...The

Canadian Bee Journal

PUBLISHED MONTHLY.

NEW SERIES

BRANTFORD, ONT., AUGUST, 1900.

WHOLE NO.

Annual Meeting

Twentieth Annual Meeting Bee-Keepers' Asso., Ontario.

TORONTO, DEC., 1899.

The Question Drawer.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE Q.

Mr Craig: What about their swaring propensities? (Carniolan bees.) Mr. Hall: Just as good as others, and no worse.

Mr. Shaver: Mr. Hall clips the neens; I know of two different apiars where they have them and they implain terribly of their swarming Mr. Post: My experience has been most identical with Mr. Hall's. th the exception that I have never They are the ad any poor ones. st race of bees I ever handled. his was one of the poorest years we erhad, we secured between three d four tons of buckwheat honey. e whole amount was secured by Carniolan bees placed promiscusly in the yard along with Italian brids. Many of the Italians requirfeeding and they were fed with abs taken from the Carniolans. ey will beat any bee I ever had in tering and in building up in the ng, and they are no more likely warm than any other bee, in my take if you put them in a small hive. Give them plenty of room. I believe in a large hive. My hive is equal to eleven Langstroth frames. Through the fore part of the season till about 14th June, I allow the Queen one top storey and the bottom storey—that makes 16 plus 8, equals a capacity of over 19 Langstroth frames. As soon as the queen begins to lay a little above I raise the top storey and place another one under and place the Queen excluder below.

Q. Bees going out at entrance of hive hanging around on entrance board, as if chilled with cold and wings all in a quiver—what is the cause?

Mr. Pickett: I have not had a case of this kind and cannot answer. I presume it must be paralysis. There is one thing lacking; the question does not say at what season of the year.

Mr. Dickson: I asked the question and would like an answer to it. It was in the month of May. Two good colonies of bees came out on the entrance, and just acted as if they were put out too early, and were all in a flutter.

Mr. Hall: Were they dark-colored —shiny?

will beat any bee I ever had in mr. Dickson: No; there was nothering and in building up in the ing special in their looks; they did not seem to live long. Each morning I would sweep the entrance board and there would possibly be from half a

dozen to two dozen the next morning; and when it was warm it seemed to effect them in the same way. I examined the hive and everything seemed all right; one of them was about holding its own, and the other was gaining a little.

Mr. Heise: How long did that con-

tinue?

Mr. Dickson: It must have been three weeks any way from the time when I first noticed it.

Mr. McKnight: The answer to that question may be paralysis. I have read about it. Is there any such dis-

ease known as bee paralysis?

Mr.Hall: I have some in my cellar that will have it in the spring. They call it bee paralysis, and what it is I do not know, when they get the good honey it seems to cease; but keep them till next season and it will appear in those colonies again.

Mr. Post: Would re-queening have any effect?

Mr. McEvoy: That is certainly the

Mr. Armstrong: Did you ever remove the queen and find that it disappeared?

Mr. Hall: Yes.

Mr. McEvoy: I have had that experience.

Mr. McKnight: What are the symptoms of bee paralysis?

Mr. Hall: Those are they—the bees quivering and running around.

Mr. McKnight: Have you any idea

of the cause? Mr. Hall: No.

Mr. Crysler: I heard one man say that he cured it with salt, but I have not very much faith in his remedy

A member: Might not this paralysis you are speaking of be caused by getting poison?

Mr. Hall: Poisoned bees run away

from the hive.

Mr. Sibbald: I have had a case of

poisoning, and a case of what I thought was bee-paralysis, and there is a difference. In poisoning they go out and seem bloated and swollen, and they lie out in numbers in front of the hive and live there for perhaps a day. With paralysis they do not seem bloated, and they come out and go back in again, and some die on the front board.

Mr. Hall: In other words they do not want to leave home.

Mr. Sibbald: And the cure that has been mentioned, the changing of the queen, seems to do away with it at once.

Mr. Dickson: In this case it certainly was not poison, because they would run in and come out. There was one I was really sorry to destroy.

Mr. McKnight: I think this disease known as bee paralysis is just as somebody suggested, poisoned bees. and I think that arises from spray. ing of fruit trees when it is illegal and when it is legal. I believe the spraying of fruit trees is a great detriment to bee-keepers, even when it is carried on in accordance with the law. The law simply prevents people from spraying trees during bloom time. A large proportion of the poison goes upon the foliage of the trees, and the bees need water and they will gather it any where, and I have seen them sipping up the dew from the foliage of these trees where the poison has been dropped. I have seen bees curled up dead upon potato vines, and my opinion is whether spraying is done in fruit bloom or after, it is still an injury to bee-keepers.

Mr. Hall: My observations with poisoned bees is that ninety-five per cent. of them are bees that have never flown from the hive, and I believe they are poisoned by the worker bees that bring it home. But with regard to these bees that have bee paralysis,

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as it is called, the colony will have it next season as well as this season. These bees want to get into the hive, and the poisoned bees want to get away from it.

Mr. Darling: I think Mr. McKnight is right in his statement in regard to poisoning after the bloom has gone. In my section there is not much trouble with spraying, and my bees have had the disease before there was spraying done.

Mr. Brown: There is very little spraying done in our immediate vicinity, and I have seen bees act as Mr. Dickson described. I cannot put it down to spraying; but I am satisfied that where spraying is done extensively the poison on the foliage will poison the bees.

Mr. Evans: I think the danger in spraying leaves and trees when not in bloom is very slight. Just across the fence from my place is an orchard which was sprayed, and the matter sprayed remained on the leaves for a long time, but I found no evil results. Ido not think any statement should go out that bees are injured by spraying except when trees are in full bloom, and I think we should hold the restriction we have now.

Mr. McKnight: Was bee paralysis ever known or spoken of till tree spraying began?

Mr. Post: Yes. I have had a case of socalled bee paralysis about fifteen years ago, I do not know whether there was spraying done before that that but I think not.

Mr. Armstrong: I have had it and laid it down to the queen, and I have killed the queen and it disappeared.

Q. Will honey weighing 12 lbs. to gallon be improved by exposure in anks or cans?

Mr. Pickett: No, and the reason is to a lose the aroma or volatile oil to a

large degree when exposed any length of time, and I consider you lose really the essence of the honey.

Mr. Shaver: You can improve it in body, can you not?

Mr. Pickett: Not much.

