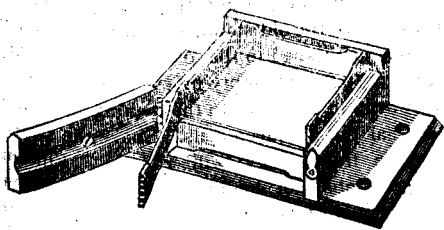


as the price of sections having this groove—33s per 1000 is exorbitant, and out of the way altogether as compared with the amount of extra work in manufacturing them. The price in dollars and cents being \$7.92, you will see what we estimate the cost of this improvement to be in the article to which we refer in the paragraph preceding this.

The next appliance which we notice is one brought out by Mr. J. H. Howard, Holme, Eng.



The illustration will pretty well explain the contrivance. The block is secured to a table receiving a section cut as illustrated, and on the centre bar the full sheet of foundation is guided into the three grooved sides of section, and the upper half of section top rail (cut at an angle of 45 degrees), is brought into place by the hinged door block. It will be observed that here we have nearly an exact combination of the inventions of Blow and Abbott—crediting the grooves on the three sides to the former, and the split top-rail to the latter, with the exception that the cut in the top-rail is not made just as is the Abbott one, but more after the trials made in this country.

The last arrangement of which we shall speak is one by W. B. Webster, Binfield, Berks. We are sorry that we are unable to illustrate this one as well as the others. The *British Bee Journal* thus describes it:

"The method invented by Mr. Webster for fixing whole sheets in sections is very effective. The foundation is gripped securely on top and both sides, and fills the section so perfectly that the existence of 'pop holes' or sagging will be well-nigh an impossibility. The means whereby these results are obtained are: Three sides of the section are in halves, the third side having sufficient pliability to form a hinge; upon pressing these two halves apart after folding the section, they form jaws, within which the sheet

of foundation is placed; it is then put into the block, a broad part of the block is pressed upon it for the purpose of holding it firm and true; two little tin staples are then squeezed or knocked in, rendering the whole secure."

We trust that this review may have as much interest for our readers, as its preparation has been to us.

FOR THE CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL.

HOW TO PREVENT INCREASE.

THE question "how can I prevent increase?" is often asked but not so easily answered. The surest way to prevent increase and promote decrease without exterminating the bees is to keep a poor lot of queens. But this remedy being worse than the disease, is not likely to be voluntarily adopted. I do not advise the remedy; I only mention it.

When is it desirable to prevent increase, that is, increase of colonies? When the bee-keeper has as many colonies as he wants. Of course each colony must be replenished pretty constantly by increase, or depopulation is the result. During the spring before the main honey flow begins, the chief concern is how to sufficiently promote increase in each colony. Then, when swarming time comes, the question of more or less increase of colonies depends upon circumstances. The chief one of those circumstances calling for more instead of less increase will in my opinion be a very conspicuous one in many apiaries the present season. The mortality of the past winter and spring has been so extensive and widespread that the question with very many unfortunate ones will be, not how can I prevent increase of my colonies, but, how can I multiply them fast enough? I know several bee-keepers in this and adjoining counties who have lost all, and others nearly all. The former are buying a small start again, and both classes will be striving the season through for increase to take the place of the lost ones and occupy their empty combs. There will be a few, of course, who will want to prevent much increase of colonies, having been fortunate (I will not say "lucky" for the bad luck so-called generally comes from bad management) in getting their bees safely through the winter. And even these will find themselves more or less depleted in supplying their less fortunate neighbors who are obliged to buy of them. Taking into account the average winter losses throughout the country, or in any given area, and also taking into account the fact that at least one swarm from each colony is more profitable, even where no increase is desired, than none—taking these two