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CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL

PUBLISHED MONTHLY.

NEW SERIES
VOL. II, No. 3.

BRANTFORD, ONT., SEPT., 1894.

WHOLE No.
355.

To our subscribers we would say, we shall be pleased to take new subscriptions from now until the end of 1895 for \$1.00. Many a bee-keeper can be induced by our friends to take THE CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL upon such terms, and you are best able to reach these. Until the September issue is exhausted we will send that number in addition to the balance of the present year and \$5 for one dollar. Anyone sending us a club of two new subscribers on above terms will receive for their trouble a Besto Fire Hat.

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We have seen different suggestions in connection with propoles or bee glue on the hands. Vaseline is not always handy. The editor does almost all the manipulations in the apiary. To remove the propoles we pour a little coal oil in the palm of the hand, and rub it well over the parts soiled. The oil readily removes this substance; it is always handy in every house, and is cheap. Wash well after applying the oil, rubbing with soap and cold, or better warm water, and your hands are clean.

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The color of beeswax appears to have a good deal of mystery connected with it. It is quite evident that beeswax similarly rendered will vary in color in different localities. More than that it appears to sometimes vary in color in the same locality

from season to season. We of course mean irrespective of its having been taken from the combs long in the brood chamber or recently placed therein. Our attention has been drawn to the fact that in some localities at least, the wax from cappings is darker than last year. We expected nice cakes of wax almost white, but were disappointed when our solar wax extractor yielded cakes with a decided yellow tinge. Not much was thought of this until Mr. Pettit and others stated the same held good in their case this season. All through the season we thought our bees were gathering an unusual amount of pollen. We think Doctor Miller suggested that the amount of pollen consumed may make this variation in color of wax. If of no great practical value, a study of the subject would be of interest.

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Mr. J. F. Munday has informed us that he cut the stings of two queens, an old one and a young one. They lived in the same hive afterwards some four weeks, when the old one disappeared, probably, he thought, from old age. Would this cutting the stings be the solution of a problem? Will others experiment in these lines?—The Australian Bee Bulletin.

Probably the old queen died of long pent up envy, hatred and malice. We hope Mr. Munday will test the above with two young queens. Some wag is suggesting that the queens be tethered to the comb and the stakes moved every twenty-four hours.

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The bee escape is no new thing. Its mer

its and demerits have been discussed and set forth from time to time and there is no doubt the *escapes* have warm friends not only with the bee-keeper having a few colonies, but amongst our extensive bee-keepers. We always liked the Improved Dibern and also the Porter.

There is no doubt that the escape adds much to our comfort, but we doubt very much if it is a labor saver. Comb honey can be removed very rapidly without the bee escapes. Our method has been given before but we will repeat it. Some years ago we read in the British Bee Journal that a cloth dipped and wrung out in a weak solution of carbolic acid laid over the section crate would drive out the bees. For several years we have removed all our comb honey in that way. The bees appear to leave the section instantly and only cling to the bottom bars of the section holders or the bottom woods of the section. From these the bees can be brushed, and the honey can be removed almost as quickly as the escapes can be put in place. We could not be induced to make during the honey flow a practice of putting on bee escapes during the day. Such must tend to demoralize a colony and suspend the gathering of honey for the day. We perhaps do not sufficiently consider that every change in the hive and every disturbance temporarily checks the gathering of the honey. This is especially true during a season such as the past.

Brother Lane of the *Canadian Poultry Journal* appears to have had some difficulties through transactions of previous publishers and proprietors. In a recent editorial notice he says:

"We occasionally get letters giving us hail Columbia for acts performed by the former publishers of this paper before its publication was assumed by the present proprietor. In this connection we wish it to be distinctly understood that we have had no association with the Beeton firm other than that of buying the good will and subscription list, and to blame us for any other person's acts is not justice. We have been sending the JOURNAL regularly to all those names

furnished us and represented as bona fide subscribers, and which we paid for at a certain rate per name, and of course look for payment from those who have not already paid."

We have been suffering to a certain extent in the same way. Once in a while \$5 or \$6 or even \$8 reaches us instead of the former publishers from some subscriber who has remained in arrears for years and could not stop the JOURNAL until these arrearages were paid, but quite as often letters come in blaming us as Brother Lane has evidently been blamed. We have allowed every claim which appeared to have a shadow of justice, we have freed some from their obligations who have been unfortunate, for in no case can our dealings be shown to be aught but just, and we are thankful that that unpleasant work is a thing of the past. No one who has paid up the amount due for arrears and has notified us to discontinue the JOURNAL has had THE CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL forced upon them. We do not believe in such methods of keeping up a subscription list. We have under the new management put THE CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL on a healthy basis. It is the editor's intention to be at Toronto, Kingston and Ottawa exhibitions, and we shall be pleased to receive renewals and new subscriptions. Our friends can do much to assist us in this matter.

Grimshaw's 'Apifuge' still keeps to the front in England. Its use is to prevent stings and bites from insects and is specially recommended for bee-keepers. We at one time imported this "apifuge" but it did not appear to find favor with Canadian bee-keepers. We did not find it infallible; careful manipulation, a good strain of bees, straight combs, and properly made hives will do much to prevent stings from bees.

In the production of comb honey our system as far as the bees are concerned is as follows: Every hive is numbered and every colony marked as it swarms. We have sixty supers for

comb honey and each one is marked before taking from the hive in accordance with the hive upon which the honey was produced. When preparing the honey for market a note is made of the best and worst crates and the number in connection with these crates. Some of the notes read as follows: No. 70, brace combs; No. 104, capped very close; No. 18, many brace combs; No. 32, many brace combs; No. 16, many brace combs; No. 109, much propolis; No. 34, very choice; No. 17, good; No. 48, choice; No. 34, very choice. From the above it will be seen that we are likely to breed from No. 34 next season and that No. 48 is very good. The above are not all the notes taken but they are a fair proportion of good and poor colonies. The reason why a larger proportion of poor comb is noted is obvious. We wish only to breed from the best and therefore wish to note the best and we do not wish to run for comb honey. The poor comb honey producers, in fact several of those noted above, have already had their queens replaced. The advantage of such a system is obvious. In our own case the evidence so far goes to show that an Italian bee with a little Carniolan blood is the best comb honey producer. With a good deal of the non-swarmer Italian blood the the swarming propensities appear to be largely exterminated and the freedom from propolis and other desirable traits remain.

* * *

Mr. T. McGillicuddy, the gentleman forming one of the group as shown in the engraving of Mr. G. A.

Mr. McGillicuddy - Deadman's apiary is engaged in the Department of Agriculture, Toronto.

Mr. McGillicuddy, though not in the "bee business" himself, is always interested in hearing of the welfare of the pursuit. It is he who summarises the various reports of the condition of bees in Ontario, which is forwarded from the Bureau of Industries, Toronto. Anyone desirous of receiving these reports which contain other valuable information can do so by becoming one of their correspondents. Blanks for this pur-

pose are supplied by the Department.

* * *

From the *American Bee Journal* we clip the following editorial:—"Buffalo, N. Y., is being urged by the *American*

Next *Bee-Keeper* as the proper Convention. place for holding the North American bee-convention

in 1895. We have no choice whatever in the matter, but presumed that Toronto, Ont., would have first claim, as we believe it stood second when St. Joseph, Mo., was selected last year. But we haven't the least objection to Buffalo for next year. Besides, Vice-President Hershiser lives near there, and doubtless would be glad to make the necessary arrangements for the meeting. He'd do it well, too." Toronto nearly captured the North American convention last year, and after St. Joseph fairly won the fight, leading bee-keepers and especially our Southern friends pledged themselves to Toronto next year. Should we now lose, Canadians will feel keenly disappointed. It is not long since New York state had the convention, followed by Washington. Canada and the United States will not fall out over this convention, but Canada is surely entitled to a larger proportion of meetings.

