

rats is accounted for by their searching for land that is supposed to have existed, and to have been migrated to by lemmings prior to all known historical records. I take it that stagnant pools are at times hard to find in Australia, and it may be that foraging bee are lost in searching for them.

Bees have no difficulty in transferring honey stored in the hive from one location in the hive to another, but they cannot take up pollen again in their baskets and change it from one cell to another. As pollen is principally used to feed larvæ the bees store it where it will be within their clusters in winter, but they never store pollen in cells next the walls of the hive. It is therefore a question for bee-keepers to consider, in localities not exempt from bisease, whether the placing of combs stored with pollen next the walls of the hive may not become a source of danger to the colony. The pollen is allowed by the bees to dry up in the cells which soon become covered with fungoid growth. In hives with small combs the evils arising from abnormal position of the combs are not so serious as in hives with large combs.

The manipulation of brood combs will have to get more attention and study in the future; and the advantages from spreading brood combs may be found more "in the breach than in the observance." At no time in the British Isles can bees build comb without clustering to raise the temperature, and bees in clusters withdraw their heat from the general temperature of the hive. The evils which this loss of heat may cause should be thought of in spreading brood as well as the evils alluded to, which are likely to follow.

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Irish Bee Journal.

The New York State Convention

Notes from an address on "Shook Swarms" by
S. D. House, Camillus, N. Y.

Mr. S. D. House, Camillus, N. Y., whose father was at one time in partnership with the late Moses Quinby, gave an address at the New York State Convention on the subject of Shook Swarms. The House family have had as many as sixteen hundred colonies of bees at one time, and have practiced the shaking off system quite largely for many years. Mr. George W. House wrote an article in The Bee-keeper Magazine, May, 1880, giving his method and at that time said that they had practiced it for fifteen years before.

In his address at the New York State Convention Mr. House stated that the system had been practiced for forty years. He remembered his father shaking the bees out of the old hives in front of the new for the purpose of increase. Previous to this the method had originated in the treatment of foul brood. They had also at that time practiced the double drive system in which the hive was shaken a second time in twenty-one days after the first, that way getting all the brood the combs contained after first shaken.

MR. HOUSE ADVOCATES EARLY SHAKING OFF.

If shaken June 15th, when the swarming season generally begins, basswood opening in July, when bees are ready to gather honey, basswood is passed. Mr. Strathausen has stated that he had scientific inspiration that the bees caused the swarming impulse just