projection in front for the bees to alight on. The next style I used had the front projection cut off even with the front of the hive, and as I use it now it is one and three-eight inches shorter yet. This bottom is made by taking seven-eighth inch board, eleven and one-half inches wide (the inside width of the Heddon hive), cut it off square at the back end and nail a seven-eight inch cleat to the under side; this cleat is thirteen and one-quarter inches long. The front end of the bottom is cut back on a bevel; the under side is eighteen and one-half inches long, and the top side one inch shorter. The front cross cleat is two and one-half inches wide, seven-eight inches thick and thirteen and one-quarter inches long, and is nailed under the bottom, one edge projecting out one and three-eight inches beyond the front point of the bottom or enough to make the bottom when completed, nineteen and seven-eight inches long. The side rims are one and one-quarter inches high by seven-eight inches thick and are nailed on the edges of the bottom, giving a three-eight inch space under the frames and an entrance one and one quarter inches deep, full width for summer, but only amout four inches wide for outside wintering. Mice are kept out with one-half inch wide cleat tacked to the edge of the outside sliding door. In the spring the door is turned upside down, which gives a small entrance for spring.

E. T. BAINARD.

Lambeth, Jan. 27, 1911.

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## ALLEN LATHAM'S METHOD OF WINTERING.

Indexed

"Everyone who begins to own bees must try to solve a problem as soon as the first winter is about to come on because of the possibility, or is it probability, that his hive of bees will not pass the winter in safety. When my first colony of bees had to meet the winter of 1894 the problem caused me much uneasiness. I finally decided to place the hive in the loft over the carriage house, a large room with a window at one end and a door at the other, and with rafters uncovered.

"It was not really a bad place, for it was dry and the air was good, but it was not dark. I think, however, that the bees would have survived had they been left undisturbed, but their young owner had to look in on them once or twice every week during the winter.

"The next fall found me with five colonies. Not this time unprepared, for the summer had not been allowed to pass without much study and reading upon the wintering problem. That veteran, Demaree, was my guiding star, and the five colonies were packed in winter cases with sawdust. The entrances were very small, and over the frames was a good cushion of sawdust. This is a method which will winter successfully in 99 cases out of 100 in this latitude. In all my experience I never lost more than one colony by that method when other things were right, that is when the colonies were in good shape with plenty of stores. The one failure was a strong colony which starved to death with honey all about it. A long spell of zero weather had caught it without enough honey in immediate reach. The hive was too well protected. Solar heat had had no chance to arouse that colony to sufficient activity to move honey.

"For seven years or more this method of wintering was followed until my nomadic life as a school teacher during the nineties caused the method to die a natural death. But of all the makeshifts only one proved of unqualified worth. This was to use a bran sack, cutting open the bottom, pulling the sack down over the hive, tacking all around, stuffing same full of leaves, pinning the corners together at the top, and covering all with waterproof paper. For a simple, cheap

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