* * *

The Toronto Industrial deserves well at the hands of all Canadians and especially bee-keepers. The

Toronto Industrial prizes offered are large. This year

the exhibit will be in the horticultural building, but we have every hopes that another year the efficient manager. Mr. H. J. Hill, will grant bee-keepers a distinct and separate building, a building on the plan of a large straw hive would attract great attention. So far as heard the following will exhibit: Geo. Laing, Milton; R. H. Smith, St. Thomas; G. A. Deadman, Brussels; (L't'd) Brantford; G. A. Deadman, Brussels; J. W. Sparling, Bowmanville; Chas. Brown, Drumquin. There is no reason why better prizes should not be given in other places. We should be only too pleased to mention other Exhibitions deserving of recognition.

THE SEASON.

—J. W. WHALEY.

There are a few things I would like to know, so I will ask you if you can furnish information in regard to some of them.

Years ago I was told by veteran beekeepers that if bees gathered any appreciable amount of honey from sugar maple bloom that there would be a poor clover honey crop. I have always found this to be true. This year maple yielded well and, for the first time in my experience of nearly twenty years, have stored no honey from alsike clover. With two large fields within three-quarters of a mile, and hives overflowing with bees, they did not average one ounce per day. Now, what I want to know is this: Is this a coincidence, which just happened so, or is there any reason why a good flow from maple is always followed by a poor crop from clover? I have noticed this for years, but have only seen two extreme cases—in 1888 and this year.

Dr. Miller said some time ago that one of the most disheartening things about beekeeping is that when you have a theory all worked out fine, and rules all straight to go ahead by, that next season the bees would upset the whole thing by doing things just the other way. Now if the doctor tells the truth, the non-swarmering plan I have stumbled on this year, won't amount to much, otherwise the problem of non-swarmering would be solved. I commenced the season with 36 stocks from good to extra, as all had plenty of stores exclusive of maple and dandelion. I expected some heavy swarms. One of your self-hivers was placed on one of the heaviest hives when they immediately accepted the situation, and, abandoning all idea of swarming used the under hive for a loafing room, and apparently with the idea that they were "set up" in the world, declined to do anything until basswood bloomed and then as they were not doing as well as weaker stocks they were set down on their old stand when they went to work in the usual way. Did this loafing room cool off the swarming fever, or was it owing to the weather? If we judge by the performance of the rest of the yard we might give the season the credit of it as there were but two swarms in the entire season from thirty-six good strong stocks. But then, other people's bees

swarmed nearly as much as usual so that perhaps the bees, seeing the new-fangled invention, laid off this season to devise measures to outwit us in the future.

One of my neighbors, Mr. Coventry, has had a great deal of trouble this season with absconding swarms. Some of them would start off without clustering, others would cluster, but would bolt as soon as an attempt was made to hive them, and some of them would leave for parts unknown after being hived. One or two even stayed two days in their new hives before leaving. He only saved three out of about twenty. I have seen other apiaries where this same trouble existed, and as I have no experience in that line I do not understand it at all.

In every apiary where I have seen this peculiar action of the bees there were no apparent causes for it. The yards were protected, with plenty but not excessive shade and not troubled with excessive handling. Can any one explain this peculiarity of the swarming mania?

When I received the August number of the CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL, I tried to study out the reason why the July number had not come to hand. Was it because you were too busy in the apiary, or were you off on a holiday trip, or did you forget it, or did you think it was not worth while sending out? In the latter case you might at least have said so.

I hope to receive infallible answers to the above questions.

Woodstock, Ont., August 10th, 1894.

Now, friend Whealey you would like to get us into a corner. But we know of some very good, though exceptional, yields from alsike clover. Even in the vicinity of Brantford clover did fairly well. In Eastern Ontario also many had good crops. We do not know, but are inclined to think it has been a coincidence that when Maple has yielded well, the season has not been a good one. The poor season we attribute to dry weather last year, preventing clover from seeding abundantly. The long, wet spell this season checking brood-rearing entirely unlesseed during that time artificially, and extremely dry weather following when vegetation had in a measure adapted itself to extreme moisture. The self-hiver had probably nothing to do with either the bees loafing or not swarming. We have heard others who do not use a self-hiver at all, say that bees appeared very much inclined to swarm and more inclined to loaf. Our bees swarmed more than they have done for many years almost one swarm to every two colonies spring count, and thus our experiences vary and we have much to learn.

A Visit to the Apiary of C. W. Post.

For years I have been contemplating taking a trip to Murray, and visiting the apiary of C. W. Post. Time and again, when on business to Ottawa, Montreal and other Eastern points, I passed within a few miles of Murray, Trenton being the nearest point on the Grand Trunk Railway, but business has always prevented me from stopping over, so I finally decided to make a special trip. Leaving Brantford, Monday August 13th, 8 a. m. our civic holiday, whilst our Brother Odd Fellows bent their way to Niagara Falls, I passed on to Toronto reaching Trenton 5.20 p. m. Trenton has over 5000 inhabitants and is situated at the head of the Bay of Quinte, it also has the canal and the Central Ontario Railway. I should judge its chief industry is lumbering. A drive of about eight miles from the station by livery brought me to the home of Mr. Post, which could readily be distinguished by the hundreds of colonies located in his large apiary covering about two acres of ground.

Mr. Post is located on the Central Ontario Railroad and close to a station on that line and on the Isthmus between the head waters of Bay of Quinte and Lake Ontario, the distance being 1½ miles from one water to the other. He runs about four hundred colonies of bees making him I believe, the most extensive bee-keeper in Canada. He has kept bees for twenty-five years, and for the last sixteen years has devoted himself exclusively to bee-keeping for a business. He is in favor of cellar wintering, but says in double-walled hives some distance from the lake he finds bees winter perfectly, but close to the lake, he cannot winter outside. This will perhaps be a valuable hint to many who keep bees along the shores of Lake Ontario. This year he took a few colonies out of the cellar March 6th, it being very warm 60° in the shade and 35° in the cellar. March 18th a fine warm day he set out 73 colonies, April 7th, 40 colonies and April 8th 10 more, when flurries of snow stopped work, on April 3th, 40 more were set out and the balance on April 12th.

Mr. Post generally winters with a rim under the brood chamber. These are first taken off and of course the bottom boards cleaned. Entrances are closed down to two inches. In about a week or ten days the brood nest is examined. The nine frames, on which the bees have been wintered, upon which spacing buckwheat

honey has been gathered and capped for winter stores, are crowded together and a tenth frame inserted. This brings the capped honey together as mentioned in a previous article of Mr. Post's and the bees have to uncap and distribute the honey giving them a great impetus in brood rearing. He now covers them up warm and lets them alone. For covering, a very thin cushion is used with fine saw-dust, over this is placed a honey board and then a sun cap.

Last year Mr. Post experimented a good deal in building up colonies. All in all three sets of experiments were conducted, one dozen with one inch painted mineral red honey boards and sun caps off, and thin saw-dust cushion underneath the honey boards. Another dozen with painted honey boards and no saw dust, sun caps off day and night. Another dozen with one-half inch honey boards and packing consisting of old coats and such like on top, and a sheet iron sun cap painted inside and outside mineral red. In the latter way they built up best. Mr. Post says upon lifting the sun cap in the morning the packing appeared quite warm yet. It was quite evident that Mr. Post made use of the warmth of the sun and added to it by means of dark paint.

In reply to the question: Until what time do you think you cannot get the bees too warm? Mr. Post said, in my locality about June 10th. We do very little tinkering, we see that the bees have enough honey and not too much entrance. I would sooner have the bees puzzled to get in during the middle of the day, than give them too much entrance. In the few chaff hives I, have, during the season just spoken of, I allow a 2 inch entrance by one-half. I have in these hives sheets of tin lining the entrance thus making it impossible for mice to enter.

