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CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL

PUBLISHED MONTHLY.

NEW SERIES
VOL. III No. 1.

BRANTFORD, ONT., JULY, 1895.

WHOLE No.
365.

The June number was the first time for many months that the editor has not been able to read all the articles before sending to the printing office, and some articles that we intended for the June number appear in the present. We have never been so busy, and working from early morning to late at night did not prevent us from falling behind in our work. At this date of writing however we have caught up with our work and expect to be able to give the usual attention to the CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL. We shall be pleased to have contributions from our friends and readers.

There are very few of our readers who have not suffered more or less indirectly from the frosts which have visited the country early this summer. The dry weather which generally followed has made matters still worse. With fruit bloom entirely wiped out the bees did not get much to build up on during the time that they are stimulated from this source. Clover has also been set back, leaving the crop still greater. Linden or basswood blossom in some districts at least, has been much injured or destroyed. At this date alfalfa and white clover is yielding fairly well in our own apiary, colonies are gaining an average of perhaps 10 lbs per day. Rain may improve this. We want a good buckwheat and thistle

flow. We may, of course, yet have a very heavy flow but at this date of writing the general feeling is not very cheerful. It certainly is absolutely necessary to be ready to the fullest extent for whatever flow may come.

It was our intention to publish the Toronto Industrial Exhibition Prize List in the June number, but owing to lack of time to give the matter personal attention the list was held over and appears in this number. Bee-keepers, we think will find there the best inducements yet offered to exhibitors. The North American Bee-Keepers' Association meeting in Toronto the first week of the Exhibition will be an additional attraction to exhibit. We would strongly advise all that can, to go to Toronto with a large exhibit, those that cannot should enter for the small lots, those who care to do so can send their exhibits to the care of the editor CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL. we will see that they are properly displayed, or they can be addressed to the superintendent of the honey building—Industrial Exhibition, Toronto. Charges must, of course, be prepaid. There are always a number of exhibitors ready to give the exhibits of the absent every chance when the judges are doing their work, the latter too we have always found paying every attention to such duties. Come or send to Toronto and make an exhibit.

Many who have not an extensive experience would like to know just how to secure a good article

Extracted Honey. in extracted honey
First of all we of

course want good strong colonies to produce much of any kind of honey. The queen excluder has become well nigh indispensable for the profitable production of extracted honey, next we want clean bright combs, those dark from the frequent hatching of bees should never be used. Again, not one, but at times several supers should be used allowing plenty of time to ripen and room to store honey. When the comb is capped in part and the remainder of the cells glisten as you look at the surface of the honey you can consider it ready to extract. The inferior honey should be kept from a better quality and even at the risk of having the inferior a little unripe we should keep them separate. By holding capped combs up to the light patches of light may be distinguished from the dark and by uncapping first one and then the other the two kept separate even after it is stored together in the comb.

* * *

In another part will be noticed the report of a meeting of a committee of the North

American Bee-Keeper's Association, which went before the the Western Classification Committee at Chicago, Ills. We may say the editor of the CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL as lecturer at the Ontario Agricultural College and the

Goold, Shapley & Muir Co., (Ltd.) also sent a petition to the committee which has been acknowledged. The result is that the freight on bee-hives in the flat and honey in the bulk will be reduced in the West. Credit is due the North American Bee-Keeper's Association for its continued efforts in this direction, also to the committee of which Dr. Miller is not the least important, but perhaps the greatest credit is due A. I. Root, Medina, Ohio. We know he has spent both time and money. The result will benefit almost every bee-

keeper in the district covered by the Western Classification Committee. It will be easier to get the reduction in other districts and the Goold, Shapley & Muir Co have already made the necessary application in Canada. We have from an official high in office an almost definite promise that we will get the reduction in classification in Canada also. We hope matters will be arranged in time to get the reduction before moving the 1895 honey crop. The above is another instance of the necessity of not giving up but sticking to an object until it is accomplished.

* * *

Swarming has been rather late to begin this year. We had our first swarm June 1st, others have reported Swarming swarms on the same day later and in one case, as will be seen in another column, a little earlier.

* * *

In the June number it will be remembered we stated that the bees in our apiary had not been examined, but Chilled chilled brood, owing to the Brood. sudden drop in temperature. was suspected. Upon later examination we found chilled brood in only one hive. Even after so severe and exceptional a test we are still satisfied with adjusting entrances and packing on the top of the hive. We should like to hear the opinions of others.

* * *

It will be remembered that we offered a prize of a Knoll Washer to the individual getting the largest new list The Prize. of members to the Ontario Bee-Keeper's Association. We stated at the time that a small list would doubtless receive the prize. Mr. D. W. Heise, Bethesda, has won the prize worth \$10—the list consisted of two new members. We will now offer another prize of a number 1 smoker (value \$1.25) to the bee keeper sending in in the largest list of new members to the Ontario Bee-Keeper's

Association. The list must be in Secretary Couse's hands by August 15, 1895.

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It has been pretty definitely decided to hold the North American Bee-Keepers'

The North
American Bee-
Keepers'
Convention.

Convention, beginning Wednesday evening, Sept. 4, closing some time on Friday, Sept. 6th. Quite a few are exerting

their influence to get very low rates during that time from many of the States of the Union. The following is a list and if any of our readers can do anything with them we would like them to exert themselves. Delaware, Lackawanna and Western R.R., Howard J. Ball, 11 Exchange St., Buffalo, F. Y.; New York Central and West Shore R. R., Edson J. Weeks, cor. Exchange and Main Streets, Buffalo, N. Y.; Western New York and Pa. R. R., J. A. Fellows, 81 Exchange St., Buffalo, N. Y.; Lehigh Valley R. B., Charles S. Lee, General Passenger Agent, Philadelphia, Pa.; Nickel Plate R. R., B. F. Horner, General Passenger Agent, Cleveland, Ohio; New York, Lake Erie and Western R. R., M. F. Fouts, General Passenger Agent, Cleveland, Ohio; Cleveland, Canton & Southern R. R., F. R. Briggs, General Passenger Agent, Cleveland, Ohio; (Erie Lines East of Buffalo, J. H. Jaeger, 177 Main St., Buffalo, N. Y.)

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Everywhere the prospects are exceedingly bright for the North American Bee-Keepers' Convention which is Later. to meet at Toronto during the time of the Toronto Exhibition.

Between the efforts of the able and hard-working Secretary of the Toronto Industrial Exhibition, Mr. H. J. Hill, and the efforts of many bee-keepers and those having a sturdy influence in particular, the reduced railroad rates will cover a greater amount of territory than expected. A half-price railroad rate will prevail from any part of Michigan State to Toronto, and in the next number of the CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL we shall doubtless be able to an-

nounce many more reductions. We only require a fairly good honey season to have the largest attendance of members the North American has ever had. If you have any question you should like discussed at the Toronto convention, send it to the Secretary, W. Z. Hutchinson, Flint, Mich. or to the president, R. F. Holtermann, Brantford. If you have a subject relating to bee-keeping—none other is wanted—and you know of some one who can give light on the subject send the man's name and the subject. If you have a new invention send it to the Toronto Exhibition this year for all the members will visit that and for particulars of entry write to H. J. Hill, Secretary, Industrial Exhibition, Toronto. If you are a beginner in bee keeping come along, you will not be forgotten, there will be subjects treated especially for your benefit, send us your name if you intend coming so we can publish a list in the CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL and other Bee Journals. If you want a place to stop at provided for you during the Convention, write R. F. Holtermann as soon as you decide.

Bees are strong but have no new swarms yet, as cold weather and hard frost has put them back considerably. If warm weather continues I will soon have swarms, but there will not be much clover honey with me this year.

DANIEL EBY,

Moorfield, June 7th, 1895.

Hillside Apiary, Campbellford, May 28th.
Editor C. B. J.

