

Wintering.

This is my first year with bees. Will have eight colonies to winter, and intend building a place 3 feet underground and 3 or 4 feet above ground. I would like to know if two walls of matched boards filled in with sawdust will keep out frosts, and what thickness of sawdust between walls is necessary, and need the sawdust



C. EDMONDSON,
Secretary Brant Bee-Keepers' Association

be dry? An answer in C. B. J. will greatly oblige.

C. A. Jones.

I am in receipt of your card, and in reply would say that the sawdust double-walled houses partly above ground have proved very unsatisfactory. There may be some at present in use, but I know of quite a few that have been abandoned. If you can make the cellar below ground, it will keep a much more even temperature, and would have a certain amount of warmth transmitted from the earth about the

cellar. If the ground is so situated that you cannot dig beyond a certain depth, on account of water, or if you have rocks, and do not want to go to the expense of blasting, I would cover the top with the earth. If you are compelled for any reason, to use the sawdust, I would certainly have it dry and packed in well, and if you can arrange it, leave a space, so that you can pound it down from time to time. I would use tar paper or felt paper under the boards, on the inside and outside.

Trusting this will give you the information desired,

I am,

Very truly yours,

R. F. HOLTERMANN.

A Skillful Bee-Keeper's System Reviewed.

—THE FARMERS' ADVOCATE.

Bee-keeping, as an industry, or even as an adjunct to farming or other occupation, is not as general in a country so favorable to it as ours as its advantages would seem to warrant. True, it is an occupation for persons of leisure, but on a farm where the family comprises several members, a few colonies would be found to give very little trouble, and furnish an article of food which would be not only a relish but a healthy daily adjunct of diet. Going farther, we may state from experience that after the habits of the bees are commenced to be understood, and therefore the methods of manipulating them mastered, they become a source of real interest and pleasure, and if gone into on an extended and thorough scale, a means of considerable revenue. If one has the qualifications of being cautious, observing and prompt, bee-keeping can be engaged in without fear of failure, and to persons who swell up and become seriously affected with the stings, it may be some comfort to know that after a few stings, the system becomes inoculated against the effects of the poison, when a prod from an angry bee becomes of little more account than a mosquito bite.

The management of an apiary is not a difficult matter, and needs very little out-