

indexed. I have gone through my complete volumes and made an index of my own of illustrations and anything I find of particular interest. Now that the honey season is over I may tell you how the season has been here. The first part of the season was cold, mostly north and west winds, then when it got along to clover time the white clover yielded nothing, as it was too dry, but Alsike clover yielded nicely, but of course the farmers cut that just when it is at the best for honey, so there was really nothing coming in of any consequence until the basswood opened. That source only lasted about ten days and not a very heavy flow at that. I think about 10 lbs. of surplus per colony and an increase of 20 per cent. with natural stores for winter will be my standing for this season. I often wish I was in a locality where there was buckwheat. Asters, golden-rod and thistles don't yield anything worth speaking of. There are lots of them, but it is very rarely I see any bees on them.

Sealorth, Oct. 28, 1888.

FRED. L. BROWN.—Please tell me through the C. B. J. how candy can be made that would be safe for wintering for bees. This has been the worst season ever known through this county (Stanstead). The early frost cut down everything, and we have therefore to depend upon sugar for winter feed. I fed all the liquid food I thought they would need during September, but I fear most of them will be short of stores before January. What would you advise me to do?

Fitch Bay, Que., Oct. 13, 1888.

Make very thick granulated sugar syrup. Select spare combs with deep cells and pour the syrup into the cells, holding the frame aslant. Fill both sides, wipe off and hang in a warm place to drip for a few hours. See that every cell is filled, and to ensure this pour the syrup on the combs from a good height. When put in the hives, the combs should be as warm as possible, and the bees will cluster on them at once. Four or five combs filled in this manner will be sufficient for the winter. For candy recipes see back numbers of the JOURNAL.—D.A.J.

WINTERING.

L. W. WENTWORTH.—Please send me your pamphlet on wintering. I would like to learn how to winter bees. For the last two years I have packed my bees in October but I think that is too early for them here as we have so much rain and cold damp weather that everything gathers moisture and do not have sufficient hot sun to dry it out before cold weather sets in. I have them all ready to pack just as soon as cold weather does come, and in this way. Each hive has an outside case that has a six inch space all round the sides for chaff and a foot or more over the tops. I have taken off the enamel cloth and put a Hill's device and two thickness of burlap over. A six inch case that fits snugly on the hive is

put on and filled with dry chaff, cork or sawdust. As soon as it gets too cold to rain any more I will put the chaff around the sides and 5 or six inches more over the tops and see how they will winter, what do you think of that way of fixing them? Some say upward ventilation and others say none; will this way give too much for them? I have 4 or 5 good bee books and take 6 or 8 bee papers to learn about such things but about everyone has a way of their own and I suppose I shall have to find a way that will work the best with me in this locality, but it costs a good bit to learn these things by practice and I am not sure I can hold out till I learn a sure way. I have a cellar under my house and, built of granite which is 22x28 and 15x20, the bottom is cemented all over, with a drain next the wall running way round and into the cellar drain which is 200 feet long; there are six double windows and the chimneys start from the cellar bottom, so could set in stoves if wanted. It has never been cold enough in the cellar to freeze until last winter when for 2 or 3 days it was about 28°. In the north-west end, under the L part where we live the most of the time it never freezes. Could a place be fixed in such a cellar that would be suitable to winter bees in?

Searsport, Maine.

Your bees should winter well providing the colonies and stores are all that is to be desired. Don't be afraid of having them too warm, plenty of protection in outdoor wintering is a good thing. We have tried to pack them too warmly but have never succeeded. Leave entrance open and have no fears for the ventilation. Retain plenty of heat and the ventilation will take care of itself so long as the lower entrance is open. A bee-keeper of our acquaintance packed from ten to fifty colonies each year with two feet of chaff or sawdust all around them, the entrance closed and a wooden pipe of 1½ inch diameter resting on top of frames. This pipe was protected at the top by a miniature roof, and on warm days the bees would come clear to the top of the pipe, and occasionally cluster on the inside of the "roof." Never knew him to lose a colony wintered on this plan and they always appeared to be in fine condition.

You should have no trouble with your cellar. Banking well up will render it warm, but any means adopted to secure uniformity of temperature will ensure safe wintering. An opening in bottom of chimney causing an upward draft would ventilate the cellar, warm air being admitted through a small aperture from a room above. If your drain is sufficiently deep to temper the air it would answer the same purpose. D.A.J.