

Some Dauphin Bee-keepers.

Bee-keeping is an industry which has not as yet been very extensively exploited in the west. Various reasons may be assigned for this fact, not the least of these being the belief that it is very difficult to winter bees here successfully. The experience, however, of those who have kept bees in Ontario and also out here, seems to indicate that no more difficulty need be apprehended in Manitoba than in more eastern parts. Not long ago one of our staff visited two or three farmers at Dauphin, who reported their efforts a success. One of these, James H. Maynard, has in the past favored this paper with an article on the subject. Mr. Maynard winters his bees regularly in a pit made in a dry knoll. The pit consists of a trench about four feet wide and two or three feet deep, covered with planks and earth and provided with a ventilator at either end. Before putting away, the top of the hive is covered with a wire or zinc screen to keep out mice, and over this is put a clean new cloth. The space in front of and over the hives is filled with clean oat straw. Mr. Maynard has had first-class success in bee-keeping, and keeps a nice little colony.

Isaac Spillett, at the foot of the mountain, adopts a method of wintering which seems a little severe when regarded in connection with our 40 below zero record. He has kept bees in Manitoba for the past four years, and winters them on the stand. He makes a box around the hive six inches larger on each side than the hive itself, and fills the interval with perfectly dry sawdust. The usual waxed cloth is removed from the top of the hive and replaced by a new one, right on top of which the sawdust is laid, a cover going on the outside box, but not on the hive pro-

per. The entrance space is left open to the bees through a small tube running through the sawdust. Very fair success is claimed for the method. Mr. Spillett kept a large apiary at Barrie, Ontario, and claims that there is a greater diversity of honey producing plants in the west than in his old home.—North West Farmer.

Diagnosing Diseased Brood.

The following diagnostic signs distinguishing Foul, Black and Pickled brood are given by Dr. Howard in *Gleanings in Bee Culture*.

FOUL BROOD.

Glue-like consistence of the mass, and the offensive smell.

BLACK BROOD.

Jelly-like consistence of the mass, the absence of ropiness noticed in foul brood, and the peculiar sour-like smell.

PICKLED BROOD.

Always watery, turning black after being attacked with the mucor fungus—a black mold—and by placing the larvæ in a sterilized chamber, keeping warm and dark, in three or four days the white fungus of pickled brood will appear.

When the nozzle of your smoker becomes clogged and sticky with soot, squirt in with an oil can a few drops of kerosene and light with a match. In a few minutes the soot will be burned to a blister, when it can be readily scraped off with a knife and your smoker will be as good as new.

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