

# The Canadian Bee Journal

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## NOTES AND COMMENTS

By J. L. Byer.

### Drone Comb in Extracting Supers.

That drone combs in supers are not together an unmixed evil has been brought forcibly to the notice of the writer this present season. While hundreds of beautiful combs of worker size have been plugged with clover pollen, it is quite pleasant to come across drone combs, which are, of course, invariably free from pollen. No brood was hoisted in my supers this year, yet the pollen nuisance is the worst I ever experienced, and it is quite a problem how to treat the large number of wired combs, which are comparatively useless in their present condition. Only two practical plans are suggested to me, namely, scraping them to the septum, and cutting out entire chunk filled with pollen. Quite likely the latter course will be followed, as it is less work and more wax is obtained, to say nothing of the fact (objectionable or otherwise) that the comb will be repaired with the same-size cells and will not be filled with pollen again.

### "Red Clover Bees."

candidly, I don't take any stock in the above phrase. This year, almost

any day during clover bloom, a large number of bees could be seen working on red clover in a field only a few rods from the home apiary. In said apiary there are blacks, Carniolans, and long-tongued (?) Italians. Just as many blacks and Carniolans were on the red clover bloom as were of the Italians, and, judging by the empty supers, each race obtained the same amount of nectar from the blossoms. Only last week Mr. R. F. Whiteside of Little Britain was telling me that during the season his bees worked mostly on the red clover, and that at that time he possessed no Italians. Personally, I believe that one race will work just the same as another on red clover (some seasons), and I am sorry to say that very little nectar is obtained from that source, regardless of race of bees. To be sure, different strains of any race will show up better than others, whether it be in working on red clover or any other source of nectar.

### Bees Quieter in Poor Seasons.

It is quite orthodox to say that bees are quietest when most honey is coming in. If such claims are true, then my bees are unorthodox in the extreme. For example, this year the home bees were nearly surrounded by a meadow. Haying operations were carried on all through the hot days of July, horses worked right up against the apiary fence, young bees, drones et al of 100 colonies making great roar

over the heads of the haymakers, and yet not one bee offered to sting. My, what a difference there would have been in a good season, with swarms issuing and honey coming in galore! Certainly there would have been a quick procession of horses and men to more congenial parts. One could walk through the yard almost any time bare-headed and scarcely ever be molested by a bee. Please treat my bees to such an indignity during a good honey flow and report results. No matter how other people's bees act, mine certainly seem to be governed by the principle that "poverty will make even a hog gentle."

#### The Raspberry as a Honey Plant.

In wet seasons like the one we have just had (at least here in York county), where they are plentiful, raspberries certainly are a boon. Couldn't understand for quite a while the reason that the Altona yard boomed ahead of the home and Cashel yards, where the reverse is usually the rule; however, the reason was made clear when we found that there were 7½ acres of raspberries within reach of the Altona bees. Last week we took off 1,700 pounds of honey from that yard, and although amber in color, the flavor is beautiful, and I surmise that the bulk of it is from raspberries.

#### A Non-swarming Race of Bees.

I have them, sure enough. From 250 colonies only nine offered to swarm. No special anti-swarmling prescriptions were given, nor were hive manipulations of a nature to discourage swarming. Haven't any of these bees to sell, yet perchance you might come into possession of a like strain of bees, will say that all that is necessary to develop the non-swarmling trait is simply to keep honey from coming into the hives in any quantity. Simple, isn't it? Incidentally, might say that friend Hutchinson remedied conditions to a great extent by changing hives around

and placing an over-strong stock on the stand of a weak colony, and vice versa. While he changed a large number around thus, it is gratifying to note that no queens were lost, something I have always been fearful of when practising the plan, which I have done only to a very limited extent.

#### Not Always Wise to Tell Everything.

The "American Bee-keeper," in every issue, keeps pounding away at those who have ventured to say that artificial honey comb has not or can not be made. A. C. Miller claims to have indisputable evidence that such comb was made years ago, and last issue of "American Bee-keeper" speaks of the possibility of such combs being manufactured and placed on the market for brood-rearing and storage of extracted honey in the near future. Regarding enquiries of the public as to artificial comb honey, the "American Bee-keeper's" position is, that the bee-keeper should always tell said enquirers that such is a possibility, but it is not practical to put such honey on the market, owing to high cost of production. Seems to the writer that until the bee-keeping public are universally certain that artificial comb honey is a possibility, that it is unwise—nay, foolish—to load up the general public with such unnecessary information (?), as the only result will be to add fresh stock-in-trade to the imaginative, exaggerating and sensational newspaper reporters. While we would by no means advocate telling untruths, yet I don't think we should go to the trouble of telling "doubtful truths," when such information can only affect our business adversely.

#### Bees Like People.

One could not but notice this year how bees, like people, vary in their characteristics. While some colonies would keep plugging away gathering quite a little surplus, others of equal strength would seem discouraged and

practically give up any of the small available. Some set up good in fair season among the latter a problem whether stock up from cold good season. All suppose the safer compare colonies a varied seasons.

#### Setting Out Cellaring the

It will be remembered a number of apiarists probably Mr. Alexander have been recommended cellar-wintered bees during the night, call a universal panacea incidental to during the early spring, "mixing up," e Hutchinson, telling his faith to these spring set his whole night, only to disastrous results, left with only a few while others had overflowing. When the patient dies," says things apicultural one's own judgment allowance for peculiarities as much Markham, Ont.

#### RATIONAL FO

According to experimental chemical labor of the Thüringischen Bienen "Leipziger Bienen" the most rational the following way: are put into a measure of water an acetic-vinegar, covered to boil for a half hour. strained through a cloth, and when cold British Bee Journal

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 ✦ *What We Have to Hope* ✦  
 ✦ *for from the Non-* ✦  
 ✦ *Swarming Bee* ✦  
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Address by L. A. Aspinwall, Jackson, Mich., at the National Bee-Keepers' Convention.

I am much obliged to Dr. Miller for bringing this matter up. Perhaps if Dr. Miller will look over the past and present he will see that other factors help out in this matter. The matter of drone cells; the matter of hive room and ventilation; all these are factors that enter into the control of increase. When I looked over the past and referred to Quinby's work of 1852 there was such an enthusiasm in reference to the increase of bees that Mr. Quinby said that the season had prospects, or something of that kind, or charms that the different beholders could never realize.

Mr. Langstroth said it was one of the most beautiful sights in the whole compass of rural economy. People were looking for swarms then. We are not to-day. It is the bane of bee-keeping. I doubt if there are a half a dozen in this room who are keeping many bees, but have gone home at night, thoroughly worn out with the swarming of the day.

I will merely say that the matter of controlling on my part is more with the hive than with manipulation. I have tried these various methods same years ago. To show that there is a prospect of a non-swarming hive, I have been at work eighteen years upon it, but many in the audience know I am an experimenter in potato machinery; I have been at it ever since I was nineteen years of age, and the first invention required twenty-one years to

practically give up all attempts to get any of the small amount of nectar available. Some strains that showed up good in fair seasons were this year among the latter class, so it is quite a problem whether it would be best to stock up from colonies selected in a good season. All things considered, suppose the safer plan would be to compare colonies after three or four varied seasons.

