

expenses of the several suits which are now before the courts. The assessment and dues amounting to \$1.25 for the ensuing year are due, and the manager would like to have prompt returns from all present members, and from all new ones who consider it in their interest to join the association.

OUR OWN APIARY.

GETTING BEES INTO SURPLUS CASES.

SEVERAL have wondered or asked why their bees did not occupy their surplus cases, they having difficulty in getting the bees to occupy the sections. This depends almost entirely on the apiarist. Proper management will induce nuclei to work in sections or strong colonies may be so managed that they will not put a pound of honey in sections, whereas with a little care and judgment in manipulating, from 25 to 75 pounds of comb honey might be taken from the same colony. Too many frames in the brood chamber simply means that it will be a long time before the bees will occupy the sections, if they do at all. Frames too far apart in the brood chamber have the same effect. One of our prominent apiarists wrote us a few years ago that his bees would not occupy the sections early in the season. We told him to crowd the combs up closer together just leaving sufficient space for the bees to work between combs; the crowding might be done by putting in division boards or extra combs, if the latter they should be brood combs from other hives; one extra comb in six or eight is sufficient. The result was, after putting nine combs in place of eight, every colony so treated occupied the sections at once, others refusing until this was done. Seasons have much to do with this matter but bees must be crowded in the brood chamber before they will occupy the sections and instead of waiting for them to fill their brood chamber or get ready to occupy the sections just crowd them at the commencement of the honey season and every colony thus properly treated will go on storing honey irrespective of their strength. When the season for procuring honey is pretty well past, and our colonies very strong, and the honey also coming in very slowly, the question arises:

HOW CAN WE EMPLOY OUR BEES TO ADVANTAGE?

There are many of us with too few surplus combs for extracting purposes, and also for hiving swarms on in the height of the season. Nice new combs just drawn out are a good investment, and the bees will soon empty the honey they have taken with them when they swarm and go to the fields for more instead of staying in the hive for two or three days drawing out foundation. New combs well drawn out will have sufficient honey in them in the height of the season, if the honey flow is good, before the foundation will be drawn out, to pay the full price for foundation. Now, those who wish to get a stock of surplus combs without costing them anything might do so by securing their foundation and placing it in strong colonies, having it full drawn out and hung up in the bee-house for next summer's use. The interest on the foundation until next season would be only 3 cents per pound, and where wire is used one pound will fill either 6 or 7 frames. Then when the colonies are placed on these combs, next summer enough honey will be placed in them to fully pay all this expense. We find that when the weather is warm a very short time is only necessary to have strong colonies prepared to hold all these combs. We sometimes leave them in two days and sometimes one is sufficient, but we always place them between brood frames, crowding the combs up so close that bees may rest all their weight on the brood combs while the foundation is being drawn out. This matter we have fully tested. Leaving the combs a sufficient distance from the foundation so the bees would cluster on it in order to draw it out where it would fall down to the bottom of the hive in less than an hour if placed sufficiently close to the combs would be nicely drawn out and it would not stretch enough that it could be noticed. Those who do not wish to use full sheets of foundation can put starters in and have them drawn out so that all preparations in this direction for another season may be made by the bees this fall. Should they build a little drone comb on the bottom of the starters it may be cut off. Putting comb in sections, or, in other words, sections filled with comb, or partially filled,