In accordance with promise send in my report for the past winter, I lost 3 out of 25 colonies, wintered out of doors and 1 out of 16 wintered in bee house, besides two out of doors queenless and very weak. I did not expect my bees to winter very well as there was a good deal of honey dew in the hives last fall. This is a hard spring on bees so far and prospects for honey in this locality very blue as the late frosts have damaged what clover there was badly and basswood trees are so scarce that we cannot count much on it, even if the weather is favorable which it is not apt to be so. I don't think we are likely to be deluged with honey this season. I hear of several parties having lost money and others all their colonies last winter.

MISS H. F. BULLER.

Better Organization

NEEDED AMONG BEE-KEEPERS.

Two articles in this issue of *The Review*, those of Messrs. Case and Marks, touch upon the matter of organization, and what it may accomplish. The topic is not a new one. Beekeepers have long recognized the necessity for better and more thorough organization. It has long been deplored that the North American is not a representative body, and many are the schemes that have been devised for bringing about this most devoutly to be wished for consummation, but so far they have come to naught. The sending of delegates from the county societies to the state societies, and from the states to the North American is not possible on account of the expense. Perhaps the expense would be borne if there were sufficient incentive, such, for instance, as there is in politics. But political organizations are conducted on a different basis, and with different ends in view than is the case with agricultural organizations. The half a dozen or dozen members of a county society do not feel like going down into their individual pockets and paying \$1.00 each to send one of their members to the meeting of the state society. There is a feeling that the delegate is a favored man (and he is) that he is going to the state meeting at their expense, and that no benefit will come to them from his attendance. And there would be no direct benefit. A prosperous and powerful state organization of beekeepers is a benefit to the beekeepers of that state, and a national organization of this character is a national benefit, and a local beekeeper who helps to build up a local society that sends its delegate to the state society that in its turn contributes to the prosperity of a national organization, indirectly receives a benefit for the money and time so spent; but said benefits seem so far away in the dim and misty future, while the hard earned dollar resting so snugly in the pocket seems too near and tangible to be parted with. Having the local societies auxiliary to state societies, and the latter auxiliary to the North American is the plan that has always been proposed, and always failed—failed, I think, for the reason that I have given. Except in an indirect way the North American has nothing to give in return for the support that might come from the state societies, and the latter have nothing

to give in return to local societies for sending delegates. In mutual insurance companies, and other similar orders, each "lodge" is dependent on the others, and all upon the grand "lodge" for existence; there is a direct, tangible motive for the building up of other "lodges," and a general support of the "order." There is a certain amount of selfishness in human nature that must be recognized in all successful attempts at organization. A man does not use his money, time and influence in perfecting and building up an organization, unless there is at least a hope that he may reap some reward. One reason why the Bee Keepers' Union has met with the success that it has, is because each member is privileged to call for help should he at any time suffer persecution. It is true that this was not only motive. Professional pride, sympathy for a brother in trouble, a natural resentment against persecution, and acknowledge that such an organization would work to the good of bee-keeping in general, all had their weight, but would not have been sufficient in many instances. There was needed a personal, selfish interest.

The primary object of apicultural conventions is supposed to be that of discussing subjects pertaining to bee-keeping with a view to improvement. So thoroughly have the journals done their work, that, especially with leading bee-keepers, this motive for meeting is not a very strong one. The leading motive now is the social feature—to see the "boys" and have a good time.

To bring about a strong, efficient national organization of bee-keepers, every possible obstacle and cost should be removed, and every possible motive appealed to as an inducement for giving it support. For these reasons I think it would be better if the North American and the Bee-Keepers' Union were merged into one society. As it now is the members and officers of the Union never hold any meetings. All discussions are made either in the journals or by mail, and all voting is done by mail. To the plan of voting by mail, I see no objections, but I do think it would be an advantage if the officers and leading members, or as many as wish to attend, could meet in convention once a year and discuss ways and means face to face. When there was a change made in its constitution three years ago, the subject was first discussed in the jour-

nals, then continued in a meeting of the North American where certain changes were recommended and finally adopted by the Union, a decision being arrived at by means of a vote made by mail.

The object of the North American is to meet socially and discuss apianian topics for mutual improvement. The primary object the Union was to defend its members against unjust persecution, but its constitution has now been changed so that money may be used for any purpose thought advisable by the board. I see no reason why these two national societies should not join forces, making one grand organization endowed with the characteristics now possessed by both. There could be the grand rally each year in a convention the same as is now enjoyed by the North American, the same class of topics discussed, and, in addition, there could be the free face to face discussion regarding that class of issues with which the Union has to deal. I think that it would be well to retain the name, North American Bee-Keepers' Association. I would also suggest that there be a President, 1st and 2nd Vice Presidents, a Secretary and a Treasurer, and that these officers constitute the executive board. In addition to the duties that now devolve upon the Secretary of the North American, I would have him take up also those now performed by the General Manager of the Union. That is, if the two organizations were combined, I would have the combined duties of both executive officers performed by one man, and the society should have sufficient members so that the Secretary-Manager could devote a large share, if not the whole, of his time to the performance of these duties. It would seem that all of the bee keepers in this great and glorious country could keep one man profitably employed in thus looking after their interest.

There are many things, aside from those already done by the Union and North American, that might be done by such an organization with an efficient executive officer at its head and money in its treasury. The feature mentioned by Mr. Case is a case in point, viz., that of looking after and reporting swindlers. I don't know as the constitution of the present Union would need any change to allow of such work being done. Two or three times the Review has exposed some swindler, but this was not done until numerous complaints had been received, and considerable time elapsed. To call a man a swindler because one man said so would often lead to unjust accusations. When an apparently just complaint is made the Union could make a thorough investigation, more thorough than one man could afford to make. As Mr. Case says, a

man would "brace up," and do the fair thing by his customers when he found that his unsatisfactory methods were likely to be published to the members of the North American. I frequently receive complaints of fraud, unfairness and unsatisfactory methods of conducting business, but before publishing anything of this character, a publisher must have absolute proof of the correctness of such statements. To secure such proof is often too much trouble and expense for one man to bear.

Perhaps something might be done in the way of helping bee keepers to secure better prices for their honey, or to market it in a more satisfactory manner. Fruit exchanges have helped the peach growers of New Jersey and the orange growers of California, and it is possible that something in this line might be done by honey producers if they were sufficiently organized. All such questions as these would, of course, come up in convention. — Bee-Keepers' Review.

Poison Sumach and Poison Ivy.

There is a difference in the general appearance of the plants, both as to stalks and foliage, by which the poisonous and the harmless varieties of the sumach can be distinguished from each other, writes Eben E. Rexford in a very valuable article on "Our Poisonous Plants," in the June Ladies' Home Journal. The former has light-colored stalks frequently blotched with white or gray, and the foliage is thin and firm in texture with a glossy surface, while the latter has a soft, thick leaf, a brown stalk, hairy in the early stages of the new growth, and is of much stronger habit, often becoming quite a tree. This variety bears fruit thickly covered with crimson hairs in spiky, terminal bunches, while the poisonous variety has berries of a greenish white—very similar in size and color to those of the poison ivy—in loose, pendent clusters, along the upper part of the branches. The harmless rhus is almost always found on the uplands and in open places, while the poisonous sort prefers moist ground and shade. The former takes on a most beautiful variegation in the fall, its pinnate, palmate foliage turning to red, scarlet and maroon of exceedingly rich and brilliant shades, while the latter becomes a pale yellow. This poisonous variety is a most dangerous plant. It is worse than the poison ivy by far. Many persons cannot pass near it without being affected, as if they had really handled it, strange as it may seem. It seems to be able to communicate its virulent qualities to the atmosphere which surrounds it.

Convenient Hive For Outdoor Wintering.

—D. W. Heise.