**Setting Out Cellar-wintered Bees During the Night.**

It will be remembered that lately a number of apiarists, among whom notably Mr. Alexander of New York State, have been recommending setting out cellar-wintered bees on summer stands during the night, claiming the plan to be a universal panacea for all the troubles incidental to the cellar-winterer during the early spring, such as "drifting," "mixing up," etc. Now along comes Hutchinson, telling us that he pinned his faith to these claims, and this spring set his whole apiary out during the night, only to meet with the most disastrous results, many colonies being left with only a few handfuls of bees, while others had their hives filled to overflowing. When "doctors disagree the patient dies," so in regard to many things apicultural it seems safest to use one's own judgment, always making allowance for local differences and peculiarities as much as possible.  
 Markham, Ont.

**RATIONAL FOOD FOR BEES.**

According to experiments made in the chemical laboratory of the Elsass-Lothringischen Bee Association, which the "Leipziger Bienenzeitung" publishes, the most rational bee-food is made the following way: Two kilos of sugar are put into a saucepan with two litres of water and two grammes of acetic-vinegar, covered with the lid, and allowed to boil gently for two to two and a half hours. The syrup is then strained through a linen or flannel cloth, and when cold is ready for use.—  
 British Bee Journal.

produce. That is the potato planter that is used almost universally in the United States and abroad, to-day. So that the hidden things in nature are the things that come very slowly to us.

In the matter of the non-swarming hive the question of room is one important thing, and while I will not give you the details of the hive fully, because of other patents that are to be applied for within a very short time, I will say that I use slatted frames inserted between the regular combs of brood, using usually seven to a hive, sometimes six, sometimes five. Seven is about the best number, as I have already experimented with numbers from five to eight or ten. My hive is made to hold fifteen frames. In the month of May, during apple bloom, or rather during the bloom of the sugar maple and willow, the seven combs upon which the colony is wintered is extended by adding one at a time or two, according to the strength of the colony. By the time apple bloom is through many of my colonies have twelve frames most of which are filled with brood. Sometimes I have colonies that will fill nearly fourteen. Of course, my hives are packed so as to winter in the open air. This packing is left on until perhaps the end of the apple bloom sometimes earlier, according to the temperature. The tray is left on to the last. Just at the opening of the main honey flow these slatted frames are placed at once between and outside of the seven combs, speaking for the large number I use now. That gives an outside ventilating space and standing room for the bees as well as inside. It is very important we keep the outside, where the sun strikes cool by an intervening space. My sections are supplied with slatted separators the same as below. So I spread out over fifteen combs—these include the seven and eight slatted frame—nine rows of sec-

tions. The bees are entirely devoid of the swarming impulse under this spreading condition. We all know that the cause of swarming is the bees. If we have a weak colony that does not cover the combs, it will not swarm. If we reduce that condition at the start we have deferred the swarming impulse somewhat. Then putting on 36 sections, when they are well started in that raise that super and put 36 more under, and we have 72 sections; and I have found by experimenting with lesser and greater number that 72 sections is necessary for a colony of 50,000 bees in order to prevent swarming. Now you see, gentlemen, we have made the placing of sections upon this hive compulsory to overcome swarming. I use full sheets of foundation. Should I stop one week in the honey flow, there would be one factor present itself and would not prevent swarming, and that is the clogging of the hive with honey. There would not be sufficient room to give employment for all the comb builders.

Many of you are perhaps aware that in the economy of the hive at a certain age the bees take to the fields. If there is an insufficient number of workers the younger ones will leave for the fields perhaps a few days sooner than their natural time for leaving the hive. I know from experimenting that many young bees are drawn out of the hive at twelve and thirteen days old, simply because we have forced the bees in that direction.

Now, the paper that was read was by the writer of an article presented the "Review" in November, and treated the subject of controlling increase largely by the feeding of larval food. I think he has gone into it a little blindly, with all due respect to him, because the bees adapt themselves largely to circumstances in reference to working either for comb or extracted honey.

Now, ladies and gentlemen, I have given in brief the details of working. I will answer any questions that will be very pleased to do so.

Mr. Bortz—Do you have any difference between your system and the others?

Mr. Aspinwall—No.

Mr. Bortz—Does your system supply the bees with the time you require?

Mr. Aspinwall—Yes.

Mr. Bortz—So that the bees do not increase without frames?

Mr. Aspinwall—No, the bees increase the number of the brood.

Mr. Bortz—From 35 colonies that you have 128 sections filled with brood?

Mr. Pettit—What is the purpose of those slatted frames?

Mr. Aspinwall—To give the bees a larger space; an inch and a half in each compartment.

The President—For what purpose did you try this method?

Mr. Aspinwall—I have used it for ten years, but I have not modified it.

The President—How do you find it on that many colonies?

Mr. Aspinwall—My colonies are drawn out of the hive between 40 and 50 days after they are set for ten years, and I have had a great deal of change of management.

The President—Next year you will have to set your hives again, like you did the best last season.

The President—How do you find it in winter?

Mr. Aspinwall—Seven years ago I had a great deal of trouble with Whitney—Do you have any other questions?

Mr. Aspinwall—Yes.

The President—Do you have any questions about the drones that are in the section boxes, and about the brood nest in

Now, ladies and gentlemen, I have given in brief the outline of my system of working. I will leave the matter, and any questions that may be asked I will be very pleased to answer.

Mr. Bortz—Do you use a queen excluder between your super and brood nest?

Mr. Aspinwall—No, I do not.

Mr. Bortz—Does the queen keep the combs supplied with eggs sufficiently during the time you use those slatted frames?

Mr. Aspinwall—She does.

Mr. Bortz—So that the brood raising does not increase with the use of slatted frames?

Mr. Aspinwall—No, nor is there chilling of the brood. I have produced from 35 colonies this year, an average of 123 sections filled with honey and not one cell with brood.

Mr. Pettit—What was the thickness of those slatted frames?

Mr. Aspinwall— $\frac{3}{4}$  of an inch in the upper; an inch and a half in the lower compartment.

The President—For how many years have you tried this method?

Mr. Aspinwall—I have been trying it about ten years, but it has been subjected to many modifications.

The President—How long have you used it on that many hives?

Mr. Aspinwall—My experiments have been on between 40 and 45 hives every year for ten years, and this year the radical change of making all new hives took place. Next year it will be all new hives again, like those that proved to be the best last season.

The President—How many combs do you use in winter on?

Mr. Aspinwall—Seven.

Mr. Whitney—Do you extend them usually?

Mr. Aspinwall—Yes: I am satisfied with the drones that are produced in section boxes, and even the extending of the brood nest in the centre, as I

have known them when they have been crowded, is due to the crowded condition below; the queen can't possibly fulfil her duties. If you will examine colonies that have swarmed you will find in many instances patches of comb without an egg in. This is exceptional, however. That is because the queen has been crowded. She is then in the condition of the old queen that fails to fulfil her function in this respect and the bees immediately by the condition of things start queen cells.

