

die outright, and as a rule the few weak colonies in the yard have old, failing queens. Perhaps we should be ashamed to make this latter confession, but from observation I am convinced that "there are others," so shall console myself with that thought. However, on April 17th, we found a case that gave us a chance to try the doubling-up plan. Two colonies in single cases, hives with loose bottom boards, stood side by side. One, a hybrid stock, was very strong; while no combs were lifted out, yet brood could be seen from the top in seven out of the ten deep frames. The other, a pure Italian, with young queen bought last fall, had not over a cupful of bees, and while the combs were clean, the queen nice and lively, yet there was no brood. Just before leaving the yard, about 3 p.m., the cover and packing was taken off the colony, a queen-excluder put on, with a single sheet of newspaper on top. The weak stock was placed over this, and all packed snugly and warm around sides and top of hive. After leaving, we had doubts as to whether the bees would chew holes through the paper or not, but thought we would take chances, as, to tell the truth, we had not much faith in ever seeing the queen in upper hive alive again. One week later (April 24) we were driving past this same yard, and, although weather was cool, couldn't resist going in and having a look at this double-decker. As we took off the packing, was surprised at the amount of heat on top of the hive, but as the quilt was taken off the cause was apparent. The frames were literally boiling over with bees, and honey and pollen, the first of the season, brought in the two previous days from soft maple, was much in evidence. Lifting out a frame at one side and glancing down, we found that the paper sheet had disappeared, with the exception of a small bit at one corner of the hive. In the third comb we found eggs and larvæ, showing that up to the

present our ratio in queen-saving was 100 per cent. Naturally we felt like throwing up our hat into the air, but, as the weather was chilly, refrained from such risky demonstrations. To be sure, the queen in upper chamber may yet disappear; shall report later on how things pan out in our dual-queen experiments.

[Mr. Frank Adams, of Brantford, winters his bees in the cellar. He has tried this plan of Alexander, and puts a queen-excluder between. He reports the plan as most satisfactory.—Ed.]

Since penning that note re wax presses for April C.B.J., Mr. Sibbald writes me that, judging from what I say, the press we used has too large a tank, hence requires too much hot water. Am inclined to think there is something in the claim, and, as intimated in April "Notes," we have not yet tried the hot-water machine with comb, so the slum-gum tests are not sufficient to laud or condemn the machine. Quite a few have already tried the Sibbald machine, and speak highly of it, and the writer would not wish to speak unfairly of the press, and perhaps be the means of deterring some from trying this system of wax-rendering. Be it understood we have no personal interest in the matter of wax presses, as regards their sale, and anything we have written has simply been in accord with our opinions, based on experiments with the different machines.

That Fishing Trip

Naturally of a sensitive nature, imagine, Mr. Editor, our mortification on seeing our "failings" exposed to the public by E. G. Hand, he no doubt being in collusion with your worthy self to help the matter along. "When you hear him coming." Such an insinuation is indeed hard to bear with. When we found our friend at the station awaiting our arrival, was under the impression that the Hali-

May 1908.
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