

trouble. The death of queens, difficulty in securing swarms and winter-killing were some of the other difficulties spoken of. As advice to those beginning bee-keeping, he urged all to save money, time and temper by first investing \$10 in the purchase of books and mastering the principles. It is very important to have all hives in an apiary of one size and style, so that parts will be interchangeable. He favored comb honey, as extracted honey does not retain its flavor. The chief benefit of full sheets of foundation is the preventing of building drone comb; it probably does not save the bees so much labor as claimed.

The speaker closed with an interesting description of some old superstitious beliefs about bees; the great advances in the knowledge of the habits and qualities of bees within recent years. The study of this subject is a most fascinating one; the pursuit of beekeeping of endless interest, and their product is an extremely healthful and delicious article of food.

Discussion followed the paper, on the relative merits of Italian bees and black bees. It was claimed that while Italian bees were less irritable they were also less industrious, and that the fierce bees gathered more honey. This opinion was also controverted, and it was claimed that some Italian colonies did as much work as any, and that their industry did not depend on their temper.

The next address was that of Mr. A. C. Miller. He spoke of spring management of bees. Some of the points advanced were as follows: Care of bees in spring is second in importance to successful wintering. The boxes should be overhauled the first mild day in April, empty combs removed, honey supplied if needed, and brood chamber contracted. Stimulative feeding at this period is not safe, as it induces bees to fly out on days when they would be chilled. As the season advances it may be commenced. As a substitute for pollen use rye meal. To get as large a force of bees as possible by the time of the honey harvest is the object. The foregoing methods have been proved safe.

Mr. Samuel Cushman next spoke, his subject being "Current News for Beekeepers," which will be found elsewhere in this issue.

SUNDRY SELECTIONS.

A BEE ROOM IN CELLAR.

ROD. McLEAN.—Would you kindly answer a question through your valuable JOURNAL? I built a bee-room in centre of cellar 10x14 feet, floored and lined with sheathing. I got a five inch tin pipe connected to stove pipe above. Will I require any more ventilation? I only have ten colonies this winter; lost all last winter except two; bought eight this summer. The fall crop was the best honey I ever saw (for fall honey) and the first extracting, the worst of which I sent you a sample in August to analyze. What do you think of my bee-room? I intend to make bee-keeping a business after this. The colonies I bought more than paid my expenses, although half of them did nothing, being late swarms. I like your BEE JOURNAL better every week.

Hopewell, Picton Co., N.S., Nov. 27, '86.

You would be the better of underground ventilation, but with the draft you will get from the stove, we think that your cellar should be all right. You will, of course, have a damper in the pipe which runs up to meet the stove pipe, to enable you to control the draft. We are pleased to note your success, and trust that it may long continue. We thank you for the kind words you say of the CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL.

KILLING OFF DRONES.

MRS. JOSEPH FARR.—In the spring of this year I bought one hive (California patent) of bees in May they swarmed, on the 31st of July the spring swarm swarmed and on the 17th of August the bought ones swarmed again. I have not taken any honey from them and think I shall not either this winter. I do not know anything about bees. My husband went to work in August and killed every drone that came out of the hive, about the hours from one until three in the afternoon, since that I see the bees have hauled out hundreds of small bees. They were a trifle darker than the worker bees and did not seem to have any hair on the shoulders. I send you a sample of the small bees also of the workers to know what the small bees are and what my worker bees are called. The bees in the bought hive never made any honey in the frames above, all the summer; is there any way of making them do so? Would inserting one of your patent guards at the entrance of the hive prevent the bees from swarming and keep them working all summer? Would it be wise to do so, as next year I want to get