Dr. Bohrer—Does your experience teach you that this is the universal or general rule?

Mr. Aspinwall—I think it is universal. I have tried it on that many colonies for so many years, and found it invariably true in my yard.

Mr. Wilcox (Wis.)—You made the statement that you average 123 sections per colony. Is the honey flow continuous from willow bloom to clover bloom?

Mr. Aspinwall—The willow bloom was very short this season, followed by half that number of days until apple bloom.

Mr. Wilcox—How long is that?

Mr. Aspinwall—We had clover about the 15th of June in our locality this year, and it lasted till the 23rd of July. I have no honey after that to speak of.

Mr. McEvoy—Did you feed any in that gap?

Mr. Aspinwall—No.

Mr. Wilcox—Do you feed, and how much, from the time the apple bloom ceased until the clover bloom began?

Mr. Aspinwall—I did not feed one ounce in the spring. My feeding is done in the autumn and nothing after that, for the last fifteen years.

Mr. Wilcox—It is possible in your locality if you had apple bloom that the bees store so much that it would carry them over that period, but it never is

so in my locality. They would cease feeding during that period, for the queen would stop laying, and they would begin to decline in numbers.

Mr. Aspinwall—That is true. I watch them and those colonies that have the most I will interchange comb with, sometimes. But I did not do it this year.

Mr. Ferris—Tampering with the queens will injure the colonies. I took 25 colonies and put them in a row; one row was made queenless and the next not so, but I found those that were made queenless for ten days stored more honey than those that had the queen. This proves that taking away queens does not lessen the amount of honey. Those that have no queens will store just as much honey as those that have queens in the hive.

#### WAX MOTHS.

An apiarist had kept a few combs in a room of his house. Soon the wax moths began their devastation. Through curiosity he let them work at their pleasure on a few combs. He never could see any eggs at all, but he saw the worms when very little, barely visible. They were found in cells half full of pollen on which they were feeding voraciously, judging by their excretions, which consisted of very minute grains of a dark brown color. After a few days they leave the pollen and hunt up some empty cells in which they disappear. They close the entrance of the cells with these spider-like threads that we know too well, and then begin the work of destruction, forming silky tunnels in which they travel rapidly either backward or forward equally well. When fully grown they pierce the mid-rib of the combs, try to reach the next comb and finally spin the thick cocoons in which they are transformed into moths. Those that grow late in the fall remain in that state until the next spring.—Le Rucher Belge, translated for the American Bee-Keeper.

## KEEPING QUEENS

A customer writes that after I had shipped on his orders 238 queens the last 25 days of June of the present season, that in his locality the honey-flow was suddenly cut off, and consequently his local trade had cut off their orders for queens, leaving him with 60 laying queens on his desk, and he was now trying to care for them over queenless colonies, writing me at the same time asking if I knew of a better way in which to keep them until the trade should start again.

As many queens are shipped out and received by the buyer at a time when he is not quite ready to care for them I have thought this is an important question, for after a man has paid his good money for a nice lot of queens, it is a pity indeed if for lack of proper care they are lost before an egg is laid. This is not only discouraging to the purchaser, but to the queen-breeder who likes to have his nice queens find an acceptable home, and that right early, after leaving his hands. A long tedious journey through the mail does not add anything to the value of a queen, neither does it in one case of a hundred do her any perceptible damage. Some of the best queens I ever saw had crossed the ocean in a mail pouch and had been 30 days on the road; but the real damage would come to a queen where, through neglect or otherwise, she would be allowed to be thrown around in the cage after reaching the party addressed, and before introducing to the colony in which she is expected to reign. No thinking bee-man would allow this, if possible to avoid. The extremes of temperature, the danger of ants, and the

tural weakness of all against them, any queens coming should be placed in care to occupy at the moment, but when in owner, or if unfavorable conditions should prevail, it is not convenient to be prepared to receive, would remove the cages, exposing the them away in a corner from ants. In this keep from a week to condition, as there feed in the candy that length of time feeding, nor do not for after many trials, disastrous to caged queens. When ready to introduce the queen to the candy at one end above candy end down of a comb and the brood-nest of the hive queenless on arrival to destroy evidence as above. In the case of the queens, he writes me well with the cages over queenless colonies experience with kept caged over queenless accord with his, for part of 40 queens (upper story of a queen selecting a few, and fed up to the while the others were bers, tormenting and through the screen, y read a few days later. The best success keeping laying queen nucleus hives from mated were by placed sections of honey

tural weakness of confined bees, are all against them, and for this reason any queens coming through the mail should be placed in the bee-hive they are to occupy at the first possible moment, but when in the absence of the owner, or if unfavorable weather conditions should prevail, or if for any reason it is not convenient that a hive can be prepared to receive the queens, I would remove the covering from the cages, exposing the wire screen, lay them away in a cool, dry place, secure from ants. In this condition they will keep from a week to ten days in good condition, as there will be plenty of feed in the candy apartments to last that length of time; but do not try feeding, nor do not give them water, for after many trials I find either disastrous to caged queens.

When ready to introduce, I would remove the queen to be replaced, expose the candy at one end of the cage, and shove candy end down between the end of a comb and the frame end in the brood-nest of the hive. If your colony is queenless on arrival of queen, be sure to destroy every cell, and introduce as above.

In the case of the man with the 60 queens, he writes me he is doing very well with the cages turned wire down over queenless colonies, but my experience with keeping laying queens caged over queenless colonies does not accord with his, for I lost the larger part of 40 queens once caged in the upper story of a queenless hive, the bees selecting a few, which they nursed and fed up to the egg-laying degree, while the others were treated as strangers, tormenting and pulling at them through the screen, where I found them dead a few days later.

The best success I have known in keeping laying queens outside of the nucleus hives from which they were mated were by placing them on unfinished sections of honey, placing a solid

board on one side and a wire screen on the other, with a little wad of queenless bees to each queen. In this way I have kept them confined in a perfectly healthy condition until the brood from each queen reared in the section was hatching.

The queen trade of the United States is now taking on magnificent proportions, and it is high time that every buyer should have the best of information as to the handling and introduction of queen bees, the most beautiful and valuable personages of the bee-hive.

W. H. LAWS.

Beeville, Texas, July 18, 1906.

#### SPECIAL NOTICE.

Members of the Ontario Bee-keepers' Association will kindly bear in mind the Horticultural and Honey show in connection with the Association's conventions in November. Save 50 or 60 lbs. of your best extracted honey and a few dozen comb for the Bee-keepers' Exhibit. Full market price will be paid for any sent suitable for this purpose.

William Couse, Secretary.

Streetsville, Ont.

