little Britain for the purpose of forming a County Association. Among others present were: Wm. Webster, Jas. Mark, A. N. Noble, Wm. McEvoy, R. F. Holtermann, Thomas Webster, J. L. Byer, F. Whiteside, R. W. Roach, S. Rogers, Rev's. Ruttan and Clark, T. Godman Sam'l. Mark, W. G. Russel F. Leach. J. L. Byer was called to the chair and A. N. Noble appointed sec. pro tem.

After some discussion as to the benefits likely to be derived from a Assoc. it was moved, seconded and unanimously carried that the bee-keepers of Victoria Co. and vicinity form such an Association.

After enrollment of members officers were appointed as follows: Pres. Wm. Webster, Vice. Pres. Jas. Mark, Sec. A. N. Noble. After this some time was taken up in discussing practical questions relating to bee-keeping, Messrs. Holtermann, Russel Leach also gave a practical demonstration of supplies for the

apiary which they had on exhibition!

Among questions asked werethese:
Is early spring stimulative feeding desirable?

Can outside feeding be done to advantage?

Can bees be a nuisance?

Is foul brood on the increase? etc.

On the first two named, members were about equally divided in opinion and nearly all agreed that under certain conditions bees "can be a nuisance." The last named question brought about a spirited discussion between Messrs. McEvoy and Holtermann, Mr. McEvoy being very emphatic in contending that "foul brood is not on the increase," while Mr. Holtermann took a different view of the matter. Am unable to say what was the general sentiment of the meeting on the question as the members seemed inclined to withhold their views for private discussion.

Victoria Co. has a large number of bee-keepers and there is nothing to prevent them having a flourishing Co. Assoc. Some sixteen or seventeen bee-keepers present represented over 1300 colonies and there are (as roughly estimated by the writer from information received) between four and five hundred colonies within two miles of Little Britain. It is doubtful if any other section in Ont. can profitably support more bees than this. The secret is all told in one word—"alsike," which is one of the staple crops of the splendid Township of Mariposa.—J. L. B

Honey dew has been analysed and found to contain some quantity of dextrine, which (wholesome to man) appears to be the cause of trouble to the bees in the winter time when they cannot leave the hive. At other seasons it forms a perfectly harmless food.—Revue International d' Apiculture.

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CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL

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BRANTFORD - CANADA.

Editor, W. J. Craig.

MAY, 1903.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

Spring opened earlier than usual and yet vegetation is not much, if any, further advanced at this date than in an ordinary season. Cold winds have prevailed, and rains were invariably followed by lower temperature

In consequence of these conditions considerable losses have occurred in many apiaries since setting out, through starvation. Colonies with plenty of stores have built up strong and are full of brood, drones were flying in our home yard in the last days of April since then we have found queen cells started in some colonies.

A sharp lookout will require to be kept to guard against starvation in strong heavily brooded colonies in the interval between fruit-bloom and clover.

The directors of the Canadian Honey Exchange have decided to send a representative to the spring meeting of each County Association in the province to work up the organization and to discuss proposed

plans of management. We understand that it is not the purpose of the directors to incorporate at present but to arrange with some commission house or houses for the handling of the honey. Incorporation alone would cost upwards of \$200, after which there would be the cost of offices etc. and the salary of a permanent manager. It would be well if local associations would make the consideration and discussion of this subject one of the leading features of their meeting.

There has been considerable agitation in some districts for the appointment of district or county foul-brood inspectors. We had hoped that the subject would have been taken up and discussed fully and freely in our columns, as it is matter of public importance to bee-keepers and not merely to the few who are wrangling over it. Our columns are always open to honest views and criticisms, always reserving to ourselves, of course, the right to rule out bitter and unfriendly personalities.

There seems to be a good deal of contradiction abroad concerning the foul brood situation in the province. So far as legislation is concerned little can be done so long as bee-keepers are divided in their opinion, this has been an unfortunate feature of the past and it seems to continue—lack of unanimity, notwithstanding our advancement and enlightenment.

Now as to the local inspectorship while we would not advocate wholesale and unnecessary appointments it might be wisdom to have the

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so amended as to provide for the appointment of one or more qualified men in districts where the disease is prevalent, who would recognise it in all its stages, report it to the provincial inspector and treat it under his direction.