Generally the latter part of May the bees are shipped by the carload 25 and 40 miles north on the C. O. R., making two out apiaries and the bees are run for extracted honey. Mr. Post said—I want to get the bees in there apiaries ten days before the clover flow. The bees are set out with the wire screen on the bottom as placed in the car and upon their bottom boards as described in my paper, read before at the Ontario Bee-Keeper's Association meeting. For ventilation the hives can be moved back on their bottom boards three inches at any time. Supers are put on as soon as clover begins to yield well and the body of the hive is nicely filled with honey, say about five days after they begin to work on clover. I think the bees will rush to the supers better under such conditions. With the two outapiaries one of my sons Ernest, puts in his full time between the two. I visited

both apiaries once a week. If run in that way and the honey extracted when two-thirds capped there will not be 2 per-cent of swarms.

In my supers I have 8 combs in 13½ inch space not as stated formerly in a misprint 13½. These supers filled will hold 63 lbs of honey and 50 lbs is a fair average weight for them. This season is one of the poorest I have seen for sixteen years.

The bees had been working for some days on buckwheat which was scarcely at full bloom. Mr. Post brings his out apiaries home at the close of basswood for the buckwheat flow, and as before stated, I was in the largest apiary in Ontario.

Mr. Post, when buckwheat begins to yield, takes out one comb, spreads the remainder and thus has his combs ready for winter. An average colony is put on scales and all supers kept off the hives until that hive has gained 20lbs when he considers the hives are in condition for winter. The combs have then been shouldered out and the capped and bees are not likely to carry this honey above. At this season whatever increase is desired is secured. Whilst we were speaking two swarms issued. The hour was 9.30. The queens wings are clipped and being distributed over a large area, there is no difficulty about swarms uniting or queens getting into the wrong hive. The old hive is placed on a new stand and the bees and queen shortly enter the new hive. Mr. Post remarked, as the bees were returning. "Who says this is not better than climbing trees, but at the season one must be a little careful. I have seen a swarm led out by a virgin queen and the old queen remain on the combs when of course the swarm would cluster and leave unless hived."

Mr. Post's experience warrants him in expecting from buckwheat nothing less than 20 lbs per colony surplus, besides the bees securing enough for winter, and he knows from many years of experience that well ripened buckwheat honey is just as good as any other honey for winter stores. He also said there was a peculiarity about buckwheat close to the lake shore where the dews are heavy, very heavy, it yields freely and according to weather in morning, in afternoon or all day, but ten miles or more inland it does not do nearly so well.

A difference in growth can be noticed, inland the stem is red and woody, on the lake shore it remains green and very soft.

At 10.35, 10.45, 11.10 and shortly after noon more swarms issued, making six during the day of my visit. Mr. Post said—Localities vary very much and few realize the great difference there is and guide themselves accordingly. Take the spring for instance,

we are in Prince Edward County, the county which produces more apples than any other county in Ontario, yet I have never seen a cell of fruit bloom or dandelion honey and unless bees get 35 to 40 lbs of honey in the fall of the year they are starving, so in the spring I practice stimulative feeding. This feeding is not begun until the first brood hatches. It makes me smile to hear directions given about uncapping fruit bloom honey and I cannot help wishing these fellows had a season's experience in my vicinity. Some may say I do not winter my bees well, but I had bees hanging out over the whole front of the hive in May, so if there was any honey in the flowers the bees were strong enough to get it. It may perhaps be owing to the chilly winds from the lake. But when buckwheat comes we can tell our big stories, then the people without our experience will say we yarn. The poorest I ever did on buckwheat, I extracted an average of thirty pounds per colony besides getting 20 lbs per colony of winter stores. I generally get an average of 50 lbs per colony from buckwheat and I have had them do this in one week. Bees do not work on buckwheat alone in the mornings. Sometimes they work all day, sometimes morning only and sometimes most in the afternoon.

The day I was there the one on scales gained 4½ lbs. In another number I will give some of Mr. Post's methods how to hive swarms on full sheets of foundation. Taking extracted honey building in the spring etc. I feel very much indebted for valuable information received from Mr. Post, which he has obtained through long and practical experience. Mr. Post's son Ernest promises to be one of our leading bee-keeper's with his father's experience to begin with, a fair education and a keen interest in the pursuit he cannot help quickly becoming one of our most successful bee-keeper's.

Mrs. Post has for profitable pets two beautiful Jersey cows, and some of the children have pigeons. I keenly regretted that owing to lack of time I was unable to accept an invitation to take a sail on the Bay of Quinte and the lake, but in these hurried visits pleasure can only be followed when it is combined with business. In my next I shall say a little about Mr. B. O. Lott of Anson.

Uffington, July 21, 1894.

Please find enclosed one dollar, subscription to the CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL. I am pleased with the JOURNAL and wish you every success.

J. BULL

Feeding for Winter Stores.

—G. A. DEADMAN.

Unfortunately for many bee-keepers feeding bees for winter stores has to be resorted to. In this locality, there is generally little or no honey gathered after the basswood has ceased to yield her sweets. I say generally, because during my fifteen years experience with bees, there was one year when the white clover continued to bloom into September, and as the queen gradually withdrew to the inner frames to deposit her eggs, the outer combs were filled with honey. O that when she ceased laying, there were few cells that were empty. We always weigh our colonies, deducting one and one-half pounds for each frame (size, 12½ x 10½) and bees. The weight of the hive is added to this and the balance is the estimated amount of honey. This should be done as early in September as possible, and then if you want to make a sure thing of it, again in October. Unless you have made an allowance for the brood, they will probably hive, and especially where colonies have young queens, you are apt to come short. There are three advantages in feeding early in September. One is the weather is more favorable for the bees properly caring for the stores given them. Another benefit is the queen is encouraged to lay, or rather the bees are encouraged to care for the eggs laid, for I have had many examples of where the queen has continued laying long after the bees would cease to care for the eggs. I suppose she would finally become discouraged and wait, possibly to begin again in October, but oftener the following spring. Feeding early encourages breeding in September that will hatch early in October, the best month, I believe for wintering in the northern latitude. Still another advantage is, the centre combs being occupied with brood, the bees are prevented from storing the feed in them. These combs when emptied of their brood afford a sitting place for the bees to cluster on or in, or it must be remembered that it is much more difficult for a colony of bees to retain the necessary warmth in full frames of stores. We can readily understand this if we remember that the bees go in head first to the cells, the base of which is only between them and those on the opposite side. Now as to the feed. I will not say anything in this article for or against making it by evaporation, as I have had no experience except in a small way in connection with the wing business. The way I have made

it for years, and have had no trouble from candying, souring, or anything else, is as follows: I take the best granulated sugar (I prefer Redpath's. Some makes contain blueing) and for every two pounds of sugar, I use one pound of water. I proceed as follows: I have a large can with a tap to it, —an extractor will do. I take a boiler (size used for washing purposes) and fill it about one-third with spring water. It is then weighed, deducting the weight of the boiler, and when it is nearly to the boiling point, I drop in double the weight of sugar and stir occasionally till it comes to a boil, when it is taken off and poured into the large can, and I proceed again, always keeping plenty ahead which is a decided advantage as I have some always to mix with the hot so as to render both the right temperature for feeding. I think "blood heat" is about right unless the weather is cold and the feeders will cool it much. Of all the feeders, I prefer a box about one and one-half inches high, the size of the top of the hive. By making it with a double side, and a space between for the bees to come up, you have a feeder that, when covered, not only retains the warmth in the hive, but which facilitates rapid feeding. I then cut the desired length I prefer to any other as a float, to enable the bees to have ready access to the feed. Have a smaller can with a top to it, with which to take the feed when ready to the apiary. When placed on a wheelbarrow or other vehicle, you are in a position to do quick work. The allowance for each colony is 30 lbs, less the amount they have. Since making up to 30 lbs for winter stores I have not lost a colony from starvation, and have my mind at ease even though the winter should linger "in the lap of spring" and I should be unable to remove "my pets" from their winter quarters. Care should be used in having colonies snug and warm during and after feeding. If weighed again during the latter part of October I would consider twenty pounds of stores sufficient to carry them over till spring and of course in many cases it would be twice too much, but I would not feel safe with less.

