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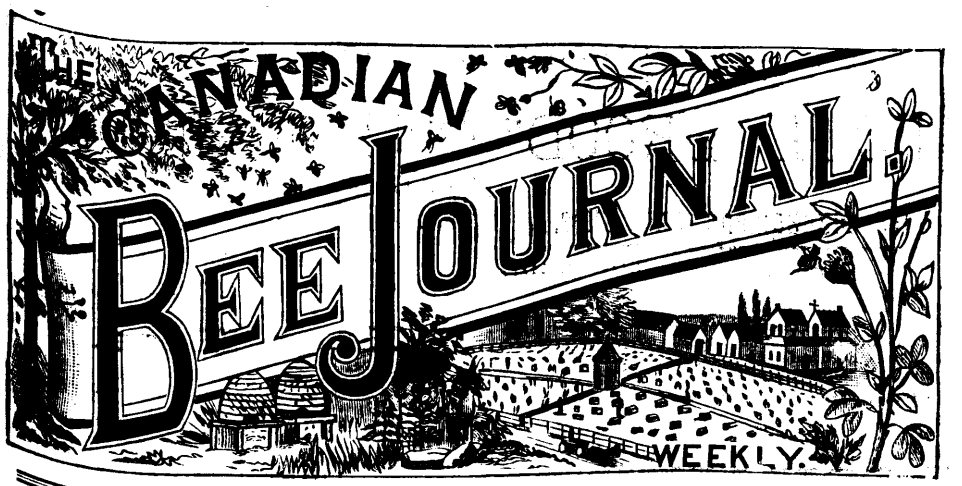


"THE GREATEST POSSIBLE GOOD TO THE GREATEST POSSIBLE NUMBER."

VOL. I. BEETON, ONTARIO, SEPTEMBER 16, 1885. No. 25

# THE CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL.

PUBLISHED BY

**D. A. JONES & CO., BEETON.**

*WEEKLY - - $1.00 PER YEAR*

POSTAGE—Free in Canada and the U. S. Ten cents per year extra to all countries in the Postal Union.

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*THE CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL*

| | |
|---|---|
| AND "Gleanings," semi-monthly | $1.90 |
| " "American Bee Journal," weekly | 2.75 |
| " " " " monthly | 1.40 |
| " "American Apiculturist," monthly | 1.75 |
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The Canadian Bee Journal.

D. A. JONES & Co., Publishers.

## ONTARIO BEE-KEEPERS.

THE first session was held at the City Hall, Toronto, on Thursday evening, Sept. 10th, commencing at 7.30 o'clock. We regret to say that the attendance was not as large as was desirable, owing in a measure to the fact that there were a number of counter-attractions the same evening, and principally, probably, to the facts that the Provincial Exhibition at London took quite a number of bee-keepers there, and that the date of meeting was not sufficiently advertised. To remedy this, however, it was decided to hold another session on Tuesday evening, the 15th inst., at the same time and place. It has been customary to hold these sessions during the second week of the Exhibition, and there is a chance that the meeting held next week will be considerably larger.

The writer not having been present the first evening, we have to extract our report from the *Globe*. We are sorry, however, that it is very imperfect.

The annual report of the Executive Committee was presented by Mr. Jacob Spence, the Secretary. It detailed the efforts made to secure statistics of bee-keeping, referred to the effect of the severe weather of the past winter, and advocated a scheme of affiliation by which local societies should be represented in this organization. He also read the Treasurer's report, which showed a balance of $12.38. A scheme of affiliation was submitted, received, and laid on the table to be submitted at a later stage of the meeting.

### THE PRESIDENT'S ANNUAL ADDRESS,

which was the next order of business, referred to the effects of the severe weather of last winter, and suggested some modes of protecting bees against cold. Reference was made to the great value of formic acid as a preservative of honey. He advocated the establishment of an

### EXPERIMENTAL BEE FARM.

in which races of bees from foreign countries could be thoroughly tested. "After having the Asiatic races inflicted upon us," he said, "we are now threatened with the Carniolan." He expressed the opinion that the Italian race should be maintained and cultivated as the best bee America has yet tested generally. He advocated the formation of a union among the Ontario bee-keepers, for the purpose of establishing a foreign market for the surplus product. He mentioned the Colonial and Indian Exhibition as affording an excellent opportunity for the display of Canadian products.

The President's remarks about the

### ASIATIC BEES

was discussed by Messrs. Jones, Hall, Clarke, and Corneil, the general opinion being that while the Asiatic races were desirable for honey regions further south, the Italian bee, with a dash of Syrian, was, on the whole, the best for Canada. A resolution was passed appointing a committee to wait on the Dominion Government to secure their co-operation and endeavor to make a creditable showing of Canadian honey at the

### COLONIAL AND INDIAN EXHIBITION.

A Business Committee, composed of Messrs. Corneil, Spence, Campbell, Morris and Clarke, was appointed.

The President was thanked for his address.

The question drawer was opened. The first question proposed was, "Is there any advantage in reversible frames?"

Messrs. Hall, Corneil, Jones, and Clarke discussed the question, their opinions on the whole being unfavorable to the use of reversible frames.

Another enquirer asked whether chilled brood was the same as foul brood or would produce it. Both questions were answered in the negative unanimously in the discussion which followed.

A piece of comb was exhibited and the question asked whether it was a case of foul brood. The answer was deferred so that the comb might be examined by daylight.

### SECOND SESSION.

The attendance at this session was also very meagre. The President, Dr. Thom, in the chair. After some routine business, the subject of

### WINTERING

was taken up.

Mr. S. Webster, near Toronto gave his experience.