Mr. C. H. W. Weber of Cincinnati, writes in "Gleanings in Bee Culture" of his success in treating foul-broody combs with formalin gas. The combs were submitted to Prof. Guyer of the University of Cincinnati who reported as follows:

"Seventy-five tests for foul brood in bee-comb; 40 tests on comb which had been subjected to formaldehyde-culture, medium-agar at 37°C; 10 tests on comb containing honey treated as above; 15 tests on comb as above culture, medium boriellon at 37°C; 10 tests on comb (foul brood) not treated with formaldehyde. *Bacillus alvei* (germ of foul brood) was found in the comb not subjected to formaldehyde; none was found in the combs which had been treated with formaldehyde."

Mr. Weber is quite enthusiastic over the results of his experiment, as well he may. We would be glad to hear from some of our Canadian bee-keepers who have tried the remedy.

Mr. Chas. Stewart, bee-inspector for New York State, third division, has used the drug with equal success for black-brood; this disease is generally considered to be more difficult to eradicate than foul-brood. He says in a recent number of "Gleanings."

"I read C. H. W. Weber's report on the use of formaldehyde for the cure of foul brood, with much interest, especially as the bee-inspectors of this State have been experimenting with this powerful disinfectant during

the past summer whenever a little time could be spared from State work, in order to determine if it would cure black brood, which, you know, is much more to be dreaded than foul brood.

About thirty tests were made by myself and other careful bee-keepers by treating diseased colonies on the shake-off plan, then using about three tablespoonfuls of formaldehyde to the number of combs we could pack in about 4½ cubic feet of space.

These combs were then given to healthy colonies, and, with an occasional exception which could usually be traced to some outside source of infection, the brood was healthy, the combs being capped regularly over the brood. Some of these combs, before being given to the bees, were the worst cases of black brood we could find, but were, of course, first treated with vapor of formaldehyde.

Later in the season, about twenty colonies of healthy bees were given combs very heavy with honey and pollen, taken from diseased colonies, and vaporized. These colonies were carefully marked, and before long we shall know if we were successful in killing all the germs when they were located under both pollen and honey. It seems almost too good to be true; but, even if it is a failure in this experiment, we expect to give them a longer and stronger dose and try it again.

As a precautionary measure we expect to vaporize all of our extracting-combs this season before giving them to the bees, and feel confident that, in this kind of combs, were but little honey remained from last season, no germs will survive the treatment."

This is, certainly very encouraging, and confirms very strongly Professor Harrison's discovery and the remedy he has been advocating to Ontario bee-keepers.

Thoughts andComments ON CURRENT TOPICS

By a York County Bee Keeper.

EARLY SPRING FEEDING FOR STIMULATIVE PURPOSES

In two recent issues of the American Bee Journal, that excellent authority on apiculture, Mr. C. P. Dadant, has articles bearing on this question.

Mr. Dadant very strongly advocates early spring feeding to stimulate the bees, when nothing is coming in from the fields stipulating however, that the same should be done in a judicious manner. Mr. Dadant may be right, nevertheless, methinks that in our locality early feeding is very apt to act like the proverbial "two edged sword," and bee-keepers, especially beginners had better err on the safe side and leave the bees severely alone during March and April, provided of course that they have plenty of stores. During period named, have noticed that the bees generally have all the brood they can take care of through the changeable weather incidental to this part of the year. The only time that I regard as essential to feed for stimulative purposes, is between fruit bloom and clover, at this period it is hard to over do the matter, and one has the satisfaction of knowing that every bee reared at this season will be of use in the prospective honey season.

WILL CELLAR WINTERED BEES FOR- GET THEIR FORMER LOCATIONS?

It is quite orthodox to say that where bees are brought from the cellar in the spring that they will not go back to their former location provided they are placed on another stand.