#### BREAD AND HONEY.

Of all the meals you can buy for money,  
Give me a meal of bread and honey!  
A table of grass in the open air,  
A green bank for an easy-chair,  
The tablecloth inwrought with flowers,  
And a grasshopper clock to tick the hours.  
Between the courses birds to sing  
To many a hidden shining string,  
And neither man nor maid be seen,  
But a great company of green,  
Upon a hundred thousand stalks,  
Talk to us its great green talks,  
And when the merry meal is done,  
To loiter westward with the sun,  
Dipping fingers ere we go  
In the stream that runs below.  
Of all the meals you can buy for money,  
Give me a meal of bread and honey.  
—Richard Le Gallienne.

## HONEY AND APIARIAN PRODUCTS, CANADIAN NATIONAL EXHIBITION, TORONTO

AUGUST 25th TO SEPTEMBER 8th—PRIZE LIST

Sec.	1st.	2nd.	3rd.	4th.
1. Best and most attractive display of 50 lbs. of extracted granulated Clover Honey, in glass, 25 points for quality, 75 points for display .....	\$ 5	\$ 4	\$ 2	\$ 1
2. Best and most attractive display of 50 lbs. of extracted granulated Linden Honey, in glass, 25 points for quality, 75 points for display .....	5	4	2	1
3. Best display (Clover, Linden, Buckwheat or Thistle) of 300 lbs. of liquid extracted Honey, of which not less than 150 lbs. must be in glass, quality to count 80 points, display 20 points .....	18	12	8	5
4. Best 300 lbs. (Clover, Linden, Buckwheat or Thistle) of Comb Honey, in sections, quality to count 100 points, display 20; total, 120 points .....	16	15	10	6
5. Best 24 sections of Comb Honey (any variety), quality to be considered; that is to say, clean sections and best filled .....	6	4	3	2
6. Best 100 lbs. of extracted liquid Linden Honey, in glass .....	7	5	3	2
7. Best 100 lbs. of extracted liquid Clover Honey, in glass .....	7	5	3	2
8. Best 100 lbs. of extracted liquid, or any other variety .....	7	5	3	2
9. Best display of 100 lbs. of extracted liquid Honey, any kind, display to count 80 points .....	7	5	3	—
10. Best 20 lbs. of extracted Liquid Clover Honey, in glass .....	4	3	2	1
11. Best 20 lbs. of extracted liquid Linden Honey, in glass .....	4	3	2	1
12. Best 20 lbs. of extracted liquid Buckwheat Honey, in glass .....	4	3	2	1
13. Best display of Beeswax, not less than 10 lbs. ....	4	3	2	1
14. Best 10 lbs. of Beeswax, soft, bright yellow wax to be given the preference .....	4	3	2	1
15. Best exhibit of Italian bees, with queen, in single comb observatory hive .....	7	5	3	—
16. Best exhibit of any other race of bees, with queen, in single comb observatory hive .....	7	5	3	—
17. Best and most practical new invention for the Apiarist, never shown before at an Exhibition of this Association .....	6	4	3	2
18. To the exhibitor making the largest, best, most interesting, attractive and instructive display in this department, including any or all of the preceding sections, a limited amount of supplies and implements of interest to the general public may be added. The first prize in this section is given by the Ontario Bee-keepers' Association .....	25	18	10	—
19. Best display of 200 lbs. Comb and extract honey, suitable for a grocer's window or counter, space to be occupied 6 feet square by 4 feet high .....	10	7	4	2

All honey exhibits must be the products of the exhibitor, within the limits of Secs. 18 and 19, as of 1906, excepting the quantities in the various sections are to be made.

Exhibitors selling Exhibition will not be removed from the Exhibition, but may have their exhibits removed from which they may be taken.

Exhibitors must exhibit after the judgment of the judges.

In the solicitation of exhibits, no unseemly noise will be allowed. Exhibitors must be arranged by the time of the Exhibition.

A breach of the rules will result in the forfeiture of prizes that may be awarded. All exhibits in the Exhibition must be in place and arranged by the time of the Exhibition, Monday, August 27th. Entries close August 25th.

**LONDON'S WINTER FAIR**  
Special inducements will be given to exhibitors this year. The fair will be held in London, Ontario, on Tuesday next, August 28th, giving exhibitors the opportunity of bringing to their exhibits. People who are interested in the fair should avail themselves of the opportunity to visit the London Fair, as it is well noted for its naturally centres in the fair, where the best exhibits are shown. The dates this year are August 25th to 29th. For particulars, apply to the Ontario Bee-keepers' Association, Toronto, Ontario, or to the Western Fair, London, Ontario. Canadian Bee Journal, August 1906, for \$1.

All honey exhibited for competition must be the product of bees owned by the exhibitor, with the exception of Secs. 18 and 19, and all the production of 1906, excepting Secs. 1, 2 and 12.

The quantities specified in the various sections are the amount of honey in which the award of the prize is to be made.

Exhibitors selling honey during the Exhibition will not be allowed to make any removal from their regular exhibit, but may have a special supply at hand from which their honey sold may be taken.

Exhibitors must not change their exhibits after the judges have given the awards.

In the solicitation of customers no unseemly noise will be permitted.

Exhibitors must have their exhibits arranged by the time stated in the general rules.

A breach of these rules will forfeit any prizes that may be awarded.

All exhibits in this department to be in place and arranged by 6 p.m. on Monday, August 27th.

Entries close August 11th.

### LONDON'S WESTERN FAIR.

Special inducements for honey exhibitors this year. Judging will take place this year in the honey department on Tuesday morning at 9 o'clock, giving exhibitors the privilege of adding to their exhibits on Monday.

People who are interested in bee culture should avail themselves of the London Fair, as Western Ontario being noted for its pure honey, interest naturally centres around the London Fair, where the best is always seen. The dates this year are September 7th to 15th. For particulars, prize lists, entry forms, etc., write the Secretary, Western Fair, London Ont.

Canadian Bee Journal and "Apple Specialist" for \$1.

## QUERIES and ANSWERS

### Bees Dying in June.

Mr. Alex Taylor of Paris, asks through The Canadian Bee Journal: "What may have been the matter with my bees toward the end of June many of them dying. I found them in great numbers crawling on the grass around the entrance of the hives, apparently unable to fly."

This occurred at his home yard. At his outyard near St. George, he had a similar experience, only not quite as bad. He says the death rate was not nearly so great in St. George.

Some two years ago we had a somewhat similar experience with our bees at the home yard. The grass was so thickly covered with bees that one could not step without crushing them. The symptoms were the same as when poisoned during the time of spraying fruit trees. As it was past that season the only way I could account for it was: The bees when gathering water in the early morning had slipped the dew from potato vines that had been sprayed with paris green, or from currant bushes that had been sprayed to destroy the caterpillar. The death rate was very heavy, some colonies being almost depopulated just at a season when bees are most wanted. As it has not occurred since that time, I have not had an opportunity to investigate it more closely.

R. H. Smith.

St. Thomas, Ont.

We would be pleased to hear from others who may have had experiences regarding this rather peculiar circumstance.—Ed.

## THE CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL

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Editor, W. J. Craig.

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### EDITORIAL NOTES.

