

The...
Canadian Bee Journal

*Devoted to the Interests of the
Bee Keepers.*

Published Monthly by
The Gould Shapley & Muir Co.
(Limited)

BRANTFORD, CANADA.

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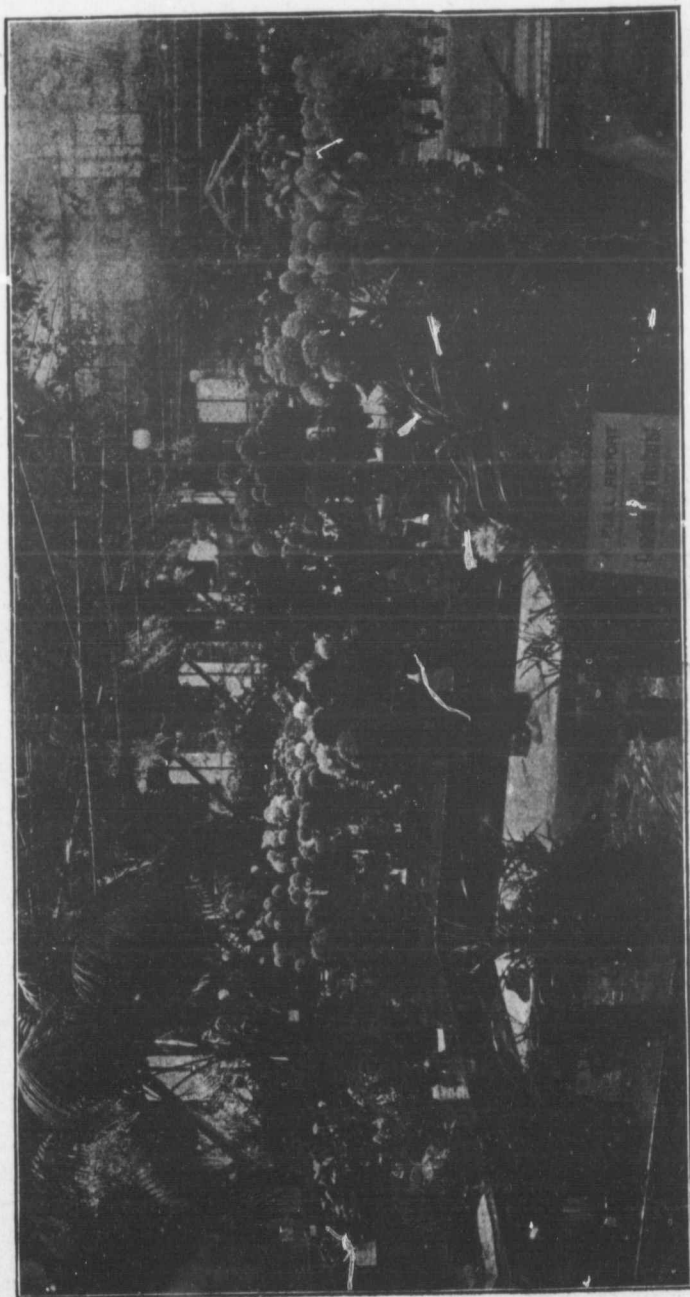
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SCENE IN FLORAL RINK AT THE FRUIT, FLOWER AND HONEY SHOW, TORONTO

The Canadian Bee Journal

Published Monthly

New Series
Vol. 13, No. 1

BRANTFORD, CAN., JAN., 1905

Whole No.
479

ANNUAL MEETING ONTARIO BEE-KEEPERS' ASSOCIATION

Mr. Armstrong—How do you handle your honey after you extract it? Do you approve of sealing it right up?

Mr. Pettit—Yes. I tried to emphasize that in my paper. One of the most important points in the whole subject was to seal up the honey as quickly as possible after it is extracted. This six-frame extractor that I spoke of delivers the honey into barrels, and as soon as the barrel is full the bung can be driven in and the honey is practically air-tight. The point is to get the honey if possible into the package in which you are going to seal it at the time you are extracting, and get it sealed as nearly air-tight as convenient and as soon as possible.

Mr. McEvoy—I agree with Mr. Pettit in part of that. He is going to cork that barrel as soon as he gets the honey into it. I like to put it in an open barrel and as soon as it is filled cover it with four or five newspapers and a hoop over it, and keep it tight that way, because I want to skim it in four or five days afterwards to catch any floating matter that rises to the top.

Mr. Pettit—The honey is strained be-

fore it goes into the barrel, through cheese cloth.

Mr. McEvoy—I double strain it through cheese cloth, and just as soon as that barrel is full I start another one and leave it eight or ten days. I will notice there will be a little white scum gathered all over it. It is not much, but I want half an inch off that. Then I put a paper over it and drive it air-tight before it will lose any of the clover flavoring.

Mr. Pettit—I think that which rises on top of Mr. McEvoy's barrels and all honey that is strained and stored in that way is only air bubbles. If there is anything wrong with it, it has got wrong from contact with the air from being exposed for that length of time.

Mr. Byer—This past season I didn't want to go to the expense of getting 60-lb tins, and I put some in tanks and the balance in barrels.

Mr. Pettit—That is the difficulty I am in every year, and on that account every year I have two or three thousand pounds in large tanks that hold one thousand pounds each. I cover these up and I consider the honey from them isn't quite so good as that put right into barrels, but I don't know how to avoid it.

Mr. McEvoy—What are these tanks?

Mr. Pettit—They are tin.

Mr. Holtermann—I would like to have Mr. McEvoy take some of that

scum from the barrel and give it to Prof. Shutt. If he strains that through cheese cloth I would be very much surprised if it is anything more than you get from beating the white of an egg.

Mr. McEvoy—Although the honey is double strained through cheese cloth I sometimes take half an inch off several barrels. I will have half a pail full of fine little specks. You may think it is nothing, but I don't want even that.

Mr. Smith—Do I understand Mr. McEvoy, that the scum is half an inch thick?

Mr. McEvoy—No. (Laughter.)

Mr. Smith—Has Mr. McEvoy ever noticed any difference in honey from the bottom of the tank and what he finds at the top.

Mr. McEvoy—Yes.

Mr. Holtermann—And the longer it stands the greater the difference.

Mr. Armstrong—What is the cause of that?

Mr. Dickenson—When you skim a barrel or tank those skimmings soon turn into honey. You get another skim. You don't have to go very far down into the skimming. I mean after you get a pail or dish, or whatever you put your skimming into, you will find it is honey.

Mr. McEvoy—Answer Mr. Armstrong's question, Mr. Holtermann.

Mr. Holtermann—There may be several causes why honey at the top of the can is thinner than at the bottom. When you extract, a portion of what you extract is thin nectar from the combs that does not readily distribute itself and give an even specific gravity. The tendency is for the thin nectar to rise to the top and the heavier to go to the bottom. At the same time the farther it has to go, and the less difference there is, the more it gets distributed and equalized. The greater the difference of the honey in the combs, the more the tendency will be for the top to be thin and the bottom to

be heavier. That is one reason. But there is, I believe, quite often another reason, and that is that the moisture is absorbed at the top of the can, and the longer you leave it exposed, the more there will be of thin honey at the top of the can.