Brussels, Ont.

I ought to tell you that the crop of honey is very small here this year. There is no clover. I have never gotten less from my bees. Fifty colonies gave me about fifteen pounds of honey per colony and the balance gave me nothing at all.

SAM BRABANT.

Beauharnois, Que., Aug. 11, 1894.

The North American.

The articles of incorporation of this Association (which it would not be a bad idea for all the bee papers to publish in full), adopted at Keokuk, say: "This Association shall consist of its officers, life members, delegates from affiliated local associations, and ex-presidents." They then set forth the conditions on which bee-keepers may become life and annual members, and say that "Delegates from affiliated local associations shall be admitted free." It is further stated that any "State, District, Territory, or Province in North America may become affiliated upon the annual payment of \$5.00, which shall be due on the first day of January in each year, in advance."

I would like to learn now how many there are of these "affiliated" Associations at the present time. I see a list of eight is given in the Report of the meeting at Keokuk, but I find nothing in the last annual report to indicate that there were any "affiliated" associations at that time. If not, why not? Then, again, what benefit is to be derived from affiliation? These are merely questions thrown out to provoke an expression of opinion. If possible, on the part of our leading bee-keepers.

It is a truth which no one can gainsay that it is human nature not to remain "affiliated" very long when no benefit of any kind is to be derived from the affiliation. I can see how every individual who attends a meeting of the North American can be greatly benefitted, but I confess I do not see where the benefit is to accrue to those who are only "affiliated" and never attend any of the meetings. It seems to me that it ought to be possible to identify the interest of all local societies more closely than they are at present with that of the National.

I do not know just how this can be done, but I want to suggest a plan by which I think it could be brought about at our next meeting in October. I should like very much to see this the largest meeting that was ever held in the interest of Apiculture on this continent. This can be done with very little effort, if we all set about it at once in the right way.

I would suggest, first, that every county in the U. S., where there is a sufficient number of bee-keepers, organize at once a local society. Let each member pay in a fee of 50 cts. and then proceed to elect a delegate to the North American, and equip

him with money enough to pay his expenses, including the \$1.00 for the annual membership fee. Discuss thoroughly what you would like to have him present to the N. A., and send him out instructed to vote every time for the thing that comes the nearest representing what the local society desires. As part pay for the benefit this delegate will derive personally from attending the N. A. he should be required to write up fully the entire trip and the doings of the N. A. and present this to the next meeting of the local society.

Our Canadian friends should do the same in every province in Canada.

In this way we could secure a very large attendance and create sufficient enthusiasm to put the N. A. in a way to be a power in the land.

What say you? What county or province will be the first to respond to this proposition?

I am making local arrangements for a big crowd and a good time generally. The Commercial Club of the city has come to the front and tendered me the use of their rooms in which to hold our meetings, and they are doing all they can to help secure reduced rates on the railroads.

Just as soon as the matter of rates is settled, it will be published, but I trust no one will wait for this before making up his mind at once. The Commercial Club has one of the finest rooms in the city, centrally located, and near to good hotels which have made meliberal rates for our meeting.

We have been promised papers from some of the leading bee-keepers of the world; Mr. Benton is working hard to procure a good programme, one that will be both entertaining and profitable; Dr. Miller and a host of others who are a convention in themselves will be here, and the meeting cannot fail to be beneficial to all who may attend.

If you have but one colony, come and learn how to care for more.

Friend Stilson has struck the right key in the last Nebraska Bee-keeper. He says, "Lets make up a carload or more and start from Lincoln." That's the way to talk; come on with your carloads, and this city of the "Wild and woolly West" will try to do her part.

I have received a number of cards from those who expect to be here, but still there is room for more. Let them come, and come fast! Every one counts and helps to swell the swarm of bee-keepers that will be buzzing in the air in our fair city Oct. 16-18, 1894.

We will furnish the hive, if the people will only swarm.

I hope our Canadian friends will take up this matter in good earnest and make as

large a showing as possible. I can assure them, for one, that I have no disposition to cut off from them any privilege that belongs to me as a citizen of the U. S. I have no fear that you Canucks will flood this market with the products of your "pauper labor," and drive me off the continent. If you do have your policy "dictated by rulers over the sea," I cannot believe that said rulers are "secret enemies of our institutions," as was expressed in one of our bee papers not long ago. Such political "rot"—excuse the slang—"makes me tired." We be brethren, and as such we should dwell together in peace and unity. Any other theory is narrow, selfish, and worst of all, unchristian, and not becoming a people who claim to be governed by the Golden Rule.

EMERSON T. ABBOTT,

St. Joseph, Mo.

President.

[Now, friend Abbott you must allow your people and our people to talk a little nonsense. We took no notice of the remarks you refer to because when any of our people do a little joking, we do not want you to pay any attention to it. We think each country should map out its own commercial policy without regard to the other, but do nothing or say nothing which has its object to wound the feelings of its neighbor. Our policy is not dictated by any "rulers over the sea." Some day there may be international complications near the boundary. Canadian bees are actually importing honey without paying duty, and what is worse, United States bees are reciprocating. Is this Commercial Union or Labor Union.—Ed.]

Hard Times.

Brothers, by sitting idle and commenting on the hard times you make them harder than what they are. Arouse! Move around! Get on a hustle! Get up an enthusiasm! When the enemy approaches you prepare to repel, determined to fight successfully. Prepare that the fight may be successful. When everything is flourishing, candidates can be procured with but little exertion. Therefore when there is a stagnation we must put forth an exertion. All the people are not going to the poor-house, all of the people have not spent their last cent, all of the people are not out of employment. Let their be a grand rally to keep up the enthusiasm. Don't get despondent. Let each member visit and induce a non-attendant to attend. When he comes, treat him as one of the family, not an outcast. Then he will come again and perhaps bring another. By all means have pleasant and harmonious sessions.

Personal.

Mr. G. A. Deadman, Brussels, and family are spending a pleasant time at Hamel's Point, Muskoka.

Mr. J. R. Martin, Belmont, visited the office and apiary of THE CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL on May 28th.

Mr. Thos. Ramage and party, Richview, Ont., paid the office of THE CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL a visit recently

Messrs. F. A. Rose, Balmoral, and O. Fathers, South Cayuga, visited Brantford and our office May 21st. A pleasant shower doubtless cheered them on their 23 mile drive home.

Mr. S. A. Dickie one of Brant County's well-known bee-keepers had a close call during the past month. He was hauling in a load of hay when the horses became frightened and ran away. Mr. Dickie was thrown from the load and struck his forehead upon some hard substance. He was taken up for lifeless and remained unconscious and delirious for over a day. Dr. Digby's skill and careful nursing brought him through.

[Those having items of interest for the above department, will confer a favor by sending them to our office.]

The Western Fair.

Bee-keepers in the West and the public generally should give the Western Fair a strong patronage. The management is good and the attractions all that can be desired. Next to Toronto, the honey exhibit is the best on the continent. Those desiring to make entries should address the secretary, Tnos. A. Brown, London, at once.

The Mother.

Queen? 'Tis an empty title,
More than a queen is she—
Mother of young immortals
Who gather at her knee.

Selected.

—Eben E. Rexford.

Worth Repeating.