In complying to the request made by the editor for suggestions along the line of helping Will Ellis, to solve the problem as to the best, cheapest and lightest arrangements for outdoor wintering with least labor, I propose to describe a hive which I am making for outdoor wintering, as well as a convenient summer hive. I do not know that I can aid him any in the manner of cheapness because if he expects to get a strong, practicable, good all purpose winter hive, without the necessary expense attached, I fear he will have to continue with fussing with packing cases, clamps, and cheap lumber, the latter I am sure is not the wisest economy, when we consider years of usefulness, Mr. Ellis's method of using one hive for winter, and another one for summer, I cannot pass without a little criticism. If Mr. E. was situated as I am, namely, very limited space for hive stands, I am afraid he would be at the additional expense of renting a lot from his neighbor in which to stack his winter hives in summer. The hive I intend to use hereafter will do away with all such unnecessary work. The description of my hive is thus. I first make the brood chamber out of $\frac{3}{4}$ inch lumber, the sides being the desired depth the ends being $\frac{3}{8}$ of an inch narrower, the sides nailed square on to the ends, I next tack 3 plies of common felt building paper on all four sides of this box, I then nail on another thickness of boards $\frac{3}{4}$ inch thick, nail on the ends first thus lapping over the ends of the sides of the first box the ends in this case are the same width as the sides thus leaving a rabbet for the tin frame rests, In this outer case cheap lumber can be used either matched, ship-lap or bevelled as desired. A $\frac{3}{4}$ and $1\frac{1}{4}$ inch strip with a $\frac{3}{4}$ rabbet taken cut of the upper outside corner is nailed around the upper edge of the hive, letting the lips left by the rabbet come even with the upper edge of the hive, next make a rim out of $\frac{3}{4}$ inch lumber 1 inch wider than the hive body, from the bottom edge of the strip above spoken of; to the bottom of the hive, and large enough so it will fit loosely in the rabbet of the strip which has been nailed on the upper edge of the hive as described. I like this run on my hives very much for several reasons a few of which I may

enumerate. In early spring when manipulating frames filled with young brood they can be raised up in this rim to be examined and are greatly protected from chill winds. This rim also protects surplus supers as they can be tiered up as high as desired the same as the supers. The covers I use are gable ends with side three inches deep and made so they fit either the hive with or without the rim. The rim and the depth of cover will take in two section supers or one extracting super. I make another rim same size as the one described but only $\frac{1}{4}$ inches deep and tack a piece of canvas over the bottom and fill with chaff instead of cushion. This rim also fits into the rabbet and the cover fits the upper edge. It will be noticed that by making the first rim mentioned to fit into the rabbet it will be $\frac{1}{4}$ inch larger on all sides the body of the hive. A loose bottom is to be used on this hive and large enough so when the hive is set on it will project $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches on each side, $1\frac{1}{4}$ and a quarter inches at back and as much in front as may be desired for an alighting board. Now all that is necessary to prepare this hive for winter is to lift the hive off the bottom board, set the rim in its place and drop the hive into the rim it will drop down to the strip with the rabbet thus the frames will be $1\frac{1}{2}$ in. from the bottom board. Now put on your rim filled with chaff and the cover on top and the job is done. In this hive we have 3 thickness of boards equal to $1\frac{1}{2}$ in., $\frac{3}{4}$ in. dead air space and 3 thickness of felt paper, I might say further that I have tested this hive along side of a double-walled hive stuffed with dry sawdust with a thermometer in each. I made 4 tests and in every instance the paper lined hive stood on an equal with the packed hive. Now Bro. Ellis, if you can understand this long description try it, perhaps, Mr. Editor can simplify the description somewhat. All who have seen this hive pronounce it a perfect arranged winter hive providing it gives the same results as the packed hive, which I am satisfied it will, and it is much lighter, much smaller in size and a most vermin proof. Now I have no patent on this hive, do no manufacture for sale. Have no axe to grind etc. So make it, who choose.

Bethesda, Ont., Feb'y 8th, 1895.

The Swarming Season.

As we are in the midst of the swarming season I thought I would give you a short sketch of my method of hiving swarms which I believe will be old to quite a number of your readers as quite a large number

are experienced beekeepers. However, such old heads can pass on and leave this article for the beginners who are constantly entering the field of agriculture. Then again, you are receiving new subscribers who do not know very much about beekeeping. Now, to start out with, I always endeavor to have everything in readiness before the swarming season commenced, such as hives, foundations, sections, etc. A few years ago I used to use the Jones hive and make all my swarms by dividing. I soon got sick of the artificial business and converted the old style of hive into kindling wood and adopted the Langstroth hive and let each colony swarm once. I keep all queens' wings clipped. As soon as I notice a swarm coming out of a hive I make for a given cage which should be kept in a convenient place. As soon as the queen comes out and is hopping about the ground I place the cage over her; then I remove the old colony from its present stand for a short distance; then I place a new or empty hive with sets of foundation; I also put a super underneath the new hive for a day or so to give them lots of room and keep them cool. Sometimes I give the new swarm a card of brood from the old stand, which will prevent a new swarm from absconding. Now that I have removed the old colony from its stand the bees, finding that they have no queen, will return to the old stand and enter the new hive which has been placed on it. When quite a number of the bees have marched up into the hive I lift the cage off the queen and she marches in with the remainder of the bees and my swarm is hived. Should a swarm be a little slow in returning I usually give them a few squirts of water from a force pump, which will start them back to their hive at once. Some one will ask, what did you do with the old colony? Well, I place the old colony on a new stand at once. In from two to three days I remove the super from underneath the new colony, put on a queen excluder and remove the surplus box with its contents from the old stock and place it on the new colony, from which I expect to get my surplus and let the old colony build up in good shape for winter. My bees are booming on white and alsike clover. No basswood this year: frost destroyed the bloom.

A. FYFE.

[The above is a good practical article. Mr. Fyfe has kept bees with success for many years and we hope we shall hear from him again.—Ed.]

QUEENS.

Read at the Leeds and Grenville Beekeepers' Convention.

The queen is one of the most important considerations in the apiary. Not only upon her largely depends the numerical strength of the hive, but the disposition of the colony as to vitality, energy, and other traits depend upon the queen and the drone with which she mates.

Careful and dispassionate consideration of all that may influence the queen and her progeny for good or ill may at the present time be of value. The fact that many are ready upon the receipt of a good looking queen to send a letter praising her to the skies is certainly no indication that those individuals have given this matter careful consideration and are open to judge a queen according to true merits. What should the queen-breeder consider before undertaking to supply the public with queens? He should by personal observation or through that of another party, absolutely reliable, have made a selection of a breeding queen. This selection should not be made without having had the queen at for at least one year, and still longer is even better. The progeny of that queen should have as far as possible the following combined traits:—good honey producing qualities, finish of comb honey, non-swarming propensity, good handling qualities, transmit this characteristic to her daughter queens, and beauty. It will be seen I have not said anything about wintering and building up in the spring prolific qualities, and longevity. The reason is that the proof of these lies in the power to produce honey and simplifies the question very much.

Then as to drones in the apiary, as careful a selection should be made and the drones from all inferior strains kept well under. Difficult as it is to select properly the queen, it is yet more difficult to select the drone, and perhaps here is the reason that careful level-headed stock men do not pay greater attention to selection for desirable traits in queens. But because we must run a certain amount of chance on the second half of the loaf is surely no reason why we should spurn that half, and again if we succeed in getting a fairly fixed strain in the queen if she does get mixed with a drone with all kinds of blood in its veins, the fixed strain will very much overshadow the inferior.



W. A. CHRYSLER, CHATHAM, ONT.

The work thus far has been difficult and can only be done by an exceedingly careful and painstaking apiarist, yet the difficulties connected with getting a desirable mother for our worker bees has by no means ended.

There are many ways of securing queen-cells and I am really not prepared to say what is the best way of starting queen-cells although I could easily point out some of the worst methods. I have not made a success of starting queen-cells in colonies with queens. My method has often been described. Put a comb in the colony you desire to rear queens from and have eggs just hatched ready when the colony which has been made queenless for the purpose of starting cells is ready.