Mr. R. McKnight, Owen Sound, said he was present to learn, and the majority of bee-keepers in the assemblage were also there as knowledge-seekers; was glad to see that the majority present were young men; had noticed the same on the Exhibition grounds; get the young men interested and the calling was sure to succeed. Wintering in its broad sense means a sufficient supply of food of the right kind, and the kind of receptacle used to winter bees in; did not know anything of the value of sugar syrup as a feed for wintering purposes—there are many who do winter entirely on sugar syrup stores and who are eminently succersful; was of the belief that the question of substitution of sugar syrup stores in place of honey for wintering led consumers to the belief that the honey was adulterated also: he felt that if the bees were fed sufficient in the fall to carry them through till the first honey flow of the next season, that there must of necessity be a certain amount of sugar syrup in the first extracting, which would give it flavor of sufficient strength to be easily detected. As a matter of policy he felt that honey should be used, and outside of this he thought it the best, anyway. During three years he had lost none through imperfect wintering—had lost a few this spring through robbing. As the greater number of bee-keepers were so in a small way, he thought the best system of outdoor or clamp wintering was what should be explained. Wintered six outside last winter, set them up near the fence and covered them over with roof, packed over and around with pea-straw. A neighbor wintered twenty out of doors and some indoors; those outside wintered equally as well as those inside; lost one out of the twenty: he used an outer case and packed with sawdust; put sawdust around and left top-story on and packed it with sawdust. If one could afford it the best place for wintering is a bee-house.

Mr. Webster used cushions over his frames, as an experiment he had made a number eight inches thick of cork dust, and put ventilators through the cushions; could not find that it made any difference. He thought that a good many lost more bees than would pay for a good bee house; he had been unfortunate with the rest, but he was bound to go on and he felt that in future he would succeed.

Mr. S. Corneil, Lindsay, uses woolen quilts; last winter he had packed 40 colonies in 20 cases of two each; packed with cork dust, and in some instances so much was put in that it covered the top for a few inches around; after a hard frost, had noticed in the apiary that this layer around the edge of the cushions, was frozen hard, the moisture of the hive having come up through the quilt; had always advocated woolen quilts and was as much in favor of them as ever. The cost of quilts was about 18 cents each.

Mr. McKnight said he was probably the first one who had advocated cork dust as a packing, had tried it and sawdust and chaff; found that the chaff became mouldy and solid and emitted a disagreeable odor; found sawdust always damp in spring, while cork dust was just as light and dry as when put in in the fall.

Mr. Webster endorsed the opinion of Mr. McKnight.

Mr. Corneil stated that cork dust could be obtained right in the city if a sufficient quantity was needed. It was cheap too, and a splendid thing.

The President gave his experience. He had spent so much in trying to keep bees, that he had estimated that his honey cost him $1.00 per pound: this was before he had got much knowledge of the business. Before he had built a bee house he wintered in common hemlock sawdust—got it in July and kept it in an old hen house—with good roof, but single boarded. In November he set the hives in it, covered them all over, and put in a tube leading from entrances to door of house. They all came through in splendid shape; set them away just as he had taken them from their summer stands.

Rev. W. F. Clarke, Speedside, Ont., stated that he had kept bees for 21 years, and was therefore of full age in bee-keeping; he explained his reason for adopting and believing in the hibernation theory of which he was the father. Nature's system was always to give perpendicular ventilation, and believed that point to be the pivot upon which successful wintering was to turn. He ex-

plained how bears hybernated; said that he had a pair of squirrels wintered in his woodshed last winter, and he believed that it was a special gift of Providence to enable him to study out his pet theory. If the bees are furnished with a proper quantity of pure still air, they would endeavor to regulate the temperature themselves, and if they could not do this they would be certain to "peg out;" told how far he had got with his experiments in the matter, which will be found substantially the same on page 277 present volume of the C.B.J. He would like others to try it on a larger scale.

John McArthur, Yorkville, said that last Fall he had put 47 colonies away and came out with only 18; he used the Jones hive. Six of the 47 were wintered outside in the following way: Made boxes large and deep enough to take the frame —and six inches wide—so as to hold four frames; set this box in the inside of hive, longitudinally, and on these four frames wintered the bees; put them up in November. If there was not sufficient stores in the four frames he put surplus combs of uncapped honey on each side of this box, and the bees work from them through small holes in the box and store the honey in the inside combs; then the vacant space in hives was filled up with cork dust; used quilt and put cork dust on top of it. All of the hives were raised two feet off the ground. Have tried this plan for three years and never lost one. I lost most of those put inside.

Mr. D. A. Jones, Beeton, then gave his experience, which has been repeated from time to time in the JOURNAL.

Mr. Corneil concurred in much of what Mr. Clark had said; had explained his ideas on the subject in the journals —see CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL. He had noticed an article in a late number of the *Scientific American* about mineral wool, as a non-conductor and thought probably it might be a good thing for wintering; it is used greatly by architects and builders for "filling in" houses. Cost $3.25 per 100 lbs., and there was about 14 lbs. to each cubic foot.

A communication from C. Blackett Robinson, Toronto, in reference to the *Rural Canadian*, the present organ of the Association, was laid over till after the election of officers. It was moved and seconded that the next session be held in the same place, on Tuesday evening, 15th inst., at 7.30 o'clock. It is to be hoped there will be a large attendance.

## RAISING QUEEN-CELLS.

FRIEND W. Z. Hutchinson, of Rogersville, Genesee County, Mich, has been trying our method of raising queen-cells, and he gives his idea on the subject in a late issue of *Gleanings*, as per the following extract:

"We have this year been trying the Jones method of getting queen-cells, and one who has never tried it will be much surprised if this method is given a trial, at the large number of fine queens that will be secured; finer, in our opinion, than those reared under the swarming impulse. Before swarming began, our queen-cells were built in full strong colonies (not by the Jones method, however), and the queens were fine and large. When swarming began many cells used were built under the swarming impulse, and we remarked several times how inferior were *some* of the queens compared to those we had reared before swarming began.

