

know by the season, the number of dying bees round the hive, and the habits of his neighbours. In the same way he will probably know the facts about recent temperatures. When the disease is due to any of these causes the bees in due course clean out the cells, and there is no trouble with subsequent brood. Should, however, neither starvation, heat, cold, nor poison account for the condition, or should the diseased brood continue or increase, then help should be solicited from the Department of Agriculture. As a diseased hive weakens, bees from other hives rob it of its stores, thus conveying the germs to all the hives in the vicinity.

ANNOYANCES.

Complaint is made from certain regions that in some years wasps become so numerous in the autumn that by sheer numbers they can overcome the inmates of a hive and rob the stores. In all cases of robbing, whether by wasps or bees, narrow the entrance down to a space just wide enough to permit only one bee to pass at a time, so that defence will be very easy. A small bit of wood makes a good entrance block. The wasps that fly round in May are queens, so that every one killed then means a colony exterminated. A death at this time prevents thousands of lives in the fall.

CHAPTER XV.

Judging Honey at Exhibitions.

We have fully a thousand bee-keepers in British Columbia, but so far they have been rather indifferent about showing their product at the local exhibitions in the fall of the year, but it is to be hoped that from now on they will make a display annually to show the community that they have as much public spirit as those interested in other forms of agriculture.



Fig. 27. Honey and wax display made by F. E. White, North Vancouver.

The Bee Inspectors wish to draw the attention of the managers of agricultural exhibitions to a few points they believe could be changed with advantage. In the first place, they think exhibits are asked for in too many classes. Practically all