Nature forever puts a premium on quality. What is done for effect is seen to be done for effect; what is done for love is felt to be done for love.—Emerson.

The Apiary of F. A. Gemmell.

After having promised for some months past that I would furnish you with a description of my apiary, I at last have found time to accede to your request, confessing at the same time that I deserve all the names you have of late called me, for my procrastination. Yes, "Old Next Week" is quite an appropriate epitaph to apply to me under the circumstances. I am now,



F. A. GEMMELL,

PRES. OXFORD BEE KEEPERS' ASSOCIATION.

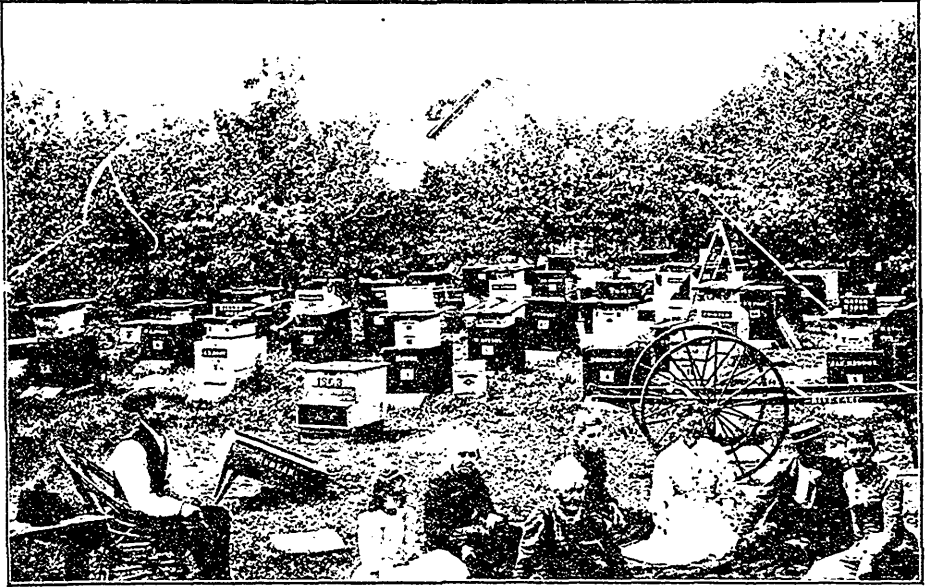
however, going to endeavor to make amends for the past by promising to be more prompt in future. The picture was taken about 2 years ago, the apiary at that time consisting of 72 colonies, but at present writing, numbers 115, the greater portion being Italians, the balance, although not so beautiful to look at, are of such a strain as to quite suit me as honey gatherers. The latter statement I think not out of place, especially as the past poor season has given me an average of 65 pounds per colony, spring count. True, my location may have been a factor in securing

this amount, but not sufficiently so to make all the difference, when compared with other apiaries in my vicinity. Seven hundred (700) of this amount was comb, the balance being extracted honey.

Before proceeding further, I would like to state that the picture was taken for the express purpose of sending to the Rev. J. L. Langstroth, the father of modern apiculture, one whom I esteem most highly, which no doubt all apiarists also do, or at least ought to, for the service rendered our pursuit. A copy was therefore sent him, at the time of its first appearance in *Gleanings*, March 15th, 1893, accompanied by a small donation, the same being duly acknowledged by himself, and which is very much prized by me, as also all the correspondence that has passed between us since purchasing my first Italian queen from him in 1861, (probably the first brought into Canada) the price at that time ranging from \$10 to \$20.

If those who have the privilege of viewing the illustration in the CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL will look closely, they will have no difficulty in discerning, especially as the hives, in addition to being numbered, are also all named after some prominent apiarist in U. S. and Canada, that the Langstroth observing hive made for me in 1863 occupies a prominent position in the foreground. This hive has contained a colony of bees with the exception of one or two seasons from that period up to the present time, and has had no repairs worthy of mention, except one new roof, and numerous coats of paint during all those 31 years, until the present season, when some alterations were made in order to accommodate it to the modern system of management. This, however, has not altered its appearance, otherwise than it can now be more readily tiered up. It will also be noticed, the outside cases are still on the hives (August) minus the packing which was removed about 1st June, and although this system has advantages in regard to shade, freedom from confusion when the packing is removed, etc. Still I have abandoned the practice, and now take away entirely, as all things considered, I can work to better advantage without them, and at the same time secure as good results.

I have always, and still hope to as long as I am engaged in the pursuit of apiculture, endeavored to keep pace with the times, and any fixtures or appertanances of value, have therefore been added as necessity or convenience in any particular case required. Judgment of course must be exercised in regard to adopting any new fixtures, and consequently I have, or think I have, as few superfluous attachments as the majority of those who endeavor to make apiculture a moderately



THE APIARY OF F. A. GEMMELL.

fair paying occupation. Among other things I find the escape board, and a swarm catcher (not illustrated) a convenience, the Allev trap is also used at times, although not so extensively as some others use it, for the reason that I cut all queens wings. Notwithstanding the theory advanced by some that in time the wing power of her majesty may become diminished, or that superseding takes place more frequently on that account. Another and very important res. indispensable article, is a good honey extractor, and a kind word for the New Gould 1 frame Reversible, therefore only being it justice, I having tested it for two seasons to my satisfaction. The solar wax extractor, too is now as much looked for in the apiary as any other thing, consequently occupies a position in the picture, likewise, a swarming box, ladder, hive cart, and a box containing wire cloth cages for securing the queen on the issuing of swarms. A registrar of discription is as a matter of course an actual necessity, and after trying different kinds I prefer the book form in some shape, a separate page being kept for each colony, for recording the age of queens or any other thing required. The Motto: "Everything in its place and a proper place for everything" as well as the "proper time to attend to things." is one I fully carry out in the apiary, whatever else I may neglect, writing, or bee journals for instance), find-

ing that it is the cheapest, best, and therefore the most economical in the end.

As to the kind of hive used, I may say, my preference, all things considered, is the ordinary, hanging eight frame Langstroth. It is of course not perfection, but after having tested most other of supposed improvement, it suits me best, and any one in the same locality as myself, would do well to go slow in adopting or rather changing to any other, simply for the sake of changing at the same time. I wish it understood the hive alone is not what constitutes success in apiculture, this in my estimation, combines enthusiasm, a love for the calling, with a determination to succeed irrespective of all difficulties. Naturally attached to this, or any other pursuit, requiring a reasonable amount of brains and capital.

You know Mr. Editor, I am not one of those who think all should enter into the labor of honey production, not however that I have any selfish motives prompting me to make such a statement, but because too many think the "bee performs all the work," while the other fellow "does all the whistling," and as a consequence many failures are the result. On the other hand, I find the employment not only interesting and ennobling, but a moderately paying occupation as well.

I now think I have given your readers sufficient, if indeed I have not already

tired them, hence will conclude by stating that Mr. Holtermann deserves great credit for the manner in which he has of late so prominently brought before the public through the medium of our daily papers, the importance of honey as a healthy and cheap food for the human family.

The illustrations, and well-written article which appeared in the Saturday Globe of the 25th inst., is a credit to our fast growing industry. May we have more luck.

I will now merely add, that the figures in the fore-ground are all that appears to have been omitted in order to fulfill my task, and are as follows: First to the right is Belle, who assists in the household, and also in the apiary when necessary; second, my son Raeside (16); third, his mother; fourth, my sister; fifth, my mother; sixth, my daughter Mildred (13); seventh, remaining figures (lady) in front is Mrs. Gemmell's mother; eight, the cowboy sitting in the chair is your humble servant—

F. A. GEMMELL.

Stratford, Ont., Aug. 25th, 1894.

Items from British Columbia.