To get a colony which is to rear cells, I take a strong stock of bees and remove the queen and as soon after they begin the queenless hum I give them the brood. I first remove all brood sealed or unsealed leaving only two or three combs of honey and pollen. Then I cut out strips of comb with larvae just from the egg and all of the same age and shave the cell wall within about $\frac{1}{2}$ of an inch from the septum and with the phosphorus end of a match destroy two cells leaving the third. This prevents queen-cells from being built together. These strips are fastened by means of melted wax and resin to the under side of strips of wood fastened in an ordinary frame

averaging about fifteen cells to the batch, more can often be secured, after ten days the cells are carefully removed and without chilling or jarring separated and put with nuclei. These nuclei consist of two Langstrath frames with brood and bees enough to keep all warm. I slip a cell protector over the cells to prevent tearing down by the bees should their inclination run in that direction.

If the above precautions are taken to get good queens, it means a good deal of careful work and queens so reared cannot be sold at the same price as some inferior. I believe and know a nice looking queen can be reared but I am by no means certain that the choicest queens are those which are the brightest and those which throw the yellowest workers. It is a comparatively easy matter to breed for external appearance, but the true friend of beekeeping will not be satisfied with such superficial selection.

Of course, I do not claim that by the above method queens can be reared superior to a queen from the same mother under the swarming impulse, but I think the queens are quite as good, and it is impracticable to rear many under the swarming impulse. My paper is longer than I intended it should be but it has even now been treated in only a very general way. The balance is left for discussion.

R. F. HOLTERMANN.

Grading Honey.

—G. M. Doolittle

A correspondent writes me saying: "Won't you give us an article in THE CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL on grading honey, as the time is near at hand when we shall want to prepare our surplus honey for market, if we have any. Tell us what to put in No. 1, what for No. 2, and what for No. 3, making all so plain that a beginner in apiculture need not fail to know how it is done? I am afraid the task assigned me is rather a difficult one, for a system of grading honey which may be pleasing to myself, may not be the one which will please others, but as I know of some other successful beekeepers which are using a plan of grading similar to the one I have adopted. I will do the best I can in telling how I grade honey. Some years ago, Syracuse, N. Y., was the only place in which I sold my honey, the same being bought by one man, at from twenty-five to twenty-eight cents per lb. As here was where I first received instructions as to grading honey, of course I did it in accordance with his wishes, he instructing me to put about a like proportion of different grades of white honey in each crate, as that was the way he preferred it, so this gave him the best results in the end, he said. At this time we used crates holding one hundred or more pounds, so that such grading answered better at that time than it would had the small crates of the present been used, holding only from ten to twenty-five lbs. Later on this man was removed by death, and as Syracuse became a poor market for honey, I was obliged to seek a one elsewhere. I tried peddling a little but soon decided that peddling was not my forte, so I began to ship my honey on commission. Calling on the shipping crates as I had before been instructed. The parties to whom I consigned my honey soon began to write me saying they could obtain more satisfactory prices for me if I would make at least three grades of my white honey, putting the dark or buckwheat honey as a fourth grade. The next year I tried the plan with a part, and sent the rest as I had heretofore done. The result was as I had been told the grading bringing me quite an advance over the other not so graded. For instance, No. 1 sold at 20c per lb.; No. 2 at 18c; while No. 3 sold at 14c; making an average of a little over 18c a pound. That which was

not graded sold at 16 cents. The reason for this seems to be that two or three sections poor honey in crate has a tendency to disgust people so that they can scarcely see the good honey at all, or the poor sections are used as a "lever" to bring the rate down to that of third grade as nearly as possible; while if all are poor they do not expect to purchase it for less than two-thirds the price of good honey. Again, the contrast between good and poor honey, both being in the same crate, is greater than it is when in separate crates, unless the two are side by side so that one can be compared with the other. Human conception, taken in through the eye, is faulty to certain extent unless the things to be compared are so arranged that the eye can take such things in as a collection, at one glance. For instance, I have a grade of all No. 1 honey in my honey house, or a sample of it, and all the No. 2 in my shop, three rods distant. A purchaser comes along and stops at the shop first. I show him the No. 2 honey. He calls it fine and thinks it compares favorably with any honey he has seen. I now take him to the honey house and show him the No. 1 honey, and nine chances out of ten he will say that he sees little difference in the two lots. Now take some No. 2 and No. 1 and put them side by side and he will say there is quite a difference. Now taking advantage of this fact, and all the lessons of the past, I grade my honey as follows: Every perfect section of nice white honey is placed in crates as No. 1. To be No. 1 the comb must be smoothly and evenly capped over throughout its entire surface, with no discoloration of the comb near the bottom of the section. The section itself must look new and clean, while no cells of bee-bread must be seen while looking through the honey toward the light. No. 2 honey is to be the same as No. 1 except that in it is put all the sections with discolored or soiled combs near the bottom of so discolored or soiled by the bees traveling over them, together with such sections as show a few cells of pollen covered with honey when held up in the light. In No. 3 grade I put all sections having a few unsealed cells at the bottom of the combs, those that by accident or by brace-combs have their surfaces marred a little; all such as may have pollen in them to a sufficient extent exclude them from No. 2 and all that are badly soiled or discolored by the travel of the bees or by the working in of brown wax from the combs in the brood chamber in capping the section honey. If I have any sections in which brood has been reared or that are one third unsealed, they are put up by themselves and go as

No. 4 or dark honey. As a rule those that are not two-thirds sealed over had better be extracted and the combs kept over till another season. In shipping this honey, I send only one grade to one commission merchant, preferring not to consign the different grades to the same party, for when I have done so it often happens that No. 2 will sell at from two to four cents per pound less than No. 1, while if No. 2 is sent to another party he will sell it for nearly if not the same price that No. 1 sold at. Here comes in the point of comparison again. I might go on and multiply words by citing many instances in confirmation of the correctness of the above conclusions, but I think that this will be sufficient, so that the reader will "catch on," and if nothing else will convince him or her that the above is correct, I am sure that one trial of the matter will prove the above course to be the a lvisable one:
 Borodino, N. Y.

Toronto Industrial Exhibition Prize List for 1895.

HONEY AND APIARY SUPPLIES.

COMMITTEE.—Mr. R. J. Score (Chairman), Messrs Geo. Vair, Jas. Crocker and R. F. Holtermann.

All honey exhibited must be the product of the exhibitor, and with the exception of Secs. 1 and 2, the production of 1895.

The quantities specified in the various sections are the amount of honey on which the award of the prize is to be made, but this rule does not apply to Sec. 17, in which the quantity is not limited.

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

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

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

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

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

Entries positively close August 10th.

Open to all bee keepers (Agents excluded.)

Entrance fee, 25 cents each entry.