Mr. McKnight: I think that is a ridiculous question. But it altogether depends upon the character of the vessel in which it is put and the conditions of the atmosphere whether it improves or deteriorates. There is one thing certain, that if you put honey into an open vessel and keep it there for a certain length of time it will lose its aroma whether it improves in body or fails. The essential oil which gives the honey the aroma is a volatile and will pass off if it gets a chance and it will get a chance in an open vessel; and therefore it will deteriorate so far as losing its aroma is concerned. As to its body, that depends much upon the temperature, the condition of the atmosphere and the season of the year.

Mr. Hall: But the beautiful part of the honey is the aroma, and if you cork it up as soon as you get it you will retain that.

Q. Which is the best, the ordinary make of foundation or the Weed?

Mr. Pickett: I have not used the Weed, but if what is claimed for it is true, that it is softer than the ordinary foundation, and strong enough to bear the bees without sagging, I suppose it would be an improvement.

Mr. Miller: I think it is possible that it may be softer and it may be possible that it will not sag, but I do not consider that is what is wanted. The idea is, will the bees handle it sooner and better, and use it for what they need it? I have not tested it, but Iunderstand that in the Weed the grain of the wax is crushed and it has no longer any granules to be

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worked by the bees. I think the bees in drawing out comb pick it out granules and build that way. natural comb she In building particles of wax uses wax pockets, and it is from her worked in those granules, and I think the bees prefer to work it that way instead of working something that will pull out like strings. I do not doubt but what the bees will work on the Weed foundation all right, but I think they prefer to work on the foundation made in the ordinary way and use their own wax.

Q. What is the best method of getting rid of pollen?

Mr. Pickett: The way I getrid of it, if I have too much of it, I destroy the comb. I would be pleased to hear from some others in that line.

Mr. Hall: That question has been well answered in the discussion of Mr. Newton's paper—by giving them room in the hive to put in.

Mr. Newton: I think there are a couple of gentlemen here who have misunderstood Mr. Hall in one thing, and I think he should have a moment to explair himself. It is about leaving perforated metal between the comb supers and the hive—does he do it or does he not do it?

Mr. Hall: We use the perforated metal for comb honey only at the time of hiving a swarm, and only on contracted hives, and we do not go back to take it off until it is convenient. Any hive in the yard that has not swarmed has no excluder. I want the excluders for extracting, so that we may work quickly.

Mr. Shaver: Do you not get a little better honey with the queen excluders than without?

Mr. Hall: No. Some seasons we get a large amount of pollen in our sections, again perhaps out of four or

five thousand pounds we may have only twenty sections with pollen in. Other years the hives and swarms, treated just the same, we would have 200 or 300 sections with pollen in. What the reason is, I do not know. There are some races of bees that do not know much, and do not know where to put the pollen.

Mr. McKnight: The excluder is used to prevent the queen from going up and depositing eggs above and destroying comb honey; is that likely to occur if contraction is not practiced?

Mr. Hall: Yes, sir.

Mr. McKnight: Not often in my

experience.

Mr. Hall: I did not say how often; there are some very stupid bees that do not know where to put their pollen. I had some of them a few years ago; they were grand bees to handle and to build comb, they were very prolific. But they did not know their own home, you could find them in every hive in the yard. They did not know even enough to sting. They were the prettiest and the stupidest bees I ever had.

A Pleasing Event.

The new president Mr. C. W. Post took the chair after the retiring president Mr. Brown had returned thanks to the association for the cordial support given him while in office.

Mr. McKnight: There is a little matter I would like to bring up. We have a gentlemen with us during this convention who is here only by the solicitation of a great many members. This association has been a great success right from the first until now, and that is something creditable. There has been men who have done more than Mr. J. B. Hall has for this association in a purely business way but I want to tell you there is not a man belonging to this asso-

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ciation now or ever did belong who has made its meetings so interesting and practical as our friend (Applause.) He has been the life and soul of our Association meetings for the last nineteen years. Like myself the world is largely behind him; he has not many years to be here, and I think it would be a graceful thing to do anything within our power to show our appreciation of the value of his services. Although he does not say very much outside of this Association, B. Hall is known all over the continent of America. I would like to move that this Association make I. B. Hall a life member—that is all. (Loud Applause.) I would like if it were in my power, to confer some higher honor than that upon him, but I know he does not want it, and I am not sure whether he would appreciate even this, but I do know it is our duty to show Mr. Hall some mark of appreciation of the valuable services he has rendered to the beekeeping interests of this Province. I idest hopethis will not be made a precedent; It would be very little honor if all the old men were associated with him: I would like to see Mr. J. B. Hall the one and only life member of this Association during my lifetime.

> Mr. Brown: I have very much bleasure in seconding Mr. McKnight's notion, I can endorse every word he has said with reference to Mr.

The motion was carried by a rising ote, and the singing of "He's a olly good fellow," after which Mr. Hall briefly and suitably replied.

Manitoba and Bee-Keeping The following article entitled "The Helpful Bee,'' by J. J. Gunn, Gonor, lan., appeared recently in "The orth-West Farmer" and will no

doubt be interesting to many of our beekeeping friends who contemplate moving to the Great West.

"In any effort to enlist interest in the subject of apiculture there seems so much to be said—so many reasons to be urged in its favor, that absolutely the most difficult part of the task is to decide where and how to begin. Everywhere one meets men and women who have had experience with bees before coming to this province; while almost all over the west can be found an endless profusion and variety of wild flowers, which in most seasons is supplemented by white clover in almost all settled localities, furnishing continuous pasture from the blooming of the willows in April right up till the latter end of September. In view of these facts it does seem strange that bee-keeping is so almost entirely ignored.

"And yet for over twenty years bees have been successfully kept in this province. It is true the number of those actively interested in the subject is very small indeed, but this number has been quite sufficient to place the matter safely beyond the stage of experiment.

"The question of wintering, which was at first considered a serious one, and one on which not a few incipient ventures went to wreck, is now regarded by all who have given it adequate attention as being little, if any more, difficult than in Ontario, and so far such evils as foul brood and moths have not been seen.

"The number of honey-bearing plants common throughout the country has been shown to be very great, and the honey produced is of excellent color and cannot be surpassed in flavor, selling readily at the very highest price. Thus from a purely moneymaking point of view bee-culture ought to commend itself to anyone desirous of making the most of his

opportunities. In my own experience of fourteen years there has occurred but one season when the honey crop was a failure, and that was more than balanced by other seasons when the average yield went as high as 165 pounds of extracted honey per hive, spring count.