Since the swarming season we have been using the Jones method, and are delighted with it. We see to it that some colony has larvæ of the right age, with holes cut in the comb to facilitate cell-building; then we shake all the bees from one-half the combs of two or three colonies, in front of the hive where the cells are to be built. We thus get a great mass of young bees; the hive is jammed so full that some of them are crowded out of the entrance most of the time. You may think friends, that this is an expensive way of getting cells; but, try it once; and when you come to cutting out the cells you will think it is cheap. The queens hatch about a day sooner, and commence laying sooner, besides being large, strong, well-developed queens. The cells that are built under the swarming impulse, in a full colony, *before* the swarm issues, are fine cells usually; but those that are built *after* the swarm issues are rather inferior. If nature is allowed her way, of course the inmates of these later-built cells seldom become the mothers of colonies.

THE CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL.

This is proving to be a real, live, practical bee-paper. We have learned quite a number of little "kinks" from it that have been worth more than the cost of the Journal. One is, that of

HIVING SWARMS IN A TENT.

When two swarms issue at once, set a wire-cloth or mosquito-netting tent over one of the

hives, and let the swarm cluster in the top of the tent. Why wouldn't it be a good plan, in a large apiary, to have three, four, or more of these tents "standin' round kind o' handy like," all ready to set over hives when the swarms come "thicker and faster?"

The idea of having several small tents standing around the apiary, seems to have struck Friend Hutchinson and ourselves about the same time, but as we had our tents made before we saw his idea in print, we will enter our protest if Friend H. should claim it as his "moral patent," "d'ye see?" We mentioned in last issue that we would have some of them on exhibition at Toronto, and all who are there will see them in actual service. They are much smaller that the regular tent and are intended for swarming purposes only, or they will be handy in a severe case of robbing, to set over the weak hive.

FOR THE CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL.

## INTRODUCING BEES WITH CHLOROFORM.

YOU speak of using chloroform for introducing queens. Will you please explain in the CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL how you administer it. My bees are black and they are so cross that I can do nothing with them. Smoke is worse than nothing. The very minute I go near the hives they are ready for fight and do their best to kill me. They are very good honey gatherers and I was thinking that I would Italianize them, but I am of opinion now that I will have to get a quieter race of bees. Henry Alley, in the *A. B. J.*, gives instructions for introducing queens, which I think would be safe for new beginners to practice. The worst thing for me is to find the black queen, especially when the whole colony are doing their best to take my life while I am hunting for her. This has been a poor honey year here; the buckwheat was a failure, my bees have gathered nothing but pollen from it, and the hives are well packed with it. There is plenty of Golden Rod in bloom but the bees are not working on it; the white clover gave no honey. The only flow that we had was from basswood. I extracted about 50 lbs. per colony, spring count, from basswood, and they have enough in their hives of sealed basswood honey to winter on, which I will leave in with the buckwheat pollen. We have had more rain this season in this place than we have had before in twenty five years, and the weather has been cold nearly every night in August; the mercury fell to fifty and sometimes lower. At this date a person would not feel uncomfortable with an overcoat on.

A. BRIDGE, P. M.

West Brook, Frontenac Co., Sept. 4th, 1885.

We have had directions for introducing queens by the use of chloroform ready for some time, "waiting its tune." We have spoken of it at Conventions at various times and have written a little on the subject. It is several years since we first thought out this system of giving chloroform to bees when introducing queens, and we are now more fully convinced than ever of its great value for this purpose. We believe that before long it will be used in almost every apiary. It may be applied with any of our ordinary smokers. Three sponges will be found necessary in order to make it a success. Drop a dry sponge in the fire-barrel of the smoker, then the sponge saturated with chloroform next, and another dry one on top of it, in the nozzle of the smoker. This will give a more even distribution. Some of our students have had considerable difficulty in introducing queens after the hive had been rendered queenless several times (in fact some of them had a number killed until fertile workers commenced laying). After repeated trials they had almost given up all hope of getting a queen introduced. So we told the students one evening to be ready next morning at seven o'clock to introduce queens to all queenless colonies in the bee-yard in a few minutes. They were on hand early, with their queens, the hives were pointed out, and we poured a little chloroform on the middle sponge in the smoker, gave a few puffs into the entrance of one hive, stepped on to the next and sent a few puffs into it (just enough to make the bees sleepy). After going over four or five hives, we turned back to the first one and told the boys to "let in the queen." When she ran in we gave the colony a few more puffs and then went

on to the next. There were six or seven that would accept neither a caged nor young queen just from the cell. They had all been tried and given up! the fertile-worker disposition seemed to give them a hatred towards a perfect queen. In a few minutes all the queenless colonies in the yard had been given queens, and on examination the next day it was found that in not one instance had the queen been killed, every one having been accepted. Instead of caging the queens in the ordinary way, would it not better for some of us to practice the use of chloroform, and have a sort of experience meeting in the chloroform business. Too much chloroform is unnecessary; just enough to take the fight out of the bees and keep them a little sleepy is all that is needed.

For the CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL.