I am working my bees in "Simplicity" hives—half and full upper story, and from six swarms have taken about 250 one-pound sections of fine white clover honey. This is a fine country for bees and the forest has plenty of wild ones. One man found forty-five bee trees, and from one of them he took out 200 pounds of surplus honey. But don't forget that there is considerable bodily exercise in cutting down one of these trees which run from three to fifteen feet in diameter.

These wild bees are mostly hybrids and have probably gradually worked their way north from California.

Bees commence working on the willows in February and in succession comes the wild red flowering currant, huckleberry—red and blue,—salmon berry, dewberry, raspberry, white and alsike clover, and golden rod for fall feed, also the cultivated flowers.

Let me tell you how a Chinaman keeps bees. I sold to "Simplicity" hives to one of them and went to transfer swarms into them. He had his bees in tea chests set on shelves in under the portico of his palatial shack or hut, up next to the roof, with the entrance for the bees in the top of the hives. I transferred them for him and showed him (as well as I could make him understand) how to put on the upper story or super. He came along one day, asked me to "see him bees." I went and found the

supers put on the *under* side of the swarm, to catch um honey," and every brood frame taken out of the hive and the bees building comb in large cards attached to the corner. I give it up trying to educate a Chinaman how to handle bees "altee samee white man." Respectfully yours,

M. J. HENRY.

Vancouver, B. C., Aug. 6th, 1894.

Hiving Swarms on Starters for Producing Comb Honey.

READ AT THE PERTH BEE-KEEPERS ASSOCIATION.

[By William Warden.]

Mr. President and fellow Bee-keepers:—In preparing this paper on this subject, I am afraid that I may say so much that it will be likely to lead you astray, and I would like to say, if any of you think it worth while to try this system, to make haste slowly. Try a few hives at first and watch closely for mistakes. I make them often, and you might occasionally make one also, so I would say to you, watch!

I will now try to tell you as briefly as I know how to do it, the way that I handle a colony. Place the bottom board level on the ground in the location you intend them to occupy, and place the box and board so as to leave plenty of entrance room. Now space dummies. I seldom use more than six frames in a hive for comb honey. Placing one or more dummies on each side of the brood chamber with frames in the centre. I use both eight and ten frame hives but all Langsforth frames. I space a little less than 1½ inches from centre to centre and look carefully to see that all frames hang plumb. Then put on your queen excluding honey board and a case of sections, sometimes if the swarm is large put on two cases. If one is partly filled, all the better. I prefer to have full sheets of foundation in the sections. Place on the cover and add a shade board. To hive swarms I like to shake them on the ground in front of the hive and I like to see the queen run in. The rest will soon follow. Watch that the hive does not get a jar so as to displace frames, and examine every few days to give needed attention. Take the sections off when finished and I get frames filled in the other hives to give them winter store. I have had to feed but prefer filled frames.

St Pauls. Ont.

GREAT LOSSES FROM FOUL

▲ ▲ ▲ BROOD ▲ ▲ ▲

A VALUABLE LETTER FROM NEW ZEALAND

—W.M. McEvoy.

Enclosed please find a copy of a letter received from a bee-keeper in New Zealand who is and has been sorely troubled with foul brood. By publishing Mr. Stevenson's letter and my explanations why he failed to cure his apiary of foul brood, it may be the means of helping many of the unfortunates to cure their apiaries of that disease.

Waerengaahika, Gisborne,
New Zealand, June, 1891.

Mr. W. McEvoy.

Dear Sir.—I am exceedingly obliged to you for taking the trouble to write me so long and valuable a letter. About a year ago I read a preliminary article of yours in the *American Bee Journal* on foul brood and after some delay a further article was to appear giving your method of curing the disease. Why, I do not know, but that number of the *Journal*, which I had been getting regularly from A. I. Root with *Gleanings* miscarried.

When I started keeping bees in 1883, there was no such thing as foul brood known in this district, and a great number of hives were kept all in box hives. I was the first to use frame hives and an extractor. In 1884 foul brood appeared in a large apiary of 500 hives, and in two years not a hive was left. Gradually it crept up the country, and next year I noticed it in one of my hives, which I destroyed, but in the following spring the early brood was all diseased. By removing these frames, however, all the summer brood seemed healthy. Meantime another box hive apiary of 400 hives, two miles off, was struck and the owner let it run riot, throwing out rotten combs in heaps for the bees to feast on, and spread destruction to every hive. Soon silence reigned in that apiary also, and I was left in possession of the field. At this time the Cheshire cure was all the talk, and I worked away spraying and medicating combs, but with no effect. It only got worse. I was now reduced to fifty hives, and when these swarmed I hived the swarm on foundation, and after a second swarm issued shook the bees remaining in the hive into the swarm and destroyed the combs. This checked the trouble for a time. Next year I had very strong hives and increased my stock to 300, securing a crop of nine

tons. That was three seasons ago. The spring following (1892), many of the hives had foul brood, and in the autumn, as recommended by D. A. Jones in his book, I shifted them all into empty hives, and fed them on sugar syrup. The weather was fine but the honey flow had entirely ceased, and I found it impossible to prevent the bees from getting at the honey taken from them. They drew out the foundation I gave them and seemed to be wintering all right. But when spring came they dwindled away, and I had only forty hives left in the home apiary, and seventy in an out apiary two miles away. These I did not intertere with and they wintered much better.

Last summer I had every intention when the flow came, to adopt your method, but such a season was never known here before. I hope we will not have another like it. The early spring was fine, but in October rain set in and continued day after day till the middle of January, so that working with bees was impossible, and we never had a honey flow at all. In January and February I extracted a little honey brought in chiefly by the hybrids, about twenty-five hundred-weight in all, the smallest crop I ever had from so many hives.

For years we had only the black bee, but I now get Italian queens from America, and hope next season to work out the black strain. I find an immense difference in their honey producing qualities. I have all along paid great attention to the get-up of my honey, and the result is that my brand is well known in the large towns, and my only difficulty is in producing enough to fill my orders. I have also been successful at taking awards at every exhibition in Wellington, Dunedin and Melbourne, and by request of the Government I had a display in the Colonial Exhibition in 1886.

Now to answer your questions about New Zealand as a honey-producing country.

The coast line running from north to south, nearly 1000 miles, there are all sorts of climates, sub-tropical in the north and somewhat bleak in the south. In the north are great forests, and all the trees are more or less honey-bearing. In its natural state there are no flowers on the ground in New Zealand, as in some parts of Australia, it is all overhead. The swamps are full of flax which yield immense quantities of honey, but of rank flavor, and it may be said of New Zealand bush honey in general that there is plenty of it, but the quality is poor.

In rich alluvial plains, such as this district the bush has disappeared, the swamps are drained, and the whole country is laid down in rye grass and clover as pasture for sheep and cattle. The climate is mild and

humid. Oranges and lemons thrive and there is very little frost. The winters are wet as a Nile, and the summers fairly dry, but we have no two seasons alike, and the weather is very changeable. Spring begins in August, when the willows which line rivers come into leaf, and the bees get some honey from them. Then comes such bush as is left in patches in gullies, among the hills, or groups of cabbage palms left in the paddocks. Every year this source gets less and less, and is not to be relied on. About the middle of October the clover opens and bees begin to swarm, and continue swarming all through November, or if the weather is bad begin November and continue till Xmas. A great many of these swarms swarm again in January and February, so in a good season increase is easily attained. The honey crop comes from the clover and, as with you, from the thistle which blooms in January. With us, however, clover continues all along sometimes yielding well in February. Most farmers drive the stock from the paddocks in November and close them for rye grass seed till Xmas, so the bees have a good show, and when the machines have cut the grass, if a good rain falls, clover comes up again, and flowers better than ever. The thistle honey is certainly the most delicate and whitest we have. Unfortunately in all the paddocks closed for grass seed they are entirely destroyed, being entirely cut down by the machines before they come into flower, but in the paddocks of the dairy farmers and along the road sides, they still abound and are a valuable plant for the bee-keeper.

