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Kennedy's Book Store 125 WYNDHAM ST. GUELPH

Bees Are Not the Only Busy Workers Around Ontario's Second Largest Apiary Near Hornby

Busy as a bee is a simile as accurate as it is antique, but in this day and generation of advanced apiculture and scientific beekeeping, somebody ought to tell the bees that they're not the only workers around the hives who are—pardon the expression—busy as bees.



COMBS IN THE COLONY are shown here, as the owner of Ontario's second largest apiary holds one comb out. Encased in beeswax cells, the honey contained in these hive combs is retrieved when combs are set in a centrifuge and whirled about.

Hard and Hazardous Beekeeping, as employed in such expansive investment proportions as by this Hornby apiarist, is a hard and hazardous business. With a good yield, say upwards of 200 pounds of honey per hive, a small fortune can be made in one year.

There is an average of 48 colonies at every location. Where the sweet clover, alfalfa and flower growths are thickest, there may be a cluster of colonies.

lows, however. Many clean the colonies out at the end of the season and start afresh next spring with new workers.

limitation is sure to be widespread with a few million bees dying and exactly sprinkling pollen all over the early May blossoms.

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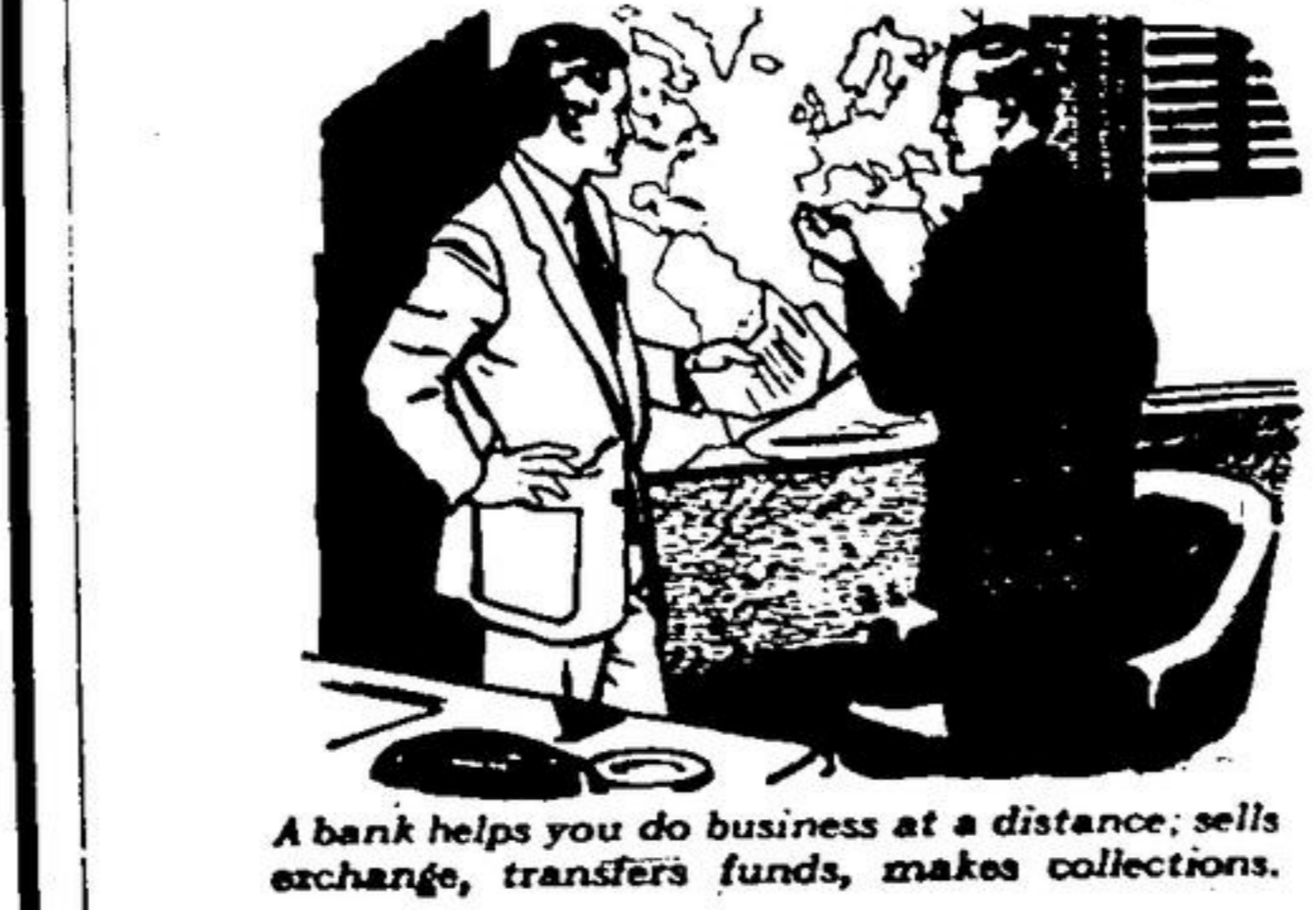
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THE BANKS SERVING YOUR COMMUNITY

