

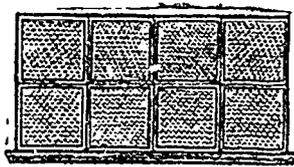
As soon as the swarms are united, it is necessary to concentrate all their efforts towards securing honey. In order to obtain this result bees should not be allowed to lie idle, or to cluster. Should this happen in any swarm, one may be sure the hive is too small for its population or that the frames are quite full. In such a case, boxes should be added for the bees to fill and the hive ventilated, either by opening the ventilator, where there is one, or by raising it from the front, or by making openings into it. Should the bees cluster, it is advisable to sprinkle a little honey or syrup over them, which they will at once absorb and carry into the hive, after which they will go



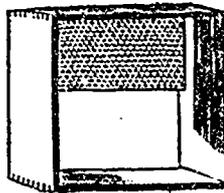
Knife for uncapping.

to work again, but the above described remedies must also be applied.

The honey is generally collected in boxes, more or less large. To secure success it seems to us essential that the boxes be placed on the hive in two tiers, so that as soon as the lower tier is being filled, it may be raised and empty boxes placed under it, so that the bees may be forced to fill up the lower boxes as well as those already begun. The movable hive secures the same object by the superposition of sections.



Frame filled with sections.



A section.

One of the most modern inventions, and one which causes a complete revolution in bee-culture, consists in artificial combs or what the Americans call *foundation*. It consists of a thin sheet of wax on which are deeply stamped the exact form of the cells in the comb. This foundation is placed at

the top of the boxes and frames in the direction which the bees follow in their work. Nothing can do better as an encouragement for them set to work immediately. As soon as one of the boxes or frames with foundation has been placed, the bees ascend at once into it and set to work. Their labour is the more fruitful that they have not to produce any wax in order to store the honey. As the base of the cells is thick, they thin it out and extend the sides; this work is done with an extraordinary activity. If it be remembered that, according to the best authority, bees have to consume 20 lbs of honey to produce 1 lb of wax, the advantage of the above described discovery fully appears and fills the true apiarist with admiration. It is best to cap all the empty

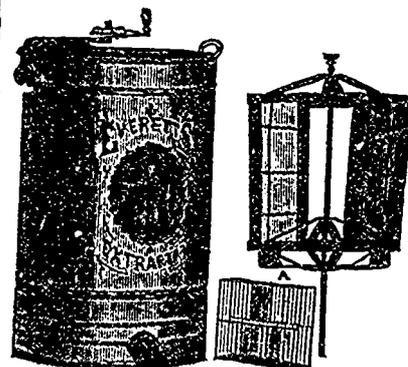


Vail.

boxes and frames with foundation before putting them into the hive in order to induce the bees to enter them sooner. As soon as the boxes are filled do not allow them to remain on the hive,

the combs would discolour. They should be removed at once and be replaced by empty ones.

For such as prefer to extract liquid honey without breaking the combs, we here represent the *Extractor*. After uncapping the combs with the knife specially adapted to this operation, they are put into the extractor, the handle is turned, and the honey is removed without breaking the most delicate combs.



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