However, as I proved to my own satisfaction this spring this rule like nearly all others, has exceptions to it. A couple of colonies that had been left in a remote corner of the yard last season, were when brought out of the cellar and placed in a different location among the rest of the hives. They were taken out of the cellar in the evening and as it happened it was two days before they had a flight. Dozens of bees from the two hives mentioned came back to the old stand, flying aimlessly around completely lost. Don't know if this is a common occurrence or not, however it seems to me that it would be quite risky to set a whole apiary in a new location when taken from the cellar, as we often hear that it is perfectly safe to do. Possibly the noise attendant to a large number of bees flying might attract stragglers back to the new location, and even if there was considerable mixing up there would be no real loss, as one colony's loss would be another's gain.

QUALITIES OF THE CARNIOLAN BEES

Am inclined to think that all who have the "real article" will agree with the most of what Prof. Benton has to say (April C. B. J.) in regard to the Carniolan bees. From my limited experience with them I feel quite sure that they are the quietest of all bees, and no doubt as Prof. Benton states, adverse reports as to this quality, are caused by bee-keepers having carniolans that have "other blood" in them.

They are the greater bees to build up fast in the spring that I ever had in the yard. Even a spring like the present one will not prevent brood rearing from going on rapidly in a hive ruled over by a Carniolan queen. They are not as conservative as Italians and strong colonies need watching to prevent starvation during

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long spells of bad weather in the early spring.

This very quality (brood rearing when no honey is coming in) has been the cause of me determining to get rid of Carniolan blood in ONE of my yards.

The yard in question has absolutely no pasture after basswood is over and I find the Carniolans breed too much after the honey flow and leave me a big empty brood chamber for the winter. Where we have any fall flow to speak of would have nothing but Carniolans if I had my choice, as one can depend on rousing big colonies all through the season.

GOOD ADVICE TO BEGINNERS, ET AL

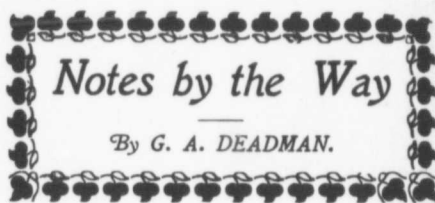
Dr. Miller has this to say about "queens," in "stray straws," *Gleanings* page 183. "A word to beginners, Whatever else you may believe or not believe, set it down as one fixed article in your creed that the queen is the all important factor in a colony, and that the time and trouble taken to rear the very best will give immense returns on the investment."

The beginner and "old stager" as well, can search the whole category of bee-literature without finding better advice than the foregoing.

A PECULIAR SEASON

On the 19th March. Thermometer 70, bees gathering pollen quite freely from soft maple. On the 19th of April, temperature 55, bees carrying pollen from soft maple. This will pretty fairly explain what the season to date has been in our locality. Might say that in interval between dates mentioned, that there were only four or five days that any pollen was brought in. Clear sky with cold north winds has been the rule. We hope for better things in May.

Advertise in The Journal.



Notes by the Way

By G. A. DEADMAN.

A WHEEL-BARROW OR SMALL WAGON FOR USE IN APIARY WORK, WHICH?

I am at a loss to understand why a wheel-barrow seems so universally used for work in the apiary stead of a small wagon. Possibly it is largely due to the fact that the former is so common and so necessary about a place, that many do not trouble to have the latter which to me in many ways is just as necessary and for apiary work worth much more.

There is no doubt that the wheel-barrow has come to stay, but we are safe in saying that the inventor was not an apiarist or at least, he did not design it for the work that, judging from our bee journals, so many of our leading apiarists use it for. I suspect there is another reason why so many bee-keepers use them, which is, they are so easily to be had, they are for sale every where, whereas a wagon, to be what we want it to be, must be ordered or made especially. The inventor of the wheel-barrow no doubt had in view when constructing this very useful vehicle the ease with which it can be unloaded when one is not particular how it is done, but there is no work in the apiary that I know of, no loads you can put on that you can unload by dumping. I suppose always, without any exception the load has to be lifted off by hand. If this is true then this one valuable feature of the wheel-barrow for general work, plays no part in the apiary, unless it is against its use. I want something there that will not tip over. Some of us will call to mind an apiary which is managed by