Advertisement for Chronicles of Ginger Farm, written specially for the Acton Free Press by Geraldine F. Clarke.

Time is a queer thing. On a Saturday don't you often look back and wonder where the week has gone to? Other times the beginning of the week seems such a long way off.

The Exhibition is over, fall fairs are coming up, children are back to school, days are getting shorter and all the hundred and one extra jobs we hope to get done before the leaves fall are crowding in on us.

Monday of last week was Labor Day. We were not expecting company, so, since we were down to our last kitchen towel and tea cloth, I got ready for a big event. I was busily sorting the first lot ready for the machine when Johnny blew in and announced that he was getting up into the supers by a screen, large enough for the workers to pass through, between the hive body and the first super.

Harvesting Operation A hive may have two or three boxes, or "supers". The lowest box is the "hive body" where the laying, feeding and similar occupations are carried on by the queen and workers. The queen is prevented from getting up into the supers by a screen, large enough for the workers to pass through, between the hive body and the first super.

Since the queen can't get through the screen, and the workers can, there is only honey stored in these upper boxes, no egg cells.

Carbolic acid is sprinkled on the lid of the top super. To get away from the unpleasantness, the bees congregate in the hive body, leaving the supers vacant, except for the honey-laden wax cells in the combs.

The bee-less supers are gathered up and brought in from the scattered colony location. Inside, the combs are lifted out of each box and a warm knife slices off the cell caps. When the such combs have been prepared they are placed in a large centrifuge, power is turned on and the combs are whirled about until all honey flies out of the cells, onto the centrifuge wall and drains down.

Next the honey is pumped upstairs where it flows into a baffling barrel while surrounding hot water heats it to near 100 degrees. After the sweet liquid is drained through a straining cloth, it is channelled into storage tanks where it remains until placed in shipping tins or containers for retail sale.

After explaining this final operation, apiarist Anderson looked at the full storage tanks and smiled at recollection of a question once asked him. "I had to answer: 'No, the bees aren't upstairs producing honey for the tanks downstairs.'"

Tuesday and Wednesday were hot, wet and humid. But Thursday was a red letter day. It was our local W.I. meeting and we had as guest speaker Miss Sylvia Bennett, federal member of parliament for Halton county, and a very able lawyer. Miss Bennett is well known to many of the members of our branch, and we also know her as an excellent speaker. Her subject was the making of a will, particularly in regard to farm folk.

Naturally she stressed the importance of both husband and wife making a will, but she also pointed out the almost equally important matter of filing income tax returns and explained how the settlement of an estate can be carried out in any case where such returns had not been made.

"If you are not filing returns," said Miss Bennett, "don't think you're getting away with anything just because the government doesn't check up on you and request you to do so. The government has become tired of sending out requests and warnings. Now it lets the matter slide until an estate has to be settled. Then the government steps in and if returns have not been made each year then the government may demand income tax returns, possibly for the last ten years."

Miss Bennett explained the tax rate and extra work the heirs to the widow and the executor — work and worry that can easily be avoided if every farmer makes a part of filing income tax returns each year, as required by law, even though your NET income may be in the non-taxable bracket. You may know that but the government doesn't unless you make returns to prove it.

It was all very good advice but I am afraid we forgot all about wills and succession duties in our excitement over the marvellous achievement of that delightful little girl, Marjorie Bell. We admired her not only for her courage and endurance in completing the exam, but for her fine character and personality.

On a per capita basis Canadian families pay nearly thirty dollars a week in taxes to all governments.