Canadian National Exhibition, Toronto, August 27th to Sept. 10th; Central Canada Exhibition, Sept. 7th to 15th; Western Fair, London, Sept. 7th to 15th. (See prize lists for honey and bee-keepers' supplies elsewhere in this issue.

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"Very disappointing" is the general verdict of Ontario bee-keepers regarding the honey season; the poorest crop that has been gathered for many years. Quebec and the Eastern Provinces have done better, the West also reports fair to good results, but the market, looking to Ontario for its largest supply, is bound to be a slim one this season.

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The Honey Exchange committee, or, more properly speaking, the Honey Crop committee of the O. B. K. A., met in Toronto on Saturday, August 4th, to consider the reports received from the members of the Association and others, and from these to suggest as nearly as possible fair market prices. While the different districts were well covered by these reports, it was a matter of regret on the part of the committee that the circular sent out by the Secretary was replied to by only about 50 per cent of those to whom it was sent. They would wish to impress upon the members of the Association the necessity and importance of such circulars being attended to carefully, conscientiously and promptly, as it is the desire of the Association, as well as the committee, to make this department a valuable and reliable source of information for the

honey-producers of Ontario. They have taken for granted, however, in this instance that those who have neglected to respond have had nothing to report. From no point can the reports be said to be good, the largest being 60 lbs. to the colony; many reported 35 lbs., 25 lbs., 20 lbs., some 15 and less, and a few nothing. Comb honey is almost a complete failure. The committee would consider that the total crop in the Province will not exceed one-fifth of that of last season.

As regards prices, the fruit crop and other influences had to be taken into consideration. Small fruits have been fairly plentiful, and apples, which probably affect the price and demand for honey more than any other fruit, are going to be a fair crop, but prices are not likely to be extremely low. The population of our cities and towns is increasing rapidly, and villages are filling up. The demand for these foods will naturally increase accordingly. The committee, taking all these factors into consideration, agreed that the following should be a fair arrangement of prices for the wholesale trade: No. 1 extracted, in 60-lb. cans, 10c per lb.; darker grades, 7c to 9c. When honey is sold direct to the wholesale grocer, in packages suitable to their trade, a difference of 1c per lb. extra should be made. First-class comb, \$2.00 to \$2.50 per dozen; second grade, \$1.50 to \$2.00; darker, \$1.25 to \$1.50. The retail price should not be less than 12½c per lb. for first-class extracted, retail prices of other grades to be regulated accordingly.

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Inspector McEvoy called at the office of the "C. B. J." on one of his official rounds, just as we were preparing for press. He says that there is a lot of dead brood in the hives this season more than usual, and he is flooded with samples and inquiries regarding it, not only from Canadian bee-keepers, but

from those in the States. He says that in the States it is merely stated by shortage of other conditions.

In the "Bee-keeper" Editor, Mr. J. M. Harrison, a recent correspondent, writes of a malin fumigation brood. The treatment has been used.

Perhaps I should show to the contrary. A new feature in brood and all. I have the impression that they mean certain details whether germ or however, gives where the gas was seven minutes, from three to see no case did the The manner of lows:

"The insertion under that contains the use of two brood frames. I with paper instead of formalin saucer made tight and soon as the fumigation went through the these are hermetically sealed smooth cheese cloth the upper section down, tacking it around. We sin for the tablets to extra box under. A writer in the mentioning on the d "I daresay the given him (Prof. him open his eyes the Ontario men is so important a work from the Old Colony. We dislike to q of our friends ac occurs to us that

from those in the United States. He says that in the great majority of cases it is merely starved brood, brought on by shortage of stores and adverse weather conditions.

In the "Bee-keeper" (Ireland), the Editor, Mr. J. M. Gillies, publishes some recent correspondence he has had with Prof. Harrison on the subject of formalin fumigation for the cure of foul brood. The treatment there seems to have been used with more or less success. Perhaps later developments may show to the contrary, as it did with us. A new feature in the mode of treatment over there is the fumigation of bees, brood and all. We were under the impression that this sort of thing would mean certain death to all forms of life, whether germ or insect. Ed. Gillies, however, gives a table of five cases where the gas was applied from five to seven minutes, and remained enclosed from three to seventeen hours, and in no case did the dead bees exceed 20. The manner of applying was as follows:

"The insertion of a spare body box under that containing the combs, and the use of two section crates over the brood frames. The sections are fitted with paper instead of foundation. The formalin saucer and all other joints are made tight and the lamp lighted. As soon as the fumes are observed going out through the ventilators in the roof, these are hermetically sealed. A single smooth cheese cloth quilt is placed on the upper section crate and fastened down, tacking thin strips of wood all around. We simply paste the saucer for the tablets to the floor-board of the extra box under a hole."

A writer in the "Bee-keeper," commenting on the discovery, says:

"I daresay the information you have given him (Prof. Harrison) will make him open his eyes and possibly cause the Ontario men to sit up when they find so important a wrinkle being sent them from the Old Country."

We dislike to quench the enthusiasm of our friends across the water, but it occurs to us that if the fumigation does

not destroy the bees and larvae, it is not likely to have much effect upon the germs of F.B.

The white honey harvest was over by 20th. Will have between fifty and sixty lbs. surplus per colony. Bees at this date are holding their own and the strongest colonies are storing a small amount from various plants. We have no buckwheat but fall flowers promise ample stores for winter and probably some surplus.

W. A. Chrysler.

Kent County, July 31st, '06.

The honey season in this district has been much the same as reported from other parts of Ontario. About 25 lbs. per colony of light extracted honey will be a fair estimate of the crop here generally. We did not have a good flow of honey for a single day, robbers being in evidence at all times.

Denis Nolan.

Simcoe Co., July 30, '06.

The honey crop has been very fair in this province where the bees had a chance to work on basswood, which was very abundant this season, but where they were confined to clover alone, the yield has been somewhat disappointing, as the clover did not seem to yield its usual quota of honey for some reason, although it was quite plentiful in most localities. Owing to the rainy summer, fall flowers will be quite abundant, and the bees will very likely fill up well from this source.

F. W. Jones.

Bedford Que., July 30, '06.

The season has been a discouraging one among the bees. The effect of the open winter was painfully noticeable in the absence of clover which was badly winter killed. The basswood favored us for a few short days, and the result will probably be 35 lbs. per colony, with buckwheat and fall flowers to hear from.

M. B. Holmes.

Leeds Co., August 1, '06.

We have not yet finished extracting; do not think it will turn out any better than we expected—from 35 to 40 lbs. per colony.

R. H. Smith.

St. Thomas, Ont.

## ANNUAL MEETING ONTARIO BEE-KEEPERS' ASSOCIATION

The President—I will now call on Mr. Morley Pettit to read his paper on **WHAT CAN BE DONE TO MAKE THE ASSOCIATION MORE USEFUL TO BEE-KEEPERS?**

(Address by Morley Pettit, Villa Nova.)

Mr. President, ladies and gentlemen, our Secretary has given me rather a difficult and delicate mission in asking me to take the pulse and temperature, as it were, and prescribe for this august Association. No doubt the patient will take the medicine kindly, and the members will suggest many other remedies which have not occurred to me.

