

## Wintering Bees.

[American Bee Journal for September.]

The first and all-important thing in wintering bees, is to have stores enough to carry them through and to have plenty of young bees, and during August and September the bees should be filling their brood nests with young bees and honey for winter. And when the hive has been contracted for getting clover and basswood honey, towards the last of July it should be enlarged and filled with comb for foundation, so the bees can get them filled in their own way and not have to be fed later. I have no trouble in getting the hives filled for winter in this way. At this writing I think my bees are well supplied with stores and are working in supers. They are working hard on buckwheat and fall flowers just now. About the first of November, or when cold enough to put winter cases on, I place absorbents over the brood nests, put on the hive covers, and leave the entrances open all winter the full width of hive, three-eighths inches high. Then set the winter case over the hive, with no filling of any kind between the case and hive. This keeps pure and dry air for the bees. In the front of the winter case I cut out an entrance 2x8 inches, then take a thin board 3x10 inches, with a screw hole through one upper corner to fasten it, and an entrance out of the bottom edge 3x4 inches, which stands open in the winter. Now, I put this right over the 2x8 inch hole in the case, fastening it with the screw at the corner, leaving the outside entrance 3x4 inches, so that whenever a warm day comes, and I wish to have my bees fly more freely, I turn the 3x10 piece up, leaving the entrance 2x8 inches. With this arrangement, with the Falcon or Winter cases, my bees came through last winter without any loss and in good condition. I never had bees winter so well before. It makes very little work to clean house for them in the spring, and there were no dead bees to speak of, excepting in one hive, in which there was a small handful of them.

In conclusion I would say contract the brood nest the first half of the season until the white or light honey is obtained, then enlarge it, the latter part so the bees can fill it up for winter in their own good way, with no bother of feeding.

Yours truly,  
S. M. KEELER.

Chonango Bridge, N. Y.

## Our Pure Honey Bill.

It may be well to state that our efforts to secure a Pure Honey Bill for Canada has

had the effect of having two bills pass the House of Commons; of course that was too many; but they both came to grief in the Senate. I have letters from members of parliament congratulating us upon the progress made, with assurances that if we follow the matter up and push it vigorously, that success will crown our efforts. Of this I have no doubt whatever; but of course it means expense and possibly a good deal of patient, hard work. The opposition encountered from within our own ranks adds materially to the cost and work, but that sort of work inspires to greater efforts. I found it necessary to go three times to Ottawa, but I am not grumbling at the work involved. It is done willingly and cheerfully. The interest of the country demands the legislation we seek and that we must have it at any cost is the solid conviction of

S. T. PERRIN.

P. S.—For very good reasons this letter has been withheld to the present. A full account will be given at our annual meeting. Belmont, Ont., Sept. 10th. S. T. P.

## Rockland Fair, Russell Co.

To the Editor :

I herewith send you a short report of the honey exhibit and the names of the two most successful winners of prizes at the Rockland Fair. A general prize for the best 25 pounds of extract honey and 20 pounds in the comb (three prizes on each lot) was given by the Township of Clarence Agricultural Society, jointly with the the County of Russell Bee-Keepers' Association. This was very keenly contested for by A. Edwards of Rockland and W. J. Brown of Chard, Mr. Edwards taking first place in both comb and extracted; but this order was reversed in the contest (friendly contest of course) for the first place in the special prize offered by the Agricultural Society of Clarence for the best 100 pounds extracted honey, 25 pounds comb honey and 10 pounds beeswax, and the best equipment in bee-keepers' supplies or appliances. Mr. Brown took first prize in both, with Mr. Edwards second. The exhibits of both Mr. Edwards and our old beeking, Brown, were grand and would undoubtedly hold their own in some of the largest fairs in Canada. It was very attractive and caused the swinging crowds to halt and wonder. Live bees in a crowd like that and nobody stung. Certainly that was something strange for those of our population who had no experience with the gentle honey bee. Many times the writer was asked if that was a new kind a churn (the honey extractor).

Yours, FROM THE FAR EAST.