

puzzling one. Your entrances were a little on the small side, but they were large enough to give the bees plenty of air, and should not be the cause of your trouble. What kind of covers did you have on these hives? Were they sealed? Hives packed in this manner should have unsealed covers to allow the damp air to pass up into the packing. Where dysentery is found, the trouble can be traced to two causes—dampness or poor quality of food. Honey is not always the best thing to winter upon. This statement does appear to be absurd, but many have found it to be the case. Bees packed as yours were ought to have a honey-board on top. We would by no means put a cushion on. We think also that your packing cases would have been better if you had not put the building paper inside. There was possibly not enough circulation of air. It will be very interesting to get Dr. Miller's opinion on this.—Ed.]

A BEE-SPACE ABOVE OR BELOW?

Mr. Deadman's article re bee-space in hives prompts me to say there are some very good reasons why a beginner should thoroughly study every little detail of a hive before he makes any quantity or orders any made. Now a bee-space is only the small matter of one-quarter inch, but if it is allowed in a wrong place in a hive it is going to be an everlasting nuisance. Mr. Hurley says that, while he likes a bee-space below the frames, he also wants a bee-space above the frames. Now, my experience tells me they must not be both above and below the frames with my system of management. My supers and hives are alike, with the exception of half-depth supers, but they do not alter the matter any. Suppose I have a bee-space above the frames of my hive body and below the frames of my super as well. That leaves a space of half an inch, and when those bodies are separated there is going to be a growth of comb in that double bee-space to be broken loose. I, like Mr. Deadman, want the space below the frames for the same reasons he mentions, and I certainly do not have the trouble with wood-bound

excluders which our Editor mentions. I bind my excluders myself, and there is nothing frail about them.

My bees have wintered very well, with the exception of three. The mice got into the packing case of these and worked the chaff down and closed the entrance. Has any one tried a collapsible case, with separate cushions attached to ends and sides, so that when the case is put together the cushions touch the sides and ends of hives? The lid should also have packing material attached. This would save a dirty mess in the spring when unpacking, and the mice would not be apt to bother the cushions as they do the loose packing. It would also save getting fresh packing every fall.

I am building a two-storey honey house and am just preparing to put in a cement floor. I thought first of elevating my extractor on a platform high enough to enable me to put a pail under the spout. I have decided since, however, to anchor my extractor flat on to the cement floor by iron rods, and have a square hole made in the floor large enough to take a pail. Has the Editor any suggestions to make on this arrangement?

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[Glad to hear from you, Mr. Smith. Mr. Deadman will no doubt appreciate your opinion very much. As he expects us to offer an opinion on the matter, I agree with Mr. Deadman on the matter. In this discussion, we will say nothing more than Wood-bound excluders, when prepared by yourself, may be very different to those we have had experience with. A wood-bound excluder is all right if it will stay wood-bound—there's the rub! Your idea of a collapsible winter case, with special prepared and adjusted cushions, is a very novel one, but we think it would be somewhat impracticable. There are many collapsible winter cases, minus the cushions. We use winter cases, with fine shavings for packing, and have never been troubled with mice. We commend your arrangement re extractor. We have tried it both elevated and on the level. We find a hole for the pail the best arrangement. The extractor is much more easily worked under this arrangement.—Ed.]

MISTAKES FOUL 1

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In the C.B.J. Byer says that a swarm issuing carries the disease nearly always with it. I know for first and second brood colonies honey with the my reasons for cleansing process the hives for freshening away the the starters and foundation. After a colony becomes weaker as soon as the first swarm comes down more of the honey, and a second swarm takes away the first swarm did, but diseased cells with Mr. Byer says that we should not re-treatment except in special conditions. I agree with Mr. Byer's colonies are for the close of the honey not do to go into colonies not cured, would not be right in shaking the bees out of stores in October months in every case and they always come in very best condition in every case, and no more treated as many diseases as I have done. Mr. Byer and Mr. McEwen