

Beekeeper Is Now Having Holiday As The Season Is Over

Bees Are Fed and Settled in Winter Quarters.

By C. B. GOODERHAM, Dominion Apiarist

Apiary work is finished, the bees have been fed and snugly packed away in their winter quarters and will require no further attention until next spring, therefore, unless engaged in some other full time pursuit, the beekeeper will have considerable spare time at his disposal for the next four or five months. This time, however, should not be wasted for there are many ways in which it can be profitably expended. Conventions and short courses are the order of the day during the fall and winter months, and every beekeeper would be well advised to attend as many gatherings as possible, for no matter how good a beekeeper one may be, new ideas are always available at such meetings. It may sometimes be tiresome to sit and listen to official addresses, but the friendly and open discussions that usually follow such addresses are extremely valuable and many a profitable idea is picked up from them. There will be meetings of the local organizations, and one can help to make such organizations useful and successful by attending. There there will be the Provincial Association Conventions which are important because problems affecting the beekeeping industry of the whole province in which one lives are discussed. Some of the agricultural colleges provide short courses which are especially valuable to beginners, but the professional beekeepers may also be greatly benefited by attending.

AGRICULTURE

EGG CIRCLE NOTES

By A. R. JONES

"CRAMMING" POULTRY FOR MARKET

Now that the poultry marketing season is in full swing, there is much interest being taken in various methods of fattening. On Prince Edward Island many of the birds are put up in fattening crates consisting of small compartments holding three or four birds each. They are fed a mixture of ground grains moistened with milk or buttermilk which produces a fine white covering of fat. In New Brunswick the usual practice is to place birds for fattening in a small enclosure, or pen, where they cannot move around too freely, and they are fed grains or mash from troughs. In both cases it is usual to darken the rooms somewhat so that the birds will remain quiet and inactive. This allows the muscles to soften and helps the fattening process. In Great Britain and on the Continent the "cramming" of poultry for fattening purposes is practiced in many districts. The birds are placed in fattening crates or batteries. Two attendants are required. One carries a tank somewhat resembling a pump which is filled with a wet soft mixture of ground grains and milk about the consistency of thin porridge. The pump has a nozzle. The second attendant takes the bird by the head showing the nozzle down its neck, while the attendant carrying the tank, pumps a quantity of the feed into the bird's crop. When the crop is sufficiently distended, the bird is returned to the crate. After giving a few gulps to shake

down its unusual meal, the bird settles down quietly to the work of digestion. There are machines now made which can be handled by one attendant using a foot lever. It is a simple and quite painless method of feeding birds and it assures that every bird will get a large quantity of feed. Birds for cramming have to be carefully selected; only strong, healthy specimens being selected. On the Continent cramming is practiced to a large extent with geese, particularly in the Lowlands. Cramming causes goose's liver to become enlarged and these enlarged livers are used for making the continental delicacy known as pate de frois gras. When prices for pate de frois gras are good, an enlarged goose's liver may be worth as much as the entire balance of the bird.

POULTRY PRODUCTION OF MARITIMES NOT SUFFICIENT

Consumption of poultry meats in the Maritime Provinces exceeds home production. Each year at the Christmas season we have fairly large importations of poultry, particularly turkeys from other provinces. This is made increasingly necessary on account of the export of poultry from Maritime Provinces to Newfoundland. Newfoundland affords a very good market for Maritime products particularly eggs, poultry, butter and potatoes. Consequently when we ship out part of our limited supply, we have to import from other places. The turkey crop in the Maritime Provinces while not large is of a very fine quality. The

districts of Botsford in Westmorland Co., parts of Kings Co. and territory around Centreville are known to produce very fine turkeys. In Prince Edward Island, Prince County is well known for its turkeys. The market demands seem to be for the smaller sized turkeys, ten to twelve pounds as being the most suitable for the modern family. There was a time when a premium would be paid for large turkeys weighing fifteen to twenty pounds, but today there is a limited demand for such large birds. Hotels and restaurants prefer big birds but the bulk of the demand is for moderate sized young turkeys that will fit conveniently into the oven in our small sized homes.

EGG PRICES ADVANCING

The market for fresh eggs has been somewhat variable during November. At the beginning of the month prices were advancing rapidly, then came a lull and prices declined during the second week. Latest reports indicate that the market is again improving although it is not expected that prices will exceed the high point reached a couple of weeks ago. Markets at present are largely a weather proposition. If we have storms and quite cold weather, egg prices will advance whereas continued mild weather will cause prices to decline.

POULTRY PRICES AS GOOD OR BETTER THAN LAST YEAR

With buying of poultry started in practically all districts in Canada, it is possible to compare market conditions. In Western Canada, paying prices are practically the same as last year, and in some instances a little higher. A heavy export of poultry to Great Britain is expected.

Selection Of Pea And Bean Seed Is Important Matter

Choicest Obtainable Should Be Used For the Best Result.

By T. F. RITCHIE, Central Experimental Farms, Ottawa, Ontario

In the field of better seed production the real basis of selection starts with the choicest seed that is obtainable, not merely big selected seed, but the progeny of individual plants that have been grown under careful observation. The progenies from each of these several selections, observed for variation in the plants, diseases and any undesirable characters should then be selected, so as to insure having the plants, pods and seeds as much alike as possible. To produce seed of the highest grade one must observe these methods and when the progeny of pea or bean plants prove to be of a relatively close range of variation and free from undesirable characters, this stock seed should be used for multiplication. The multiplied progeny of such selection work will prove the real value of what is intended to be looked upon as the best seed.

Growers should continue to select the seed from choice plants and multiply this in small plots where the most careful observations can be made of every plant.

Hand selection of a genuinely well bred strain of peas or beans will then be useful and the real value of this work will become apparent to those who have never before undertaken this method of plant improvement.

Another feature of this is, that the seed of the best character will easily sell many bushels more of the same seed, through profitable returns obtained by growers.

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	Storage Bushels	Receiving Bu. per hr.	Shipping Bu. per hr.	Gallery Length
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Canadian Pacific Railway	1,000,000	16,000	60,000	
Canadian National Railways	500,000	6,000	15,000	1,460 ft.

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West Side—11 Wharves, 10 Sheds. East Side—6 Wharves, 5 Sheds.

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Canadian Pacific, Canadian National, Cunard, American Pioneer, Anchor-Donaldson, Canadian-South American, County, Donaldson, Elder-Dempster, Eastern Canada Coastal, Furness, Head, Hamburg-American, Intercontinental Transport, Lloyd-Mediterranean-Italian, Manchester Liners, Munson, Newfoundland-Canada, North German Lloyd, Norwegian-American, Ocean Dominion, Scandinavian-American, United Fruit, Vancouver-St. Lawrence, Eastern Steamship Lines, Cairn-Thompson Line, Ellerman-Bucknall lines, City Line, Hall Steamship Line, Andrew Wier & Co. Bank Line, International Freightage Corporation.

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