s out of full with honey itions in my ed, I really I could find ties in a day,

APR. 1908.

experience in g, but having bee-keepers' his question, rested in the great many matters apipinions of celionally prothich bees are about 45 deteaching, yet lower tempers, notably the York State, ture at 50 dee who favor a degrees is Mr. Ont., one of keepers. He hundred and nber outdoors, ar, and nearly are in perfect His idea as to the temperaint as possible. home I have armer's cellar, ry severe cold d me that by long the therthirties for a heard this Mr. the 'phone and a temperature rather expecthing like this: ; wish I could all the time."

As before stated, we can testify to his uniform success, so I suppose we will have to infer that his cellar is an extra dry one. Last fall, when fitting up the bees for winter, at one yard a mere nucleus with a young queen was found, and as they had not a pound of honey, we calculated not to pay any attention to them. However, when we came home the hive was put in the buggy, with the thought that possibly some use might be made of the queen. Not needing the queen, the bees were crowded to one side of the hive and fed about all the sugar syrup they would take. Later on they were carried in our home cellar, placed in one corner, with an old rug wrapped around the hive to keep out some of the light. Now this cellar, when compared with what a good repository should be like, is about the poorest place possible to try to winter a strong colony, let alone a weak nucleus. It is dug in a gravelly clay and always somewhat damp; there is a great variation of temperature, as the windows are generally open, with the air kept as cool as possible without freezing, for the sake of the vegetables and fruit in the cellar. However, when the hive was carried out on March 31, the bees were apparently in as good condition as they were in November last. The point I wish to make is that good stores is about the whole thing for successful wintering, either indoors or outside. Had this nucleus been provisioned with poor stores with an excess of pollen, no doubt the bees would have perished, and the cellar blamed for the trouble. With firstclass stores, bees will withstand adverse conditions in wintering outdoors or in the cellar to a wonderful extent, when under like conditions, and the bees having poor stores, things will turn out disastrously. This winter we have had some pointed experiences in this matter, of which we will have more to say, if spared, in a future issue of C.B.J.

During the past the writer has frequently had considerable to say relative to wax rendering and wax presses. As many will have noted, I am quite partial to the Hatch-Gemmill press, the most of our wax for some years having been rendered by aid of that style of press.

The slum-gum has been saved for the last four years, and quite recently a lot of this stuff was treated in one of the hot-water presses built on the principle of the one advocated by Mr. Sibbald at the last convention in Toronto. The press in question is a very powerful affair, and with the two-inch screw and a crowbar for a lever an enormous pressure can be applied. Not having yet tried the press with comb, we hard, feel qualified to pass an opinion as to its merits. However, there is no question but that it is a slower process than when using the Hatch-Gemmill press, and should I purchase one of the hot-water machines, I have an idea that I would first use the old press and afterwards treat the slumgum in the other machine. Abundance of hot water and lots of time are essentials in the use of the hot-water press, and we found that even when working in a hot room it was almost impossible to flood out the wax, as the wax when rising to the surface would harden at once. In this respect, I suspect the Hershiser would have the advantage, as this machine sits right on the stove, and it is only natural to suppose that the water would keep hotter than is the case in the other machine. From the three hundred and eighty pounds of slum-gum treated (that amount of thoroughly dry slum-gum is quite a bulk), fifty-four pounds of inferior wax was obtained, and from this three hundred and eighty pounds, five hundred and twenty pounds of wax had previously been extracted. In other words, about nine and a half per cent, of the available wax is left in when using the unheated press. As we spent four days and used