"I would like to particularly emphasize what I have already said in regard to the quality of our Manitoba honey. The verdict of those using it is practically unanimous, that no better can be had. The flavor and aroma of most of it is better than the best known in the markets. Once a customer, always a customer, is our experience; and the imported article is simply not classed as honey by people who have used the This may or may home product. not be owing to the adulteration of imported honey. I state the fact as I find it. But, in any case, whenever the people of this province set themselves to secure the thousands of dollars' worth of honey now annually going to waste all about them, it will not have to go begging for a market, but will command the very best price everywhere.

"The above considerations one would think quite sufficient to enlist people in the industry, yet these by no means exhaust the list. keeping is in itself a pleasant and interesting occupation, most of the operations connected with it being such as can be performed by women or even by children. No other occupation that I can think of can compare with it in these respects. product is a delicious and most wholesome food. As an auxiliary to fruit growing and gardening it is invaluable —there are many plants fertilized only by the aid of insects, and bees in their search for honey carry the pollen from flower to flower; thus a hive of bees is worth dollars and cents not only to the owner of it, but to every

gardner and fruit-grower within reach, and to the whole country as well by increasing the products of these different industries. It may be carried on either as a business by itself or in connection with almost any otherby hundreds of colonies or with only one, as may suit one's convenience or inclination. There is scarcely a place, be it farm, garden, or city back-yard, but a spot may be found to set a hive or more of bees, to make money for their owner and the country. Other advantages are the trifling capital required to make a start, the speed with which one's stock increases and the quick return and profit on his investment. One colony is enough to begin with, if no more can be afforded; and beginning so, an outlay of twenty-five or thirty dollars will secure the bees and all the outfit necessary for such a start.

"I would also suggest that when casting about for answers to the perplexing questions how to keep the boy on the farm, it might be a good idea to try what giving him a start as a bee-keeper in a small way would do. Very few boys, it seems to me, would fail to make a gratifying response to such a move. The management of an apiary for a number of years would not only be a business training but would, I believe, foster and develop in most boys an appreciative love of nature and power of observation that would help them to a just discrimination between the perennial attractiveness of "Nature, the dear old nurse," and the tawdry varnish of city artificialities, which unfortunately, possess such a fascination for young minds to which no healthful impetus and direction have been given."

"Interest in this subject seems to be awakening within the last year or two, if one may judge by the inquires which come from different parts of the p too n many —as i tries o

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the province; and it does not seem too much to hope that before very many years apiculture will take rank -as it should—as one of the industries of the west."

The Honey Crop

There are but few bee-keepers on the Island yet. Our hives are heavier than usual at this season I believe.

JOHN NEWSEN. Prince Edward Island.

We have had unusually heavy rains which has again spoiled our honey season.

George R. Lowes.

Yale Co., B. C.

The honey flow in this locality has been very light, better than past year, but will not average more than 25 lbs. to the Colony. Very few swarms.

H. G. SIBBALD.

Peel Co., Ont.

Honey crop is not as good as in 1898. I got a little over 3,000 lbs., mostly basswood from 56 colonies; have not had a swarm this year.

ALBERT BURLEY.

Hastings County, Ont.

The honey crop in my vicinity is very light. With nearly all beekeepers it has been a total failure for white honey. There is at present a been very good show for buckwheat.

C. W. Post.

Trenton, Ont.

Better say again in your August arts of editoral not to sell any white honey at low figures. I am fairly well posted in the honey crop in Quebec province, we will have no white honey worth speaking of.

EUGENE GOUDRON.

Berthier Co. Oue.

Clover done fairly well here, but no basswood. Bees were killing drones when basswood was in full bloom. My crop so far is a little over half the amount of last years. We expect to get some from buckwheat.

SAMUEL WOOD.

Simcoe Co.

Honey crop reports around this locality are rather varied. bee-keepers say that their bees are doing well, others say that they are doing nothing worth mentioning. Mine are all right; have just taken off three supers with fine clover honey. Basswood is a failure.

THOS. HAGUE.

Lanark County, Ont.

The season here has not been very favorable-too wet. It rains every Spring was extremely cold day. and all through May, June was not much better, July opened with hives full of bees and swarming.

Honey here is always of the best

quality.

JACQUES VERRET.

Quebec Co., Que,

Owing to the heavy loss in bees last spring, very few colonies were in condition to take advantage of the honey flow from clover. Much of the basswood bloom was destroyed by insects and so they gathered very little from that source.

Extracted honey about half a crop. comb honey much less.

R. H. SMITH.

Elgin Co., Ont.

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Shade your hives, your bees will swarm less and [work better.

Last spring I sold several colonies to a party at Pickanock, some 60 miles up the Gatineau. He reports many swarms and much honey. Moral: "Go north, bee-keeper, go north." After selling last spring I had 20 colonies left, mostly strong. Surplus now, some 200 lbs. thats all. I am not counting on much more—worst season yet with me.

WM. ALFORD.

Ottawa, Ont.

The honey flow in this section has been fair to good. As near as I can judge within a radius of about 30 miles the surplus among progressive bee-keepers range from 40 to 100 lbs. per colony.

From 50 to 60 per cent. of the bees died last winter and spring.

The total crop that will be put on the market will average very !ittle more than last year. The prospect for fall flow is good.

W. A. CHRYSLER,

Kent Co., Ont.

The honey crop is going to be again very poor, the bees were in only fair condition to begin with and there has been very little white or alsike clover; last season was so dry that the seeds sown did not grow to plants and this spring so cold and dry that they did not grow to bloom. Basswood is badly damaged, leaves being cut by an insect. About all that we can expect honey from now is the thistles, as there is not any buckwheat sown in this district.

W. Couse.

Streetsville, Ont.

My report is not very good. I made a mistake last season which has affected this one very materially. I left here and took my bees to Ottawa by train May 16th and kept them

there during the honey season. brought them home by wagon late in the fall, was three days on the road with them and had to put them in winter quarters without giving them a chance of a fly to clean themselves. so I lost 27 colonies. I started this spring with 16 colonies, not all first. class. My first swarm came off June 10th and I had ten before the end of the month. I have only taken off two supers of sections but they are all doing very fine just now. We are about two weeks behind you in all kinds of honey bloom. In 1898 I started with 28 colonies, spring count. made 362 dollars out of them and put 65 colonies in cellar. this year I can make one hundred dollars and double my bees I will not call the queen my cousin, but my advice is to move bees as little as possible as it means loss all round. That is my experience. I think this year bee-keepers should not be too fast to get rid of their surplus honey. as prices will be maintained all right. I am glad you intend to give reports in the C. B. J. I like your paper splendid only it has a subscription attached to it which is annoying.