Here we have no fall honey, which is a great pity as we often have beautiful autumns. This year, for instance, after all the rain, March and April were lovely months, but useless for the bees. Still in a good season a strong hive will yield seventy or eighty pounds of honey, and stores for winter besides. I extract almost all my honey as there is a greater demand for extracted than comb honey. The price of honey is always a puzzle to me. The Wellington traveller of a large firm tells me he gets all he requires at three cents, and yet grocers in the same town pay me four and a quarter cents, and in Dunedin I sometimes get five cents in sixty-pound tins. I consider four cents a fair price and am contented, if it gets no lower.

It is difficult to arrive at any conclusion as to the prevalence of foul brood in New Zealand. There is a bee column in the *New Zealand Farmer*, but bee-keepers never write in it and it mainly consists of clippings from *Gleanings*. There is a bee journal in Australia, and there are many extensive bee-keepers in that country. Our honey is

thought more of in London than there is which is chiefly gathered from gum trees.

I shall look forward to the arrival of your kind gift of Dr. Howard's book. I hope it will be in time for next spring's operations. Again thanking you for your letter, I am,

Yours very truly,

GEORGE STEVENSON.

Mr. Stevenson failed like all others in the world when he followed the Cheshire method, and tried to cure his apiary of foul brood by spraying and medicating the combs in foul broody colonies. The germs of foul brood are very hard to kill, and any drugs that would be used strong enough to destroy them would kill all the bees and all the good brood in the unsealed cells, and then leave the disease just as bad as ever in the sealed brood and capped honey. No foul broody apiary was ever cured or ever can be cured of that disease by drugs of any kind.

In the honey season when bees are gathering honey freely, any apiary can easily be cured of foul brood by removing the combs in the evening, shaking the bees back into their own hives and giving them comb foundation starters for four days to work out, and store the diseased honey in which they took from the old combs. Then in the evening of the fourth day by removing the new combs made out of starters and giving full sheets of foundation, the cure will be complete.

When the honey flow stops, this same method of curing can be continued right along by feeding plenty of sugar syrup in the evenings. All the old combs must be burned or made into wax, and all the new combs made out of the starters during the four days must be made into wax also or burned. All the work must be done in the evenings so as to have no confusion or mixing of bees or robbing done.

When Mr. Stevenson's colonies swarmed, if he had hived each swarm on comb foundation starters, his bees would have drawn out the starters in four days and stored the most of the diseased honey which they took with them from the old combs. Then by removing the new combs made out of the starters in the evening of the fourth day and giving full sheets of foundation, he would have made a perfect cure. Then Mr. Stevenson would have had over the 9 tons of honey the next year, and every colony cured and in grand condition.

Mr. Stevenson of New Zealand is one of the leading bee-keepers of the world, and being a man of so much push, pluck and energy, I would be very much pleased to have my methods of curing foul brood thoroughly tested by him.

WM. McEVOR.

Woodburn, Ont., Aug. 1894.

FIRST STEPS IN BEE-KEEPING.

KEEPING EVERLASTINGLY AT IT
BRINGS SUCCESS.

QUESTIONS SENT IN BEARING UPON FIRST STEPS
IN BEE-KEEPING WILL BE ANSWERED IN THIS
DEPARTMENT BY THE EDITOR.

During this month, if it has not already been done, examine every colony and satisfy yourself that it has a laying queen. If it has not and fertile workers have not developed or the colony has dwindled very much the bees being all old, get a queen. So far as we know all our advertisers are reliable men. If the colony is in a bad condition we would advise destroying it.

Toward the latter part of this month or when the brood is pretty well hatched from the combs, see that your colony has at least twenty-five pounds of honey for stores. An eight frame Langstroth hive with combs and bees, lid removed, should weigh from 55 to 65 pounds.

If they do not weigh 50 lbs put in combs of honey from upper stories. If you have not such you must feed. There are numerous feeders. I know of nothing better than the Miller feeder; there may be better. You must get a feeder which can be used at least inconvenience and out of which the bees take the feed rapidly. The more quickly you feed the least waste and the better. Then leave your bees alone until time to pack for winter.

QUESTIONS.

Is it right to take honey from the hive before the frames are all full and capped? My bees are the old black kind. I should like to get an Italian queen, but don't know how to put her in the hive and I should like to get comb foundation if I thought I could put it in, and it would suit for any hive. My husband made the hives. I should like to much to succeed with my bees. Will you kindly advise me, and oblige

Mrs. J. C., Sowerby, Algoma.

ANSWER.

Honey should be taken when ripe. It is safe to say that honey may be ripe and yet not capped, and therefore it may be right to remove the honey before the frames are full and capped. When honey is coming in freely and the hive fills up we take the fact that the combs are about sealed as an evidence that it is ripe. When the honey

flow ceases, however, before the combs are full, the bees do not continue to cap, neither can they fill the combs; under such conditions you can rest assured that the honey the bees themselves gathered will be ripened as much as it ever will be within a few days of the time the honey flow ceases. Of course when changing from dark to light honey, or from light to dark, it may become desirable to extract honey not ripe and prevent it mixing with an inferior grade, but avoid extracting unripe honey. It may be ripened artificially afterwards by placing in a hot place, but the plan is not good, better have the honey a little dark and thick and ripe than light colored and unripe.

About changing queens. As you are a beginner, unless you have a fall flow do not attempt to change the queen this season, it is too late. If other bees are in your vicinity they are liable to rob your hive during the long operation of finding the queen. Then if the queen should be lost in introduction it may get pretty late in the season and you may have difficulties. But next season when honey comes in by all means do away with your black bees. If you cannot find your queen in any other way put a queen trap or bee guard at the entrance. Shake all the bees out of the hive, adjust your trap or guard at the entrance; shake the bees from the combs at the entrance and put them in the hive. Put quilt and lid in place, then with smoker gently drive the bees into the hive. To prevent the queen getting under the hive I like, before the operation begins, to place the hive flat on the ground. In this way the queen should be singled out as the bees pass through the metal.

As to foundation, it can be put in by means of melted wax or nailed in by means of a strip of wood. You can get any size of foundation you desire from dealers, but do not make the mistake so many do—forget to give the size, or even forget to order the kind you want, brood or section foundation. But you have only a few hives, now why not get a Langstroth frame or hive and make it that size to begin with, it will save you much annoyance in the future, and you can get goods to fit that hive from any supply dealer. There is no patent on the hive.

R. F. HOLTERMANN.

Frogmore, July 23, 1894.

Bees did poorly the forepart of the season. I only had eight swarms from twenty-six, spring count. I lost none during winter. I have 300 pounds of basswood comb honey and no clover.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Stratford, Ont., July 17, 1894.

Flow very good at present.

F. A. GEMMELL.

Streetsville, July 17, 1894.

Honey crop very light, about half or less.

W. COUSE.

Murray, Ont., July 19, 1894.

Basswood is not doing much in this locality. I speak from balancing the scales each night, which is the only fair way.

C. W. POST.

Fisherville, July 19, 1894.

I am well pleased with the CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL and hope it will continue improving. The bees have not made much trouble with swarming. I had only five swarms from thirty colonies on account of the backset in spring by those continued rains, bees got entirely out of stores and stopped brooding. But our alsike clover was good and came in a little earlier than usual, and bees picked up wonderfully. I had just finished extracting the clover. The following morning, the 10th inst., bees made their busy move among the basswood, and they have kept it up every day, but it is about a close.

FRED MEHLENBACHER.

Balmoral, Ont., July 20, 1894.

Honey flow rather light from clover. Basswood has been fair, but dry weather has cut it short.

F. A. ROSE.

Cairngorn, Ont., July 18, 1894.

