

Preservation of Combs For Future Use.

A VERY practical subject you have thought of Mr. Editor, viz, The preservation of combs for future use. It is a good investment, plenty of combs for future use, provided, you know how to take care of them. In caring for such combs, as soon as I have no more use for them for the season I classify them. Those containing pollen, and those that do not. The latter are taken to the bee-cellar, where they are suspended between the joists, supporting the floor above. I simply nail a sufficient number of inch or half inch strips near the floor so as to catch the top bar. It is not absolutely necessary to suspend them in this way, so if your frames are too long to go between the joists then make a neat pile in one corner, and it may surprise you to find how many you can store away in a small compass. Your bee cellar of course, is free from mice and rats. These are the only enemies to combs you need fear while they are in the cellar, no matter how closely they are placed nor how long they remain. By holding the comb between yourself and a window, you can quickly see those that contain pollen. Now as to these all that is necessary is to keep them in a dry atmosphere from the fall till the following season. Do not take them from the bees till necessary in the fall, and by using those containing pollen first next season, it seems to me that the beekeeper would be unfortunate indeed, if he could not make use of them, If however after placing those having no pollen in the cellar and using as many as he can of those having pollen, he still has some to care for, I would recommend taking one inch hemlock and in a few hours he could make a place in one corner of the honey house, or some other room, that if not "a thing of beauty" would be "a joy forever." In this your combs containing pollen can be placed so as not to touch each other. Occasionally during the hot weather I would as often as necessary put some live coals in a pot kept for the purpose. After placing it inside on the floor I would then quickly sprinkle some broken brimstone in, and as quickly close the door. In ten minutes or more the door could be opened and the place aired. By using hemlock lumber and double boarding over the joists it can be made both rat and mouse proof. If preferred the combs can be stored away in the empty hives and sulphured occasionally as directed for those in the closet. A strong colony of Italian bees will readily care for such combs but a surplus of such would indicate the absence of bees so we must look elsewhere for the care of such. Any combs containing honey must of

course not be put in the cellar but should be used for stimulating purposes, swarms, or the honey should be extracted.

Brussels, Ont,

G. A. DEADMAN,

Paralyzed Bees.

I HAVE never seen a colony in the condition mentioned on page 82. I would go quite a way to see it and I cannot say what the cause of the disease may be.

WIRED FRAMES.

I do not know that there is anything further to say upon the subject, my article should have read. "I use $\frac{7}{8}$ top bar" not $\frac{3}{4}$. I do not use a deep frame and thought that very few now used a deep frame or at least get up new hives with a deep top frame, when new frames are required. I fancy the majority adopt a shallower frame. But there is no desire to lose any more lives over the discussion. (one Deadman has already turned up.) Mr. Gemmell and I have already had a friendly laugh over the matter. We must agree to disagree.

FRUIT BLOOM.

Bees are doing good work in fruit bloom a large number of extracting supers are on to give the bees a chance to breed all they like, no excluders are put between upper and lower story. I would sooner have the bees turned into honey they are worth more than the inferior grade of honey at this time.

R. F. HOLTERMANN.

Comb Foundation.

(Continued from page 79.)

THE following are some of the advantages of the use of this modern aid to bee-keeping: Straight combs are ensured exactly where required, and all worker cells as desired. The bees are furnished with the greater part of the materials required to finish the comb, for they are so economical of material that they thin down the sheets given them, and use the excavated material to extend the cell walls. Thus the exhaustive work of secreting wax is avoided, and the time and honey consumed in its production are saved. A large force of bees that would otherwise have had to remain quiescent while the wax was being formed from their bodies is set free for foraging abroad. The combs of supers may be built out before the glut of honey comes, so that when it does come there is abundance of room for its storage. In the case of swarms, a few hours are sufficient to supply cells for egg-laying or storage purposes, and the whole hive may be filled with combs in as many hours as otherwise might have been days. From