In forming and carrying on an Association, the first thing to consider is the aim of the Association—its excuse for existence. While I have not seen in the by-laws the object of the O.B.K.A., I consider it is, or should be, broadly, "the advancement of the bee-keeping interests of this province." This is effected, first, by an annual convention, where the members meet and face to face discuss and exchange ideas on both the practical and business side of bee-keeping.

Second, by the continual and persistent effort of the directors and officers to develop bee-keeping as a business and overcome the obstacles in its way. In the years that I have been a member of this Association I find a certain lack of business methods, a failure on the part of members to take the Association and its mission seriously. The conventions are looked upon too much as social gatherings, owing largely to the fact that with many bee-keeping is

treated as a side-line, whose profits are very much of a bonus, almost clear profit. With them the convention is an outing where acquaintances are formed which ripen into friendships lasting and good. But the business end of the convention, which should be foremost, is over-ruled, sessions are delayed in starting by the non-appearance of officers and members, discussions often become prolonged and pointless, so that the time of the convention, which, at a very low estimate on the expenses incurred by members, is worth ten or fifteen dollars an hour, is ruthlessly wasted. Another point, which is more delicate to touch upon, yet is vital to the good work of the Association, is the fear, which most of us have to a greater or lesser degree, that some one's feelings may be hurt, either our own or those of some friend. Can we not rise above this and, as sensible men, drop bickerings and personal preferences and petty animosities and toughen up tender skins and study what is best for the Association as a whole.

What can this Association do for the advancement of bee-keeping in Ontario? Something has been done in the way of advertising Canadian honey at the great fairs and exhibitions. The Honey Exchange Committee is doing a good work in collecting crop reports and giving a sort of weather man's forecast prices. Good literature is provided the members in the form of the "Canadian Bee Journal." The Transportation Committee is battling with the problem of better freight and express rates on honey, bees, etc. Something has been done in the way of legislation against the adulteration of honey and for the checking of disease among bees. As to how the foul brood law is being carried out, I shall leave to others on the program better versed in the subject than I. We have also an annual government grant of money, but

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Is there not room for more to be done in this line? Other branches of agriculture are receiving strong government support in the way of opening up markets and the proper grading and distribution of products. How about honey markets and the grading of honey? Fruit, dairy products, etc., must be inspected by a qualified government official before going on the market. Honey can be shipped in any careless form, and the careful shipper must take a share of the consequences. Other lines are put to the front; bee-keeping is crowded back. Poultry-keeping, fruit-growing, flower-culture, are considered dignified occupations, bee-keeping is a joke. We are "bee-men," or "honey-men"—spoken with a smile. Why should this be? Wherein does the remedy lie? In ourselves. I find bee-keeping taken more seriously in some parts of the country than others. I attribute the difference to the attitude of the bee-keepers themselves. Self-confidence and ability inspire the confidence of others. But we need the help of the power that is helping others along. Are we using the help we already have to the best advantage.

We already receive a considerable amount of money from the Government. A large portion of it goes to defray the expenses of the directors while attending the regular conventions of the Association. More of it goes to the local Associations, and is used by them to send delegates to the convention. Is this the best way in which the money can be used for the advancement of bee-keeping? If the directors work earnestly during the year to organize and enlighten the bee-keepers of their respective districts, and to increase the profits of our business, and some prepared to report progress at the convention; if the delegates seek to promote the interests of their respective Associations while at the convention, and go home filled with practical

ideas for the benefit of those who sent them, it is well. But why this double expense? Why not let the local Associations be district Associations, and let each district Association appoint its delegate to the provincial convention? This delegate, being the representative of his district, should become the director for that district of the Ontario Association. He, if he truly and conscientiously represents the Association sending him, should be entitled to his expenses at the annual convention. I consider that this is the only way in which the districts can be truly represented, as we will all admit that the attendance at an annual convention, aside from those having expenses paid, is mostly local.

Another plan for electing directors would be that suggested by me in the "Canadian Bee Journal" some time ago. Supply each member with a list of members arranged according to their districts, and let voting be done by ballot. The present system of open voting cannot, in my estimation, be too strongly condemned.

Mr. Byer—I wonder the committee appointed me to take up such a delicate question. I think perhaps it is because I have been guilty of making some criticisms along the line of Mr. Pettit's paper. I don't know that I can enlarge on what Mr. Pettit has said. I may say that I agree almost entirely with what he has said. With regard to the election of officers I don't know that I would altogether approve of the system he has suggested. I agree, however, that it would be better than the method we have at present. As to the social side of our convention that has been criticised, but I don't think I would care to under-estimate the social side. It appeals to me to come here and meet so many bee-keepers from all over the province and have a talk with them. About useless discussion, I believe I wrote an article in the Canadian Bee

Journal upon the subject some time ago. We seem to unconsciously drift into details, and I don't see how we are going to get away from it. But I think if we tried we might modify it a good deal. In past years when it was suggested to make certain changes in the Constitution I remember there was personal feeling ascribed to certain members, when probably they voted for what they thought was the good of the Association. But I think we are rising above that. We must use a little charity one with the other. The Honey Exchange Committee appointed annually by the Association is doing a good work. Now, we have been told that we shouldn't look for government aid, but we find our kindred associations are getting larger grants than we are, and I think we are entitled to these grants just the same as they are. I think the development of the market is one of the openings that this Association should work on in the future. I am not prepared to say how that should be done. Some may disagree with me on this. There should be some system of inspection. Some say that you can send honey indiscriminately to the Old Country and it doesn't interfere with the market, but it does. If a barrel of apples is sent to England of an inferior quality and it is branded '3x, it hurts the Canadian shipment. I am not prepared to say how we can overcome these things. Mr. Pettit referred to literature, but I think we have all the literature we require. We don't get time to read what we have. He also spoke of the election of officers. Our system is not good. I am not going to make any suggestions, but I am of the opinion that our system is not sound. I believe that sometimes the directors are elected from a feeling of courtesy and not thinking of the good of the Association.

Mr. Pettit—If you will allow me a word, I think Mr. Byer misunderstood

me on the social question. I enjoy very much to meet my fellow beekeepers from year to year, but at the same time we should remember that we are here for business.

Mr. McEvoy—I can't agree with these gentlemen on the question of electing the directors. When we have men coming long distances year after year they are the best men of the country. They come here and let the people elect them. Now if you are going to have them elected in their own locality they are going to send us green things you see. (Laughter.) That is natural.

Mr. Hall—I agree with what has been said on the question of electing officers year after year. We all know they come a long way and they get their expenses paid and others are left at home, but we shouldn't hold offices year after year. I think those people if they elected their representative would send a representative man, and I think the result would be that you would have your local societies better attended. I certainly think we should have our election by ballot and we should have any member in the Association open to election. And I think it would be a benefit to have new men because new men have new ideas.

The President—We would like to hear a few words from Mr. Hutchinson.