Mr. Fixter—To make the analysis which Mr. Holtermann suggested worth anything you would require three samples out of the can, from the top, from the centre and from the bottom.

Prof. Harrison—If you examined that with a magnifying glass it would tell you if it were air bubbles.

Mr. Armstrong—I would venture to say that most of that froth, if you call it that, or white scum, is the greater part comb.

Mr. Holtermann—No.

Mr. Armstrong—I think so. If I take and skim the top of a can and put it into a vessel when it is partly granulated, to liquify, I always find that there is a little more scum comes on top, and that after it is thoroughly liquified it is perfectly clear. If you take that little scum that comes to the top and put it in your mouth and chew it the same as a piece of wax, you will come to the conclusion that there is a great deal of wax in it.

Mr. Holtermann—If you are running honey into a vessel, and you take a colender with fine holes in it and put your honey through that, and let it go in fine streams down into a vessel you will have a great deal more of that white scum than if you dropped it in quickly. If that is wax, can wax be produced by that process?

Mr. Dickenson—I think probably that wax theory would hardly satisfy me. Of course, I strain through milk-strainer wire. I don't know whether any wax would go through or not, but the scum forms on top of the can all the same.

Mr. Darling—There has been a good deal said about this scum. I am somewhat inclined to think with Mr. Dick-

enson. I have found when liquifying honey after it has been granulated and strained that there comes a white scum on the top. Do what you will with that you can't get rid of it. Unless you skim it off it will stay there, and the purchaser very likely does not like to see it. You heat this honey and let it stand until it is half cold; take off this scum and then fill your glass vessels and you will have it as pure and nice on top as on the bottom. I don't think there is so much wax in it, although there might be a little, but it is an impossibility to get rid of that white scum unless you take it off after the honey is partly cooked.

Mr. Grosjean—I think it would be very easy for any person to convince themselves whether that was wax or not. If they took the bottom of the tank and strained that to see if the scum would form. If it doesn't do that it is not wax, because wax will always rise to the top the first time.

Mr. Smith—I would like to ask Mr. Dickenson if he uses this milk-strainer cloth, what size of strainer would be necessary to strain honey through as fast as you extract it?

Mr. Dickenson—Simply use more than one. About ten or twelve inches across. I have two different sizes. I have three strainers of milk-strainer wire, and I have other strainers a little bit coarser to catch the coarser wax or anything else there is. I extract on a platform, and as soon as my strainer clogs I remove it to the next can. I let the tap run just the same in the empty can till this strainer empties, and as soon as it strains out I move back, go right ahead till I put it all through. I never was stopped by having two cans going at the same time or using an extractor on two cans instead of one. I will admit if I was trying to run it through one strainer that it would block. I think in this discussion it is just as well to bear in mind that a honey house has something to

do with the situation. I think that if you have a honey house that is warm your honey will go through this strainer better than if it is a cool honey house or a cool day when extracting. I have never had any difficulty in getting my honey through milk-strainer wire. My strainer is like a sieve. I couldn't buy one, but I bought the wire and made one myself. The next one I got I got a man to make one like it. It is made of tin.

Mr. Deadman—There is one exception I take to that paper. Mr. Pettit used a wheelbarrow to take in his extracting combs. It is the practice of most of the bee-keepers to use a wheelbarrow. A wheelbarrow was never intended for that purpose. If you once used a wagon I don't think you would ever use a wheelbarrow again to take in your extracting combs. You can't tier them up in a wheelbarrow. You may take two supers or as many as the wheelbarrow will hold, but take a wagon and you can tier them up six feet high and have the box wide enough to hold two. This summer, in taking in our extracting combs, we put them two wide on the wagon and four deep; that is, eight supers at a time. Can you take anything more on a wheelbarrow?

Mr. Holtermann—I would like to ask Mr. Deadman whether that wagon would work upon uneven ground?

Mr. Deadman—On any ground. If you have uneven ground and have many supers on you need a person to hold them on. We have two helpers. One draws the wagon and the other holds them on; and the same thing taking out extracting combs. We have taken in ten supers at one load. The wagon draws easily on level ground. It costs about two dollars.

Mr. Pettit—What would one of those supers weigh?

Mr. Deadman—We can draw 500 lbs on the wagon in supers or any other way, and 1,000 lbs on a level road.

Mr. McEvoy—I think Mr. Deadman and Mr. Dickenson would make a fine team to hitch up in a big yard. Mr. Dickenson will take off in the honey flow a whole row right down the bee yard. He has the quickest way I know of. You come along with that little wagon and you would gather it up pretty nearly as fast. Now I think you ought to go together, and you would make a fine team.

Mr. Dickenson—I don't like to see the wheelbarrow business knocked out like Mr. Deadman does it. I have a wheelbarrow, but I don't think it is the kind of wheelbarrow he has in his mind. I can carry out 12 supers empty. It is a rack barrow that I have used in my brickyard, and I find it very handy in the bee yard. I never wheel less than about three supers full and pretty nearly as many as I like empty.

Mr. Holtermann—Is the barrow the width of the super in length?

Mr. Dickenson—My barrow will hold two side by side in front of the handles. It runs out about five feet, with the wheel in the centre. It is on springs.

Mr. Holtermann—You would have to have a large tire.

Mr. Dickenson—It is narrow.

Mr. Deadman—The wagon is the same width. No matter how many supers you pile up as long as your door is high enough.

Mr. Miller—Like Mr. Dickenson, I don't like to see the wheelbarrow knocked out. I have a very handy one with a 30-inch wheel and wide tires, with a platform and a front extending up which will take as many supers as a man can wheel, with a spring that is not at all heavy. To my mind it is more convenient on rough ground or among trees than the wagon, providing your barrow is constructed to suit the hive you use. You can tier up and keep them tight, and you will handle them just as well.

Mr. Pettit—That is quite a point,

using a wheelbarrow on rough ground. A wheelbarrow only needs one track and a wagon needs a double track. In running out-apraries and putting bees wherever we can get a place, we cannot always choose our ground; and another thing, we have so much truck to carry around, I would need to see a great advantage in a wagon to carry that with me, too. Every farmer has a wheelbarrow and you can borrow it, but to carry your wagon along with you as well as the other things means something extra.

Mr. Deadman—You can borrow the wheelbarrow all the same in out-aparies, but use the wagon in the home apiary.

Mr. McEvoy—I use a wheelbarrow, one of the lightest I have seen, but I have often thought about that little wagon, and I think I will take the wagon.

Mr. Mason—I use an electric tramway for my bees, and I think this discussion about the wheelbarrow should be dropped. We are wasting time.

Question Drawer.

(By President Sparling.)

The President—In producing comb honey, of course, we must have bees. Now, Mr. Holtermann, what variety of bees would you have?

