

given, combs may be built between the ends of the frames and the hive; and, if too little, the bees will fill up that little with propolis. The same rule applies to the space under the frames. I had one lot of hives made where the brood chamber shrank so as to let the frames of many of them rest on the bottom board. Not only must the frames be of the right size, but so arranged as to space at exactly the proper distance apart. I have looked over bees for others and found the frames anywhere from one and one-fourth to two inches apart. The nearer the brood combs can come together and leave sufficient "bee-space" between them, the better can the bees economise their heat in spring time, and advance their brood.

When all is completed the foundation must be put into the centre of the frames and the foundation drawn out so as to remain inside the frames. When the hives are placed upon the stand where they are to remain, see that they are leveled up accurately, and not leave them looking too much like the head stones in some cemeteries; pointing to every star in the heavens. The bees, with only their antennae for compass and square will build their cells with the greatest accuracy, and without plumb line or level will build their combs exactly downward. Shall we by a little carelessness allow the hives to stand tilted a little this way or that so the combs will sag or be built partly in the frame and partly outside, and thus be unfitted to exchange with some other comb that is perhaps out of the frame in the other side?

If we turn to the surplus department we shall find that even greater accuracy is demanded than in the brood chamber of the hive. If our clamp or section holder is 17 inches inside and we order our sections cut $4\frac{1}{2}$ exactly and we find when put together they are a 1-32nd of an inch over, we shall be in trouble. Or if they are cut exactly right and then set up the least bit diamond shape, the same trouble comes in when we place four of them end to end—they will not go into our clamp. Again, if not quite large enough, or 1-32nd of an inch to small, when four are put together there may be left a space of one-eighth of an inch to be filled by propolis, very much to our discomfort and the appearance of the sections when ready for market. The sections should also be of exactly the right width and quite smooth. I have found them vary so much as to make it very difficult to get in the full number; or, again, they would not fill the space in the clamp. Where honey is

sent to market in paper boxes, or cartons as they are called, it is very desirable that they, too, should fit accurately. One year a new firm begged my trade in paper boxes, offering to make them much cheaper than I had been paying. I gave them two or three orders of several thousand, and when received, notwithstanding that they had the exact size of the section, not one lot was of the right size. One lot was so small as to make it quite impossible to get my sections into a large share of them; while another lot was so large as to make it almost impossible to get them into my packing cases.

Thus it will be readily seen that where we purchase our sections of one firm, our paper boxes of another, and our packing cases of a third, accuracy is a prime factor in our success in getting our honey to market in good shape.

Not only in the matter of making hives and surplus arrangements is it necessary to be accurate, but in the management of our bees will it be found equally so. How many times I have seen it stated in print that bees would not rear a queen from brood four days old, I do not know; but I do know that I have found them doing it many times; very much to my disadvantage and their's too. Again it has been said that they would not hatch out a young queen in less than ten days after being deprived of their queen, and without brood in queen cells, but I have found out that they will sometimes do so to my sorrow.

And now, in conclusion, let me say that we should not only make our hives and sections, our management and queen rearing accurate, but let us learn to observe closely and think accurately and clearly if we can.

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Do Bees Move Eggs or Larvæ?

In the American Bee Journal, page 578, Doolittle places "himself on the side of those who claim that bees never remove eggs;" but he holds to the opinion that they transfer larvæ from one comb to another and to queen cells; of which transference he believes he has observed many instances, and of which he gives one strong case, but the particulars of which he confessedly quotes from memory after a considerable lapse of time. The case was this: A swarm issued and returned, and the queen cells were cut out the same day. The next day the swarm issued again and returned, and almost