Sec.	1st	2nd	2rd	4th
1. Best and most attractive display of 50 lbs. of extracted granulated Clover honey, in glass, quality to count 75 points, display 25 points.....	\$5	\$3	\$2	\$1

Sec.	1st	2nd	3rd	4th
2. Best and most attractive display of 50 lbs. of extracted granulated Linden Honey, in glass, quality to count 75 points. display 25 points	5	3	2	1
3. Best display of 500 lbs. of liquid extracted Honey, of which not less than 250 lbs. must be in glass, quality to count 75 points, display 25 points	20	15	10	5
4. Best 50 lbs. of Comb Honey in sections, quality as per score card to count 100 points, display 33; total, 133 points	25	20	12	6
5. Best 12 sections of Comb Honey, quality to be considered, that is to say clean sections and best filled	6	3	2	1
6. Best 100 lbs. of extracted Liquid Linden Honey, in glass, quality to count 75 points, display 25 points.....	8	5	3	
7. Best 100 lbs. of extracted Liquid Clover Honey, in glass, quality to count 75 points, display 25 points.....	8	5	3	
8. Best 10 lbs. of extracted Liquid Clover Honey, in glass.....	4	3	2	1
9. Best 10 lbs. of extracted Liquid Linden Honey, in glass.....	4	3	2	1
10. Best 10 lbs. of extracted Liquid Buckwheat Honey, in glass.....	4	3	2	1
11. Best Beeswax, not less than 10 lbs.	5	3	2	1
12. Best foundation for brood chamber	3	2	1	
13. Best foundation for sections	3	2	1	
14. Best Apiarian supplies { 1 Silver medal and \$5 2 Bronze medal and \$3				
15. Best and most practical new invention for the Apiarian never shown before at this Exhibition	8	5	3	2
16. Best six varieties of use- to which Honey may be put in preparing articles for domestic use, the increase they are likely to make in the demand for honey, quality and originality to be considered.....	7	5	3	
17. For the largest, most tasty and neatly arranged exhibit of honey in the Apiarian Department, all the honey to be the product of the exhibitor, \$25 of this prize is given by the Ontario Bee-Keepers' Association.....	30	20	10	
18. Best display setting forth bee-keeping, the award given for the display which will be of the greatest value as a public educator. Some of the points to be illustrated being the natura history of the bee, method of bee-keeping, the magnitude of the industry. Any portion or all of the foregoing sections may be included in the above exhibit, and the articles exhibited need not be the production or manufacture of the exhibitor. \$25 of this prize is given by R. F. Holtermann, Brantford	35	25	15	10
19. To the exhibitor taking the largest number of first prizes for Honey at this Exhibition, 1895	1 Silver medal			1 Bronze medal

IMPORTANT NOTICE.—The annual convention of the Bee-Keepers' Association of North America will be held at Toronto during the Exhibition.

Smoke and Proper Manipulation Better Than Bee-Escapes for Removing Combs.

S. T. Pettit.

Removing filled combs from supers for extracting and replacing therein empty combs is looked upon by many as being a slow trying job and fraught with danger from many stings. And indeed, from the way many go at the work, it is that part of beekeeping to be dreaded. No wonder at all that many resort to the bee-escape for help.

The practice of brushing each comb clean as taken out is so slow that the bees get more or less demoralized before the super is more than one-half clear of combs and a large amount of smoke is often necessary in order to go on with the work. And then the bees will often boil over the side of the super and besides that brushing when first lifted out will cause them to sting: then they get another dose of smoke. Now, all this is hard on both the operator and the bees. That is the way I did it years ago, but a happy thought came over me that there must be a better way, quicker way; one that could be performed without danger of stings and altogether better for the poor bees, and the very first trial proved a perfect success.

This is the way I do it now: first give a couple of smart whiffs of smoke in the entrance, then blow smoke smartly under the quilt and the bees will rush downwards, then remove the quilt or cloth and for a moment rush the bees down with smoke; now is your opportunity, lift the combs out quickly and shake off what bees you can quickly and lean the combs against the back part of the hive or any other convenient thing, or place them in a light box for the purpose. Now, keep on a hustle and as soon as the last card is out, drop in and adjust your empty combs and close up the hive. Now, see, all this must be done before the reaction or return of the bees sets in and your bees are still in good humor and their zeal for gathering honey is not decreased by the presence of those empty combs and everything is lovely.

The process of brushing the remaining bees from the combs will be found pleasant and easy for by this time they feel lost and lonely and they are in no mood for self defence. I had rather remove the filled combs and replace them with empty ones than adjust and remove a bee-escape. And then, I fancy that the bees being crowded into the brood chamber and the consequent excite-

ment caused by the bee-escape would work up swarming fever.

Belmont, Ont., June 15th, 1895.

P. S.—I go right on with this work in the robbing season. I place a robber cloth over the comb box and just when commencing operations I fill said box with smoke, this keeps the robbers at bay. At such seasons I have an assistant to keep the air over and about the hive pretty full of smoke.

S. T. P.

Patent Granted.

Dummy comb for bee-hives, Lewis A. Aspinwall, filed July 23rd, 1894.

Claim.—1. As a new article of manufacture, a dummy comb for bee-hives, composed of a layer of wood or other material with holes passing through and through the same of a size adapted to receive the bees and furnish standing room, substantially as set forth.

2. As a new article of manufacture, a dummy comb for bee-hives, composed of a layer of wood or other material with holes passing through and through the same of a size adapted to receive the bees and furnish standing room, and having a supporting frame, there being spaces between the frame and the dummy comb for the passage of the queen, workers and drones, substantially as set forth.

3. The combination in a bee-hive with the frames for the ordinary combs of dummy combs introduced between the ordinary combs and having openings through them to give standing room for the bees without affording facility for the formation of comb or the deposit of honey and to lessen the risk of swarming, substantially as specified.

The North American Bee-Keepers' Convention at Toronto.

The date for holding the North American Convention in Toronto has now been decided upon, viz., Sept. 4th, 5th, and 6th, the first session being on the evening of the 4th. A place for holding the meetings, the auditorium of the Normal school, has been secured, the officers are now at work securing reduced rates on the railroads and preparing a programme, and would be especially pleased to receive suggestions in regard to subjects that ought to be discussed. Don't keep still now and then complain afterwards that the programme was not what it ought to be. Send your suggestions to the secretary, W. Z. Hutchinson, Flint Mich.

Superseding Queens and Wintering.

—Jacob Alpaugh.

To have my colonies winter and all do well the next season, I prefer young queens and from good stock. To do this I go around just after the honey harvest is over, and hunt up all the colonies containing old queens, or colonies that did not winter well or do but little for me through the season. All such queens I kill as soon as I can after the flow, before the drones are all destroyed, I just let those hives start and raise cells, about eight days after I go through and destroy all cells where I do not wish any queens raised. Then I go to some hive where I killed an old queen that had previously done well, and take out cells and distribute them in the other hives where I had destroyed all cells. They will all accept them and in a few days will all have young queens and from good stock. Such queens are almost sure to do well for one season providing they are properly wintered. If I wish to change the blood in a few of my hives I would send to some reliable dealer and get queens, and have them ready to put right in when the other ones were killed, my experience with superseding in this way and at the above time is this, it prevents the colonies from using up a lot of stores, raising young bees only to die off and help to clog up the entrance in the winter. Where there is a fall flow it would probably be better to have young laying queens to replace the old ones.

Now the next thing is to prepare for winter. About the first of September or when the brood is pretty well hatched out. I weigh each hive and mark the weight on it, next I come along with the feed, weigh out just what each colony needs and give it to them all at once in large feeders. Where there is a fall flow this would have to be done later, but in all cases it is better to weigh them, and make sure that each colony has so much, than it is to guess at it. For out door wintering I pack just as soon as I get them fed up, if I have the packing. Four years ago I had three out apiaries to pack (out doors), the first one containing 10½ colonies I packed about the middle of September, it wintered without the loss of a single colony. The next one containing 40 colonies, I packed about the middle of October in this apiary I lost four per cent. The last one containing 40 colonies I packed about the middle of November in this apiary I lost ten per cent. Now these

apiaries were all fed up about the same time, to the same weight and on the same kind of stores. So I came to the conclusion that I had a clear case against late packing. With the exception of a few experiments, I have always used forest leaves for packing and I do not know of anything better. I have my hives in clumps of four, quite close together, two facing one way and two the opposite direction. I have come to the conclusion that it makes no difference which way the hives face, north, south, east or west. I make a box to hold four hives and pack them right where they sit during the summer. This is less expensive than packing them singly and one helps to keep the other warm in winter. A word or two more in favor of early packing I think it prevents the first cold spells from condensing the moisture of the bees in side of the hive where it would likely settle on the honey and probably cause it to be thin and sour, which would injure the stores for the bees to live on during a long cold winter. I usually leave them packed until they show signs of swarming, as they can brood up faster without the danger of the brood being chilled.