Mr. Holtermann—That is a question I would like to have an answer upon myself, I don't know. My impression is that when you are in a section where there are breaks in the honey flow which tend to check the swarming, the best bee you can have for comb honey is a cross between the Italian and the Carniolan. The Carniolan has this characteristic, it builds up well, it propolises very little and it caps very white. There is not a single objection, in my estimation, that can be found to the Carniolan, with the exception of the tendency to swarm. The Italian bee, if you get the right sort, is a bee

which counteracts the tendency to excessive swarming. They hold together better, and where you can get them with a dash of Carniolan blood in them it is a good thing; but where you have a section and are trying to produce comb honey where fruit bloom and something else comes in to keep the bees working pretty well into clover and then clover lasts into basswood, I don't think that strain would be desirable. That is my opinion, and I have given you the reason why.

Mr. Alpaugh—I have not had all the varieties, by any means. I have had little to do with any outside of the Italian and Black, and I find a cross between them produces very good comb honey. It depends a good deal upon what you want. If you want nice, showy white honey, the Black is better. If you want to get a good crop, and not particular whether it is white or not, I believe the Italian will be the best bee to store. That is, if you can get the right Italian. There is an awful difference in them. They have been bred and bred until you get them pretty, but of not much use. If you can get as near as possible the original Italian bee from Italy I find they are very good workers.

Mr. Miller—I have not produced comb honey for several years. Our seasons have varied, and with the shutting off through wet and cold weather I have not thought it advisable, so that I don't think that I could offer any opinion.

Mr. Smith—My experience is similar to Mr. Alpaugh's. I think probably Mr. Pettit has had more experience with the different varieties of Italians. He might give us his opinion.

Mr. Pettit—I don't think I can add anything to what has been said. I would agree with what Mr. Alpaugh and Mr. Holtermann have said in that respect.

The President—Having settled on

our variety of bees we shall require a hive. Shall it be large or small, deep or shallow?

Mr. Armstrong—Those bee-keepers that use ten and twelve-frame hives might give us the average of their yield for the last ten years.

Mr. Pettit—I would prefer for comb honey a hive the size of the ten-frame Langstroth.

Mr. McEvoy—I would like to hear from Mr. Miller of London. He uses a Hedden, which is supposed to be a great comb honey hive.

Mr. Miller—As you all know, I use a divisible brood chamber hive equal to ten Langstroth frames, and I consider it an excellent system either for comb or extracted honey, it makes no difference which. You are enabled to divide the brood chamber by exchanging it. You place the super right on top of your top bars, forcing the honey into your section with the least amount of labor possible. It is a system, of course, that is not popular, and I don't know that I could say anything in regard to it. It is a system quite well known for a short cut. If the short cut isn't made use of there is probably no better than the hanging frame, but if short cuts are made use of, it is an excellent hive for either comb or extracted honey.

The President—We shall require a super to take our comb honey. I have never seen a super yet that met my ideas exactly. I would like to know if any one has the ideal super?

Mr. Fixter—Before we leave the question of hives, I have tried experiments with the Hedden, eight-frame Langstroth, a hive equal to the ten-frame Langstroth, and a very large hive equal to twelve, and I never could get the honey, either comb or extracted, from twelve-frame that I could from a ten, or even an eight. I would prefer the ten for both purposes.

Mr. Mason—As to the production of

comb honey, I would say that the size of the hive hadn't so much to do with it as the size of the colony. A strong colony, I always find, produces comb honey much better than a weak one. I find no difference between the eight, ten and twelve-frame, only so far as the strength of the colony affects it, and the size of the clover field, too, has a little to do with it.

Mr. Holtermann—I learned a very good thing from Mr. Sibbald last year in connection with the strength of the stock. You know we can't get every stock the same strength, and in private conversation with Mr. Sibbald he mentioned that when your honey flow comes on, if you have, say, a twelve-frame hive, and your brood chamber is in such a condition that it cannot well utilize twelve frames, to not, during the honey flow, go on increasing the size of the brood chamber, but put in your division board and use it for whatever it is worth.

Mr. Smith—I would like to ask Mr. Holtermann if he ever tried uniting before the honey flow, instead of running the colony for what there was in it?

Mr. Holtermann—I may be wrong, but I don't believe much in uniting bees.

Mr. Smith—Not so much in uniting bees as in uniting brood.

Mr. Holtermann—I would not unite brood, but if I have a stock that I cannot control its swarming, I would shake it off and give its brood to stocks that are not full, and in that way, in a very short time, you can make good stocks out of it.

Mr. Pettit—I suppose along the line of uniting brood would be equalizing brood at the beginning of the season. I don't know whether we need discuss that here. It has been threshed out at other conventions, but if we find a stock that is extra strong and liable to swarm, take one or two combs of cap-

ped brood from it and give them to weaker stocks. Don't give too much brood to stocks that are too weak, and don't take too much brood from any one stock, or it weakens it too much.

Mr. Chrysler—I don't believe in strengthening weak stocks after a honey flow is on unless they are in a shape to store honey. When the honey flow is on, if you can get it, you should get it as quickly as possible.

The President—Mr. Alpaugh, when shall we put on our sections, at the opening of the honey flow or after swarming?

Mr. Alpaugh—It is some time since I have been much in comb honey business. When I was in the business I liked to put my sections on in good time so as not to have the bees get the swarming fever before I put them on. I don't think it hurt them much to have the supers on in good time and the bees started up in them. That is not the time when they glue and propolise things as they do later on in the season.

The President—Don't they nibble the foundation?

Mr. Alpaugh—Not necessarily. They do that more after the season. I prefer putting the sections on in good time and giving the bees to understand what they have to do.

The President—When do you put on your sections, Mr. Smith?

Mr. Smith—In my experience I don't like to put them on till they are just about ready to work on them. If there is nothing coming in they are very apt to chew the foundation. That makes sections that you can't get properly filled. It is a good thing if you have a super of sections with the foundation drawn out, from the previous season, if you can get that on; if there is anything coming in from the fields they will be apt to go into it and get started on the drawn comb, then you can put on a super filled with foundation later, and they will continue the work. I

find there are some bee-keepers who leave the sections on all winter, and there are some who think it is an advantage to use drawn combs with a little honey in them. They do not trouble to extract or clean that out. I don't know whether you have ever noticed finished sections from that practice. They are very apt to ferment, and some bee-keepers do not know what the cause of it is.

The President—Would it be worth while if you had a few bait sections to put them in even if you threw them away afterwards?

Mr. Smith—I would put either two or four, or as many as I have in the corners, but they must be dry, otherwise they will ferment and spoil the cappings on the finished comb.

The President—Mr. Sibbald waits till his bees swarm and puts his sections on the swarms.

Mr. Smith—That is all right.

The President—I don't know whether he can get the quantity. I should not imagine he could.

Mr. Pettit—That is the best way for quantity, though.

The President—Is there any other bee-keeper who practices that?

Mr. Smith—That is very largely our practice, and we find we can always get it nicer and whiter and the sections finished.

Mr. Byer—Do you have an extracting super on previous to that?

Mr. Smith—Oh, yes. In some seasons there won't be sufficient room in a nine-frame hive to give the queen sufficient space, and we put on another set of combs or a shallow body, and just before the honey flow commences we take that off and put on the sections or put the sections on the swarm. We use perforated metal between.

