

have used these frames for two years and a half, or three winters counting this. I began spring feeding in February. I fed candy, just laid the sticks on top of the frames. I have 41 in the cellar. In the spring last year those in cellar were the strongest, but those wintered outside worked up quicker. I would not feed syrup until they begin to fly. It makes them want to fly. If robbers get a taste of syrup they will steal it all. My bees are principally Italians.

WINTERING BEES.

Mr. Aches said with regard to feeding bees or wintering, to winter successfully: "Get good strong colonies, full hives of young bees late in the fall. I use a deeper frame than the one just shown. I use a fourteen inch frame instead of nine, and I have been very successful wintering bees. I saved 300 colonies in 1881, when almost everybody in the United States and Canada lost theirs. Last year I had 190 colonies, and I brought them all through; didn't lose one—not even a queen. I winter in a cellar. I let them have a fly sometimes, but do not think it is necessary. Honey is better for being capped over before extracting, but sometimes I get good honey uncapped.

Mr. G. B. Jones said he did not claim that the shallow frame hive is better for wintering, but that he was not afraid of them.

The President (to Mr. Aches)—Do you find an old comb or a new one best for wintering.

Mr. Aches—An old one by all means—the best. I sometimes put corn cobs or old sticks on top of frames to let the bees pass through freely.

D. A. Jones said that raspberry juice was sometimes sealed over instead of honey. Bees will collect it and put it away pure.

In answer to a question Mr. Aches said he kept his cellar ventilated and about 45° of heat.

EVENING SESSION.

The President referred to the advantages of the association to its members, after which D. A. Jones, of Beeton, was called upon, and answered the following questions:

Q.—Is it necessary to have brood in the comb for wintering? A.—It is best to have no brood in the comb when put into winter quarters.

Q.—What is the best preparation for brood in the spring? A.—Put the frames as close together as you can to let the bees in and through. One pint of bees will do more breeding if the frames are so than a quart would do any other way.

Q. What bee is the best to cross with the black? A.—Some say the Italian, but I think a cross between the Holy Land and Carniolians is the best.

Q.—Do you recommend artificial swarming or natural as the best? A.—I think artificial swarming the best if you know how.

Q.—What is the best way to stop robbing? A.—Wet the bees; lay down some straws crossways in front of entrance so the bees can get through them, put some wet grass over them; the bees, in getting through the grass, get wet, and a bee once wet, has all the fight taken out of him. One dry bee will whip one dozen or 100 wet ones. Some put camphor, some coal oil, around the hives to prevent robbing. It is nasty stuff. I prefer the way just explained. Foul brood can be cured now by one hour's work.

Q.—Do you recommend a full rack of foundation in the hive? A.—Yes, if you can afford it. I use but a small piece in each frame.

Q.—What is the best bee pasture in Ontario? A.—I think it is the bass-wood when it is yielding honey, that is wild pasture; but for cultivated pasture the Alsac clover is the best to sow for bee pasture.

Q.—If a queen is chilled will she be fertile after? A.—Yes, even if chilled near to death.

Q.—Is there any danger in moving bees from stand to clump? A.—Yes. Just move one foot to-day, two to-morrow, four next day, and so on till you get them to where you want them.

Q.—Would you recommend taking colonies out of clump and put in sawdust hive as soon as warm enough? A.—Yes, until fruit bloom time.

Q.—Is it not injurious to have potatoes and vegetables in the cellar with bees? A.—No; as long as they are not decayed, but it must be dark. It will pay ten times over to put your bees in the cellar for wintering rather than to leave them outside.

(To be Continued next week.)