For cellar wintering I prefer to set them in early, and out again early, say March if I can get a day fit for them to fly I like a warm damp cellar. I used to winter in a temperature of 50° to 55° and they came out in fine condition, in fact I always wintered well in the cellar, but for all that, I am not on very good terms with cellar wintering. It used to worry me when I could not get a day fit to put the bees out until away near the first of May, and probably that would be Monday or Tuesday, just when the neighbors had their clothes out on the line, of course I had to go around and show my authority by ordering them all to take up their clothes as if I owned the whole city. In the country it is quite different, you do not have that fun.

It will be a little late by the time this gets to readers or I might have done a few hints on the production of comb honey. I may do so at some future time.

The Canadian Northwest for Bee-Keeping.

During my travels in the Province of Manitoba and the Northwest Territory ones last fall and early part of winter I was enabled by writing and conversing with several beekeepers to form a fairly intelligent idea of that part of our country as it relates to apiculture. I have previous to

this written you giving the experience of one gentleman in Manitoba who was remarkably successful and I wondered if there were more who had been equally so. I will now, without further comment, proceed to give you the experience of two gentlemen in high standing in Manitoba who have both had several years experience in bee-keeping there.

The first is Mr. S. A. Bedford, superintendent of the experimental farm at Brandon, whom I had the pleasure of meeting and conversing with in reference to our industry, and the second is Mr. Wm. Goodridge. Mr. Bedford has been in the province for 20 years, being one of the early one of the early settlers, and has been in charge at the farm for six years. He was furnished by the Dominion Government with several colonies of bees for the purpose of experimenting and finding out whether bees could be handled successfully in that province or not.

Mr. Bedford previous to this had an experience with bees other than what may have been received by him through watching others handle them but notwithstanding this fact he took hold with interest and soon became an enthusiastic bee-keeper. His duties as superintendent, however, prevent him from keeping a large number of colonies but with those he had he conducted some interesting experiments in wintering; having tried both inside and outdoor wintering and the final result has made him with others strong advocates of cellar wintering for Manitoba; The first four or five winters he wintered in the cellar without the loss of a colony and then he decided to try outdoor for one winter which he did, packing his whole stock, consisting of 10 hives, with chaff and sawdust. The one-half he packed with sawdust, putting about two feet of packing all around each hive, and the other five he packed in like manner with chaff and the following spring every colony was dead. Mr. Bedford uses the Jones single walled hive and has also tried the Heddon hive, but thinks he has not skill enough to use it and though I have never tried it I judge from what I have heard there are a good many more in the same box.

Mr. Bedford thinks the average yield per colony in his locality would be nearly 50 pounds.

The willows, of which there are a half dozen varieties, seem to attract the bees first in the spring and immediately following them about the 20th of May come the wild flowers in all their abundance and varied hues, which last till the first of September. Of these a great number seem to yield little if any nectar, the best

yielders being the flat-head golden rod for the fall and the queen of the meadows in the middle of the season. This is a tall plant somewhat resembling the golden rod in build being very tall and bushy on top with a pale red flower which yields well. The plant is well-known in Ontario. There is also in the fore part of the season the wild fruit, such as the currants, raspberries and saskatoon. Buckwheat and sweet clover are good growers, the latter standing the winter well and the white or Dutch clover which is so plentiful throughout Ontario, is becoming acclimatized. There is very little basswood at Brandon, but from Portage la Prairie east to the Red River there seems to be quite a quantity. There are no Canada thistles about Brandon for which Mr. Bedford, strange to say, is not sorry.

Mr. Goodridge came out from England 23 years ago and, like Mr. Bedford had no experience with bees till he bought a couple of colonies of Italian bees in Langstroth single-walled hives in the spring of 1890. These he successfully winters in his cellar. Last spring (1894) Mr. Goodridge had nine colonies, from which he took 600 lbs. of extracted honey and 50 lbs. of comb, and also had 18 swarms. The bees, as the above will indicate, are very much given to swarming.

Mr. Goodridge gets his honey principally from the wild flowers, white and alsike clover and (he is sorry to say) the thistles. The honey is principally of a light amber color and is of excellent quality, selling for 15c. per lb. extracted and 20c. for comb,

Mr. Goodridge does not think the winters are at all hard on the bees as he had not lost a colony, the previous winter every hive coming out with lots of honey and in good health.

Now, as far as I can see, those of us who have come to the conclusion sometime ago that the West is no place for bees, if we will just take the trouble to inquire into the matter a little we will be obliged to change our views considerably.

CANADIAN RAMBLER.

Have Pity, Gentle Reader.

We have on our books the names of a large number of people who are indebted to us in sums ranging from one to several dollars for subscriptions and job work. We are in urgent need of funds and must ask all to call and settle at an early date. No business man has a harder battle to fight at a time when money is "tight" than the

man who conducts a newspaper in a country town. The editor scans his subscription list and hopes against hope that some, at least, will return favorable replies to the notices which have been sent out. This notifying business is the most disagreeable part of an editor's work, but it must be done. Printers cannot live on wind, although they expend much of it on occasions, and when there is no return. One hundred subscribers in arrears coming in with a dollar each some fine Saturday morning would make any editor's heart jump with joy. There is not a country newspaper in Canada that has not this number in arrears. This paper has it, but this little appeal may bring about the phenomenon of which I write and there is not a single subscriber so poor that he cannot pay that dollar. Let the process begin.—Blenheim News.

[We can endorse much of what has been said in the above. Many a reader thinks a dollar does not amount to much but unfortunately too many readers are of the same mind at one time and the result is that many dollars are due which should be paid.—Ed.]

Quarterly Meeting Brant Bee-Keepers' Association.

The regular quarterly meeting of the Brant Bee-Keepers' Association, took place at the Court House, Brantford, Saturday, May 11th. Amongst those present were J. R. Howell, Thos. Birkett, R. F. Holtermann, C. Edmonson, Brantford; J. Shaver, F. J. Davis, Cainsville; R. L. Patterson, Lynden; Alex. Taylor, Paris. The president R. F. Holtermann in the chair.

After the secretary C. Edmonson, read the minutes the question of affiliation with the Ontario Bee Keepers Association was taken up and after some discussion it was decided to take the necessary steps to affiliate with the Ontario Bee-Keepers' Association. It was moved by J. R. Howell and seconded by Thos. Birkett, that the president and secretary be a committee to wait on the Horticultural Fair Board to make, if possible arrangements for a honey exhibit in connection with the Horticultural exhibit.—Carried.

It was moved by J. Shaver, seconded by F. J. Davis and carried, that the association take the CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL, each member paying for his membership fee 50c.

Spring reports and winter losses were as follows:

	Fall	Spring	Loss
J. Shaver.....	45	40	5
J. R. Howell.....	65	40	25
R. L. Patterson...105		don't know	
F. J. Davis.....	30	27	3
C. Edmonson....	37	26	11
Alex. Taylor.....	16	13	3
Thos. Birkett....	30	23	7
R. F. Holtermann	90	86	4

Members strongly condemned the letter of W. F. Clarke in the Mail and Empire, and a resolution was passed as published in the June number of the CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL.

A discussion upon the question of spring feeding came up. It was thought advisable to feed during the present spring as fruit blossom would be nothing. The meeting then adjourned.

A Resolution.

Moved by Mr. B. Holmes of Athens, and seconded by R. H. Smith of St. Thomas, that the Ontario Bee-Keepers' Association desire to place on record their sincere regret at the death of Samuel Corneil of Lindsay, the honored secretary of the this association. During the many years in which he has served as an officer of this association he has by his uniform courtesy, gained the lightest respect and universal friendship, not only of the entire community where he resided, but of the bee-keepers throughout the Dominion.

