

cooling too fast. On the other hand we sent some 40 or 50 pounds, which was put through the hot water press twice, and it was spongy at the bottom.

We should be very careful in rendering our beeswax. The only specification the firm that I have supplied for the last three years sent me was, we want you to guarantee absolutely there has not one drop of sulphuric acid ever come in contact with that wax. They don't object so much to the color. They use that wax in making a certain grade of paper. I believe the sulphuric acid is sometimes left in the wax and it affects the steel rolls. The same proviso is made with reference to the wax supplied to the electro plating establishment. I believe it is possible to spoil the texture of wax for the fine arts and some lines of work by over heating. You can prove it by a simple experiment. Take one lot of wax as soon as the comb is thoroughly melted, and press that one out and allow the balance to boil for half an hour or so, and you will find the wax damaged. The Root Company have told me they have come to find that the less sulphuric acid that is used the better. If they are supplying wax for any of the fine arts or any fine manufacture, they are careful that it has never been subjected to sulphuric acid.

[Discussion on the above will follow next month.—Ed.]

#### SOME QUERIES.

H. S. Showell.

We have two outyards in sheltered places, with plenty of swamp willow close at hand. These came out in good shape in the spring.

Our home yard is not in a sheltered place and very little willow close by, and they came out weak in the spring. I moved some of the bees to another part of the farm where there is splendid shelter, but very little willow (as an experiment) to see if it is the willow or shelter they need, or both.

1. Could I not stimulate them in the spring by feeding in place of the willow? If so, when and how much feed would they require each day?

2. Is there any patent on a hive with a portico in the front. We get our hive lumber cut here.

3. Would you advise putting them on so as to shut them up while extracting?

4. Are bee-escapes used successfully in extracting time?

We don't extract any as a rule until the basswood is over, and then there is nothing in the fields, so they are ready to rob.

I appreciate the Journal very much. Wishing you a prosperous new year.

#### Answers.

1. You could, but we would not advise it, unless absolutely necessary. If they have sufficient stores do a little uncapping of the stores within the hive. If feeding is necessary feed about one pound a day of sugar syrup, made of about one-and-one or one-and-one-half-and-one of sugar and water. Feed it warm.

2. We know of no such patent. Mr. Holtermann has designed such a hive, but we do not know that he has it patented. Nothing can prevent you making such a hive for yourself, however.

3. I do not think I would. Extracting can be done without imprisoning the bees.

4. Yes. They are a splendid thing when extracting at a time when there is nothing for the bees to work upon.

#### A CONVENIENCE IN THE APIARY

Harry W. Jones.

One of the handiest things in my yard is a small house I made to hold my smoker and wood and the rest of my tools. Everything I use about the yard I keep in this place, so when I start work there's no time lost getting my smoker from one place, a match or a coal to light it with in another (as I keep a match box in it with matches), with still a third place to get the tools.

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It is made from waterproof roofing where I lay my in the middle, bits of wood where they may front is about back 3 feet 3 in took me half an it, and is, as in the yard.



Speaking about lasting and durable ever tried was blocks cut up inch square a bit of coal. For start and, using smoke, three for half a day's size Bingham

[This is certainly a convenient description of a]