Mr. Alpaugh—I understand that this is a clear case of producing comb honey. If you want to run your bees for comb honey, and by a non-swarming system so that you will not have

to watch your bees or shake them, as the case may be, I was pointing out the way I would do to prevent all this I don't want my bees to swarm, and I don't want to have to watch them, and to do that you have got to put on some kind of room. If you run for comb honey that is the only room you have got. If I was running for both I would put on an extracting super and take that off later and put on comb.

The President—But still you must work for comb honey in your comb honey system?

Mr. Alpaugh—There are lots of people who do not produce any extracted honey. If you are going to leave off everything until they swarm, they may swarm pretty quick, and before they do anything probably.

Mr. Smith—The object of putting on, not necessarily extracting combs, but it might be another brood nest, is simply to give the queen room.

Mr. Holtermann—I suppose the question is to be connected with what is practical and what will pay. Whilst there is no doubt in my mind whatever that the best comb honey can be produced by having your bees swarm first and then hive them upon starters and putting on your sections then, I doubt very much if that is the way in which you can get the best return, unless your honey flow is exceedingly short. Now, if you do not put on a super before your bees swarm, you are going to have a very strong swarm, and then if you put that upon starters, and they have got to build their comb, it takes 21 days to develop the first bee. Then that stock is going to be very much depopulated by that time with old bees dying off, and in the flow that comes on about two weeks or so after the swarm issues, there is not going to be anything like the number of bees to gather. Another disadvantage, of course, is there will be more or less of drone comb, and in those combs that are built upon start-

ers there is a very great disadvantage in the production of honey. If we put our sections on too soon in our locality or any locality where there is raspberry, it is exceedingly dangerous, because the raspberry runs into clover more or less and it seems to be necessary to watch your sections from day to day to see what your bees are bringing in. If you see they are bringing in dark honey, as long as they are doing that, if you want to have a first-class article, you must not put on your sections.

The President—It has always seemed to me one of the most important things in getting sections well filled is the amount of foundation you put in, and how you put it in. What is your method, Mr. Smith? How much foundation do you put in, and how do you do you put it in?

Mr. Smith—We use full sheets of foundation. That is, the best foundation we can get, thin and good, and have it fit the section within a sixteenth of an inch. It is with us a difficult matter with one piece sections to get it to fit so accurately, but we find that with four-piece sections we can get it to fit all right. The main advantage in sections filled with full sheets of foundation is you get a very much larger percentage of sections that there is no risk, comparatively, in shipping. There are very few sections built with a starter foundation in that you can ship without breaking down.

Mr. Miller—I prefer to use a small starter at the bottom with a piece at the top.

The President—How large a starter do you put in the bottom?

Mr. Miller—About five-eighths.

The President—Did you find that it fell over at all in hot weather?

Mr. Miller—No.

The President—You practically filled the section?

Mr. Miller—The section was filled, but partly from the bottom, about five-eighths of an inch from the bottom.

Mr. Holtermann—Do you think that is necessary?

Mr. Miller—I do, just the same as anything else. If you want to avoid pop-holes, I think you will do so to great advantage if you are working for a good grade of honey, and it is very little more labor.

The President—Do you fasten your foundation in by the hot plate system

Mr. Miller—Yes.

Mr. Holtermann—I think it is exceedingly important, as has been said, to have the foundation properly put in the section. More than that, I don't believe you can get a choice honey, no matter if your after system is used the same as the other man's, unless you have your section well filled with foundation to begin with, but I don't see any necessity for putting the piece in the bottom of the section.

Mr. Pettit—I use a four-piece section, and the foundation is attached to the top bar of the section with the hot plate before the section is put together. The foundation I have cut is as near the size of the section as I can get it, so that it just doesn't touch on three sides, and it is fastened on top. There is one point in fastening in the foundation that I consider quite important, that is to hang the foundation the strong way. In looking over the foundation you will notice one way it looks smooth on the surface. If you hold it and look over it the other way you see it is corrugated. If you hang it with those corrugations level the weight of the bees on the heated soft foundation has a tendency to straighten out the sheet and stretches the foundation so that if it nearly touches at the bottom it will stretch so that it buckles at the bottom and you have your sections spoiled. If you turn it the other way, so that those corrugations run up and down, there is very little chance for stretching. If my foundation is cut the right size so that it just nicely fits the

section I find no need for the bottom starter. In some cases the foundation isn't cut just right, and I use the bottom starters and find they give very good satisfaction.

The President—I think Mr. Sibbald puts his foundation in with hot wax and not with a hot plate.

Mr. Holtermann—I don't use a hot plate for a one-piece section.

The President—I understand that Mr Sibbald not only fastens it on top, but all around.

Mr. Dickenson—That prevents the pop holes.

Mr. Pettit—There is one point I would like to emphasize before we leave this subject, and that is to get nice straight sections we must have the foundation to hang straight in the centre, and we must have separators as well to have the sections nicely filled.

The President—We will ask whether we should use plain section and fence separator or slotted section and plain separator. Which is the better plan?

Mr. Pettit—Mr. Chairman, the best separator I have used and produced my nicest comb honey was a separator made by my father, which was bored full of holes. I think these holes were 3-16th or $\frac{1}{4}$ inch. It made a very expensive separator. It was a little thicker than the separators you buy. The blocks were bored before the separators were split. They were sawed separators. The plain separators are very good, but I think we get better results by having separators that the bees can pass through freely. Slatted separators are the next thing to that, but it is almost impossible to avoid the washboard appearance of the comb honey produced. The space between the slats must not be more than $\frac{1}{4}$ -inch.

Mr. Holtermann—I have nearly 100 comb honey supers, and they have a separator which, in my estimation, cannot be beat, and they have been in

use by certain parties for 20 years at least. I refer to the separator made of wire cloth. It was invented and patented by N. N. Betzinger in New York State, and the first time I saw it was 20 years ago at Rochester. I had it again drawn to my attention some two years ago, when I went to the New York State Bee-keepers' convention, and, knowing what the men were doing over there that are using that separator, I had nearly 100 supers with these made. The wire cloth is suspended and the bees can go through anywhere. Where I have a fence separator it is always rigid. These I have are good for 50 years as far as I know; I don't think they have an equal.

Mr. Smith—I might say we use a perforated separator, only it is cleated similar to the fence. We like that very well, but we don't think that is the finality in separators. I think it is in a state of evolution just now, and we will have something better after a time.

The President—We will suppose our first super is getting nicely worked out, the honey flow is starting, or not long on, and we think it is about time to put on a second super. Where shall we put it, under or over the first super? I believe Mr. Herschler advocates putting it on top. Are there any gentlemen who have practised that method of putting the next super on top of the first one?

Mr. Pettit—Towards the end of the flow.

The President—I think it is the general practice to put the second super underneath the first one. A great many bee-keepers who produce comb honey would like very much to control swarming, to keep them back from swarming. After our couple of supers begin to get nicely filled very often the swarm will come out. Is there any method by which we can keep them back? Do you know of any, Mr. Miller?

(Continued next month)

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.

BRANTFORD, JANUARY, 1905.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

We are pleased to learn that friend W. Z. Hutchinson, Editor of The Bee-keepers' Review, has practically recovered from his illness, which prevented him being at the Ontario convention.