Questions affecting the honey industry have at all times received his active and intelligent consideration and his nature judgment, joined to many years of practical experience, has been of great value to Ontario. We, his colleagues, feel keenly the severing of the link that has bound us in many years of true and loyal friendship. Therefore be it resolved, that our heartfelt sympathy and condolence are hereby extended to the family of our late colleague in their great bereavement, and we trust that in the midst of their grief they will remember the words of Him, who has promised to be a husband to the widow and a father to the fatherless; and further, that this resolution be recorded on the minutes and an engrossed copy signed by the president and secretary, be sent to the family of the late Samuel Corneil.

The above resolution was adopted at the first meeting of the board of directors at Stratford, and should have been read again in open convention after the presidents address, but it was inadvertently omitted.

M. B. HOLMES,
Athens, Ont.

Before the Western

Classification Committee

Freight Rates on Extracted Honey in Bulk
Materially Reduced.

By Herman F. Moore in Gleanings in Bee Culture.

Mr. Root:—Dr. C. C. Miller has just left my office with Mr. Geo. W. York, and will stay one night at Ravenswood with him. The doctor stayed at my home last night. He says he has often been asked to pronounce a benediction, but answered that he was not a minister. But I tell you it is a benediction to have Dr. M. for a guest; and if he did not preach to us—why, I never heard preaching. Mrs. Moore and myself were charmed by the doctor's visit. He sang for us in his own inimitable style and played an accompaniment on the piano.

We had 45 minutes before the full committee. It consisted of about sixty men of all ages, from the youth of 25 years to the gray-headed veteran railroader, seated at a long table in a room 75 feet in length.

Dr. Miller called attention to the fact that the bee business is a great and growing industry: that it needs encouragement from the railroads to develop into one of the greatest interests in the land. He said, by way of parenthesis, that he was there in the interest of the roads; that if they'd give us lower rates we'd give them more business. He mentioned the fact that one supply firm had shipped seven carloads to western points in one month (The A. I. Root Co.); also that fourteen carloads of honey was shipped from Arizona in 1894 to one firm in Chicago (R. A. Burnett & Co.).

Nine petitions were presented to the Western Classification Committee by the chairman of the committee appointed by the North American Beekeepers Association: at its convention at St Joseph (Dr. C. C. Miller, of Marengo, Ill.). Petitions on four of these same articles were presented by the A. I. Root Co., of Medina, O.

Bee-hives in the flat was first on the list. Through the kindness of T. G. Newman, sample packages of stuff were on hand to show the committee. Mr. York, editor and publisher of the American Bee Journal, assisted the writer in elevating the samples in view of the committee. Attention was called to the fact that bee-hives in the flat (K. D.) have no greater value than average lumber shipments, and that the Trans-con-

tinental Committee had already rated them with box stuff at a very low rate.

Samples of the Crane and Clark smokers were next shown to the committee. They took great interest in these, and one or two amused themselves in a quiet way by aiming the current of air at a fellow-committeeman's face.

Samples of honey-box lumber were then presented, and the uses explained. Just then a young man asked how long a bee lives, to the great amusement of the others. Dr. Miller said it depended on what kind of a bee he meant. Another committeeman put in, "A bumble-bee," and the whole committee of railroad-men burst out laughing, like a lot of schoolboys.

The writer believes that whatever reduction is obtained will be more the result of Dr. Miller's jokes, and R. A. Burnett's case of honey, which he presented to the committee, not for publication but for good faith, than to any of the solid arguments advanced in the course of the conference.

In answer to the question, Dr. Miller said that ages vary greatly, and explained the matter at length as bee-keepers understand it.

Then said Dr. Miller, "I am going to tell the biggest whopper yet. Our queens lay as high as three thousand eggs in a single day;" and some gentleman remarked, "That is the reason the bees live so short a time."

The honey extractor crated was then exhibited, upright and lying on its side, so as to give the committee a good idea of the structure of the same. The committee was asked to classify these, as there is at present no classification of them in the West.

Honey in comb being the next position, a section of comb honey was handed about, and the gentlemen began to sample it with their fingers.

Dr. Miller explained at length to the committee that we have no fear of breaking the glass, but the honey inside, owing to ignorance of the nature of the contents. A large crate to hold a dozen 12 lb. cases was shown, and our method of packing the

same explained. We hope to get a second-class rating for comb honey packed in this manner. There is no doubt that this is the ideal way to pack comb honey for shipment of over 1000 lbs., without any breaking the past season.

Friend York kindly furnished a Muth jar of fine extracted honey, which was passed around, and the gentlemen invited to partake of the same. R. A. Burnett suggested that it was not to use on the hair.

A good point Dr. Miller made was that the railway companies, in rating extracted honey, valued it equal to comb honey, when as a matter of fact, the average extracted honey has about the same value as good syrup, and no greater risk in handling. The doctor explained why this is so.

The chairman of the railway company asked the value of comb honey. He also asked the value of beeswax and of comb foundation.

One reason why the companies rate these things high is, that they look at the value compared with the bulk and weight. Four things they consider in classing our products—weight, value, bulk, and risk of injury in shipping to the goods shipped, or to the other goods in the same car.

Another point against the high rating of honey is the fact that all shipments are actually at owner's risk of leakage or breakage, as an owner collecting for loss by transportation is almost unheard of.

In regard to beeswax, we informed the committee that, by high rates, they prevent much wax from being shipped and comb foundation returned—a double shipment and double transportation charges for the roads.

Bees in hives less than carloads are refused by the roads at present. Dr. Miller told them that, under such circumstances, a bee-keeper desiring new stock pays Uncle Sam two cents, to carry a queen-bee by mail, when often full colonies would be shipped if taken at a reasonable rate in less than carloads.

The railroad committee on classification rendered great courtesy and lots of interest in all the remarks made by the committee of beekeepers. Too much credit can not be given these gentlemen for the kind manner in which they treated the committee.

Naturally your committee felt some timidity in appearing before these railroad magnates who hold, as it were, the destiny of half a continent in their hands. One of our number said we might be in the predicament of the gentleman who went to the general passenger agent to get a pass. After the applicant had told his story, the G. P. A. remarked with a drawl, "Well,

yes; I can give you a pass or I can give you the money to buy a ticket."

We shall be on the anxious-seat for a few days until the rulings of a committee on our petitions are made known.

In the meantime a step in advance has been taken. We have published the fact that we are alive and doing business at the old stand. This committee, and through them the railroads they represent, will in the future have more respect for our honorable pursuit. Our claims for damages will receive more respectful attention, and good must result to the craft at large from this meeting.

Later.—I have just seen Mr. J. T. Ripley the chairman of the Western Classification Committee, and he informed me as to the result of our petitions as follows:

Bee-hives in flat—petition denied.

Honey-box lumber, referred to the Western Freight Association, John W. Midgley, chairman, 7th floor, Rookery.

Bee-smokers—petition denied.

Honey or wax extractors, crated or boxed—petition denied.

Honey in comb, glass fully protected—petition denied.

Glass fronts not protected, future rating first class.

Extracted honey in barrels, kegs or tin cans boxed, future rating fourth class.

Beeswax—petition denied.

Comb foundation—petition denied.

Bees in hive—petition denied.

In regard to bee-hives "K. D." which should have been referred to be consistent, along with "honey box lumber" to the Western Freight Association, the writer was informed by Mr. Ripley, the chairman that he might get "bee-hives K. D." referred also.

Mr. Ripley very kindly accompanied the writer to a number of railroad freight offices, for this purpose.

The next meeting of the Western Freight Association, occurs in May, and it is too late now to get on the docket the petitions referred to. The next meeting after May will occur in June, if I am correct, and then our petitions will be taken up. It will be best to get our material in shape to present to them in the best possible manner as they make the final ruling.

Chicago, Ill.

Haldimand Beekeepers'.

The Haldimand Beekeepers' met at Nelles' Corners on Saturday, May 25th, pursuant to adjournment.