ROBT. McJanet.

Keep a record of your colonies. Know exactly the history, condition and character of each and aim at bringing them all up to an equality of perfection.

Look out for moths in your surplus combs. If stored in empty hives or supers spread them at least two inches apart.

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Program of the Thirty-First Annual Convention of the National Bee-Keepers' Association.

To be held at Chicago, Illinois, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, August 28, 29, 30, 1900; Sessions to be held in Wellington Hall, No. 70 Clark St.

TUESDAY EVENING.

Call to order at 7 o'clock. Song, - Dr. C. C. Miller, Marengo Ill. "How to sell honey" S. A. Niver, Auburn, N. Y. "Bee-keeping in the city,"

Ouestion-box

WEDNESDAY MORNING-9.30.

Invocation. President's

Address. E. R. Root. Medina, O.

"Queen rearing by the Doolittle method," Mrs. H. C. Acklin, St. Paul, Minn. Question-box.

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON.—1.30

Bee-keepers rights and their protection by Law" Herman F. Moore, Park Ridge, Ill.

Trials of the Commission Man," R. A. Burnett, Chicago, Ill.

Ouestion-box.

WEDNESDAY EVENING. -7.30.

Breeding for long-tongued bees," by J. M. Rankin, of the Mich. Exp.

Bee-keepers I have met and apiaries I have visited," by E. R. Root, assited by Dr. C. C. Miller, Dr. A. B. Mason, E. T. Abbott, and others. trarted by a stereopticon.

THURSDAY MORNING, -9.30.

long. nvocation.

Various forms of disease among bees, cause and cure," Dr. Wm. R. Howard, Ft. Worth, Texas.

eport of General Manager, Eugene Secor, Forest Hill, Ia.
Pure food Legislation,'' Rev. E. T. Abbott, St. Joseph, Mo.

uestion-box.

THURSDAY AFTERNOON.—1.30.

Chemistry of honey, and how to detect Dr. A. B. Mason, Secretary.

its adulteration," by Thomas Wm. Cowan, Pacific Grove, California. "How to ship honey to Market and in what kind of packages,"Geo. York, Chicago, Ill.

Question-box.

THURSDAY EVENING.

"Co-operative organization among beekeepers," R. C. Aikin, Loveland, Col.

"My trip through Wisconsin and Minnesota." W. Z. Hutchinson, Flint, Mich. Illustrated by a stereopticon.

Unfinished business.

One prominent feature of the next convention will be the stereoptical work. Messrs Root and Hutchinson, with a powerful stereopticon, will project upon the screen some photos they have taken of apiaries they have visited in portions of the United States. The convention wil be held in Wellington hall, 70 North Clark St., about a block and a half from the office of the American Bee Journal and about five blocks directly north of the Court House. The hotels at which delegates may secure lodging is the Revere House, about half a block from the convention hall. The rate for lodging will be 50c, per night, and the proprietor has assured Mr. York that good beds are provided, but that several will have to occupy the same room. But when any one desire a room with a single bed, the charge will be \$2.00 per night. If two men wish to take a single room in that way they can do it, by sharing the expense between them. G. A. R. people will have to pay 75c. per night for a single bed, so bee-keepers are specially favored at 50c. The hotel is almost within a stone's throw of the convention hall, and right near the hall are first-class restaurants where meals can be secured at reasonable rates.

It is a little too early yet to announce what the railroad rates will be during G. A. R. week; but it is assumed that they will be low, probably a cent a mile each way.

Chicago is a central point, and there will undoubtedly be a large attendance; and, considering the attractions it is earnestly hoped that bee-keepers will turn out in good strong force.

E. R. Roon, President.

THE

CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL

Devoted to the Interests of Bee-Keepers, Published Monthly by

GOOLD, SHAPLEY & MUIR CO. (LIMITED)

BRANTFORD - CANADA.

Editor, W. J. Craig.

AUGUST, 1900.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

PRESIDENT E. R. Root, when sending us the programme of the National Bee-Keepers' Association Convention, which will be held in Chicago, Aug, 28, 29, and 30, ask us to say to our readers that Canadians are specially invited. Indications at present are that there will be a large attendance and enthusiastic meetings.

The Saturday Evening Post of Philadelphia now issued by the Curtis Publishing Company, (proprietors of the Ladies Home Journal) is brimful of bright and interesting matter and it is not surprising that its circulation should be increasing rapidly. The publishers offer the "Post" for 21 weeks for \$1, and we advise our readers to test its merits for themselves. The regular subscription price is \$2.50 per year

INTRODUCING just hatched queens.

—Dr. Miller in a "Stray Straw" in

Gleanings in Bee Culture, says:—"If you take a queen just hatched--one that has not been held in her cell—and put her in a hive where there is a laying queen, I think you will find that she is always kindly received without the removal of the old queen. The trouble comes when she attains a little age perhaps a day or so old, when she begins to assert herself as a queen, at which time the two will no longer be tolerated under the same roof"

MR. H. L Jones in the Australasian Bee-Keeper, speaks highly of the value of carbolic acid in bad cases of robbing. He says that "this acid emits an odour so obnoxious to the olfactory organs of the bee that only the legitimate occupants of the hive with their strong attachment to home will pass it while the persistent marauders are content to sniff it from afar. A weak mixture of the acid and water sprinkled at the entrance is often sufficient but in bad cases it a big advantage to throw a quantity of grass loosely at the entrance and sprinkle this occasionally with the mixture." Editor Pender in a foot note says: "I too. can testify to the efficacy of carbolic acid in cases of robbing and I think if once tried no apiary will be without a bottle of it." The editor wisely adds. "Don't forget that the acid is a powerful POISON when taken internally and should be used with just such necessary precautions."

