

turn the entrance of the hives toward the cellar wall; but if the cellar is light, a place in one corner should be partitioned off so as to make the part which is to contain the bees dark. Bees have been wintered well in cellars where the light of day was allowed to enter; but, as a rule, bees winter best in a cellar into which no light of the sun ever enters while they are in it. The hives should also be ten to fifteen inches from the cellar floor, the bench or platform on which they stand resting on the ground instead of being nailed to the sleepers above, otherwise the jar caused by any movement on the floor above would disturb the bees and tend to make them uneasy, thus causing more or less loss. Rats and mice should also be excluded from the cellar where bees are to be wintered; for of the two, I would rather chance the jar from children playing over bees than of rats and mice running about and through the hives. Many colonies of bees are lost each year from rats and mice in cellars during the winter. The full entrance to the hives should be given where fast bottom boards are used, and with movable bottom boards, the same should be left on the summer stands and the hives raised two or more inches above the bench or hives on which they rest. Where honey-boards are used, I prefer to remove them, substituting several thicknesses of old carpet, or else a chaff of sawdust cushion two or three inches thick, through which the moisture from the respiration of the bees may escape; but still keep them dry and warm.

The bees should be set in, about the middle of November and taken out about the time the elm and the soft maple blossoms, or when the first pollen in the spring is brought out. Some recommend setting in later

and taking out earlier; but my experience has been that the sudden change, both in late fall and early spring, are very damaging to bees, whether in the cellar or out of doors, and it is best to avoid them where we can as well as not, as is the case in cellar wintering.

The right temperature of a cellar to winter bees best is from 42 to 45 degrees, but if fixed as above given, they will do very well as 35 to 40 degrees. If the temperature is one where the temperature goes as low as the freezing point and stays there any length of time, I should prefer to leave the bees on their summer stands, for a continued temperature at about the freezing point or a little below, seems to be very injurious to bees."

The Belgian Rabbit

A Subscriber in the Montreal Star, asks the question.—"What kind of an animal is the Belgian hare, or rabbit that there is much said about? Is it a profitable animal to keep along with poultry?"

To which the Star replies as follows.—"This kind of rabbit, commonly but incorrectly called a hare, is giving considerable excitement among persons who are apt to think any new thing must be good. It has been kept as other rabbits, but of late it has been much improved in size. It has so many broods and grows to market size so quickly, that it may really be a profitable thing to have. It is about as large as the native Canadian hare—or rabbit—which is white in the winter but grey in the summer. Doubtless this native animal might be made as profitable as this foreign one if it were reared in confinement. The Belgian has six litters in the summer, one every month, and when the little