## NOTES FROM WILL'S APIARY.

### SELLING HONEY.

THIS appears to be the question that sets the bee-keepers thinking. I will tell my brother bee-keepers how I retail mine; I said in a former article that I had a board on a tree at the gate. Some may not care to have a sign board up, but our business shouldn't take a back seat. It is honest and legitimate, and I'm not ashamed of it, but I am sorry to say that I do not know any bee-keeper but myself having a shingle up. I retail my honey in 3 lb. quart "gems," and prefer the white flint glass. They do not cost over 56 cents more per half gross and are a good deal better, as the honey has a clear transparent look. I have used a great many of the green "gems" but prefer the white. I purchased some last Fall, and when received they had not cost me quite 10¼ cents. When filled I retailed them at 50 cents; this gives me 13 cents: when I take them to the stores I sell them at 43 cents, giving the grocer 7 cents, and if the grocer does not wish to purchase, fearing he cannot sell, I leave him some, give him his prices to sell at, and he pays me for them after sold. If there should be a broken jar or two in the case, you are sure to get 12½ for your honey, and if you order through a wholesale firm and get them direct from the glass factory, there will not be many, if any, broken. When you buy so that they come direct from the factory, the screw (zinc) is always nice and bright. I have seen them bought after being laid out in the rain, the straw had decayed, the zinc corroded, and they looked as if they had been in use many times. *I have used the smaller glass, jelly tumblers, pints and others, but believe the quarts are ahead in the country trade. I have used tins, all sizes, but I can sell the 3 lb. jars any day before them; in fact, I had some tins at two of our groceries, and was forced to bring them home, liquify the honey, and put into "gems." It was all gone in less than a week. In conclusion I would say, live a life above suspicion. Read Luke, 6th chap., 31st verse, and stick to it. I had some labels for honey printed two years ago, with that verse on, and a store-keeper laughed at me, but the world is to-day as some men make it, not as Christ would like it. With your permission I would like to write a little occasionally to the juveniles.

WILL ELLIS.

St. Davids, Ont.

With pleasure, Friend E., we shall accept anything you may send us, whether for the juveniles or old folks. All of them will profit by following your advice, which is that of a successful bee-keeper, and if we expect to succeed, we must follow in the footsteps of those who have "been there."

FROM THE LISTOWEL BANNER.

## WINTERING NOTES.

WHETHER it was good luck or good management, our bees wintered last year in good shape, the report being 28-26. But one of these reported gone, because so very weak (2 combs), has survived, and is now in fair winter condition, so that the report should have been 28-27, the one lost being opened in a cold spring day and frozen. I have been asked so often how we managed it, that I propose telling now exactly what we are doing and will do for next winter. The honey flow here is over; we stopped extracting about a week ago, yesterday we went over the apiary, 55 colonies, and found abundance of stores for winter, and do not expect to feed an ounce of sugar syrup or anything else for winter use. We reduced down all the colonies, which were not too full of bees, to 6 to 9 combs each, and spaced these about two inches apart; any honey gathered this fall over what is consumed will thus be be stored on the tops of brood combs.

*Jacob Spence, 251 Parliament St., Toronto, makes a specialty of all styles of glass.

Standing in the honey house there are about 60 full cards of honey, with about 6 to 9 lbs. of honey in each card. These will be used later on to supplement any which may be short of stores. A number of colonies in which the queen filled the supers with brood are *too strong to winter safely*. Bees should be strong enough to cover the combs fully, but if you overcrowd them you will give them the dysentery "sure as a gun." When the weather is cold enough we will divide up the extra bees and combs among weaker colonies or form new colonies with them. With over-strong colonies we have found it impossible to get the bees into that quiet inactive state with everything dry and clean, so that the bees will wake up in the spring and go to work with never a thought of "dwindling;" many of ours passed last winter that way and they were the ones which did the biggest share of work this summer. You can call this "Hibernation" or any other "hi" faluting name but "that's the way I want's my bees to be."

Each hive now stands on a platform projecting 8 inches on each side. For each one will be built a rough board shanty to rest on edge of the platform and to come up about a foot above the top of hive. The space between hive and rough boards will be filled with flax chaff, which we have found to answer the purpose best. Just before being packed (which will be before long if it does not turn warm), the combs will be lifted into a clean hive on the top of which a section crate will be placed, so as to raise the combs 4¼ inches higher from bottom board than they are now. This will give plenty of room for dead bees to accumulate free of the combs. A ventilator will be arranged behind, and a covered entrance through the chaff in front. If the hive is not full of combs, straw will be packed behind the division board.

Why don't you pack them all together in clamps and save the expense of boxing? For several good and sufficient reasons. The expense of rough boxing to me is small, and if it were large I would get them all the same. If bees are packed in a clamp as early as I think bees ought to be packed, there will be warm days afterwards, the bees fly, and robbers raise "particular Cain" in the whole apiary, and if you don't unpack and separate them in the spring before warm weather sets in it will be ditto then. These rough boxes make excellent summer shade if left on the stand with packing removed.

I am going to try hard this coming winter to find out the limits of temperature within which bees will properly "hibernate." Besides the records of the temperature of the two hives which run all the year round, several thermometers will be fixed into differently conditioned colonies, specially to discover the best means of securing the quiet dormant state. The following are extracts from the temperature for the past week or two:

HEDDON HIVES.

| Month | Day | Hour | Temp. of atmos. in shade. | Weather | Temp. in brood chamr | Notes |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Aug. | 1 | 7 a.m. | 76 | dull | 65 | Super on |
| | 4 | 4 p.m. | 74 | after rain | 81 | |
| | 5 | 8 a.m. | 55 | | 67 | |
| | 7 | 6 a.m. | 55 | raining | 67 | |
| | 9 | 8 a.m. | 65 | still raining | 71 | |
| | 10 | 1 p.m. | 71 | | 75 | Very little honey coming in |
| | 12 | 8 a.m. | 74 | | 73 | |
| | 13 | 3 p.m. | 83 | sunshine | 86 | |
| | 18 | 1 p.m. | 79 | | 81 | |
| | 19 | 9 a.m. | 63 | raw morning | 74 | |
| | 20 | 5 p.m. | 61 | quiet | 64 | |
| | 28 | 8 a.m. | 67 | dull | 77 | Took off super |
| | | | 61 | | 66 | |

JONES HIVE.

| Temp. in brood chamr | Notes |
|---|---|
| 72 | Contains sections above but very little honey coming in. |
| 82 | |
| 75 | |
| 79 | |
| 86 | |
| 84 | |
| 86 | |
| 90 | |
| 87 | |
| 82 | |
| 73 | |
| 77 | Took off sections. |
| 76 | |

ITEMS.