a woman and not a very strong one either who uses a wheel-barrow to bring in the combs for extracting, but this need give us no surprise when nothing better to my knowledge has ever been advocated. Let me say, to those especially who are not strong there is something better yes much better than a wheel-barrow. I have two wheel-barrowes but the only use I have ever had for one was to wheel covers and bottom boards and for wheeling a can of feed when preparing for winter. I had a can with a tap which projected over the back part of the bottom of the box. It was convenient for drawing off the feed. The waggon I have now however discounts this entirely and I never again expect to have even this limited use for the wheel-barrow. Last fall I took a barrel holding about 20 gallons set it in the box of the waggon then with a tin pail dipped out the feed and gave it to the bees, I had no occasion to fear (as I had with the wheel-barrow) lest it should tip over and I could also take much more at a load, this undesirable work was made easier. Perhaps I am behind the times but I have often wondered how the wheel-barrow is used for taking in combs for extracting. I suppose never more than two supers can be taken at one time and then I presume never level except when being loaded, and for tiering up two and three high it would be an utter impossibility to keep them from slipping off unless weighty and then I would rather some else should wheel them than me. A wheel-barrow takes up so much more room than a waggon and the handles to me are continually getting in the way. If two are used, as would be necessary for fast and easy work when extracting, then they would be more than ever in the way when both are in the honey house at the same time. At such times I have

found two waggons very advantageous, while the uncapper and assistant are extracting one load in the honey house, another load is being got ready in the apiary. It is then taken into the honey house, and the other waggon with the load of empty combs is taken out. After the honey season is closed and combs not put back sometimes, one waggon is all that is required, of course it is all that is required any way, if you do not object to lifting out the supers of full combs and putting in those that are empty. Until last year I have contented myself with a waggon with wooden spokes, such as sold in some stores only much larger, but they are not so satisfactory as one made for the purpose. One reason is they are not strong enough at times for what is required of them, then they are not likely to have the right sized box for holding the supers you use. In making a waggon two things are wanted, 1st a box large enough to hold at least two extracting supers side by side, and then strong enough to carry any load that will ever be required, for under no circumstance do we want it to break and upset a load of combs or worse yet an open vessel of honey or bee-feed. The one I have now will carry a ton, and yet so easy to pull that the other day a child of some six years was drawing three other children larger than himself.

In giving a description of the waggon I will begin with the box. This should be at least one inch longer than the width of the two supers such as you use and also one inch wider than the length way of your super so as to hold two extracting supers with frames going crossway's. As to the height, I would only have it $\frac{1}{2}$ -inch deeper than your comb honey super. The shallower the box the stronger it will be, but having it

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little deeper than onesuper of sections you can put on four of these without having them slip off. By making a little wider and longer you can not only put them in easier, but you can drop in your queen excluding honey boards around the outside which is not only a good place for them but you can tier up your supers much higher without any danger of falling off. We are free to admit that something faster than this is required when first putting them on but there are times when a few supers are required here and there either before all the colonies are ready, or because some requires more room that it is very handy to be able to take a load of eight or ten to give them where needed. When these same supers are filled you will find it especially advantageous to be able to bring back a load that you will not be ashamed of. This box can be made out of $\frac{3}{4}$ -inch stuff for ends and about $\frac{1}{2}$ -inch for sides, basswood I prefer but pine or other wood will do. I would recomend reinforcing this box at the top by putting on additional $\frac{1}{8}$ or 1-2-inch piece, a thick lath will go around it, and then binding at the corners with buggy irons costing only a trifle I did not take this precaution with the first one I made so that when I had occasion to move a stove weighing a few hundred lbs, it pushed off and split the sides. There is no saying the use you will put this waggon to when once you have one. Another time I wished to move some comb pails of honey, crated-six hundred lbs was the load that day It may surprise you how much one can draw on a level road. It will save you many a carry and a lift too which a wheel-barrow would not. Having decided on the size of your box the next is the length of the axles. If you use a long frame I would have the box project over the wheels so as

not to have your waggon unnecessarily wide, 2 ft will be found satisfactory for these. By chance I found two amongst some scrap iron but as you will not likely be so fortunate, I would go to a blacksmith and get say 7-8 or 1 inch round rim. Have him say 3 inches from each end, flatten the under side for a distance of two inches and make a $\frac{1}{4}$ inch hole in which to insert a bolt to fasten the wood work to support your box and then put a ring or something to keep the wheels from going in to far. They are kept in place with an iron pin on the other device. I would also have axles flattened at the centre and holes bored through them to hold the reach. Have the bolts going through the end of the hind axle pass through the braces that fasten on the reach. I find there is nothing equal to bolts and nuts for keeping things in place. The wood work that supports your box must be made high enough so the front wheels will go under the box and maybe the back wheels too depending of course on the width of your box or length of the axle. The wheels I am using are solid wood, front 8 inches, back 10 inches in diameter, 2 inches thick in centre and $1\frac{1}{2}$ inch at outside turned out of rock elm. In making this waggon strong, do not neglect the tongue.

