breeding, the requirements are entirely different. We then need watery food. This will be clear to our mind if we watch the adult bees in quest of water at the risk of their life in cold, spring days, when the breeding has begun. It is also clear that nitrogenous food is needed—witness their search for pollen at this time and in lieu of pollen, flour meal, etc., which they eagerly gather. A friend suggested, years ago, that we should make the syrup very thin when to be used for breeding, and serve it warm to the bees. This proved an excellent idea. If plenty of pollen is to be had, at the same time, I do not see why the bees would suffer. Such food is certainly better than doubtful honey or nothing. However, no one would consider syrup as superior, or even equal, to wholesome honey at that time. As long as there is no confinement, honey loaded wth nitrogenous matter is harmless, and is probably much the best for brood-rearing, owing to its well-known pre-digested condition.

QUEEN REARING MADE SIMPLE

We would invite our readers' attention to the important article by Oscar Dines in our current issue, describing what appears to be a very simple, and at the same time exceedingly efficient method of raising queen cells. The merits of this method are obvious and it is not at all surprising that several very prominent bee-keepers with whom we have discussed the matter lately should have expressed themselves enthusiastically in favor of giving it a trial during the coming season. We know of at least one man who has already constructed several of the devices that are described in our article.

IMPROVEMENT OF THE BEE.

Last month in these columns we quoted largely from letters that Dr. Bonney had received from several scientific men on the subject of "Improvement." This month's Bee-keepers' Review contains further replies to Dr. Bonney's enquiries from Professors C. B. Davenport and W. E. Castle. Professor Davenport states that the difficulty in improving the bee is entirely a technical one, whilst the second eminent savant says that no organism is a perfect and complete type in the sense that it cannot be changed by selection and breeding. Dr. Bonney, as the result of this correspondence, states that he has changed his mind somewhat about the possibility of "improvement." He yet remarks that parthenogenesis and mating are such "disturbing factors in the study of the bee that complete knowledge of this interesting animal is almost an impossibility." We venture to disagree with this statement. We must certainly make allowance for parthenogenesis when making our calculations, but we do not admit that this so-called "disturbing factor" should militate against success in our efforts to obtain a better bee.

STRENGTHENING FOUNDATION BY PAINTING WITH WAX.

Mr. O. O. Poppleton, describes in the Bee-keepers' Review how, by painting foundation with molten wax, he obtains sheets that are stated not to stretch. The method, which, however, is stated to be patented, is given as follows:

In practice I use a shallow wax-dish over a small oil stove, keeping the wax melted, but no hotter than is necessary to do that, and with a two-inch flat paint brush paint this hot wax over such part of the foundation as one wishes. The brush should be freed from any dripping wax by lightly brushing it over edge of the dish, then quickly over the foundation with a few light strokes first, then finish with several heavy strokes well bearing down on the brush. This leaves quite a rim of wax on the side walls, the more the better. It is somewhat of a knack to do the painting just right, but practice will soon teach one just the right touch. I usually paint at least half way down each sheet of foundation on both sides, but more will do no harm. Foundation made by the use of the Weed process of sheeting the wax seems to stand up much better

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