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GRANULATED honey in the combowing to so many colonies perishing during last winter and spring, some of our bee-keeping friends are somewhat puzzled to know what to do with the stock of brood combs on hand, filled or partly filled with granulated stores. Various methods for its removal have been from time to time prescribed. Just recently we noted the following valuable little item along this line by Mrs. J. M. McLean, of Fort Collins, Col., in Gleanings in Bee Culture. "In the winter of 1898, I had over 100 combs well filled with honey that I had put away for spring feeding. The honey in these combs candied. I think it was due to their being stored in a very cold place and this honey was what we call "Alfalfa" honey which seems to candy more quickly than other sorts. did not like to melt the comb so I thought I would experiment a little. I uncapped some and then filling a large tub with cold water, in which I put a quart of vinegar, I filled it with combs put on to hold them down and left them 24 hours, when they came out clean as ever-no honey. no pollen. They were a little sticky, but I hung them in some empty hives o, can and the bees soon cleaned them up. rbolic I cleaned about 150 and then put the think honey and water into the vinegar withbarrel. I am positive that this plan wisely will work everytime." id is a

> WE publish in this issue a number of crop reports that have reached us

from some of our leading bee-keepers throughout the country. indebted to these friends who have so kindly favored us. Looking over these reports we note the very general shortage that there is in the honey crop. Scarcely any from basswood. The insect complained of as having destroyed the basswood leaves we believe to be the Canker worm, the same as has been playing havoc with these trees in Ohio and other parts of the United States. Editor Root says in Gleanings in Bee Culture: "The Canker or measuring worm "is making rather bad work in our "basswood apiary. Thousands of "them are at work on the leaves and "nearly the whole orchard of about "3000 trees are infeseted by the pests. "It is somewhat of a question whether "we had not better spray the whole "orchard, comprising as it does of ten "acres It might kill the worm but "would it pay?" In a later issue of Gleanings the editor writes further. "I "learn that Professor W. J. Green, of "Ohio Experimental Station, Wooster, "says that these pests will undoubtly "come back next summer; that while "the hard rains would dislodge the "worm and interrupt them for the "time being, he thinks spraying or "poisoning will have to be resorted "to in order to destroy them." This information does not bee keepers very much to hope for in the future from basswood.

Begin early your preparations for winter.

Questions and Answers

[Questions to be answered in these colums should be sent to us not later than the 15th of each month in order to insure their answer appearing in the following issue. We wish to make this department as useful to our readers as possible and a reliable source of information. For the present at least, the replies will be procured from various sources.]

QUES.—I have a lot of dark combs in use in my extracting supers. I am inclined to think that they are affecting the honey stored in them, both in color and flavor. Are there any means of cleaning or renovating these combs to prevent this? They are good combs and I don't care to melt them up if I can help it.

Brant County. Novice.

Ans.—The only way we know of to clean combs that have been used in the brood chamber is to wash them. Lay them flat on the grass and fill with water from a garden sprinkler. If this is done in the evening they should be turned over and filled on the other side next morning. Leave in the shade till evening, then empty by means of the extractor. Great care will be needed in handling them while filled and soaked, as they break very easily, especially when the water is cold, or if they have soaked too long.

To lay them out in a warm rain would be even better than sprinkling.

If dark combs have been in use in the extracting supers for some time I do not think there is any danger of the flavor or color of honey being affected by them now. We secure just as white honey from some dark combs in use in our supers as from any other. Is it possible the spring honey was not extracted closely enough.

MORLEY PETTIT.

Belmont, Ont., July 28th.

Moving Bees.

Bees may be successfully moved any time during the summer, autumn, or spring, but it is done with great risk in the dead of winter. Apiarist frequently change locations large apiaries to get the advantage of good honey locations where flora is Bees are also of great abundance. shipped by express in large numbers all over the country to purchasers. and frequently carloads of them by freight are moved from one point to another. A few years ago quite a business was done at shipping bees to Florida in autumn to take advantage of the honey obtained there during the winter months, and returned north for the summer; but the expense of tranportation cut too deep into the profits to make it a paying business.

The different modes of shipping bees are as follows: Full colonies, nucleus and bees by the pound. Full colonies are sent by express usually in perfect safety, and shippers generally insure safe arrival of them. Perhaps the greatest trade is in nucleus. These are part of a colony, usually two frames of comb, with some bees, some brood in the same and a queen. These will soon build up into a new colony, and the expense of transportation is small, compared with new colonies. A large trade is also done in bees by the pound. A pound of bees and a queen is a good start for a colony, and as they are put up in a light wire cage the expense of shipping is small, but it requires some experience to properly care for them on arrival, and the inexperienced will succeed better with either the full colony or the Queens are sent by mail, nucleus. and the amount of postage that will carry an ordinary letter will take a queen and a dozen bees to any place that the letter will go.-A. H. DUFF in Farmers' Tribune.

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"WHEN DOCTORS DIFFER."

Races of Bees-Which is Best?

To use a Parliamentary phrase, the "cross bench" mind comes in here with an admirable exhibition of variety and contrariness. even heard Tunisians (or so-called Punics) praised—nay, lauded to the Think of it, ye gods! They were said to be quiet, gentle, easily handled, good workers, prolific, good honey-getters, good cappers, not robbers as a rule, early risers, late of going to sleep, excellent nurses, capital defenders of their stores, not given to excessive swarming, not given to dysentry. That is laying on the brush with no light hand! used to think it was easier calling bad names, and that expletives were more easily coined than words of commendation; but after the above pæan of praise, I must revise my opinions on the subject. Alas, that the shield should have a reverse side! I have heard these same bees called all the bad names it was possible for so fair-minded a person (as a bee-man always is bound to be) to call them. I almost asked him to do the remainder of his swearing in one of the dead languages, but refrained, as a feeling of the same kind prevailed in my own heart; so I gratefully let him speak his mind, and thus got all my swearing done by proxy. One rev. gentleman records in your pages, These Tunisians seem to be a bad lot!" It almost reads as if the parson had inwardly emulated my friend's use of bad language. Another gentleman gives as a record the large number of 208 queens and queencells he killed or cut out of one of his hives of this kind of bee. What a paradise for a queen dealer! These "prolific" bees, at 2s. 6d. a queen, would run up a nice little profit of £26—with more to follow. I refrain from following out this line of argument any further.

