

and thus all goes well. Next to the cellar comes chaff packed hives, because, as the bees are surrounded by porous walls, which takes off the moisture passing from the bees' bodies, also retaining the warmth generated by themselves, they are kept at a more uniform temperature than they would be without the chaff packers, thereby lessening the consumption of honey and enabling them better to throw off a part of the moisture contained in their food and to contain the rest till the weather shall be sufficiently warm for them to fly. This mode has a seeming advantage over cellar wintering, in that it allows the bees to fly if an opportunity permits during the winter, but is offset by a more uniform temperature, and a consequent decrease in the consumption of stores in the cellar. Then, outside of the two things spoken of above, if we can have a hive in which the bees can cluster compactly, the cluster have a good queen, each hive be supplied with an abundance of good sealed honey or sugar syrup made from the best granulated sugar, and those on the summer stands have a chance to fly once in six weeks or two months, we shall be quite sure of successful wintering, because all of these things have a tendency toward accomplishing our object of keeping the bees in such a state of quietude that they can contain their faces for a great length of time, for it is my belief that upon this hangs all the secret of successful wintering.

Borodino, N. Y.

QUESTIONS.

What Can I do to prevent burr and Brace Combs in the hive?

- 1st. Heavy top bars.
- 2nd. Exact and correct spacing of frames.
- 3rd. If these do not accomplish the desired end, a slatted honey board with exact bee spacing above and below, will largely prevent burr combs between the board and super above.

EUGENE SECOR.

Use top bars $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches wide and space them $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches apart from centre to centre.

W. SCOTT.

Use $1\frac{1}{2} \times 5$ inch top bars. This will not

prevent them altogether, but it is probably the best plan to practice.

R. A. MARRISON.

Space your frames equal distances apart. Have no sagging top bars, and see that a proper bee space is maintained between the top bars and whatever is placed above them. Thick top bars are believed to be an advantage.

F. A. GEMMILL.

Proper bee space of 5:16 of an inch, where space is necessary. Raise your queens from those that build the least burr comb.

R. H. SMITH.

I believe a thick and close top bar is the best way to prevent both, but I'm so accustomed to the seven-eighths wide and thin top bar, that I prefer a few burr and brace combs, to the wide and thick top bar.

DR. A. B. MASOX.

This very question is troubling greatly the best minds among our bee-keepers. He who gives the solution, will be a blessing to the apiarist. Study up the various methods described in the bee journals, and then adopt the one that seems best suited to our own locality.

"One man's meat, is another's poison," and so in bee-keeping. What works well with one, may not with another. Experiment independently, and adopt that method which seems to work the best in your hands. No positive rule can be laid down to govern the matter.

J. E. POPE,

North Attleboro, Mass.

You will never "prevent" them altogether. Nice adjusting of the "bee space" has the best effect to lesson the burr comb nuisance. There is nothing so dear to the bee's soul as those unshapely bumps you call "burr combs." She will surrender her life if she can only pierce her corporality on top of a bump of wax. Accurate spacing of 5:16 of an inch—or if perfectly true in all parts, $\frac{1}{4}$ of an inch—spacing will reduce the amount of burr and brace combs.

G. W. DEMAREE,

Christiansburg, Ky., U. S. A.

Wide top bars and proper bee space will prevent burr and brace combs to a certain extent with the right kind of bees.

J. PHIRE.

Give plenty of room A. D. ALLEN.

Proper spacing of the combs will do much to prevent the former, and as the strain of bees probably has much to do with the latter, a change of queen from a stock not given to this peculiarity would be worth trying.

W. J. CRAIG,
Brantford, Ont.