* * *

We are indebted to The "Canadian Horticulturist" for the use of the engraving showing a beautiful scene in the Floral Rink at the Fruit, Flower and Honey Show. In next issue we hope to give a picture of a portion of the fruit exhibits and the honey exhibits.

* * *

This issue commences a new volume. Hitherto the volume of The Canadian Bee Journal commenced with the August number, dating from the time we purchased the magazine from its former publishers, the D. A. Jones Company. In future, the annual volume will commence with January and end with December.

* * *

Lest our friend Deadman's article in this issue should be construed as an advertisement for the automatic reversible extractor, we might explain that it was quite unsolicited. When acknowledging and thanking him for the contribution, we hinted at the possibility of it being misunderstood. Friend D. replied: "It may be, as you say, that my article may be looked

upon as an advertisement for the four-frame reversible extractor, but, be this as it may, should any of your readers be induced to buy one from the reading, they will be so delighted they will admit that this one article was worth more to them than the year's subscription to The C. B. J. The beauty of it is that it saves time when time is particularly valuable."

* * *

The article on Jamaica, by friend Arthur Laing (late of Hamilton, Ont.), commencing in this issue, will be read with interest, especially by those whose thoughts have been turning toward that island as a "bee-keepers' paradise." Mr. Laing gives a vivid description of his trip, and in the second article now on hand the realities of life at the tropics. Our first impressions were that friend Laing used a heavy coloring in his word painting, but we are now convinced that he is telling of matters just as he finds them.

* * *

We are pleased to publish a communication from Mr. R. H. Smith, who writes from Malvern, in the highlands of Jamaica, evidently an altogether different climate from Morant Bay, where Mr. Laing has settled, whatever may be its advantages or disadvantages for bee-keeping. The principal honey plant is the log-wood bloom, a specimen of which Mr. Smith has favored us with. It is said to give extraordinary yields of honey, surpassing our basswood at its best. The tree comes into bloom in October and November and later, according to the district. The honey in color, body and flavor, ranks among the finest in the world.

* * *

Farming World has the following to say about the Ontario Bee-keepers' convention at Toronto:

"We do not want to appear over-critical, but it has been our privilege to attend numerous conventions of

farmers and other organizations, and never have we been at one where more time was wasted in useless and trivial discussion than at the Bee-keepers' meeting a week ago. In the discussion, while there was much that was useful and practical brought out, too much time was wasted by parties who had some pet theory to ventilate or who wished to force their opinions upon the convention. All discussions should be cut off promptly on time, unless useful and practical information is being brought out."

This is "as others see us." The O. B. K. A. meetings have an unfortunate tendency to drift into prolonged and unprofitable discussion of subjects that have been worn threadbare by being brought up again and again. To our minds, the annual meeting should be used largely for the consideration and arranging of such matters as affect the general body of bee-keepers, rather than taking up so much time with management, which, after all, has to be adapted to local conditions. Local association meetings might be made interesting and helpful by the discussion of these topics.

The American Bee Journal takes The Canadian Bee Journal to task for using the term "candied honey" for the mixture of honey and sugar used for feeding purposes. The reference, we presume, is to the report of experiments made at Experimental Farm, Ottawa, November issue, page 28. It would be better, and safer perhaps, to call things by their proper name, in case the name should be taken or used away from its connection, which in this instance very carefully explains what the candy is made of. Over here we are accustomed to speak of honey in its congealed condition as "granulated honey." The writer, no doubt, used the term much in the same way we speak of "honey candy," "honey biscuits," etc.

It is a relief to find that the "old reliable" gets "mixed" a little sometimes, too. We were rather amused at a statement which appeared in its pages recently, that when second swarming is contemplated by a colony, "only one" young queen is allowed to emerge and go with the swarm, "the others being guarded in their cells by the workers," to follow in rotation with subsequent swarms. The theory is very interesting and beautiful, very much like the "sting trowel" theory of a few years ago. Our Canadian bees certainly do not exercise so much care and forethought. A number of young queens are often found in second and after swarms which would be an evidence that the cells are very poorly guarded, if at all.

THE WORK OF ONE MAN.

William Armstrong of the Riverside fruit farm at Queenston, who was one of those in attendance at the Fruit, Flower and Honey Show, shipped by express during the present year, from 30 acres of land, 110 tons of strawberries, peaches and tomatoes.

NEW AND ATTRACTIVE CLUBS FOR THE NEW YEAR

Canadian Bee Journal \$1 00	}	\$1.15
Western Home Monthly 50c Winnipeg		
Canadian Bee Journal \$1.00	}	\$1.25
Farming World (Toronto) 60c		
Canadian Bee Journal \$1.00	}	\$1 50
Canadian Horticulturalist \$1.00		
Canadian Bee Journal \$1.00	}	\$1.50
Weekly Sun (Toronto) \$1.00		
Canadian Bee Journal \$1.00	}	\$1 15
American Poultry Journal 50c Chicago		
Canadian Bee Journal \$1.00	}	\$1.15
Reliable Poultry Journal 50c Quincey, Ill.		
Canadian Bee Journal \$1.00	}	\$1.50
American Boy (Detroit) \$1.00		
Canadian Bee Journal \$1.00	}	\$1.60
Success \$1.00		
Canadian Bee Journal \$1.00	}	\$1.50
Pictorial Review \$1.00 New York		

NOTES AND COMMENTS

By a York County Bee-Keeper.

Advantages of House Apiaries.

Judging from general apicultural information, no doubt the most of us have concluded that as far as practicability is concerned, the house apiary scheme is a thing of the past. Anyone entertaining such views, however, will be liable to have the same rudely shattered by reading the December issue of the "Review." Personally, I must confess that after reading Mr. Loucks' article, as well as the one by Mr. Ludington, I have seriously thought of building at least one house apiary by way of experiment.

While Mr. Loucks does not unreservedly recommend the system for the home apiary, he thinks the plan par excellence for out apiaries.

Briefly, the advantages claimed are as follows: Security from thieves, its use as a storehouse for supplies, implements, etc, shelter to bees and operator from sun and rain, evenness of temperature maintained in the spring, avoidance of at least one half of the stings, the opportunity of doing double the amount of work in a given time, and the greater amount of work done by the bees. The disadvantage so often mentioned of house apiaries; that queens are often lost when taking their mating flight, is admitted by Mr. Ludington, who overcomes this difficulty by rearing queen from selected stock at the home apiary and having them on hand to make up any possible losses at his other yards.

Mr. Ludington's house apiaries are built rather expensively, costing, when complete, about \$500 each; this, in my estimation, is the most serious disad-

vantage of his system. Mr. Ludington, however, outlines a much cheaper plan which would likely in the main give as good results as are obtained in the more elaborate buildings.

Apropos of Mr. Fixter's experiments two years ago re effect of moisture on bees in cellar, it is interesting to note that Mr. Loucke' "essential" for a good cellar is to have a running spring of water through same. It will be remembered that Mr. Fixter placed pails full of water in the cellar, under the impression that the water would moisten the atmosphere in the cellar. The writer questioned at the time as to whether such would be the case or not, and judging from Mr. Loucks' report, the effect, if any, is hardly appreciably. His cellars are free from moisture, and to use his own words, "the water controls the temperature to a degree (41) all winter, no matter how cold or warm it may be outside." This is certainly a model condition for cellar wintering of bees, and judging from the tenor of Mr. Loucks' remarks all through his lengthy article, am inclined to think that he is no novice, but has had practical experience to substantiate all he says.