The honey yield might be described in a word as a failure. A bee-keeper with 270 colonies told me yesterday that from his 270 colonies he thought they might have 1000 pounds. We will have perhaps 4000 pounds from forty-five colonies spring count. But we may have to feed back a little unless I double up colonies.

E. M. HUSBAND.

Beamsville, July 19, 1894.

Our bees have just quit working and have given a good average.

A. E. HOSHAL.

Bedford, Que., July 26, 1894.

Honey crop will average about one-half usual quantity but the quality is fine.

F. W. JONES.

Lacolle, Que., July 26, 1894.

Enclosed you will find one dollar for renewal of BEE JOURNAL. Our honey crop here so far is a complete failure. I extracted from six hives and got thirty pounds. This was from my best hives. Take the lot and they have not made, so far, enough to winter on. I cannot understand why there is no sweet in the clover this year. We have had some bad but also some splendid weather, hot and calm. The buckwheat flow is yet to come, that may be good.

THOS. PEARSON.

Athens, July 18, 1894.

Honey flow only fair. Quite a wide blank between clover and linden. The scorching heat of the past few days will materially shorten the flow from this source. I am hopeful of the thistle.

M. B. HOLMES.

Riceville, Ont., July 8, 1894.

We had a splendid flow of honey here in Prescott County during the last two weeks of June, it was from white clover but on the evening of the 2nd of July we had a severe thunder storm and the weather has changed from very fine to cool and cloudy and the first week in July has been lost. Basswood is just coming in blossom and we expect a good flow from it this year as it did not yield any honey in this locality last year.

JOHN HUNTER.

Glen Millar.

I am much pleased with the improvement in the CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL.

Cedar Grove, July 26, 1894.

We like the JOURNAL very well and are doing what we can for you.

D. RAMER.

Stellarton, N. S., July 27, 1894.

Please find one dollar in payment of my subscription to the CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL for another year in advance. Your JOURNAL gives me great pleasure to peruse its pages, as it contains some excellent reading in bee-keeping.

D. W. CULTON.

To Prevent Bee Moths in Combs.

W. C. WELLS.

There is a bee-keeper, a Mr. Burk, near here, who has a new way of saving empty combs from the ravages of the moth. He finds a hive full of empty combs, then puts on the body a layer of cedar boughs, then another hive or super full of empty combs, another layer of boughs, and so on, covering the top over tightly. He says no worms or moths of any kind will trouble the combs. I intend to try this plan this fall. I like the CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL very much. I have only 1900 pounds of honey this year, last year I had 6000 pounds by this time. I may get some buckwheat honey, the bees are all at work on buckwheat now. I only had six swarms this year, the poorest year for bees I ever knew.

Phillipston, Ont., Aug. 10, 1894.

At the World's Fair.

Japan—The great advance which was made in all the eastern countries, in the arts and sciences, is illustrated in the apiary by the following:—"A small but interesting exhibit was made by Japan. One of the simplest native hives built in sections, placed one above the other was shown. While not presenting any feature that could be advantageously adopted here, it is of special interest to American bee-keepers, because it is constructed on the principle of the shallow, horizontally-divided section hive, and, being one of the oldest Japanese hives, antedates by a few centuries the patent granted by our Government on this feature in bee-hives."

Hopewell, N. S.

The CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL greatly improved during last winter and I hope it may continue to do so.

ROD. MCLEAN.

Weston, Ont., May, 24, 1894.

I am well pleased with your CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL.

R. J. HALLEY.

Don't allow yourself to grow into the bad habit of finding fault with your Court because it does not follow out the views which to you may seem best. If things go wrong to-day, wait until to-morrow and no doubt they will be righted.

Josh Billings on Insurance.

I kum to the conclusion lately, that life was so unsartin that the only way for me to stand a fair chance with the other folks, was to get my life insured, so I kalled on the agent of the Garden Angel Life Insurance Co., and answered the following questions which were put to me, over the top of a pair of spectacles, by a slick old fellow, with a round gray head on him as ever was owned:—"Are you a mail or a femal? If so, state how long you have been so. Had you a father or a mother? If so, which? Are you subject to fits? and if so, du yu have more than one at a time? What is your precise fiting wait? Did you ever have any ancestors? and if so how many? Du yu have any nitemair? Are you married or single, or are you a bachelor? Have you ever committed suicide? If so, how did it affect you?" After answering the above questions like a man, in the affirmative, the slick, little, fat, old feller, with good spectacles on, said, "I was insured fur life, and probably will remain so fur years." I thanked him, smiled and retired.

The City Boy.

God help the boy who never sees
The butterflies, the birds, the bees,
Nor hears the music of the breeze

When zephys soft are blowing;
Who cannot in sweet comfort lie
Where clover blooms are thick and high,
And hear the gentle murmur nigh
Of brooklets softly blowing.

God help the boy who does not know
Where all the woodland berries grow,
Who never sees the forest glow

When leaves are red and yellow;
Whose childish feet can never stray—
Where Nature doth her charms display—
For such a hapless boy I say
God help the little fellow.

—Chicago Journal.

Jappers—"Confound it! This letter from my wife begins 'My ownest, deary hubby.'" Habbers—"Why, what's wrong with that?" Jabbers—"That means that in postscript I'll find a request for a \$50 check right away."

Needlers.—"What's a bon mot?" Slowitz—"Something you always think of after it's too late to say it."

Ada.—"I understand that Blanche to marry into an old family." Ida—"The oldest that was to be had for the money."

Yes, man is the stronger vessel—but he has often to be bailed out."



Strictly Business

Bro. Holtermann keeps a very good motto hung up over the beginner's page—"keeping everlastingly at it brings success." And when I get tired harping on one string I read it again and revive.

* * *

Many hundreds of subscriptions expired with the July issue, No. 353 and these subscribers were duly notified of the fact, but evidently harvest is on, or something of importance, for only a few have enclosed the "mighty dollar." We will be glad to hear from the rest as soon as convenient.

* * *

There are some hard heads still on our list who owe for a full year's subscription, and make no sign of life or honesty, despite our gentle reminders. "Charity suffereth long and is kind," we have suffered long, but can hardly claim to have lived up to the latter qualification, but "if we cannot be patient we will be as patient as we can," in hopes that these "behind hands" will soon pay what is due.

* * *

The JOURNAL is like most people, its liveness depends on good circulation. We covet new energy in the shape of additional subscribers and ask our old friends to give us their help to obtain them. Cannot you recommend the CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL to some friend and get him to try it for four months, or better still subscribe for one year and get the JOURNAL until December, 1895 for \$1. We will give you a premium for every new yearly subscriber you send us. Please canvass your neighbor bee-keepers at the fairs and elsewhere. Lend us a hand, please.

Bee-Keeper's Association Meetings.

THE NORTH AMERICAN BEE-KEEPERS' ASSOCIATION.

The quarter Centennial meeting of this Society will be held at St. Joseph, Mo., Oct., 16th, 17th and 18th. 1894. It is the first convention of the North American Association beyond the Western bank of the Mississippi, and large delegations from the great West will be present. We hope

the East, the North and the South will gather with them. FRANK BENTON, Secretary North American Bee-Keepers' Association, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington. D. C.

CHANGE OF DATE.

In order to let all bee-keepers who can take advantage of the "Harvest Excursion" rates which will be given on October 9th, we have concluded to change the date of the meeting to October 10-12. The rate will be one-half fare plus \$2.00. These rates apply east of the Missouri River only. Ask your R. R. agent about them.

Special rates of one and one-third fare will no doubt be secured in the territory covered by the Western Passenger Association. These will be announced later, if secured. EMERSON T. ABBOTT, St. Joseph, Mo., Aug. 25th, 1894. Pres.

Agricultural papers will please call attention to the change of date.

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