Members present—Israel Overholt, Robt.

Coverdale, Alex. Stewart, D. H. High, Wm Atkinson, Isaac G. Wismer, F. A. Rose, J. W. Schwire, Ephraim Gee and the Secretary.

REPORT OF THE SEASON.

	Fall	Spring
Robt. Coverdale	60	40
Israel Overholt	50	20
D. H. High	13	10
Isaac G. Wismer.....	62	54
Wm. Atkinson.....	40	20
Alex Stewart.....	5	5
J. W. Schwire.....	4	3
F. A. Rose.....	68	55
Ephraim Gee	6	6

Moved by Mr. Overholt, seconded by Mr. High, that this Association affiliate with the Ontario Beekeepers' Association, and that the Secretary send the required fee of \$5. Carried.

HOW TO PRODUCE COMB HONEY.

Mr. Rose said in a good season he thought it paid better to produce comb honey. The colonies should be strong, the frames shallow rather than deep, and good cleaned sections should be used. He generally put in a few sections that had been drawn out the year before as the bees would go up sooner and gather more honey.

Mr. Overholt agreed with Mr. Rose in every respect except that comb honey was not as profitable as extracted.

Mr. Atkinson said extracted honey was more profitable to raise than comb honey and gave a number of reasons for his belief.

It was moved by Mr. Rose, seconded by Mr. Gee, and resolved, that the Haldimand Beekeepers' Association hereby express their strong approval of the Pure Honey Bill introduced into the House of Commons by Dr. Sproule, M.P., and that we would respectfully ask our representative in the House of Commons, the Hon. W. H. Montague, Secretary of State, to help us in this matter. That a copy of this resolution be sent to Dr. Sproule, M.P., and the Hon. W. H. Montague. Passed without a dissenting voice.

Mr. Israel Overholt exhibited a section foundation fastener, which is, as Mr. R. L. Taylor, of Michigan, says, "A Double Daisy."

Moved by Mr. Rose, seconded by Mr. Atkinson, that our next meeting be held in Fisherville on the last Saturday in August. Carried. E. C. CAMPBELL, Secretary.

County Russell Beekeepers' Association.

The midsummer meeting of the County Russell Beekeepers' Association was held on Wednesday, May 29th, 1895, at the apiary of A. Edwards Esq., Rockland, but in the absence of the President the chair was occupied by our host, the genial vice president. As this was not a business meeting no business was transacted. Quite a few drove out from twelve to sixteen miles to attend while others who reside within one mile failed to attend for reasons best known to themselves. The meeting was chiefly confined to discussions on the various branches of apiculture and a hive was operated on by a few of the experts to the great astonishment of the novice. Amongst those present were noticed the following well-known beekeepers: Mr. A. McLean, Thunse, Que.; John Gamble, Cumberland, Ont.; Mr. McLaughlin, also of Cumberland, and Messrs. Baskin and Duehane, of Orleans; Moses Tabrech, Daniston, and many others. It was expected that Professor Fletcher and Mr. Fixter, of the Experimental Farm, Ottawa, would be there but some how they failed to come. At the close of the meeting the crowd was conducted by Mr. Edwards and our old friend Mr. J. L. Woodley, to the Quarries; these Quarries are situated about one and a half miles from the Village of Rockland and are operated by a Mr. Stewart. Employment is given to a great number of men, who, one and all showed the greatest respect to the visitors. This is considered one of the finest Quarries in the Province, (they have been in operation now about three years), and it is expected it will take at least four years more to fill the contract which Mr. Stewart has on hand. After the return to Mr. Edwards the guests were served to a sumptuous repast by Mr. and Mrs. Edwards who took all possible pains to make every one feel at home. Mr. Edwards has as fine a location for an apiary as I ever saw. There is within a radius of his bee-yard many hundred basswood trees with fine fields of clover extending in every direction. At the close of a well spent day the meeting broke up and everybody who had the pleasure of being there returned home well pleased with their trip to Rockland. W. J. BROWN.

Bees and Ants.

The other day I was among my bees when my attention was attracted to one hive which I saw several ants running in and out of. I watched, and in a little time saw an ant running with something white in its mouth. I managed to catch it and found it was eggs, to make sure I put them under a microscope and found they exactly corresponded with the plate of queen's eggs which is in the A. B. C. of Bee Culture. Whether it is generally known or not that ants do take queen's eggs, I do not know, but as I am only a beginner in bee-keeping I perhaps spend more time watching their habits than most people. As I was always a great admirer of the insect.

G. H. STANFORD,
Hamilton, Ont.

[We were rather surprised to receive the above communication and after thinking the matter over came to the conclusion that it might be possible, that it would require a somewhat minute examination to detect the difference between a bee egg and that of the ant. We have never heard of ants taking the eggs of the queen bee.—ED.]

Correspondence.

A BLUNDER CORRECTED.

On the 19th July. 1894. the member for East Middlesex, wrote me as follows: "You no doubt have heard the fate of your bill and also the clause in Mr. Woods. Both have been thrown out by the Senate."

This was a mistake for in the words of Dr. Sproule, M. P., "the Bill was not reached" The public should know the true position; hence this correction.

S. T. PETTIT.

Belmont, Ont., June 15th, 1895.

My best colony swarmed to-day.

GEO. McCULLOCH,

Harwood, Ont., June. 1st.

Correspondence.

Our bees started to swarm 29th May and are working very well. One of the Italian queens, has a beautiful cluster of young bees. They are very pretty to look at, and if they are as good to work, I should like to have more of them. There has been a great deal of rain lately which has kept the bees back some, but I expect they will do well this year. The alsike is out in full bloom and the basswood is loaded with bulbs ready to open out.

J. FIXTER.

Dominion Exp. Farm, Ottawa.

Let this be thy purpose, O friend: To observe the law of right and do it. Then the sunshine and the storm, the night and the day, the heat and the cold of life's discipline will foster and mature the grain for the garner in the sky.

WILL EXCHANGE—300 eight-frame 6 in. deep new Langstroth supers interchangeable with or without covers, and bottoms ready to use. Also 90 second-hand 8 frame standard L. live bodies painted, with frames, bottoms and covers in good shape, for poultry, honey or offers. T.H. HAMILTON, Paris, Ont.

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THE
CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL

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

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R. F. HOLTERMANN, EDITOR

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Extractor to hand; it is very satisfactory. J. D. Evans, Islington, Ont., June 5th, 1895.

I am delighted with the sections. They are very much superior to these I have been getting. I am pleased, also with the foundation. Rev. Thomas J. Spratt, Wolfe Island, June 5th, 1895.

The 97 lbs. of extra thin foundation for sections is something nice. Josiah Reaman, Cardville, June 5th, 1895.

I received my order in good condition, and am well satisfied with everything. George Marcotte, St. Quillaime, June 3, 1895.

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To the Bee-Keepers of Canada.

The Ontario Bee-Keepers' Association desire to have as large a membership as possible of those interested in apiculture, and as the bonus to members is worth more than their annual membership fee it seems but reasonable that all interested should become members, as the object of the Association is to benefit the industry and those engaged in it as well as being a benefit to the country at large.

THE CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL, of which the annual subscription fee is \$1.00, will be given to members of 1895. The report of the annual meeting is also given, which is a full report of all interesting discussions as well as giving financial statements, etc.

There is no doubt but what the Association is doing a good work in many ways, such as having a Foul Brood Inspector going through the apiaries in the Province, curing and clearing the country of that dreaded disease where found, and in getting laws passed by the government to protect the industry, even as to prevent the spraying of fruit trees with poisons which has been very injurious and caused great loss to those having bees poisoned where spraying was done at the wrong time.

The Association can fairly claim the support of all interested in bee culture and we trust that all seeing this request will respond by remitting the annual membership fee of one dollar, (\$1.00) by registered letter or Post Office Order.

W. COUSE, Secretary,

STREETSVILLE