

requires to be done early in the fall to allow the bees to extend the cells in which the feed for winter is to be stored; consequently there will be considerable brood in some hives, therefore endangering its being chilled, and also giving less space for the colony to raise young bees for wintering. I think 1½ inches from centre to centre sufficient.

ALLEN PRINGLE, SELBY, ONT.—In the month of August, or during the last honey-flow, spread the frames you intend wintering upon well apart, 2½ inches at least from centre to centre of frame. Do this upon returning the frames to the hives after extracting them the last time for the season. The bees will then make good thick combs of honey for winter stores, thus giving them more room for clustering beneath their food where they ought to be. In September or October when you are preparing for winter, crowd the frames up together leaving only space enough between the combs of honey at the top for the bees to pass freely.

BY THE EDITOR.—We prefer to have the cells of our combs lengthened out so that the top half of the comb is very much thicker than usual and have them sealed full of good stores. That gives more than double the space below for bees to cluster; but before putting them into winter quarters we set the combs close together so that the cappings almost touch, leaving barely room enough to allow a bee to pass between; by this means about two-thirds of the number of combs will contain the necessary honey for wintering and the bees will consume less when clustered in this way, and with us have wintered better. In warm climates this would not be so important, but when long confinement is necessary, this method has given us best results.

REMOVING DEAD BEES FROM COMBS.

QUERY NO. 14.—FLESHERTON, ONT.—A large number of my colonies are dead. Many of the combs are filled with dead bees with the points of their abdomens just sticking out of the cells. Shall I remove them, if so, how? or will it do to leave them as they are, and put them into other colonies in the spring

and let the bees take them out?

MARTIN EMIGH, HOLBROOK, ONT.—Keep the combs in a dry place until the bees have got fairly started in the spring, then put them in your strongest colonies, one or two at a time.

PROF. A. J. COOK, LANSING, MICH.—It might be well to brush them gently, yet if put into hives with good vigorous colonies, one or two at a time, all will soon be cleaned.

S. CORNEIL, LINDSAY, ONT.—Tap on the frames with a light hammer so as to start the dead bees partly out. Then pick them out with a needle. The bees will cut the comb away if they are allowed to remain.

DR. A. B. MASON, WAGONWORKS, O.—Leave them as they are if you have anything else to do, or if free from honey place them where the mice can remove them for you, and if they do it as nicely as they have for me, you will, for once, be pleased with their work.

H. D. CUTTING, CLINTON, MICH.—If you have many colonies you cannot afford to remove the dead bees. A strong colony of bees can remove them much faster than you can, but don't give too many frames at once.

G. M. DOOLITTLE, BORODINO, N. Y.—Place the combs in a dry place and keep apart so the bees will dry down rather than mould or rot. After they get dry give to any colony, and no harm will result. I see it advised to pick these bees out of the comb one by one, but I always thought the bees could do it cheaper and better than the apiarist.

DR. J. C. THOM, STREETSVILLE, ONT.—Mice, I understand, will pick out the bees and board themselves at the same time. I have picked them out with forceps, but it is a tedious business. This was before the days of foundation. When placed in the hives the dead bees are sometimes removed and septum of cells also. You can shake a great many out of tough old combs.

R. MCKNIGHT, OWEN SOUND, ONT.—The work of removing dead bees is both tedious and unpleasant. First brush off all that can be removed in that way without injuring the cells, then if you are not very busy sit down and pick the remainder out at leisure. The bees will do the work but it is just as unpleasant and tedious for them to do this duty as for their keeper.

DR. C. C. MILLER, MARENGO, ILL.—If given to strong colonies, not too many at a time, they will clean them out. In any case they should be