

bers shall be appointed to inspect the honey, and to price same for sale. Honey will be divided into classes—viz.: one-pound sections and jars; it cannot be received in any other form at present. These classes will be kept under separate accounts.

The Sub-Committee shall have the right of testing the honey, and returning any which they may consider impure. They also may send for honey in case the demand exceeds the supply.

4. When honey is received and priced, the value of the lot shall be entered opposite the owner's name (each sort in its own class), and the amount so entered shall determine the owner's share of the proceeds of sale to be sent him on settling day. As the selling prices may be frequently altered to suit the demand, the amount paid each owner on settling days shall be his proportion of the actual amount realized, with 20 per cent. agents' commission deducted. Settling days shall be—31st August, 30th November, 28th February, and 31st May; the first settling day for each new season being the 31st August. In case any honey remains unsold on 20th May in each year, it shall then be sold by public auction, and the proceeds divided as above.

5. Honey, when sent to the depot, and taken into stock, cannot afterwards be returned to the owner. This rule is necessary to prevent confusion. Empty boxes will be returned at owner's risk and expense—except instructions to the contrary be sent—the cost of carriage being deducted on first settling day. Empty jars or sections cannot be returned.

If you agree to these conditions, sign the attached slip and send it to the Hon. Secretary. Honey cannot be received from those who do not sign the agreement.

AGREEMENT:

I hereby agree to the conditions of the Ulster Bee-keepers' Association, regarding any goods I may send to their depot in Belfast, as set forth in the portion of this document, dated 5th November, 1889, which I retain. And I hereby certify that all the honey I may send to the depot will be the pure and unadulterated production of my own bees. And I accept all risks on same.

Wintering—Consumption of Stores

IN the spring of '89 I set out six colonies of common black bees, five of which had plenty of stores, but the sixth starved to death. The year previous I thought I did not put on my sections soon enough, so last spring I determined to be in time and put them on just as the apple trees were in full bloom. The bees went right into them, and by the first of July I saw that they were full and all capped, and I thought I was going to have a nice lot of honey to sell on the fourth. On the third of the month I went out to take the sections off, and to my surprise I found them full of brood, with a little honey on the top. Being a new beginner I did not think that the queen left the hive. I took my knife and cut out all the brood and threw it

away, and set the sections back again, and this time they were filled with honey, and only a little brood was found in two or three sections. One colony did not swarm during the season, nor did it swarm the previous year, but it gave me 125 pounds of honey in sections all told. And 450 pounds mostly into two-pound sections, and I had an increase of four swarms. One day a wild swarm came along and rested on one of the apple trees in my orchard. I gave them a home, and had in the fall nine colonies. I put them in the cellar on the 29th of November weighing each from 60 to 70 pounds. On the eighth day after they swarmed I lifted all the frames and out out everything that looked like queen cells. Talking with a bee keeper he told me that I should have left one queen on otherwise I might have left them queenless. I told him I could have a colony, but never could have a swarm until a new queen was hatched out. What do you think about it? However, they did not swarm again, and that was what I wanted. I would like to know how much honey it takes to winter a good strong colony of bees. I ask because I noticed in the BEE JOURNAL of last year, page 338, some one said they should have 25 or 30 pounds per hive. On page 331-2, some one says 7½ pounds inside and 15 pounds outside; on page 332 another one says 5½ to 9½ pound inside and 13 pounds outside, for five months' confinement. Please tell me which a beginner is to go by. When I started bee-keeping with two colonies I weighed them in the fall, and again when I set them out in the spring, and each hive weighed 19½ and 20 lbs less respectively. Surely there must have been something wrong with that man's scales, who wintered them on 6 to 10 pounds, or else he did not have many bees. I mention this because I do not like to have a beginner to think that if his bees have 10 or 12 pounds per colony of honey that they are all right, and then have them come out in the spring dead.

J. H. COOK.

Scioto, Ohio.

Amateurs are not the only ones who are the victims of starvation, we have lost bees which have had over 30 pounds of honey per colony when they were very strong and commenced breeding in the winter quarters, consuming all the honey in that way. Why did you not have perforated metal honey boards, their use would have saved you several times their cost. It was too bad, that you should throw the brood away; could you not have fastened it into another frame and placed it in the body of the hive to hatch out. Putting sections on so early no doubt had something to do with the prevention of swarming, you gave them more room and that always keeps down the swarming fever. Your friend was right when he advised you that you