If you have a family, or live near others who have, there will probably be many who will use this waggon besides yourself. In turning with a load unless cautious it is an easy matter to break the tongue. The wood work does not require to be very heavy, mine is $1\frac{1}{4} \times 1$ inch but the iron work by which it is attached to axle requires to be strong $1 \times \frac{1}{4}$ inch thick is none too heavy.

Before having this waggon I never felt safe in lending the one I had. The One I have now however will stand all the hard usage it will probaly

get so that it is a pleasure to me to see so many getting pleasure and use from it. As a bee-keeping friend said the other day, you have to take both hands with a wheel-barrow. This alone would deter me from using it in apiary work.

Communications

Chicago, Ill.

Editor C. B. J.—

Los Angeles, Cal., has been selected by the executive committee as the place for holding the next annual meeting of the National Bee-Keepers' Association, and August 18, 19 and 20, 1903, are the dates.

The main reason for deciding on Los Angeles was on account of the low railroad rates in force at the time of the Grand Army meeting at San Francisco which is held the same week, and the same rates apply to Los Angeles.

Further particulars will appear in the regular official notice to be issued by the Secretary of the Association later on, as soon as definite arrangements can be made as to hall for holding the meeting, hotel accommodations, etc.

We may say that San Antonio, Tex., and Salt Lake City, Utah, made honorable and strenuous efforts to secure this year's meeting of the National Bee-Keepers' Association, but those who have had the most experience know that in order to have the best and fullest attendance, the meeting must be held when low railroad rates all over the country can be taken advantage of, and the Grand Army beats them all in that line. So that had great weight with the committee in deciding the matter.

GEORGE W. YORK,
Sec. Executive Com.

Temperature of the Hive.

The wintering of bees will always be a subject of interest to bee-keepers. The bees store honey, it is said, to provide for winter; but for reasons best known to the bees, when their colony has room, and room to spare, they store and will keep in store ten times more honey than they consume in winter. That they store the excess of honey to meet possible contingencies is not tenable. They will not store pollen to last two winters, but they will store honey enough to last them several winters and summers. They store most honey in climates where there is least winter to provide for, and where there is no winter at all they store honey out of all proportion to their needs. It must be that honey, like wine, is improved by age, and that the bees want for food—both in summer and in winter—honey that has been stored for a length of time in their combs. The large stock of honey, which must in time become old, conduces in some way to their welfare, and they are so liable to die from disease or other calamities as when their stock is small.

If we suppose a colony of bees in a glass hive tight at the top and open at the bottom—the thickness of the glass of no importance—and the hive placed, say, on two sticks to keep it off the ground, and covered with two or three feet of snow, the colony would be in the most favourable condition for wintering in a rigorous climate. The temperature of the hive would be just above the freezing point, but it would make little difference to the bees when the temperature was a few degrees higher or lower. At the lower temperature the bees would consume

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honey, but they would raise more brood, as their method of distilling water in their clusters operates to more advantage at low temperatures. There would be no condensation of moisture on the walls of the hive. If we cover the brood chamber of a hive in winter with a pane of glass there will be no condensation on the glass so long as the bees are in their winter clusters, but condensation will take place when the bees raise the temperature of the hive above that of the air. In hives with inclined floor boards water will frequently be seen dripping from the hives. It is most apparent in spring, but sometimes seen in summer and fall. I have never seen the bees touch this water, and I take it that for some reason bees will not make use of the water from condensation on the wall of the hive.

