

It appears that our English bee-keeping friends find a difficulty in getting pure cane sugar, so much so that the editor of the British Bee Journal has been forced to make special arrangements. We fear something of the kind will have to be done in this country soon, as we do not always have the best. The amount of adulteration practiced in the manufacture of sugar is little dreamed of by the majority of people. Much of the granulated sugar is put on the market in a very adulterated condition. Bad sugar fed to bees will give bad results in wintering. Perhaps this may have a good effect on some of our bee-keepers who practice the feeding of honey or sugar to too great an extent. The good honey if left in the combs after it is well ripened will give good results and there will be no necessity of feeding sugar except in a time of scarcity.

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The question arises with some bee-keepers whether it will pay an ordinary bee-keeper to re-queen his hives every year or two. We believe it will pay well in most instances to re-queen every year, except when the old queens are very fine and are kept to breed from. Let any person practice re-queening in hives in the proper season, when everything is most favorable for the production of the best, and test an equal number in the ordinary way and see the results. Try some one year and some two, especially if you have any combs to build. All combs should be built in colonies containing young queens just fertile. Old and worn out queens mean plenty of drone comb, while young, vigorous, fertile queens mean almost no drone comb.

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Dr. C. C. Millar in *Stray Straws*, in *Gleaning*, says: "No new Bee Journal has started for a week." He should have added "and if any more do start, unless they have some superior specialty about them they had better invest their money in something else, as they will find it very up-hill work."

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We have received many letters asking if we thought there was any danger in buying comb foundation, as foul-brood might be started from it. We re-

plied in every instance that there was not the least danger, when it was bought from manufacturers who understand their business.

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Since our last issue we have had some very cold, disagreeable weather and considerable frost, and those who have not had their bees well protected will reap the usual reward, viz: "Spring dwindling." On the warm days the maples, willow and other bloom seemed to yield abundantly, and if this continues throughout the season many bee-keepers will seek an increased storage capacity.

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Bevelled roofs or covers for Beehives are fast giving way to flat covers. Those who have used both for years, we think will readily decide which they prefer. The bevelled roof is not as warm in spring, and we like the board lying closer to the frames in order to hold the head down among the combs as much as possible. We are not sure that even a cushion, unless moderately thick, will retain the heat as well as boards, immediately over the frames. It prevents a passage of air, while a cushion allows a passage of air, and some have laughed at us when we told them to put a board directly over the closure, preventing all ventilation. Then put your cushion on top of the board, to prevent evaporation of heat through it, but try it friends to be convinced from practical experience, which is the kind of proof we like best.

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We are receiving the most cheering reports from our friends. Almost every letter that arrives indicates that the bees are in fair condition, and pushing ahead vigorously, and it is gratifying to know that those who have succeeded in wintering, are now beginning to see a good profit in the distance. A good many after sending in their orders, write us again in three or four days to hurry them on, as their bees are getting so strong on fruit bloom, they are afraid they are going to swarm.

We hope our Foul Brood Inspector and his assistants will be on the alert as now is a good time to search out the disease and apply the remedy. It is much better, and gives the bees an opportunity to build up before the season is over.