

supers with twenty-four and twenty-eight sections each, must be strong. With one apiary of 100 colonies we took a very radical departure in preparation. Eighty colonies were prepared with a wire screen on top, and at the entrance a portico (See Fig. 7.) of the same width and height as the brood chambers in front of the eight frame dove-tailed hive, and two and a half inches deep. A frame was constructed of the above proportions, and the front covered with wire cloth. This really forms a pocket into which the bees can crowd, when, through the excitement of moving on the wagon they feel

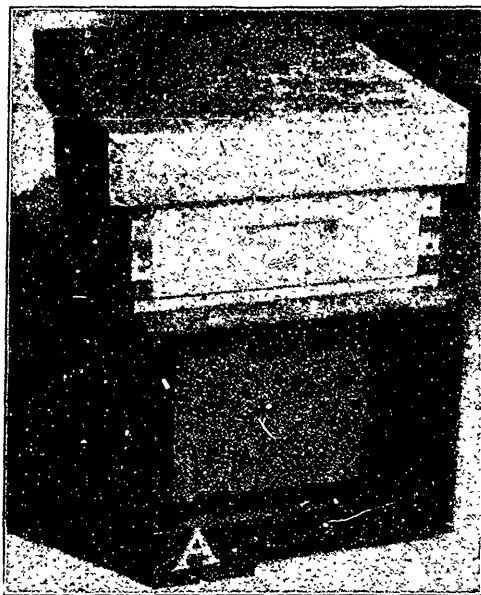


Fig 7. Portico for moving bees.

too crowded to remain in the hive. Twenty strong colonies were prepared the same as the eighty, with porticos at the entrance, but no ventilation at the top. Instead of a screen on top, a board giving no ventilation was nailed on the hive. We thought this number would be ample for the test, and we were a little afraid that the experiment might result in the destruction of the colonies so tested.

The porticos were attached as soon as the bees ceased flying in the evening. They were loaded on three wagons engaged for the purpose. Owing to a baulky horse, a tire coming off the wagon, and other unforeseen difficulties, the bees

did not reach their destination until 6 p. m. the following day. They were exposed to a bright and hot July sun during the day, yet, in spite of this, the bees came through in perfect condition. Those with the porticos only were in as good condition as those with the wire screen on top. The test was certainly severe, and we feel safe in saying that no one need hesitate in future to prepare bees for moving in this way.

PRECAUTIONS—We were careful to hammer very lightly in driving nails just before moving the bees. Two pieces of wood, of a wedge shape, formed a projection on each side of the portico, and when they were inserted into the hive entrance, the portico was kept in place by only two small wire nails. These we intend to do away with in future, and use a clamp on each side. When the hive is tapped the bees fill themselves with honey, and with the honey sack full they are more likely to be injured in moving. We find that bees suffer considerably unless the porticos are removed immediately after the hives have been moved and placed in their new stand. *Apicultural Report.*—Agricultural and Experimental Farm.

Queens and Queen Rearing.

—DR. E. GALLUP.

Where bees take their own time and supersede a queen at the right season, and in a strong colony, I have invariably had good queens. I removed a queen from one of those strong colonies right in the season, when it was good weather or swarming time, removed all unsealed larvæ, left the sealed brood and only eggs, introduced two frames of eggs from other queens, so I had three frames of eggs in different parts of the hive separated from each other. Now understand I had a large working force of outside or field bees, and a large force of inside working bees or nurses, yet I went to different colonies, until I had a hive running over full of nurses, as the nurses having never had a flight, staid where they were put; of course the old bees went back. By allowing them none but eggs to start queens from, I did not run any risk of having queens started from larvæ too far advanced, as we many times do.