"Give a dog a bad name and it sticks to him," says the old proverb. Possibly, in nine cases out of ten the dog deserves all the bad names he is called. Who has not heard of Carniolans as swarmers? And who that has had to do with them has not found them the bane of his bee bliss? Have not your pages times without number recorded these swarming propensities? Honey, that desideratum of all apiarists, they would not secure him. Swarms which were not desired, they supplied in superabundance. One gentleman (Mr. Webster) had "eight swarms from one hive in a single day." He adds, "I wouldn't for the world try them again. I made a regular queen-killing raid on them." Mr. Brice says, "Gentleness is the only good quality they possess. Swarming is their bane. Out they come prime swarm, first, second, third, and fourth casts, which means good-bye to any chance of a surplus. They have been imported largely into this country to the detriment of our own variety." Yet Mr. C. N. White writes, "As an all-round bee I don't think the Carniolan can be beaten," and Mr. Simmons says, "Longevity is one of the most valuable qualities possessed by Carniolans. They are usually very gentle, hardy and longlived, use little propolis, and are beautifully white cappers. They are the bees for beginners, and none should start with any other kind." One specialist pins his faith to them, and considers them the bee par excellence. Other races may be good, others better, but Carniolans are the best. The Irishman's praise—"Heavreflex, Killarney,"-can't be excelled by higher praise. The above description of our white-ringed friend can't be capped. We can't "go one better" than the best. Mr. Webster once said, "There must be Carniolans and Carniolans!" I echo it.

Ligurians are the most boomed in certain quarters at present. Unanimity by no means prevails. Virgil wrote of it as the "better bee." Our senior editor has been very successful with well-bred Ligurian queens." Our junior editor places it a step lower than the ancient poet; his comparisons are, Ligurian good, Carniolan better, Black best. In answer to a query, "Do you prefer Carniolan to Ligurian?" he replies, "Yes." While in another place he writes: "In common with most in this country who have had experience of both varieties, we personally prefer natives to foreigners." Here is another interesting crumb: "From some cause or other Italian queens frequently disappear after a season's work." Another "editor" states that Ligurians are more prolific, their progeny swarm earlier, they work harder, and both earlier and later in the day and season, they work on flowers inaccessible to the common bee." The highest authority on Ligurians, who has written reams in their praise, characterizes this last statement as an "exploded myth." One highly capable of knowing says: "Ligurians (or any trace of Ligurian blood) are strongly objected to by honey producers in Scotland and Wales." This, of course, arises from the well-known fact that they are bad cappers of comb-honey. Mr. Grimshaw supplies the following significant statement: We have it (F.B) since we began importing; we had it not before that time." Here are two other important statements:—"I, (W. B. Webster) assert that they will show in many cases a 25 per cent. increase in the honey yield." A dealer in queens says: "Italians are not subject to spring dwindling. Intense energy

and longevity are their essential points of excellence, which overcome all obstacles." Heigo! What a see-saw of conflicting opinions. There must be Ligurians and Ligurians. The last sentence is not a quotation, but a reflection of my own.

Hybrids in all their varieties provide a wide field for speculation and varied experience. Here are a few choice opinions of men who are prominent in the profession, and classed by yourselves as "Eminent Bee-keepers":—

- I. "An objection to hybridisation is the tendency of hybrids to prove vicious."
- 2. I would sooner far manipulate a colony having a mother-bee of the first cross Ligurian-English, than any black colony that could be produced.
- 3. Vicious "bees sent are hybrid Carniolians."
- 4. "Quiet half-bred Ligurians—a cross difficult to beat both for quietness and industry."
- 5. "Hybrid bees often develop a bad temperament, resenting interference."
- 6. "The only cross that did not make matters worse instead of better is the one between Ligurian and native bees."
- 7. "By crossing even irritable Black bees with Carniolans, we secure some of the finest and best tempered workers that can be desired.
- 8. "Personally we prefer a good strain of the Black native bee to any other."
- 9. "Personally I may say that no pure race of bees have ever given me satisfaction."—F. E. I. S. in British Bee Journal.

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The Month's Work

A. E. Hoshal, Beamsville, Ont.

If the work of requeening, uniting for winter, etc., has been done in its proper season in July, there will be but little to be done in August, except to see that each colony has an extracting surplus case and leave them alone. Whatever honey the bees gather after the first of this month should be left with them for winter stores. The extracting cases are put on so that they may not be crowded during the hot weather. However, should the beekeeper be favored with a fall flow of honey from buckwheat or fall flowers more than sufficient to supply the bees with winter stores, they will, after first filling their brood chambers for winter, proceed to fill these extracting surplus cases also.

The honey crop should now be got ready at once for the market. Having a good article, small packages, cleanliness, neatness and taste, are the cardinal points to be observed in putting it up for the retail trade.

For comb honey I know of no better package than the common shiping case holding one dozen sections with glass front, sliding cover and heavy paper tray and cleats in the bottom to prevent leaking and daubing the sections. If these have to be shipped then a dozen of them should be crated together. For this purpose a crate 274 inches by 144 in. wide, and 15 in. deep inside, with two handles on each end to lift it by, and lined with paper to prevent its contents from dust and dirt should be used. Comb honey is easily broken, and it s therefore necessary that it should be carefully handled in shipping. To draw the attention of those who handle it in transit to this fact, I know of nothing better than the following large red "danger" label, 12 in. long by 6 in. wide, pasted on top of the crate.

DANGER!

Don't Drop! This Package Contains Comb Honey and will be Broken if Dropped, Roughly Handled or moved in a Dray or Wagon without springs.

Every one who handles a package with this on cannot help seeing "danger signal" and unless wilfully negligent and careless ought to carry out its instructions.

For extracted honey I have found, that a self sealing pail holding 3lbs. gross, nicely labelled and with directions for liquefying stamped on the cover to be best in demand and sell best. If to be shipped, they can be put into slatted crates, made of bright new lath lined with paper to protect from dust and dirt and will carry safely anywhere. The writer has yet to have one of them broken.

extremly careful there are no leaky packages or daubs of honey on the outside of them. It will catch dirt and attract flies and other insects, and there is nothing more annoying to those who handle honey, or repulsive to those who buy it than mussy, sticky packages. Self sealing packages should always be used for extracted honey, and the shipping case for comb honey where any one else beside the bee-keeper has to handle it before reaching the consumer.

The above methods of putting up honey are intended for the retail gro-

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cery trade, where the honey is to be sold over the counter the same as common groceries or canned goods, and where good honey is so put up, there are but few grocers who will refuse to handle it, if allowed a trade discount and are protected in it the same as in other line of goods.

