

boards are loose (and they ought to be) and there comes a day when "its growing colder all the time," just raise each board an inch or two, putting a block under each corner. This will allow the cold to "get at" the bees, causing them to cluster more quickly and compactly, when they may be carried into the cellar without leaving a little cluster upon the bottom board or very many bees leaving the hive.

No, I would not bring in the bottom boards with the bees, and I would stack up the hives as practiced by Mr. Boardman. That is, if I had room enough. Set the bottom row of hives a foot or more apart. Let the distance apart be such that when the next row is placed upon the first, each hive may set over the opening between the lower hives. In other words, the ends of the upper hive will just nicely "catch on" to the upper ends of the two lower hives. Each row would be placed in a similar manner, thus leaving a space below each hive. For the lower row I would use empty hives. I would manage in some manner to have an empty space below the combs, for, without being able to say exactly why, I have noticed for several years that colonies so prepared, whether in doors or out, have wintered better than where the bottom boards came up close to the bees. Put the weakest colonies at the top.

Friends, this is to be our special topic for November; you will please criticise what I have written.

As this is to be the special topic for November, and we are asked to criticise, would say, there are many good points about it, but we have usually just picked up the hives, and carried them in except we had some distance to carry them, and then we found the handbarrow a very convenient thing, and although we kept them in our various yards, we never considered it worth while to use them unless the bees were at least 100 feet or more, from the door of the bee-house, because picking them up and setting them down, tends to excite the bees, or jar them more or less. We think it bad policy to leave the lids on when carrying them in, and usually remove them, but take a division board, or something flat, a heavy ordinary inch board would do to keep the cloth down. Before picking up the hives, the entrance should always be close until all the bees are carried in and the place made dark, then the entrance blocks should be removed entirely to give them plenty of air. The little board

used for holding down the cloth is taken off as soon as the bees are placed on the shelves or in the bee-house or cellar as the case may be. If there is much propolis on the cloth, we would advise that the four corners be slightly raised to allow the moisture to escape. Otherwise you may find drops of water on the under side of the cloth, which causes mould. Cedar sawdust cushions, or cushions made of fine cork dust are excellent for retaining the heat and allowing the moisture to escape. Fine sawdust is much better than coarse, and we prefer clover chaff to wheat or oat. Mr. Corneil says wool is the best, although perhaps a little more expensive. It certainly is warmer than cotton or linen, will retain the heat better and yet allow the moisture to escape.

FOR THE CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL.

G. A. Deadman's Report.

BEES being very light with stores, the honey flow was slow, consequently the queen not being crowded for space layed freely outcome therefore plenty of bees and not much honey. The bees however were induced to rob and wander in search of food during the very hot weather in September, which bees lessened their members somewhat I have not for sometime known the queen to cease laying so early, the bees utterly refusing to call for the eggs and larvae.

Brussels, Oct. 26.

The above report from Mr. Deadman indicates about what has taken place in many localities in Canada. Of course where there was an absence of fall flowers, and no nectar secreted, breeding would stop, but while our bees were lying quietly and not doing any work, we know of some that were gathering large quantities from various sources, and like Mr. McArthurs bees, doing a booming land office business.

Rain Making.

RAIN MAKING is now absorbing universal attention. When protracted drouths have so often destroyed the honey crops, apiarists are interested in this discussion, as well as the general growers of the crops. Relative to the credit for the suggestion put in by Mr. Penfield, or page 276, the following has come to hand:

I think if you will look over the Bee Journal for the latter part of 1887, you will find very