Mr. Hutchinson—Mr. President, we have had the same trouble over on the other side that you have here. When a man gets in office he is there as long as he lives. But we have been trying to make an arrangement over there in the National Association so that you could elect a new man if you found you had made a mistake. We have been having nominations by mail and the two men that got the most votes would be the candidates, and that gives us a chance of voting out a man if we think it wise to do so. But if you don't have any nominations you never can get anybody in the position unless there

an opposing candidate has been trying that are trying it again card ballot. The largest number of dates.

Mr. Dickinson—word in connection with the interests of the society—in the Military found it necessary to make changes with regular men, and the tire with rank, so could take their

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this could be done in this Association. We have not good men think we have. All have them from the We must have the so that we shall district, but if a man for ten years I think perannuated. I have men in the different should be directed

an opposing candidate. So we have been trying that for one year and we are trying it again this year—a postal card ballot. The ones who get the largest number of votes are the candidates.

Mr. Dickinson—I just want to say a word in connection with the best interests of the society. In the government—in the Military Department, they found it necessary to make a few changes with regard to the head military men, and they were asked to retire with rank, so that other good men could take their places. Now I think



MR. MORLEY PETTIT

this could be done in connection with this Association. I am not saying we have not good men on our Board. I think we have. Another thing, we must have them from the different districts. We must have the province represented so that we shall have men from each district, but if a man has been in office for ten years I think he should be superannuated. I have in my mind good men in the different districts who should be directors once in a while.

You all know that I don't wish to be a director, but I am just speaking as I feel on the matter.

Mr. Holtermann—We have an act on the subject, and unless we get that act amended we can't do anything, and it is an extremely difficult thing for this Association to do. But I think after hearing what Mr. Pettit has said and Mr. Hutchinson has said, I think there is something we might do and that is for the local associations to nominate a man. Now this matter of men being in office so long can be carried to extreme, and to put men out—good men—can also be carried to extreme. It is a very difficult thing for us to do the right thing, but if we come down and say that we only are willing to serve in places that we are fitted for and we will do the work that we are elected to do, and not be anxious for place, it would overcome the difficulty to a great extent.

Mr. McEvoy—Where there are no associations in these outlying districts what are you going to do?

The President—Organize one.

#### PRODUCING COMB HONEY.

(By E. W. Alexander, Delanson, N.Y.)

Although it is now about 20 years since I gave up this part of the bee business, I often think I should like to call the attention of comb-honey producers to some important points connected with this branch of bee-keeping. The natural desire to swarm has always been a serious trouble in producing comb honey. Then the frequent changes in our atmosphere, causing the flowers to stop secreting nectar sometimes for several days at a time during our otherwise best harvest is another serious trouble in producing comb honey of the finest quality; and with many the trouble of getting their sections all well filled at the close of the season is a hard problem to solve.

Now, in order to show you how these

three most serious troubles can be almost wholly overcome, I have written this, my first article on the production of comb honey. We will first consider the natural desire to swarm. This is the honey bees' natural way to perpetuate their race, and is the most strongly imbedded law, not only of the whole animal world, but the vegetable world also, except the desire for food, of any law connected with our existence. This is why we have made no progress in changing the nature of our bees since man first tried to domesticate them. It is true that certain strains, or, more properly speaking, certain families, have far less desire to swarm than others. This same law can also be said to apply to other animals, including man. Now let us see what we can do to prevent the desire on the part of our bees to carry out this main object of their creation. First we will keep only bees that have but little natural desire to swarm; then we will raise their hives from their bottom boards all around about half an inch as soon as the weather begins to get warm. In this way we shall give them two or three entrances in the shade at all hours of the day. This, I know from experience, goes a long way to prevent the desire to swarm. Then we will supersede every queen at the commencement of our harvest with one just fertilized, which, we all know, of itself will to quite an extent prevent the desire to swarm. Then we will see that their hives, including their clamps of sections, contain but a small amount of capped honey for any length of time.

Here is one thing that I used to be very particular about during my 30 years of producing comb honey. As fast as I could find four or five nicely-finished sections in a clamp they were taken out and empty ones put in their place, never using more than two clamps at one time on a hive. I don't wonder that your bees swarm when

two or three clamps of mostly capped sections are on a hive and a lot of capped honey in the hive below, and then only one entrance where the sun can shine down on the bees through the hottest hours of the day. This will make almost any colony restless, and frequently start a desire to swarm.

The honey-producer, until recently, has been justified in keeping his queens longer than one year, for it is only since Pratt gave us his method of rearing queens that we can have all we want early in the season with only a little trouble. If you will do as I have suggested in the above, you will almost wholly prevent the desire to swarm.

Next we will consider the matter of a steady harvest, with no lost days, even if the flowers do fail to secrete nectar for several days at a time. This can easily be acquired in this way: First divide your apiary into two equal parts as to number of colonies, but have all your strongest colonies in one part and your weakest ones in another. Then run the weak colonies wholly for extracted honey and the stronger colonies for comb honey; and attach a good practicable feeder under every hive that is producing comb honey, and extract all you can from your weak colonies and feed it to those that are working in sections. Be sure to give them some every night. If the weather is fine, and they are getting considerable from the flowers, it will not be necessary to give them much; but if from any cause they fail to gather from the flowers, then feed enough to keep them busy in their sections night and day, with no stop until the harvest is over and every section is finished in fine shape.

Now don't say this cannot be done, for I know it can. I used to produce comb honey in this way 25 years ago, and I am sure 50 colonies managed like this, with 50 more to furnish them with honey during bad weather, to

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work over into comb honey, will produce more first-class section honey than you could possibly obtain from the 100 colonies if they were all run for comb honey at the same time, as nearly all comb-honey producers do. The point is right here: In this way your comb-honey-producing colonies can have a good steady harvest from the day you put on your first clamp of sections until the last section is finished, and that is what counts, both in quantity and quality.

Nor don't get this method mixed up with that of feeding back at the close of the harvest, but do the feeding when the harvest is on and everything is in proper condition to produce comb honey. Make your extracted honey quite thin and give them one grand big harvest, and you will see your sections finished as if by magic. With two clamps of sections on, and a good young queen in the hive below, you need not be afraid of their storing too much in their breeding-combs. Then examine them often; and as fast as you can take them out; don't leave them to become soiled and travel-stained by the bees, in order that you may save yourself a little work, and take off a whole clamp at a time, for, as sure as you do, your bees are liable to sulk away their time and possibly fix for swarming.

It looks nice to go into your store-house at the close of the season and see several tons of choice comb honey with hardly a section that is not of the finest quality; and to see the clamps all empty, with no partly-filled sections lying around is another thing which shows there has been some skill used in producing that crop of honey.

Some of you may think that this implies lots of work, which I will admit, and so does everything connected with the successful management of bees. I know many let them take care of them-

selves, and appear to be satisfied with whatever they can get; but I never should like to run a business in that way.

When I was running my bees for In the above I have called your attention to the three worst troubles in producing comb honey, and I have also given you a practical way of overcoming them.