There are various and other kinds and sizes of packages besides those described for selling extracted honey such as glass jars, five, ten and 20 pound pails, thirty and sixty 1b. screw cap cans, etc., but these are generally used to meet local demand where the bee-keeper sells at home or pedles from door to door. Concerning all such each will know best what he requires. For supplying manufacturers and others with large quantities, the sixty pound square tin cans encased in wood are generally used although sometimes barrels are employed.

The Possibilities of Bee-Keeping.

The following address was delivered by G. M. Doolittle, New York, at the Philadelphia Convention, 1899:—

There are some who think we have arrived at all the possibilities of bee keeping, but I do not think so. I am going to prepare what I have to say to you out of God's Holy Word. I will read from the book of Revelation, the 1st chapter, from the 9th to the 19th verse; also from the 3rd chapter, 7th to 13th verse. I am not going to preach a sermon to you tonight, but as something to guide our thoughts, I desire to take a text of three words found in the 8th verse of the 3rd chapter.

As John goes back in thought he sees the Son of Man, stilling the waves, healing the sick and raising the dead. He now sees more power in Him than when on earth, and as he sees the power he hears Him say-

ing: "Behold I have set before thee an open door because thou hast a little strength." Of course, this was meant in a spiritial sense, but I do not think I will be much out of place if I apply it to bee-keeping. All power comes from God, and we could not keep bees without that power.

I am reminded of a Scotch girl. There was a high mountainous pass where occasionally a man went down. This girl was impressed to build a bridge over it. She went out among the people and the result was a bridge was built. The people were so rejoiced that they wanted to name it after her: but she said, "No! If you must name it, call it 'God and us.' God gave the power and we carried out His purpose." In this nation. whence comes all this power? We see railroads and electric cars going in all directions; the telegraph, telephone, etc. Whence came the power that brought these about? Does such power come to heathen nations? No! it comes from God to Christian nations.

Now, bring it down to the bee; if we have "a little strength" to grasp that idea, "God with us," there is set before us "an open door," and we can accomplish much with the bee. If I have a little strength the promise is to me. Do I wish to be a Dr. Miller, Mason, Root, Hutchison, Elwood? The "little strength," with "the open door" may enable me to equal if not excel them.

There is a storey of a little boy who saw some apples, but they were out of his reach. A little further on he saw a larger boy, but he could not reach them; so the smaller boy climbed upon his shoulders, and then he could reach them. "If at first you don't succeed, try, try again." A large block of granite was put up for sale one day. Michael Angelo was at the sale. He thought he would

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buy it. It sold for an enormous sum, but Angelo took it. Some one asked him, "why did you pay so much?" His reply was. "I saw an angel in the block, and I am going to liberate it." He did so and became famous for "the angel" in statuary.

Have you tried to understand your locality, and failed? If you do not understand your locality you fail of the best success. When you see your bees coming in with pollen in the spring, follow the bees. Then when a load of honey comes in follow it to its source. The bee-keeper must follow his pursuit to perfection. I told the following story at the National convention in Canada:

Henry Clay wanted the presidency. He came to an old friend and said to him, "Are you going to help me now?" The answer was, "No; you failed me once."

Clay saw he was not going to make anything of that, so he said, "John, do you remember the old days?" John said, "Yes." "Do you remember the old gun?" " Yes." was an old flintlock.) "Did the gun ever fail you, John?" "Yes, it failed me once when I needed it most." "What did you do? Throw it away?" "No, I pickt the flint and tried again." "Can you not try me again, John?" "Yes, I will pick the fint and try you again." We must pick the flint and try again if we fail. I am requested to tell the ancedote Itold at the Buffalo Convention of his association two years ago. tertain darkey often went to market, out one time it was different-his vife went with him this time. ried at the top of his voice, "'Tates, 'tatoes, 'tatoes!" His wife said, Keep still, darling, you will wake Il the people up. " He said to her. That is what I want to do;" and gain he cried, "'Tatoes, 'tatoes, 'tates!" That is what we want to do

—wake bee-keepers up about securing a large force of bees in time for the harvest.

Do you wish to know about putting on and taking off sections, doing it at just the right time? Then use "a little strength" along that line.

When we entered the bee-keeping ranks we pledged ourselves by thus entering to do our best. Some may not believe we did so. I am reminded of our great ocean steamers. In the middle of the Atlantic one of the stokers was asked "Are the other stokers all working? Is the vessel going right?" He answered, "I am not the captain, but by taking this place I pledged myself to do the best I could. I am captain of this shovel." He did his part faithfully, and the vessel landed safely in Liverpool.

Have you tried wintering bees and failed? During the winter of 1881-82 three-fourths of all the bees in the United States died. There has been progress in wintering since then and yet we are not perfect. August is the time to prepare bees for winter. So that each colony has a good queen, bees and food enough. If you wait until December, and then write to Dr. Miller or Dr. Mason about preparing your bees for winter, you will be something like the old preacher whose wife said to him one cold Sunday, "Had you not better put on a thicker pair of pants?" The pair he put on had hung away all summer in the attic, and the wasps had built a nest in the roomy part of them. After getting into the pulpit he commenced to read the 103rd Psalm: "'Bless the Lord oh my soul!—oh, what a sting! 'Bless the Lord oh my soul, and forget not all his benefits'-Ge-whitaker, what a sting! I'll tell you what it is, brethren, the word of the Lord is in my mouth, but the devil's in these breeches."

If we put off preparing for winter until December the word of the Lord may be in our mouths, but failure will be ours. There is no time for sitting around listening to idle gossip.

A sailing vessel was stranded off the coast of South America; a signal of distress was run up, and a steamer saw it and asked what was needed. "Water, fresh water," was the reply. "Do you not know you are at the mouth of the Amazon? Let down your buckets and you will find plenty." My friends, we are always in the Amazon of bee-keeping; let down your buckets and dip the fresh water up.

Moses saw the burning bush and put his shoes from off his feet. There are many burning bushes about the bee-keeping pursuit, but he only sees who "puts the shoes from off his feet." After seeing the possibilities we are to go out and tell it to the world, for there are no possibilities in selfishness.

Biddy said to Pat one morning, "Go and kill the rooster." He came to the door with it under his arm, took it by the head, gave it a few twists, and sent it floundering into the kitchen with the blood spurting about.

