

It is possible that certain species of willows might prove valuable, but their timber is not of such general utility as that of either poplars or pines.

Let it be understood that I am fully seized of the importance of deriving revenue from forest-trees during the long period between planting and conversion. If such could be accomplished, that bug-bear of forestry—compound interest—might be obviated; but with the exception of the eucalypts—and with them even it is more or less conjecture—there appear to be no trees suitable for extensive general planting that might combine timber and honey production. Of course, for ornamental planting, and to a limited extent in plantation-work, certain nectar-producing trees, such as the acacias, false acacias, willows, and perhaps in special localities limes (especially of the smaller-leaved and more readily grown European species), might be planted. Other trees naturally suggest themselves for this limited purpose, but their extensive planting need not be entertained.

#### SEED-RAISING.

Seed-raising opens up a very promising field for the apiarist. This is especially true of the growing of clover of those types suitable for honey-bee forage. Each year about 300 tons of the smaller-seeded clovers are annually imported, and there seems to be no valid reason why all the required local supplies should not be grown in the Dominion. If this were done about 5,000 acres additional to that already devoted to these crops would consist of pure clover, and provide excellent bee-forage. To the clover-grower the presence of bees is indispensable, so that in this respect clover-seed growing would be mutually beneficial both to the apiarist and to the seed-raiser. Another seed which is largely imported and which should be grown locally is rape, a valuable honey-producer. Between 600 and 800 tons is annually brought into the country, and were the seed grown here some 2,000 acres of high-class bee-pasture would be secured. Certain crops such as buckwheat might be thought offhand as likely to prove valuable, but there is no likelihood of this crop being grown except in extremely limited amounts. Still, an increase in clover-seed production and the development of the rape-seed-growing industry would of themselves materially increase the honey resources of the country.

#### INCREASING THE CLOVER-CONTENT OF PASTURES.

An increase in the clover-content of New Zealand pastures would enormously increase the nectar-supply for honey-production. In this connection nearly all the species of short-tubed clovers are valuable,