

e between each much wider that to the workers. t, there is more bees to work up paces; and comb idly carried on, ive with single aces so cramped e delayed work-

#### rators

board, a full  $\frac{1}{8}$ " on either side, is slatted separator, y of the slatted ally good results here thin sections preference is for nd these worked e just 16 oz. in

re worked in each o the plan I pub- ago, the whole dation is placed tions at a stroke. ange that the ma- y producers still one section at a separate sheet of wax, or some la- eans, when by a ist the whole line furnished in less e can be set up, o extraneous fix-

ured more firmly wn method, while handled as one, gle sections slip- tion, until finally a thin knife or

gth Foundation veral sections is which pushes the out of the frame.

The left hand then picks up the slit edges of the several sections, opening them like the leaves of a book, as all sections are slit on three sides. The foundation already in the right hand is immediately passed between the several halves. The frame is then turned over on to a flat surface, and all pressed back in place. The operation is carried out, after a little practice, much quicker than can be described.

The operations in order are as follows:

- (1) Fill holders with 3-side slit sections.
- (2) Cut the sheets of foundation 1-16" short of the total width of the several sections, and  $\frac{1}{4}$ " less in depth.
- (3) Set frame of sections on the push block.
- (4) Lift the several halves with left hand.

- (5) Insert foundation with right hand.
- (6) Turn over on flat surface and press back in place.

- (7) Insert in crate as furnished.
- (8) Use push block to help sections out of the frame when sealed.

Heathfield, Sussex, Dec. 4th, 1911.

#### CONDITION OF BEES IN ONTARIO

##### Honey Prospects for 1912

By Morley Pettit.

For the purpose of reporting on the condition of bees in Ontario and the honey crop prospects for 1912, blanks were sent to 6,800 bee-keepers by the Fruit Branch of the Department of Agriculture. Nearly one thousand sent replies, 125 of whom stated that they were out of business through winter loss and other causes. The total number of colonies reported by 844 bee-keepers for the fall of 1911 was 30,911. For May, 1912, it is 26,286. This represents a winter loss of fifteen per cent.,

which is one per cent. more than that reported a year ago. While it is a heavy winter loss, there is no doubt that the actual loss is much greater than that. One hundred and twenty-five bee-keepers have reported that they are out of business, without stating the cause. Several have written privately that they have lost all, or nearly all, their bees. The winter loss has also been heavy in many parts of the States. This has made the demand for bees very keen.

Bees are reported mostly in fair to good condition and crop prospects the same. Where prospects are reported poor it is due to alsike having been injured by the drouth of last summer. Clover has wintered almost uniformly well.

O.A.C., Guelph, May 23rd.

#### BEE-KEEPING BY TWENTIETH CENTURY METHODS

By J. E. Hand.

In these days of low prices and off years, it behooves us, as intelligent and progressive bee-keepers, to adopt methods that stand for economical management. Manipulation is but another name for labor, and, therefore, a system of management that simplifies manipulation, lessens labor and reduces the cost of honey production, merits the careful consideration of the up-to-date bee-keeper. The advantages derived from having colonies located in pairs close together has long been recognized by many of the leading honey producers of the country. Realizing the possibilities along the line of economical manipulation of bees independent of hives or combs, with hives located in pairs close together, the writer has developed a scheme by which the working force of two independent colonies may be combined in one set of supers, thus ensuring a strong force of workers right at the beginning of the early harvest