Probably the most valuable article in the bee-papers this season is that by Dr. G. L. Tinker, of Ohio, in the last C. B. J. on "Bee Diarrhœa." The doctor's conclusions are sound, at least they correspond almost exactly with our own experience.

Does Mr. Heddon "contract" with "contractors" for his honey supply *by tender*? We must not be surprised at anything new and original from Mr. Heddon. In his article on "The Contraction Method," in the A. B. J., he carries out his celebrated "Pollen Theory" to its logical issue with a vengeance. His tone is so confident, especially in the *Kansas Bee-Keeper*, that we watch for result with great interest.

Our honey harvest this summer has been average. What the fall flow will be time will tell. The bees have been bringing in great quantities of pollen, from golden rod, from corn and from fall flowers.

WILLIAM CLIMIE.

Listowel, August 20th, 1885.

For The Canadian Bee Journal

## QUEEN REARING AGAIN.

ANOTHER PLAN FROM CALIFORNIA.

AS I am writing to you on business, I thought I would write you a few lines on our pet hobby—bees. I have been in the bee-keeping business for more than thirty years, but it is still, as it has been for many years, the chief avocation of my life. And as a good queen is the sheet anchor of successful bee-keeping, I am naturally much interested in your method of rearing them. But your idea that a colony having bees enough for three or four good colonies will raise a better queen than one that is only good and strong, is new to me. I am well aware that they will raise *more* good ones, but did not think they would be any *better*. I have sufficient faith in you that I shall test it, and hope it may solve the problem that has puzzled me for many years, viz: — why so few queens, raised even under the most favorable circumstances, are not fit to breed from. I used to think that the fault was in me, and that I didn't know how to raise them, but in handling quite a number of queens from some of our most noted breeders, I soon discovered that their's were no better than mine. Outside of queens reared under the swarming impulse, I prefer Mr. Alley's plan. Last year I reared my queens on an entirely new plan, with decided success, the bees building them right in the queen cages in the nursery. I made queen cages like the sample I send you, with the two holes and a door. Just as soon as one of my choice colonies commenced making preparation to swarm, by starting queen cells, frequently containing only an egg, take a screen wire, a little larger than the top (large) hole, and lay it on top of cell, drop a few hot drops of wax on the wire so as to cement the cell to the wire, then hang the cell in the large hole in the cage, place the cage in the queen-nursery, open the door by letting it swing down, and set it in the hive, in the centre of the colony, when the bees will rear it just as naturally as though it had never been moved; then just as soon as it is sealed over I would put some of the "good" candy in the right hand side (or small hole), close the door, and the bees not being aware that the cell is in the hive, as they cannot touch it, will go right along rearing more for an almost indefinite time, if you take them away just as soon as they hatch or just before. It is really surprising how long you can keep a colony under the swarming impulse from swarming and the amount of good cells they will build with this system of queen-rearing. My experience is that a queen cell will stand a good deal of rough handling, if not chilled, without injury, until they are sealed, or until several hours after they are sealed, then they should be handled with extreme caution until within a day of hatching and I would much rather cut them out and handle them before or just as soon as they are sealed, before their cocoon is finished, and they have located themselves for their final and great change, from a larval to a perfect bee, than to do so at any time after two and until some six or seven days after. With my plan, all the handling they require after the little larva is placed in the cage, until they hatch, is to close the door and put in the feed (the latter need not be put in until after they hatch), although I always do. You say you have two short-hand reporters. Now, Friend Jones, don't fail to tell one of them each week enough about "Our Own Apiary" to fill not less than a column, and more if you wish. Can't you tell them about the merits and demerits of the different strains of bees, such as the Cyprian, Holy Land and Carniolians, as compared with the Blacks and Italtalians, as no doubt you are better qualified for that task than any other man in America, if not in the world. Wishing you success in your efforts, I remain

J. F. Flory,—110—200,
Lemoe, Tulare Co., Cal.

The plan of raising queens in queen cages is new to us. We almost fancy from the description, however, that it will be more labor to do it in that way, than to practice our method. Each queen cell has to be cut out and caged. Now would it not be just as well to wait until you had from 25 to 100 cells ready to cut out; then open the hive and do all at once, caging them in your queen nursery, where they would be hatched and cared for. We have sometimes had more than 100 thus caged in a hive all hatched within a day or two. It seems quite reasonable that they would care for the cell and hatch a fairly good queen. The climate being favorable in California, perhaps they would not require the same attention that they do here, and perhaps fewer bees in a hive, would raise queens quite as satisfactorily as with an immense number. If the queen *should* hatch before we examine them, they will not be

allowed to kill each other until the swarm issues, but they are usually kept back in the cells and fed by the bees for a day or two. We sometimes cage in one hive more than two dozen queens just crawling out of the cells, and should a swarm issue before we examine it, and a large number of queens go out with the swarm, we catch all the queens and cage them, except one, which we leave with the swarm while they are running into the hive. The principal difference between your plan and ours is, that you cage the cell as soon as started, while we cage them when just ready to hatch. We will give your cage and system to the boys and let them try their hands at it and see how they like it.

"Prairie Farmer."