Jottings From the Late Ontario Convention.

One of the most puzzling questions confronting the great majority of the bee-keepers at the present time, is the great differences of opinion existing between scientists and practical apiarists regarding the origin and cure of foul brood. After listening to the talks of Prof. Harrison, Mr. McEvoy, Mr. Sibbald and others, no wonder if the novice should be undecided as to what he should do in case he has found foul brood in his apiary. One thing at least seems clear to me, i.e., if the disease is transmitted in the various ways stated by Prof. Harrison surely it would be impossible for us to cope with it, when so many things are away

beyond our control. On the other hand, a great host of the best apiarists on the continent from actual experience can say "we know," when it comes to a question of the efficacy of the McEvoy system of curing the disease. Whilst not wishing to belittle the good work being done by our scientists in many directions, yet in the matter of foul brood treatment, think we can be safe in following a course that we know will be effective, at the same time looking forward with hope of a better system as a possible development of the future. Judging from Mr. Hoshal's remarks regarding different stages of the disease one would be inclined to think that he believed in "spontaneous generation." Personally I feel inclined to agree with Dr. Miller who in answer to query in A. B. J., stated that foul brood could no more be present without seed or spores, viz., bacillus alvei, than could a crop of corn be produced without first planting seed corn.

Mr. Hoshal's talk and demonstration on his system of management with the Heddon hive was certainly instructive, and in many ways an eye-opener to us fellows who persist in using the old-fashioned deep frames. Admitting many advantages, Mr. Hoshal claims in defence of this hive, from many standpoints to the user of movable frames, disadvantages are quite apparent. Space will not permit for to go into these matters at the present, but will briefly mention one drawback, viz., possibility of foul brood in an apiary. Mr. Hoshal, if I remember correctly, stated that in looking for foul brood, he would only "examine one comb," but methinks if he found a few colonies diseased that he would wish to make a more thorough examination and look carefully over every comb.

While friend McEvoy endorses the Heddon hive on general principles, yet I have noticed when on inspection trips

with him that he condemned them in no uncertain tones, when it became necessary to examine these hives for foul brood.

Mr. Fixter's experiment as to relative strength of sugar compared with honey, seemed to tally with opinions of such veterans as Hall, and others, viz., one pound of sugar (not syrup) equals one pound of honey. Not much gained in feeding sugar for winter food and selling the honey, unless circumstances make such a course necessary.

As was predicted, amendments to by-laws were defeated. Whether this was for the best or not, is not just now a question for discussion. No doubt many, like myself, went to Toronto prepared to swallow some of their convictions, if by so doing it would be possible to "keep peace in the family." While a little excitement is all right now and then, yet the most of us object to so much of the "strenuous life" in convention, as was in evidence at Trenton a year ago.

York County, Ont.

VETERINARY VALUE OF HONEY.

The following incident proves the value of honey in the treatment of domestic animals. The writer had a valuable milch cow, which, immediately after calving, became difficult to milk, and the veterinary surgeon performed a slight operation. She, however, became worse; hard swellings formed in the udder, and the milk fell off from five gallons daily to less than one. Everything was tried, but without success. As a last resource the honey-cure was attempted, the udder being well and carefully rubbed with honey three times a day. There was soon a marked improvement; the swellings became softer, and after about ten days disappeared entirely, and the yield of milk returned to about four gallons daily. The case speaks for itself.—Deutsche Illustrierte Bienenzeitung.

JAMAICA

BY ARTHUR LAING

The Trip.

"Before I start to speak I would like to say a few words," as an Irishman remarked on one occasion. I have often, in reading an article in our own bee journals, on glancing at the writer's name, said, "Well, who are you?" In other words, not knowing the man, I did not know whether what he said could be relied upon. Now, I am aware that quite a number of our Canadian bee-keepers are interested in Jamaica, and consequently will be more or less interested in this article, and very likely, as they glance at the name of the writer, will be saying as I did, "Well, who are you?" for in my judgment, it is doubtful if more than one or two in a hundred of our Canadian bee-keepers know me. Will just say, by way of introduction and apology, that I have been handling bees for about 18 years, and most of the time in the neighborhood of 100 colonies; and as to whether I am a reliable judge of a country or not, I may add that if any one were to travel the same distance I have traveled, and make the journey in a straight line, it would take him over three times around the earth, so consider I have experience enough in this way to be able to say whether Jamaica is a "Summer Isle of Eden" or a "Paradise of Flees."

Now, I believe in "doing unto others as I would be done by," so would just intimate at the beginning that from what I have seen so far, would advise all who are interested in Jamaica to wait until they see the end of my article, or articles (as the case may be) on Jamaica before they pay \$150 to \$300 or \$400 (depending on whether it would be one or two persons) to visit

this island. Desiring to give the bright as well as the dark side of the picture, I shall commence with the trip and tell all the nice and interesting things to be seen and experienced in a trip to Jamaica. The nice things we saw on land, and the interesting things were experienced at sea.

I left Hamilton Tuesday afternoon, October 3rd, via G. T. R., for Buffalo. We crossed the Niagara gorge just before dark, and I would say to any one who never saw Niagara Falls, start a day earlier and remain over a day and have a real good look at one of the greatest of nature's wonderful scenes; and if you are one of those persons who are disposed to doubt the existence of a Creator, just ask yourself the question as you gaze at that beautiful, majestic and awe-inspiring scene, "Whose hand has controlled these waters during the long ages in which they have been slowly but surely wearing away the bank of the precipice, until it has reached its present proportions, leaving behind those stupendous walls of rock which mark the narrow confines of the angry waves below, and whose hand has again taken those waters captive at His will through the natural law of evaporation, and then by wind and storm scattered them broadcast over mountain, lake and field, thus furnishing moisture for the thirsty land and a never-falling supply for man and beast?" I remained overnight at Buffalo, at the Mansion House, so as to make the trip in daylight to Philadelphia. I took the Lehigh Valley line, as the scenery is very fine along the route. The road passes for 40 miles along the eastern side of Lake Seneca, a very narrow lake, with very steep hills on each side, the train being, I should think, from 200 to 300 feet above the water, and the slope so steep in some places that one would think if the cars jumped the track they would roll down into the lake. The

lake is charming, and the beautiful panorama of forests, farms and homes on the opposite shore combine to make one of the most entertaining scenes it has ever been my privilege to feast my eyes upon. Just before coming to the summit of the Blue mountains one gets a beautiful view of the Wyoming valley and the city of Wilkesbarre, which we have left 10 or 12 miles behind. After leaving the summit the railway passes down the winding valley of the Lehigh river, with tall mountains on either side, forming what is termed "the Switzerland of America," and, from the little I know of Switzerland, I should say that this tract of country is well-named. At about 7.30 p.m. we reached Philadelphia, after a run of in the neighborhood of 500 miles.