If we cover the brood chamber of a hive in summer with a thin sheet of cotton or linen cloth so as to give the bees time to fasten it and to plaster the underside with wax and propolis the bees will winter safely in the hive; and it will make no difference to the bees whether quilts are placed over the cloth or not. If we give the bees no time, however, to make the top of the brood chamber tight, but in the fall cover with loose quilts and chaff cushions the strong winter wind will sometimes blow through the hive and the bees will not winter well. It will be necessary to keep a crooked wire to pull out dead bees at the entrance, but a colony wintering properly will have no dead bees to pull out at the entrance.

The bees commence foraging in spring for some time before they abandon their winter clusters, and as they cannot raise brood in spring, to any extent, without bringing water into the hive, one of their first efforts is to find water. They will carry no water from running brooks or creeks

because the water is too cold, and they will not take water placed for them in the apiary for two reasons, one is that it is also too cold, and the other is that the bee-keeper nearly always puts salt in the water, and the bees want no salt. Bees will take honey mixed with turpentine and carbolic acid but it is the honey they want and not the other ingredients, and they have been known to take enough honey dew into the hive to kill the colony, showing that the old bees can carry poisons that will kill the young bees. What the bees will not take when mixed with honey has not yet been found out. The bees in spring try to find stagnant pools in which fermentation and decomposition have raised the temperature of the water above that of the air. The more the pool is teeming with animal and vegetable life the warmer will be the water, and the more the bees will resort to it, That they sometimes carry disease into the hive from stagnant pools there can be little doubt, but they will not carry cold water.

There is an effect of the bees in Australia which the bee-keepers there call the "disappearing trick." The bees of strong colonies in spring will in a very short time nearly all disappear, while, strange to say, the weak colonies will not be affected. The bees in strong colonies leave their clusters much sooner, and often to their disadvantage, than the bees in weak colonies, and are then, for raising brood, wholly dependent on water from outside. When bees go out hunting for their accustomed warm pools, and cannot find them, they likely do not return to the hive. It is astonishing how strongly ingrained in animal nature are acquired instinctive habits. There is in Norway a lemming-rat that occasionally migrates in vast numbers into the sea, and this "disappearing trick" of the

rats is accounted for by their searching for land that is supposed to have existed, and to have been migrated to by lemmings prior to all known historical records. I take it that stagnant pools are at times hard to find in Australia, and it may be that foraging bee are lost in searching for them.

Bees have no difficulty in transferring honey stored in the hive from one location in the hive to another, but they cannot take up pollen again in their baskets and change it from one cell to another. As pollen is principally used to feed larvæ the bees store it where it will be within their clusters in winter, but they never store pollen in cells next the walls of the hive. It is therefore a question for bee-keepers to consider, in localities not exempt from bisease, whether the placing of combs stored with pollen next the walls of the hive may not become a source of danger to the colony. The pollen is allowed by the bees to dry up in the cells which soon become covered with fungoid growth. In hives with small combs the evils arising from abnormal position of the combs are not so serious as in hives with large combs.

The manipulation of brood combs will have to get more attention and study in the future; and the advantages from spreading brood combs may be found more "in the breach than in the observance." At no time in the British Isles can bees build comb without clustering to raise the temperature, and bees in clusters withdraw their heat from the general temperature of the hive. The evils which this loss of heat may cause should be thought of in spreading brood as well as the evils alluded to, which are likely to follow.

A. W. SMYTH, M. D.,
Irish Bee Journal.

The New York State Convention

Notes from an address on "Shook Swarms" by
S. D. House, Camillus, N. Y.

Mr. S. D. House, Camillus, N. Y., whose father was at one time in partnership with the late Moses Quinby, gave an address at the New York State Convention on the subject of Shook Swarms. The House family have had as many as sixteen hundred colonies of bees at one time, and have practiced the shaking off system quite largely for many years. Mr. George W. House wrote an article in *The Bee-keeper Magazine*, May, 1880, giving his method and at that time said that they had practiced it for fifteen years before.

In his address at the New York State Convention Mr. House stated that the system had been practiced for forty years. He remembered his father shaking the bees out of the old hives in front of the new for the purpose of increase. Previous to this the method had originated in the treatment of foul brood. They had also at that time practiced the double drive system in which the hive was shaken a second time twenty-one days after the first, that way getting all the brood the combs contained after first shaken.

MR. HOUSE ADVOCATES EARLY SHAKING OFF.