## LATE SUMMER HINTS.

WORK in the apiaries in this locality consists principally in pulling fox-tail and running the lawn mower occasionally. Hives are running over with bees, as just enough honey is gathered to keep up brood rearing. Occasionally a swarm issues; two remained all night lately, in our apiary, clustered on a limb. If there is not a flow of honey soon, these late swarms must be fed. I am feeding some of them now, giving them the cappings taken from honey that was to be extracted. These cappings are put in a pan and placed in the upper story of a hive, closed so that no bee can gain access from the outside, and instigate robbery. When these cappings are removed the next day, they are clean and dry, ready to be melted into wax. If there was honey to be gathered from fall flowers, bees would not work upon feed,

Hives casting a swarm during last month ought to be examined in order to see if they have a laying queen. When I see eggs or young larvæ, I know the bees are all right, I make a practice of keeping all queenless colonies supplied with eggs, or young larvæ, so if the young queen is lost on her bridal tour they have the means at hand to rear another. If frames of eggs are given as often as once a week it serves to keep up the strength of the colony and at the same time give employment to the nursing bees. Where bees have been allowed to swarm ad libitum many small ones will be found possessed of a lively young queen that will perish the coming winter if not fed. Begin feeding now, so as to induce brood rearing, that there may be sufficient bees to keep up necessary warmth. If more feed is given than their daily wants require, it will be capped over and in right condition for winter stores. These little swarms that are petted and fed all the autumn often come out at the top of the heap the following spring.

The very best use for all odds and ends of honey is to feed it during warm weather. Never put unsightly, broken comb honey upon the market, as it injures the sale of the choice article; the same may be said of a poor quality of extracted honey, as it is generally a mixture from many different kinds of flowers. Utilize such in rearing brood during warm weather, and not for winter stores. Where the bee-keeper has empty comb or frames filled with foundation, a frame of brood can be removed from a strong colony, the bees brushed off, and the removed frame given to a strong colony, an empty comb being put in its place. This will not be missed in a prosperous colony, as the queen will soon fill the comb with eggs, but if an empty frame be put in its place damage may result, as the bees often fill such frames with drone comb.

Where a bee-keeper has been fortunate enough to secure any surplus of honey, remove it as soon as sealed, so it may not get travel-strained by the bees, and keep in a dry, airy place. Many farmers who only keep bees to provide honey for their own use, still use large boxes with small entrances. It is often quite difficult to get the bees to leave them. I have seen such boxes put into the bottom of a barrel and covered up, leaving only a small hole to let the bees out. When a bee emerges he crawls to the light, flies home, and robbers do not find the box. As soon as the bees are all out, the entrances are pasted over to keep out bees, moths, ants, etc., etc. Where sections are used, remove them when full, brush off the bees end be very careful not to break the capping; put into a crate secure against all intruders. Do not remove sections, if there are any uncapped cells, as they will leak, and be an abomination to all who may handle them.

MRS. L. HARRISON.

Peoria, Ill., U,S.

The Wabash County Bee-keepers' Convention will meet in G. A. R. Hall, no. 6 East Main st. North Manchester, Ind., Oct. 10, 1885. All bee-keepers are earnestly requested to be present.

J. J. Martin, Sec.

ount Forest Bee-keepers convention, will be held in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Mount Forest, Sept. 23rd, at 2.30 p. m.

J. H. Davison, Secretary.

For The Canadian Bee Journal.

## DEEP OR SHALLOW FRAMES.

HAVING seen the remarks of C. W. Demaree, page 308, of the C. B. J., I am induced to add my experience with the two frames. While in California we never used the L. frame at all, but what we called the square frame; but still it was not square, inside measure 15½x10½, this frame I might say was almost the universal frame used in southern California, the L. being the great exception if used at all. We are now using almost the same size frame here only one-eighth shorter and one quarter inch shallower, being 15x10 inside. We have 600 hives for this sized frame, and 100 of standard L. hives, and need I say that our deeper frame has by far the greatest preference, for our country here, and if this is so in a hot climate, where does the L. frame find its friends? May I answer the question according to my idea. I shall say that it is among the great number of apiarists in the United States that produce comb honey, owing to the large space for box honey right near to the brood. The ten frame L. hive, I should think, would possess advantages that a deeper frame in a hive with less space on top would. But this is mere assertion, for I know but little about the producing of comb honey, having made a specialty of extracted for the last ten years. Now, let us see why we prefer a deep frame for extracted. First, we can get our bees stronger in this climate, for the comb has more brood surface, and in shape that the queens can occupy more of it. Second, there is more room for sufficient honey to carry the colony over a short or long dearth in the honey flow, and does not put the apiarist to so much trouble and anxiety to look at each and every colony to see if they have honey, if he has extracted all they had in the top box. Third, the comb being larger, holds more honey, which facilitates work, and the amount of honey the apiarist has when his days work is done. Fourth, a shorter and deeper frame is handled on the uncapping table and in the extractor with greater speed, than the L. frame. Fifth, they are not as liable to break out while extracting as the L., because a short and deep frame the comb will be fastened in better, for the reason that unless the colony is very strong when hived on the L. frame, the combs will not be as securely fastened as the shorter frame, for the ends being so far removed from the centre, do not receive sufficient heat so the bees can properly work the wax to make them solid, while the shorter frame possesses these advantages. Such is my experience with the two frames, which will not be a great recommend for the short, or any disparagment to the long one. And I cannot do better than repeat the opinion of many of our best and longest experienced men. That my experience is only my own and applicable only to the location of which I speak, and don't you think that apiarists, as a class, should be sensible of the fact that their own location should be the standpoint from which they should base their calculation as to merit or demerit, of this, that, or the other, hive or implement used by them in modern bee-culture. Now, Friend Jones, you in your foot notes say, "We like a frame to hang in the extractor just the same as it does in the hive." I have never used such an extractor, and can only think what would be the inconvenience of such an arrangement, that it would necessitate the taking of the comb out of the extractor to turn it, while if the comb stands on the end, (and the cylinder of the extractor is as large as it should be), the comb is turned in the basket with all ease, saving time and labor, which are of the greatest importance when you are hurried with a big apiary and a contiuuous honey flow. What I say about extractors, etc., is my experience with them in large apiaries. I know comparatively nothing of the implements and management of small bee-yards. We are coming through the dearth in splendid shape, plenty of bees and plenty of honey.

