

pies too much time in making it unnecessarily secure. What was used for mine was a fifteen cent wire imbedder, as sold by A. I. Root, one of these (in the hands of my wife) did the whole 1200 before becoming useless until fixed. In conclusion I would say by all means wire your frames. Let the foundation come down close to the bottom bar (never mind the top) so that the top bar need not have any arrangement whatever for holding the foundation, as it need not come within half an inch of it, although the nearer the better. None but those who have used them, can know the sense of security that comes from using foundation in wired frames. I never want any other, for more reasons than is advisable to give here. I trust this article may not appear too late for many bee-keepers, and yet I have a word of reproof for all those who, without good reason, have neglected this preparation for next season's work. I believe no one will make a success of bee-keeping who persistently defers making these necessities until they are required for use. My advice is, prepare for a large flow of honey and plenty of bees to gather it, even though disappointment may possibly follow.


G. A. DEADMAN.

Brussels, Ont.

Thanks for your timely warning, and many valuable suggestions. It is gratifying to know that we can make some use of our old sewing machines. Your plan of wiring, we think, would work well. We have been cutting bottom bars for some of our customers to project through inside bars just the same as the ordinary bottom bar, and yet leave the centre between the side bar the same width as the side bars. We do it by rabbeting out the ends of the board before we commence ripping off the bottom bars. One of our men has got a simple device for punching frames and he says he can punch 20,000 holes a day.

FOR THE CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL.

HONEY VS. SUGAR AS FEED.

 N Feb. 9th, 10th and 11th bees flew freely. With the exception of one colony which through various causes went into winter quarters little better than a nucleus all left on their summer stands (21 colonies) showed up strong. I could hardly resist the temptation to bring those in the cellar up and give them a fly, but as they seemed quiet I thought best to leave them there. The temperature in my cellar has ranged all the way from 34° to 40° above zero.

This is generally conceded to be too low and of course it is. We have to go often there with a light, and yet I think they are wintering well; perhaps not, "time will tell." The last flight previous to Feb. 9th was on Dec. 25th, with a few colonies probably two weeks more confinement would have resulted in dysentery. With some I thought it prudent to place some candy made of granulated sugar and honey on top of the brood-frames. Some colonies so treated seemed to think it the right thing to separate the particles of honey from the sugar and carry the latter out of the hive; one colony carried out a good handful and left it on the alighting board, which, had I not been on hand, would have resulted in robbing—"the best laid plans o' mice and men gang aft a'glee." In future when I find it necessary to use that kind of feed I shall try powdered sugar to mix with the honey, which I see you recommend. One objection, however, would be that powdered sugar is more expensive than granulated; and to sum the matter up, had we not better quit feeding our bees sugar and feed honey? I have found in my experience that a good article of dark fall honey is just as safe for wintering as granulated sugar syrup. By feeding so much sugar we are surely "building up the sugar market at the expense of the honey market." I would say much upon this subject but as it has been gone over pretty well in the various bee periodicals I will close by calling attention to the extract from the *Indiana Farmer* as quoted on page 83 of the *A. B. J.* "A thorough system of bee-keeping is as necessary in bee-keeping as in any other business. A hap-hazard way of doing things will never win any but meagre returns. He who *looks ahead and prepares* for his work *before* the time for the work to be done will find the result far exceeding those of the one who waits until the work needs to be done and then has to hurry in the vain endeavor to catch up" (the italics are ours.) Every bee-keeper ought to cut this out and paste it in his hat. If this excellent advice is followed *faithfully* the condition of things shown to be existing by Friend Pettit's article on page 711, will I am sure in a great measure disappear. With me a thorough system includes the *selling* as well as the production. At some (seasonable) future time I will give my ideas about developing the home market; surely this is the remedy or at least one of the most important ones.

PREPARATIONS FOR NEXT SEASON.

I am getting my supplies now for next season. Hives are nearly all painted and numbered and I expect to have my dishes "right side up when it honey's." It is poor policy to wait until you see how "your bees come out," before you go