"Pat, didn't I tell you to kill the rooster? yelled Biddy. "Faith," said Pat, "it's dead, but it don't know it." The selfish person may go floundering about, but is dead to the possibilities of apiculture. The first thing for us to do after learning something useful is to go out and tell it to the world. There are no possibilities of a useful thing dying with ourselves because we only wished to profit by it. We are to spend ourselves for others if we would attain to the highest possibilities, as such expending will react on us.

You remember the old metaphor, "There was a man, his neighbors thought him mad, The more he gave away the more he had."

And so it is with us, if we try to make the apiculture world better for our having lived in it. The Good Book says, "There is that scattereth and yet increaseth; and there is that withholdeth more than is meet, but it tendeth to poverty."

Every time we tell a thing the possibilities are greater through the reflex action that comes to us, and so by thus telling we keep on growing to the highest possibilities.

It is said that Capt. Cook, when he sailed around the world, planted English flowers at every place he landed, and so he has, through these flowers, been growing ever since.

No, no, brothers and sisters, bee. keeping is not ours. We may think we have the right to hug things up and keep them ourselves, but it is not so. Apiculture of to-day is what it is because of those who came before The apiarists of the past are the "mother breasts" that furnished the nourishment for the possibilities of the present. The thought of yesterday is but the inspiration of to-day. He only lives wisely who lives for the possibilities of the future-possibilities to generations yet unborn. Others of us instead of being selfish are telling things that we don't know: we get a little bee-keeping-go out and write for the papers and make lots of noise.

An old darkey was plodding and splashing homeward through a midnight thunderstorm. The winds were blowing, and the rain was sheeting down. Every other moment a flash of lightning slashed the heavens briefly like a knife of fire. Then followed the thunders, rolling crash on crash, as if the very roots of the hills were being torn from their home in the ages. The lightning would last but a second, and then leave the poor old darkey in blacker night than ever. But the thunders were inces-

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sant; their rollings were without end. At last the old darkey became frightened, and, following a thunderous peal of unusual horror, he plumped down on his knees in the mud and began to pray, "O! Lord," he cried, "far be it from one so humble as I to tell Theethy business. But if it's all the same to Thee, an' doan't pester Thee or change too much Thy infinite plans, couldn't this storm be managed to give us a leetle less noise an' a leetle mo' light? Amen!"

And so let us, when we do anything, do it for the purpose of disseminating light, not to make a noise.

Again, others of us work with no definite object in view. We should work and toil for a purpose. John Chinaman was hacking away on a stick, and a neighbor asked him, "What are you making, John?" He replied, "It may be a god or it may be a bedstead, for all I know." experiment so loosely that, at the finish, if asked the result, we can only reply, "It may be a God or it may be a bedstead, for all I know." Let us work so perfectly that we know what we are doing, so that we may hear the Master say, "Because thou hast 'a little strength' I have set before thee 'an open door.' "

Mind has not grasped the possibilities which are before us if we work with the "little strength" we have. Let us not deceive ourselves. This "little strength" must be used intelligently, and for the good of the whole—not for just me, if "behold, I have set before thee an open door" of possibilities is to be realized. Understanding it, are you ready to venture? If so, the possibilities are for you. There is no chance of a failure. The ower is with our "little strength." The accomplishments of the past are othing to what there is in store for

the apicultural world if we but enter the "open door." Will we do it?

A certain explorer, with his guide, was travelling up the Alps. They came to a certain place where the explorer could see no place to stop. The guide swung himself into a crevice of the rock and put out his hand; seeing it the explorer said, "If the hand fail I fall into the abyss below. Not to go forward will lose to me the sights for which I came." Assuringly the guide said, "That hand never lost a man."

I fear I have not made this as plain as I might. I have tried, but fear I have failed through my inability to express myself, but to him that hath "a little strength," the Master saith, "He that shutteth and no man openeth, and He that openeth and no man shutteth," because thou hast "a little strength, behold I have set before thee an open door, and no man can shut it."

In conclusion, allow me to say that that hand—that all-powerful hand of the Master—coupled with our hands having a little apiculture strength—"that hand never lost a man!"

Apis mellifica, which was introduced into Australia in 1862, prospers well there, thanks to the abundance of honey-bearing plants and also probably to the fact that many of their enemies of the old continent have not been transported into the southern lands. Nevertheless, Mr. Walter Froggatt, the Government Entomologist at Sydney, has discovered a fact which may prove serious to apiculture.

A small Lamellicorn beetle, very common in Australia, "Phyllotocus Macleayi" (Fischer), about 8 mm. long, which until of late lived exclusively in the flowers on certain shrubs, chiefly those of the Angophora

and the Leptosperium, in the last two years has taken to penetrating into hives, finding it more convenient to devour the ready-made honey of the bee. In the evening they commit their ravages. A bee-keeper reports killing nine quarts (?) in three nights by placing among the hives vessels of sugared water in which they drowned themselves.

In some parts of France the "Cetonia cardui" (one of the rose-beetles) tries to penetrate into hives, but its great size renders it less dangerous than Phyllotocus.—L'Apiculteur.

Honey and Wax Imports in Germany.

In the Journal of the Board of Agriculture for June there are the following items of information interesting to bee-keepers:—"48,000,000 lb. of honey were imported into Hamburg in 1899—more than half came from Chili and Peru. The trade was considered favourable to importers, although the partial failure of honey crop in North America and in Mexico caused a slow, but steady rise in prices until towards close of year, when reports of better prospects for the coming season resulted in a corresponding fall.

"Complaint is made of continually increasing competition of artificial honey. Measures are being taken by honey producers in Germany to obtain prohibition of imitations.

"Business in wax continues to develop in Hamburg, which is rapidly becoming the leading market. Beeswax is imported thence princithe West Indies. pally from South Morocco, America, Madagascar. The hamburg market closed firm owing to unfavorable reports from Brazil, Transactions in Japanese wax were limited and trade depressed owing to unsatisfactory quality of year's -British Bee Journal.

Honey for the Queensland Troops.

The bee-keepers of Queensland, Australia, have sent a consignment of honey to their troops in South Africa. The idea originated with Mr. H. L. Jones of Goodna, who headed the list of donations with 50 pounds. The honey was put up i 2-pound tins, labeled with the nam of the person who contributed it.

Bees crossed once with the Caucasian species are said to work the red clover to great advantage, and distinguish themselves from other in this way.—Deutsche Bienenzuck



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