A. W. Osburn.

San Miguel, Cuba, W. I.

Of what you have said about deep and shallow frames we have long since been convinced, having tested them side by side for many years. We expected to hear you say also that bees would do more brooding in the deep and square frame than in the shallow long frame, which we have proved in this climate many times. As heat ascends, it will be readily seen that the few bees on the bottom of the comb will keep the brood warm to the top. We have also noticed what you mention about the comb being fastened at the sides, we never found that they broke out of the deep frames nearly as often as that of the deep ones. If you uncap one of the combs and extract the honey from immediately over the cluster, keeping it by itself, then extract from the ends of the comb, you will find that that taken from the centre very much the richer, and

finer, as the moisture which is evaporated by the heat at the centre, passing towards the ends of the combs has a tendency to keep the honey thin. This is a point which we have frequently noticed, especially in weak colonies, in the Fall of the year, and it is something that we never recollect seeing in print before. Location has much to do with the system of management and this is one of the advantages of Friend Miller's "baby." We lift *our* frames out of the extractor to turn them; they are 10¾x12½ inside measure, the deep way up and down, and once, one of our boys, about 14 years old, extracted 2,600 lbs. in three-quarters of a day. One afternoon a very small boy took out 1,100 lbs. Of course the combs were all handed to them, and they had only to stay by the extractor and work. We take out from one to six thousand pounds a day in the height of the season. We would be satisfied if we had all the honey we could take out with our ordinary extractor. The trouble with us is to get the honey into the hives, it only a pleasure taking it out.

### GOOD REPORTS.

J. F. DUNN, RIDGEWAY, ONT,—Enclosed you will find my subscription to the CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL. Send me all back numbers. I thought that with *Gleanings* and the *A. B. J.* I ought to be well supplied with bee literature, but I hear such nice reports of the CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL, that I must have it, that's all! I am having a good yield this year, and will report to you when I "pack up" for Winter. I have, at this writing, 27 colonies, nearly all of which are in fine condition. The best record I have this season is of a one-frame nuclei that I purchased on May 15th from Oliver Foster, of Mount Vernon, Iowa, which consisted of 1½ lbs. of bees and a fine tested Italian queen, from which I have raised a number of good vigorous queens. This nucleus has, without any help from other colonies, built up to a strong swarm, and increased by natural swarming and dividing to four, all of which are in fine condition with plenty of stores, and 100 lbs. surplus honey; 70 lbs. of which is extracted and 30 lbs. section honey, with fall flowers yet to hear from. I have also drawn one comb, nearly full of brood, from the first swarm. Buckwheat, Golden Rod, and the numerous family Compositas are now in full bloom; but unfavorable weather has thus far prevented good results from this important harvest. I shall probably "stock up" rapidly next season and give more, and probably "some day" all of my time to bee-keeping.

COMPLIMENTARY.

N. W. MCLAIN, AURORA, ILL.—Sample copies of the C.B.J. have been received. I find it such a paper as one would expect from a thoroughly practical and progressive bee-keeper. The weekly reward of observation, practice and experience given in the columns headed "Our Own Apiary," is a special value. In my estimation this paper occupies a place among the foremost. The wheat is sifted from the chaff.

### BOTANICAL.

S. DIBB, DUNTROON, ONT.—Could you please tell me the the name of this weed as the bees are gathering pollen from it. I don't think there is any honey in it.

The specimen sent is AMBROSIA ARTEMISIÆFOLIA, *Hog Weed, Roman Wormroot.* Order, COMPOSITA. A common and very troublesome weed, extremely variable. and far more deserving of its English than its Latin name. Stem from two to three feet high, very branching, leaves twice pinatifid, pubescent when young. Barren flowers, small in terminal racemes, fertile ones sessile about the axils of the upper leaves. The plant has no interest for the Apiarist.

C. MACPHERSON.

Prescott, Ont.

## SUNDRY SELECTIONS.

SOME INFORMATION ABOUT QUEENS AND QUEENLESS COLONIES.

J. W. ST. MARYS, ONT.—A swarm of bees came out, and before they half clustered they began to go back; they came out next day and went back again. I then divided them, taking two frames of brood and the queen and about two-thirds of the bees. There was a lot of capped brood, but no brood younger than eight or ten days; there were two queen-cells. This was ten days back, and the queen has not laid an egg since, nor I think for 18 or 20 days in all. Why did the queen cease laying? Will she lay any more? I am getting a queen from you to replace her. What shall I do with the old one?

Bees sometimes swarm out when the queen goes out to mate, but in this instance it appears not to have been the case, because if the queen had gone out

to mate the cells would have been torn down before she left the hive. It seems to us more likely that a young queen hatched, and wanted to tear down the cells, but was prevented from doing so, and got up an agitation in the hive and probably ran out on the alighting board as if intending to swarm, and when the swarm commenced to issue went back; or she may have taken wing and then gone back. The fact of there being no eggs, or brood less than ten days old in the hive, leads to the supposition that the old queen either died or was superseded, and the fact of the queen not laying for about eight or ten days after you had divided them is not a proof that she was not a young queen, because after she was hatched it would be five or six days before she mated and would commence to lay probably in four or five days more. It is not unusual for ten or fifteen days to elapse between the time of the queen's hatching and commencing to lay. Unless you had some mark on the queen to indicate her age, it would require careful observation to distinguish a young queen from an old one, especially when a mother duplicates herself perfectly as is frequently the case. Supposing the old queen had been superseded, or had died after she had ceased to lay, it would be about ten days before the young queen would be hatched, and the oldest larvæ taken for the queen would of course hatch first.