Thursday, October 6th, finds us on the deck of the Admiral Dewey, with quite a number of other passengers and their friends who have come to see them off. It is now approaching 10 o'clock, the hour of sailing, and the friends are ordered ashore. The last good-byes are said and the Union Jack is flying from the masthead, showing that we are bound for a British port, the whistle blows and almost instantly we find the boat is slowly backing into midstream; the friends ashore wave their fond adieus, the Dewey turns her prow to the south, and we are off. It is nearly 100 miles from Philadelphia to the mouth of the Delaware river, or the breakwater, where the pilot will leave us. The day has been fine, all has gone smoothly and we are now approaching the breakwater; those who have letters to post for home now hand them to the pilot, who is about to leave. An hour before this a young lady remarked that as no one had been sea-sick so far she "thought they would be all right," and, mind you, we had been sailing down the river all this time. I thought to myself, 'You poor, innocent creature, you will think

different before long, or I am mistaken!' There was a good stiff breeze blowing at the time, indicating that there was fun ahead for the passengers. Another young lady said she wanted to enjoy the joke of being seasick, and I asked her if she would give us all a cordial invitation to come around and see how she enjoyed it.

Well, she had her joke, but I guess the other passengers had too much important business to look after at the same time to pay any attention to her, at least I had. It is now nearing sunset and we are out on the rolling deep. The first young lady referred to has just been led past me to her room, with such a look of agony on her face! Well, really, one might think, from the appearance of mortal agony, that she expected to be executed in 15 minutes. While we were eating our lunch I suggested that we all have a good square meal, as it might be some time before we all gathered around that table again, and, sure enough, at dinner that evening there was only about half of the passengers present, and one of those left the table in about five minutes after sitting down, and for two whole days afterwards there was from one to two or three passengers only at the table for meals. At the end of the two days referred to pale, woe-begone specimens of men and women began to come forth from their berths, one by one, grasping at anything near them for support. There were a number of what I termed "lunch boxes" provided for the convenience of sea-sick passengers, though in reality they were breakfast, lunch and dinner boxes combined. These were attached to the side of the berth or the arm of the steamer chair. One old lady, who found her box extremely useful, kept remarking to her daughter "what a handy invention" it was, then she would give a gag or two and again remark "what a useful invention." I assure you I

had a good laugh at the grim humor of the old lady. Did you ask if I were sick? Yes, sir! I used that lunch box and a larger vessel also.

Monday morning, October 10th, when I came on deck, found we were rounding the eastern coast of Cuba, which was very clear and distinct to the naked eye. At about noon the watch on the bridge came down and, walking up to the Captain, reported the blue mountains of Jamaica in sight on the southern horizon, and, sure enough, with the glass we could make them out quite distinctly, and realized that we were rapidly nearing that island of which I had been reading and thinking so much about for two or three years. We are now within four or five miles of the harbor, and every moment things are becoming more clear and distinct, and as we reach within about a mile of the harbor a tiny row-boat shoots out at racing speed toward us, and we are told it is a pilot coming out to guide us safely in. In a few moments he is alongside of us, and, calling out at the top of his voice "Fast capstan!" he hurries on board and makes a dash for the wheel.

We are now entering the little land-locked harbor of Port Antonio, and as I gazed in rapture for the first time on the beautiful and stately palms and rich coloring of rocks, hills and mountains, the thought flashed through my mind, "Can heaven itself be much more beautiful than this scene?" as we beheld it from the deck of the incoming steamer.

Reader, you have here my experiences of the trip and the impressions made on my mind by my first glimpse of this island, and I cannot do better perhaps than to close the account in the words of a New Englander, who said:

"To Jamaica God has given

Just a little touch of heaven

To its earth and sea and sky."

—and I will sorrowfully add the words of another poet, who says:

"Where every prospect pleases,
And only man is vile."

Morant Bay, Jamaica,

December 5, 1904.

The Value of Time in the Apiary

By G. A. Deadman

Of course, it will be only from a bee-keeper's standpoint that this subject will be discussed. We all know that a bee-keeper's time is a greater value at certain seasons of the year than at others, and that consequently it is all important that he make the best of it when of most value. There may be times when ten cents an hour will be satisfactory compensation, whereas at others, one dollar an hour would be none too much. This being the case, he could afford to work ten hours in the slack time if by so doing he could save one in the busy season. The application is this—when making your hives and fixtures, do not hesitate to spend ten hours on a hive when your time is of little value, if by so doing you can save one when you come to use it in the busy season. It may be well to have this in mind when there is so much talk about cheapness, not that a cheaply gotten up hive may not be handled as quickly as a better one, yet it would be a very easy matter to sacrifice one at the expense of the other.

It goes without saying that we should not tolerate a hive whose frames are ill-fitting or that because of poor workmanship requires more time to handle; for example, one style of a frame may cost more than another, but it may more than pay for extra cost in the rapidity with which it may be

handled, or one cover at extra cost may combine in itself all that is necessary for both warmth and shade, but if it takes less time to handle it than another that may have a shade board separate with a stone to keep it down, though the former may cost twice as much, it may be the cheaper of the two.

The live bee-keeper has many things on which to exercise his thinking powers; one is, how to manage bees successfully, and how to save time in so doing. We know of course that unless we manage them successfully the saving in time will not amount to much, but we also know that much of the success may be due to the saving of time. It is not difficult to understand that when we estimate success by the returns over the expense, that any frame or style of hive that will enable us to manage more bees in the same time (other things being equal) must of necessity increase the profits that much. Many examples when time could be saved might be given, but in this article I will confine myself to only one which deserves special mention, viz:

The Honey Extractor.

I suppose the majority of the extractors in use to-day are of the ordinary non-reversible two-frame variety. The two-frame reversible is an improvement on that, but better still is the four-frame reversible; some of the "big guns" use a larger one to advantage, but a four-frame will do for the most of us. There is no doubt whatever, that many to-day who are using a two-frame, would be money in pocket were they to use it for a store can or for extracting inferior grades, and have a four-frame reversible for general work. A few years ago I purchased two of the Gould reversible four-frame extractors, and since then two more, and to say that I was a fool not to have had one be-

fore is putting it mildly. How long it takes most of us to find out many of the good things that are to be had which may be more expensive in the start, but are a great saving in the finish. Let us see you extract four frames instead of two, and in place of lifting each frame out by hand to reverse them it is all done in a moment by a backward movement of the crank. Occasionally we hear of great records by the use of the ordinary two-frame machine, but even so, would not a four-frame one under the same conditions have done far more? It is not can we afford to have one, but can we afford to do without it. Estimating the bee-keeper's time during the busy season to be worth one dollar an hour, and some times with some of us it is worth much more, we can easily see that it would not take long to pay for the extra cost of the larger extractor. A party who saw mine said that it would soon pay for the interest on the extra investment, which was all we should ask. The tap or gate, is particularly admirable. Who of us has not more than once when drawing off honey had a run over? with the average tap in the ordinary extractor the honey runs so provokingly slow that one feels he cannot possibly afford to stand idle and watch it, and so is tempted to uncap "just one frame," while filling a pail, and too often, alas, forgets all about the honey. With the tap on this Gould four-frame, it runs so fast that there is no excuse for doing anything else while drawing off, so that a spill is simply inexcusable; this alone is worth considerable. Of course, I do not know how many colonies one should have before paying the extra for a four-frame, but one thing is sure, it will certainly pay if you if you are crowded for time, or it will pay you to have one if you can manage more bees as a consequence, or if you can lengthen your days by do-

ing less work. Before closing I would say that a child of ten years can turn and reverse this extractor, and that should you have occasion to do both the uncapping and extracting, then, by giving the crank a few turns, before it stops of its own accord, you may uncap one frame; reverse and turn, uncap another, reverse again if you like, and which is better if combs are heavy with honey, and uncap another. In this way you not only can uncap and extract, but there is no loss of time in stopping the machine. I have said nothing about the extra size of the four-frame. The one I have at the home yard holds over 300 pounds under baskets. Is not this worth something?