If shaken June 15th, when the swarming season generally begins, basswood opening in July, when bees are ready to gather honey, basswood is passed. Mr. Strathousen has stated that he had scientific inspiration that the bees caused the swarming im-

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This he (Mr. House) from various conditions in connection with the hook swarm system had not found to be correct.

To shake the bees he proceeds as follows:—In the latter part of May he stimulates his best colonies for queen cells, and when the time for shaking arrives he puts the new hive on the old stand, finds the queen in the old colony, setting her and the comb on which she is to one side he shakes three-quarters to seven-eighths of the bees from the other combs, allowing the old queen to run in at the entrance of the new colony with the bees.

The old hive is then put on a new stand and given a queen cell, which is likely to hatch in twenty-four or forty-eight hours. He puts the queen cell in the lower part of the hive. He uses a shallow brood chamber and puts two of these shallow chambers, from which the bees had been shaken, together, making a new colony sufficiently strong to winter.

Often a colony is not strong enough to shake, these he runs for extracted honey. With half chamber there is a certain amount of sugar from pollen in the sections. To avoid this he places an empty comb in the brood chamber.

In his thirty-three years experience he never has had an absconding swarm if the queen was in the new hive. The brood chambers in which the bees have been shaken can be tiered up or given to weaker colonies. Comparing the systems Mr. House said he did not know what he would do if he were to go back to the old system of natural swarming. The artificial swarm shows the same vigor as a natural swarm and they build up just as well. Seven days are allowed for the shaken colony by

giving it a ripe cell, and if a young queen is given, twelve days work by the queen was gained for the colony—that is for the colony from which the bees were shaken.

When Mr. House wants to shake he sees that there is plenty of honey coming in. The bees could fill themselves from the honey shaken out when the bees were shaken from the combs on the front board.

MR. F. H. CYRENIUS, OSWEGO, N. Y., found that when the bees were shaken early full sheets of foundation should be used. If close to swarming, with nearly mature queen cells, then starters could be used. He did not hunt the queen but if he had to do so he put a queen excluder on top of the new hive, and on this an empty super. Into this empty super the bees were shaken. The worker bees would pass through and the queen readily found on the metal. It is radically wrong to put a comb of brood into the newly shaken swarm.

Mr. House prefers shaking the swarms about 10 a.m. The queen is found more easily at that time and less fresh honey to be shaken from the combs.

MR. N. BETZINGER, CAMILLUS, N. Y., stated this was a very old subject, very old indeed, the subject of shaking swarms. Driving swarms was more perfect. If he were standing by the hive and the bees came out and without any effort on his part the bees would return in fifteen minutes and go into the new hive, he would not have it.

He would give them a pointer and all he asked for it was credit for what he gave. Just before the honey harvest he drove or drummed the bees into a box and after they have been left there a short time hives them. In this way drone

comb building is avoided and the bees will work with the same energy as natural swarms. Less pollen will be taken into sections with the driven swarm system.

A discussion came up upon the subject of tall sections and square. Mr. Betzinger stated that he had used the tall sections for many years and was now using the square. He wanted a section which allowed it to be packed any side up. This could not be done with the tall. Again the tall section was more inclined to burr comb. Mr. Betzinger also gave his method of treating sections with burr combs and sections which had been damaged in the capping. He took a hot knife cut away a portion of the burr and flattened and melted the remaining wax over the exposed honey. If there was no capping, sufficient capping from other sources could be taken. This made sections otherwise not marketable as good as ever.

Hints from a Critic

By Morley Pettit.

An unfortunate misunderstanding has arisen between two of our leading bee-men who contributes to the columns of the "Canadian Bee Journal," over a very small matter—a lack of careful sentence construction on the one hand, and the failure to note a small punctuation mark on the other. I refer to Mr. J. L. Byer's rating of Mr. R. F. Holtermann (p. 203) for either classing him on a standing committee with "expenses" or ignoring his position on the particular committee in question.

It is a matter for deep regret that

the personal element should so predominate in our association affairs. We see it all along the line and it may be attributed in part to the brotherly feelings among bee-men as a class. We have common interests and outside of ourselves there is an almost universal ignorance of the details of our business, hence we fraternize. Then come the family quarrels and, of all, these are most prolonged.