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QUEEN NURSERIES—HOW TO USE THEM.

Fred Trigg, Oshawa, Ont.—When using a queen nursery when should I remove the cells from the hive I am raising queens from? When they are capped or before? Should I hang the nursery in the hive I am raising queens from or in another hive; and do you have to remove the hive that you have the nursery in and as soon as the queens are hatched in the nursery can I introduce them into other colonies that I am raising them for? Can I get them all fertilized by introducing one at a time into a hive, and as soon as they are fertilized removing them and put others into their place until I have them all fertilized, as I have sold some and the parties who have purchased the queens want them fertilized at my place. When I want to stop a third swarm coming off will I cut all the queen cells out or should I leave one.

The cells should not be removed until they are about hatched, or within one day of it. We prefer to remove just before they are hatched. The queen nursery may hang in any hive, but you should be careful to keep several bees with the queen, and plenty of food in each cage. You may introduce them as soon as they are hatched or just as they are gnawing out. You can cage several queens in a hive, liberating one at a time and as soon as fertilized remove them, and liberate another, and so on until all are fertilized. It is not advisable to keep a queen until she is old before being fertilized. We prefer to have them fertilized before they are twelve days old, if possible, so if you have many queens, you would require more than one hive to cage in. If you do not wish the third swarm to issue, remove all the queen cells but one then if the queen hatches there are no others to take her place.

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CLIPPING QUEENS WINGS.

John Calvert, Reaboro', Ont.—Do you advise clipping queens wings?

We have practiced clipping the wings for a number of years, and never could see any bad results, or at least not enough to over-balance the good ones. By clipping one wing as soon as the queen commences laying, then the other the following Spring slightly, the first clipping, will indicate that it is her first season; the second her second season, and for the third a slight notch will do. By this means the age of every queen is known and if she is superseded it is easily detected. We practice clipping more and more every year, and feel now like having them all clipped. We do not believe in cutting their wings off square, but cutting from the top of the wing down towards the body. At the second or third clipping the point may be removed.

# THE CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL.

D. A. JONES. F. H. MACPHERSON

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BEETON, ONTARIO, SEPTEMBER 16TH, 1885.


Our new price lists are now ready, and will be mailed shortly.

Toronto and London prize winners will be published in next issue of the CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL.

The BEE JOURNAL has been very successful at London. We have added many new names to our list, and we thank all the exhibitors who kindly assisted us by way of their influence.

Should this number of the C. B. J. not be quite as interesting as you could wish, please excuse it, as a good deal of it has been "fixed up" on the train, as we go to the Exhibitions.

The fact that both the Toronto and London Exhibitions came on at the same time, will doubtless have prevented many bee-keepers from attending the meeting of the O. B. K. A., who would otherwise have been there.

The rain on Wednesday afternoon had a very dampening effect on the Exhibition at London, and this, together with the closing of the honey building almost disgusted the bee-keepers who exhibited.

We have had the pleasure of supplying the new Apicultural Station, established by the U.S. Government at Aurora, Ill., under the charge of Mr. N. W. McLain, with several queens for testing purposes, and Mr. McL. writes acknowledging their receipt thus: "The five queens arrived in good condition and are entirely satisfactory."

To confess the truth, we must tell you we have been so busy, we have not had time to send out fresh questions to the correspondents to our "Queries and Replies" Department. It takes some time to get them all ready and mailed, and we have not really had time. Sometimes we almost wish we could have about a dozen hands of our own to work with, to get through with it all. We have just got a batch mailed, however, and we hope to have all the replies back in time for another issue.

It does not appear that the officers of the Agricultural and Arts Association seem to view our rising industry in the light they should, as no provision was made for the exhibit at the exhibition at London. Exhibitors had to take "pot luck" for it, and they were forced to make their show away down near where the horses and cattle were shown—not a very suitable place you will say. If this Association desires to encourage apiculture they will require to pay a little more attention to the wants and wishes of exhibitors, and be a trifle more obliging. The fact that they kept the building closed entirely the greater part of Wednesday afternoon, whilst the judging of the cheese and butter was going on did not tend to please the large crowd of sightseers who were anxious to go through the honey department. We hope a better arrangement will be made another year.

### HONEY—SOME REASONS WHY IT SHOULD BE EATEN.

This is the name of the leaflet which we promised to get out for distribution amongst prospective purchasers, and with which we were to supply our customers. Well, we have been so very busy ourselves that we have not had time to write up anything on the subject, and as Friend Pringle once hinted that he thought of getting up such a pamphlet, we just wrote to him to go to work and get one up for us. We are sure, friends, you will all agree that we could have found none other more fitted than he to present to the public in as small a space as possible, all the good results coming from the use of this pleasant nectar, its curative qualities, and its excellence as a staple article of consumption. The price of them will be, with your name and address printed on the face something like the following, "With compliments of Thos. Thompson, Cedar Grove, Ont., dealer in Bees and Honey, etc.," per 1000, $3.25; 500, $2.00: 250, $1.25; and per 100, 80 cts. Prices with space in first page for name, etc., left blank: per 1,000, $2,75; 500, $1,70; 250, $1.00; and per 100, 50 cts. We are distributing several thousands of them at the different exhibitions. Orders can be filled promptly, as we will keep the form ocked up, all ready to put on the pre ss.

HALDIMAND BEE-KEEPERS' ASSOCIATION will be held at Jarvis, on Friday, the 25th of September, at 11 o'clock, a. m. E. C. Campbell, Sec'y.

EAST ELGIN BEE-KEEPERS Association, in St. Thomas, at the Hutchinson House, on the second Saturday in October—18th—at 1 o'clock. John Yoder, Secretary, Springfield P. O.

# ADVERTISEMENTS.