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OUR OWN APIARY.

FALL STIMULATION.

SOME of the bees that we moved to that new location had no honey left when they were brought home, others had very little. The scarcity of stores seems to have stopped the queens laying, as they do not appear to have not laid any for some time. We commenced feeding slightly to induce laying, to have sufficient bees to go into winter quarters with, but it is difficult to get queens to lay late in the season. When they stop laying in the summer time, a little stimulating will generally induce them to commence again, but when the stoppage is late in the fall considerably more time and feed is required to start them again, even though the weather may be favorable. We have been asked why this is, as many do not understand how to account for the difference. It appears that when the queen ceases to lay in the summer time for lack of food she apparently seems to know that there will be another flow soon, and that she will commence laying again; but in the fall it is different. In the former case when she ceases to lay she yet retains some developed or partially developed eggs in readiness for the fresh flow of honey, but in the latter case the eggs are all developed; thus it takes some little time after stimulation before more eggs are developed. If the ovary of a queen is examined at both of these periods we think the above theory will be found correct. It seems to be instinct on the part of the queen which teaches her to lay from spring till fall (except in times of scarcity) then slacken off and finally stop laying altogether previous to going into winter quarters. This is a further proof of the necessity of stim-

ulating by liberal feeding at any time during a season of scarcity.

FURTHER HINTS ON FEEDING.

In feeding colonies there is a difference in the manner of storing which seems to be worthy of consideration. We have fed largely this year having taken the honey from our hives. We have fed at the entrance, at the back of the division board, and on the bottom of the hive. It appears to make little, if any difference in any case where the syrup is put as it would be carried up and deposited in the combs and when the presence of brood does not make them crowd it near the top they usually put it in the centre or scatter it about in the combs from top to bottom and they do not try to lengthen the cells like they do in summer. The later in the season the feeding is done the less inclined are the bees to deposit it in the top of the combs, or along the top bar. This difficulty is easily remedied by feeding from the top, and we have become so thoroughly convinced of the value of the top feeder, that in future we shall use them exclusively. Those hives which had the feeders set on top of the frames, had the cells at the tops of the frames lengthened out and much of the stores were placed along the top bars and *very little* of them at the bottom of the combs even though the weather was cool; while those fed in other ways would scatter the stores through the combs without lengthening the cells or capping nearly so much. It seems worth while using the top feeder even though it costs a little more. When the weather is cool the bees will not take food from the feeder in the *bottom* of the hive, but they will carry it down out of the top feeder rapidly, because all of the heat of the hive passing up keeps the syrup and bees warm so that they can work there when they could not possibly work on the bottom board.