The matter of the Foul Brood Law is only a particular illustration of this. Another and a delicate one to touch upon, by the way, is the matter of the annual election of directors. In a very unbusinesslike way nominations are made openly, the process has very much the appearance of a case of "You nominate me and I'll nominate you." Opposing nominations are seldom made for fear of hurting some one's feelings. Indeed they are so rare that they are sometimes allowed to pass unnoticed. The result is a "Family Compact" seems to have arisen.

If it has not as the present directors affirm, let them proceed as follows: Instruct the secretary to prepare a list of the members arranged according to their respective districts. Publish this list in November in the C. B. J. also on slips of paper for distribution among the members at the convention in December. The list at election of officers give each member a ballot on which he shall name the man he shall choose from his list as most suitable to direct the affairs of the association in each district, twelve names in all. All the directors could thus be nominated on one set of ballots. Next the scrutineers could write on a blackboard, or large sheet of paper suspended in view of all, the two names for each district receiving highest and next highest nominating vote

- Dist. 1 { Mr. A. —
- { Mr. B. —
- Dist. 2 { Mr. C. —
- { Mr. D. — etc.

Pass fresh ballots and let each member name one of the two for each district. The ballots could be collected, counted and the names of defeated candidates erased from the blackboard.

This plan would reduce the time spent on election to about that of electing two directors in the ordinary way, would almost entirely eliminate the personal element as both the nominating and the voting would be secret, and would make the directorate nearly representative as it is possible to have it.

Manitoba Honey.

Mr. Duncan, of Manitoba, seems to be quite stirred up over my article in the November issue. In the close of this article he tells brother beekeepers not to get jealous of one another. That is right, Brother Duncan. I wonder who is "jealous." Do not for a moment think that Ontario clover honey is any better than clover honey in Manitoba, but are safe in saying that no honey can be produced in Manitoba, other than clover, is as good. As I said then, "There is a good deal of what we have been educated to as what one considers best." As I understand it there will be more of the best honey produced in Manitoba

than in Ontario, and as a consequence it will not be so saleable with those who have been educated to something milder. Travelling over a large part of that country for the sixth time I may have possibly seen more of the honey produced there than Mr. Duncan himself. What he says about the honey possibilities of the country will be a surprise to many, and may be an inducement for some to go there. As I said before one's success is assured by continuing mixed farming and bee-keeping. We would like to hear from others who have been as successful as Mr. Duncan.

G. A. DEADMAN,
Brussels, Ont.

April 27th.

Bee-keeping is making rapid progress in Manitoba and the North-West Territories. The C.B.J. expects in the near future to open a Manitoba department.

The stingless bees of South America make little honey, the absence of the sting causing suppression of the secretion of formic acid which alone preserves the honey.—Gazette Apicole de France.

Brant County Association.

A meeting of the above Association is called for

SATURDAY, MAY 23RD, AT 2 P. M.

ALEX. TAYLOR, Pres.
W. J. CRAIG, Secy.



Page Woven Wire Fence

with its continuous coil (not crimped) is the best stock-holding fence made. Page No. 7 wire stands a 3,000 pounds strain—common No. 7 wire only 1,701 pounds. Common wire will not coil—it straightens out again—it hasn't a spring temper—Page wire has.

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Bees on Langstroth frames. Write at once, stating prices to

F. J. ADAMS,
Bow Park, Brantford, Ont.

FOR SALE

60 colonies of bees in Langstroth hives will be sold at a bargain. Owner going to the West.

A. L. CAMPBELL,
Glencoe.

MAN WANTED

The undersigned wishes to secure the services of a man or boy for a month or so, to help attend fifty colonies of bees. Good wages to an experienced hand. Services to begin about 24th May. Apply at once to

JAS. E. HOLT,
Newton Robinson.

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WAX taken in payment for making up. Eggs for Hatching for sale.

Barred Rocks } \$1.00 per Setting.
Black Minorcas }

JOHN NEWTON, Thamesford, Ont.

A long list of new subscribers to the C. B. J. has been added during the last three months. Let the good work continue.

Don't neglect to become a member of the Canadian Honey Exchange. Write Sec. Couse and enclose your dollar.

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