

the spring, but they came out all right. Next winter I had them in a cellar that also went down to zero, and they came out very good; the one that came out weak was weak in the fall. This winter I have a stove in the cellar, and when the mercury gets to freezing point I begin to warm up. The bees appear to be doing well. The bee men of Ontario would be alarmed at the mercury getting away down to 42 and 45, but an old-time bee-keeper here, Mr. Henderson, keeps his at 35. Probably the dry atmosphere may have something to do with it.

Could you please tell me what has become of Mr. R. H. Smith? I sent him a letter to Saskatchewan, but I got no reply. He had told me in a previous letter that he would have to go to a warmer climate. There are several bee-keepers in Edmonton district, but the distances are so great you cannot walk out to them.

W. BOWLING.

Edmonton, Alberta.

### BROOD-REARING MARCH 2

Mr. Jacob Haberer, of Zurich, sends us the following report: March 2—Sunny; 36°; air quiet; five colonies flying. I could not resist looking into two hives. I am of the opinion that many colonies had brood nearly all winter. I found these two with brood in all stage, with newly-hatched bees and colonies strong. One queen was last year's queen, the other was one year old. Some of these early breeders are a strain from an imported Italian queen. At a point German bee-keepers pride in very much.

[Our own bees had a great flight during the winter on two occasions, and we are of the opinion they are rearing brood now. We have not, however, examined them, and will not do so till about the first of May and not then unless the weather is very warm. Bees that are in the fall do not need this examination, but it will do no harm to examine one or two to note condition.]

### REQUEENING

A little knowledge of how I requeened an out-apiary might be interesting to some of the C.B.J. readers. I selected five of the weakest colonies in the spring, which were too weak to be of much use for a crop of honey (this is contrary to most teaching), but as the young queens were not wanted until the end of the harvest, these colonies had a chance to get strong enough for my purpose. No. 1 was made strong early in the season at the expense of the other four; then it was made queenless and broodless after getting strong in bees. The brood was now divided amongst the other four. The bees were now given a frame of eggs from a queen I received from W. O. Victor, Texas. In this case I want to get as many queen-cells as possible. To do this I must have a frame of new comb or a frame of foundation given to the queen I wish to breed from, placed in the centre of the hive about four days before required. It has been my experience that three or four queen-cells is all that can be relied upon, with a frame of eggs in old comb and from eight to thirteen on newly-built comb. I find grafting to be the easiest and surest way of requeening with cells. Take a thin-bladed pocketknife and cut out a queen-cell. It usually takes a piece about an inch square cut clear through the comb. Now go to the hive you wish to requeen, find the queen, kill her, cut a hole an inch square out of the centre of a comb and slip in your piece with the queen-cell. Bear in mind that when killing a queen and giving a queen-cell at the one operation, it is safer to use a four or five-day old royal larva than a sealed cell, because bees are liable to destroy a sealed cell, and still more so a ripe cell, before they are aware of being queenless. But I have never known them to destroy an unsealed cell. I prefer using unsealed cells for requeening out-yards, so that the whole affair can be done at one operation. They are sure to start some cells from the eggs they have of their own, but

they will be sealed given, and there will be a cell or first queen.

By the time my colonies are strong enough to form a nucleus of last season's sealed cells resealed, and all well in short time. After I loaded up the out-yard a queen No. 1 back nucleus in its place the same way. These nuclei boiling I have a nucleus queen-cells instead of the old queen is a old bees are a sealed and a cell given the number required are destroyed out of the other bees divided up of those 55 nuclei to the above the above is the suit-out-yards with the yet tried.

Burlington, Ont.

We are very much indebted to Mr. Balmer, for the information. Your plan seems effective. It appears to be of a minimum.

### THIS IS WHAT

enclosed please find for two years, and I am real proud of the C.B.J. Long may it flourish. ANCHUS  
St. Roches, Ont.