About 26 years ago I sold nearly three tons of comb honey that was produced in this way to a dealer for two cents a pound more than the market price, on account of its fine appearance. It is the same in producing comb honey that it is with the extracted. You must adopt methods whereby you can combine a fine quality with a large quantity, and then you are on a straight road to success. If I should ever again return to the production of comb honey the above method is the one I should most decidedly adopt.

comb honey we had no practical feeders as we have now, whereby honey can easily be fed to our comb-producing colonies; neither did we realize how easy it is to have an abundance of choice young queens early in the season to supersede our old queens with. Had I known then as I do now how easily these two important factors can be acquired, I would not have changed from comb honey to extracted as I did; for I am sure there is more money in producing a choice grade of comb honey, as I have described, than there is in producing extracted honey.

There are some other suggestions I should like to make to comb-honey producers, which I hope to find time to do in the future.—"Gleanings in Bee Culture."

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Any man ought to be satisfied with his lot if it is worth \$5,000 a front foot.

## CENTRAL CANADA EXHIBITION, OTTAWA SEPTEMBER 7th to 15th.

### HONEY AND APIARY SUPPLIES—Class 69.

Only one specimen from any one apiary or apiaries under the management can be entered in each section. These rules will be strictly enforced by the Directors.

Sec.	1st.	2nd.	3rd.	4th.
1. Best 20 lbs. of Extracted Granulated Honey, in glass..	\$ 6	\$ 4	\$ 2	\$ 1
2. Best 100 lbs. of liquid Extracted Honey, in glass, quality to be considered .....	10	6	4	2
3. Best 100 lbs. Comb Honey in section, fresh appearance and finish to be considered .....	10	6	4	2
4. Best 10 lbs. of Comb Honey, quality and finish to be considered; that is to say, body and flavor of honey and clean and best filled sections to be considered	5	3	2	1
5. Best 10 lbs. of extracted Clover Honey in glass .....	5	3	2	1
6. Best 10 lbs. of extracted Linden Honey in glass .....	5	3	2	1
7. Best 10 lbs. of extracted Buckwheat Honey in glass .....	5	3	2	1
8. Best Beeswax, not less than 10 lbs. ....	2	1		
9. Best Exhibit, the object being to educate the public as to bees—their natural history, the bee-keeping industry, and its relation to horticulture .....	5	3	2	1
10. Best foundation for Brood Chamber .....	1	50		
11. Best foundation Comb Honey .....	1	50		
12. Best Hive for Comb Honey .....	1	50		
13. Best Hive for Extracted Honey .....	1	50		
14. For the most tasty and neatly arranged exhibit of honey in the Apiarian Department, all the Honey to be the product of the exhibitor .....				Diploma.

Exhibitors showing honey not the product of their own apiary, in competition for prizes, shall forfeit any prizes awarded, and be debarred from exhibiting for two years thereafter. Bee-keepers who have supplies can exhibit such, but not in competition for prizes. Exhibitors will be allowed all possible space in New Dairy building.

#### THE AMENDED FOUL BROOD ACT.

The most important change made in the Foul Brood act was the Government taking the appointing of the Inspector into their own hands, and putting the direct control of this work under the Minister of Agriculture, which was the proper thing for them to do. I wanted the Hon. Nelson Monteith to take everything into his own hands, and asked him to do so last fall. I was much pleased when I heard that Mr. Gemmill had also asked the Hon. Mr. Monteith to take charge of everything himself.

No inspection work was done in April and May on account of the province being left without an inspector until the amendments were passed and the Government appointed one. I was appointed by the Government on the first of June. The Minister of Agriculture

is in touch with all the bee-keepers in the province, and is managing the business much better than it was ever done before, and knows from time to time as the work goes on how it is being done.

In 1890 I got the Government to publish my method of treatment in 10,000 bulletins, and in 1903 I got them to publish 20,000 more, making a total of 30,000 bulletins. My treatment has been published in all the bee journals and bee books. I put 16 years' work on the province, getting diseased apiaries cured by wholesale. If I had kept out of the inspection work, and had never written up my methods of treatment, I am certain that foul brood would have swept nearly all the bees out of the province of Ontario before this, and also all the bee-keepers' conventions.

WM. McEVROY.

Woodburn, July 23, 1906.

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## ALFALFA.

(Frank P. Adams.)

This plant is usually considered of small value to the bee-keeper here in the North; possibly because it is grown only to a limited extent in most localities, and bee-keepers have not had an opportunity to give it a fair test for its honey yielding qualities, but really, if some of my bee-keeping friends could have seen the way that the bees worked on it this spring, and the immense loads of honey they secured from it, they would have been convinced that its value to them had been greatly under-rated.

It is true that Alfalfa does not yield honey every year. Weather conditions must be favorable for the secretion of nectar, but there are times when it yields well, while alsike and white clovers are yielding practically nothing.

A heavy shower does not seem to affect it like it does the other clovers. Providing the weather comes out hot after a rain the bees literally swarm over the alfalfa fields, while the other clovers are practically deserted for a day at least, or until the honey again forms in the blossoms. In this respect it resembles the sweet or Bokhara clover. Given plenty of moisture and a hot, close atmosphere, the flow is very rapid, and while it takes the alsike and white clovers from 12 to 24 hours to recover from the effects of a rain-storm, alfalfa will yield as soon as the bees can get out of their hives to gather the honey. This quality of the plant is of great value in seasons like the one just past. The yield is never good from alsike and white clovers when showers are too frequent, but it is surprising how much the bees will pick up from alfalfa under just such conditions. The bloom comes on it a few days before the other clovers are out and bees must be strong enough to get into the supers early in order to secure a surplus from the first crop.

The second crop is just now coming into bloom (August 1st) but this weather has been dry while it was getting its growth, and the plants do not look thrifty. As a consequence it is not likely that there will be much honey in it. In previous years the second bloom has yielded considerable honey, but it will not do so this year. "Bow Park." Ont.

The average in this district will be about 25 to 35 lbs. per colony and unless the fall is favorable much feeding will have to be done, as there is little below the supers.

H. G. SIBBALD.

Peel Co., July 28, '06.

The season here so far has been very good, especially in districts where there is little cultivation. However, in districts where large areas of wheat are cultivated I am informed that in some places the bee-keepers have been obliged to feed swarms until lately. I shall be pleased to report to you later on.

THOMAS GELLEY,

Secretary Manitoba B. K. A.

Some bee-keepers have thought that wasps were subject to foul brood, and have argued that there was little hope of getting rid of the pest so long as wasps' nest were allowed to harbor it. M. Lichtenthaler relates, in the Rheinische Bienenzeitung, that during the past year he received two wasps' nests which really appeared to have the disease. There was the characteristic odor, rotten brood, and all the other signs of foul brood. He sent these two nests to the Biological Institute at Berlin, where the foul-brood question had been thoroughly studied. After careful examination it is stated that there was no foul brood in the two wasps' nests; the microscopical examination and the cultures did not show the presence of the disease germs, either in the bacillus or spore condition. This will dispose of the idea that wasps can infect hives or that they are subject to the disease.—Bee-Keepers' Record.