Brussels, Ont., December, 1904.

Communications

Malvern, Jamaica, B.W.I.,

December 12, 1904.

W. J. Craig,

Brantford, Canada:

Friend Craig,—You will see by the above address that I have landed in Jamaica. I met Mr. Alpaugh in New York. We sailed for this island on November 26, during a snowstorm. The first three days were cold and raw, with just enough motion to make one seasick, but not very bad (I think I only missed two meals). Mr. Alpaugh was not sick, but he, too, thought it advisable to abstain. The third day out our overcoats were discarded, and it was evident that conditions were changed from the way people appeared on deck. Porpoise and flying fish were often seen, and by the time we reached Fortune Island it was evident, from the appearance of the vegetation, that we were nearing the tropics. The next morning at sunrise we entered the harbor of Port Royal, to reach the capital city of Kingston, which is almost at

the foot of the famous Blue Mountains.

After calling on my friend, Mr. Hooper, we took a stroll through the markets, it being market day. They were crowded with people from the surrounding country, offering native produce, and all so strange to us. Taking the electric cars, we went some miles through the outskirts of the city, where there are some fine residences. We came to Hope Gardens, and called on Mr. West, who has charge of the apiary there. Unfortunately, Mr. West had met with an accident some time before, and was unable to get about without crutches. Leaving Mr. Alpaugh in Kingston, I took the train to Balaclava, about 75 miles, then by buggy to Malvern, 25 miles. That day, I think, I went up and down more hills than for many years; some of them seemed to be ten miles long. Malvern is situated near the summit of the Santa Cruz Mountains, 2,344 feet above the sea, and is famous as a health resort. On one side you have a view of the Manchester Mountains, 25 miles away, with the Santa Cruz valley between, and on the other side a stretch of plain about nine miles, and the Caribbean Sea as far as the eye can reach.

The weather since I have been here has been fine, something like the best weather we get in Ontario in the months of June and July, temperature in the shade at noon 74 degrees. The principal crop here is pimento, or allspice, with some coffee, oranges, bananas, coconuts, yams, etc. In the lower districts sugar-cane, pineapples, ginger, nutmegs, cocoa, etc. The roads are very good, but hilly. The first automobile ever seen in this part passed through Malvern to-day, and seemed to climb the hills without difficulty.

The conditions here are so different to what the people in Canada know anything about, it would take pages to describe them. While you will have a

heater or furnace going and are thinking about the coal bills and winter clothing, the Jamaica people know nothing of such things, frost and snow being unknown. It is very rare to see a house with a chimney.

There are not many bees kept in this locality, and although it is always summer, bee-keepers seem to have their difficulties, only in a different way from the bee-keepers of the North. Moths, ants and seasons when no honey is coming in seem to give the most trouble. Transport, too, is more expensive, owing to the nature of the country. Enclosed find spray of the famous log-wood bloom, just opening.

I missed the batch of questions for The Journal this month, but if you send them along I will attend to them.

With best wishes to all friends, I remain,

Yours sincerely,

R. H. SMITH.

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The Central Canada Exhibition.

Editor Canadian Bee Journal.

Dear Sir,—It was with pleasure I read the glowing report of the honey exhibit at the Central Canada exhibition, by "A.P.I.S."—he should have added D.O.R.S.A.T.A., if I mistake not his identity. He was for some years also master of the situation there, hence, perhaps the insinuations of exhibiting honey other than the product of the exhibitor's own apiary. Another sin of which he accuses the honey exhibitors is that of wrongly naming the honey, thereby giving a whack at the judge. Well, sir, he might have gone further, as it is very easy finding fault. I am sure that all those who set up exhibits there are pleased to have friend "A. P. I. S." give them a write-up, only I fear he has forgotten or overlooked the fact that there were at least four exhibitors, viz.: W. J. Brown, D. McLaughlin, R. McLaughlin and A. A. Ferrier. Would suggest that

he take a look over the entries in the secretary's office next time. Things have changed considerably from what they were in the good old days when "A.P.I.S." and another had all their own way. I may add here that while we all need money to carry on our affairs, it is not the greed of filthy lucre that prompts the exhibitors in the honey department at the C. C. Fair to be there, but for the pleasure of meeting old friends and forming new acquaintances, and to assist those public-spirited gentlemen, the management of that great Fair, who spare no pains to provide for the accommodation of everybody. Too bad the Ontario Bee-keepers' association refused to grant that petty sum of \$10 to the Ottawa Fair. And now sir, as to the present honey exhibitors, A.P.I.S. is perfectly right, the best of friendship has always existed among them, always endeavoring to be social with each other, and helping each other in every way possible, at the same time aiming in friendly rivalry for the first place, taking defeat with just as good grace as victory, leaving the decision to the judge, as it is the unwritten law that he knows his own business, and would not thank any exhibitor or outsider for pointing out to him what he should detect and rule out.

Hoping I have not infringed too much on your valuable space, I remain

Yours truly,

W. J. BROWN.

Pendleton, Ont., Dec. 24, 1904.

Cakes of sugar which can be laid on the frames are much to be recommended for winter feeding. Placed under the coverings, it will absorb some of the winter moisture of the hive. The bees eat the sugar more eagerly than the honey, which they require for the nourishment of the young brood. The bee-keeper can easily feel with his hand if the cake is still there, or if another is wanted.—Praktischer Wegweiser.

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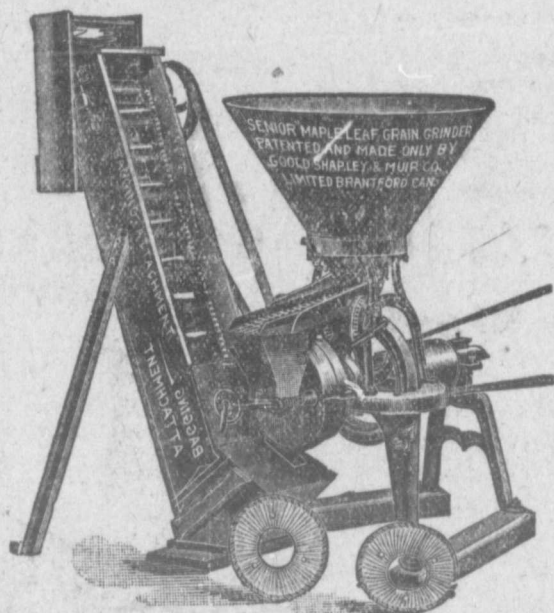
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