with suitable soil and surroundings should not be desirable.

We agree with the writer that when bees are in a large cluster it would be difficult to secure a temperature sufficiently cold to freeze them to death. The colder it is the dryer the air, which is one of the essentials for successful wintering. Our Ontario climate—in this section at least—is not suitable for trying the McFadden plan. Farther north where there is a steady winter, unbroken by a thaw, the snow remaining on the ground from fall to spring and always dry, matters might be different. If our Swedish co-worker would make a test of the McFadden plan in his northerly location and report the results, he would, if successful, cause quite a stir amongst the many who declare McFadden has no existence.

That bees should be found alive after spending an inclement winter in a straw skep without combs and covered with snow would indicate that something in this connection has yet to be learned. We remember attending a Canadian convention a few years ago, where a gentleman made a statement that in order to take honey from a gum he had dug a hole in the ground in the fall, shook the bees into it and covered them with earth. The next spring the earth was removed for some cause or other, allowing the warm sunshine to fall on the bees. The warmth seemed to resuscitate them, they came to life and were quite active. This would be after a confinement of five or six months without food. None of his hearers had sufficient faith to perform a similar experiment—had we done so we might not have changed our opinion. The gentleman persisted in his statement and assured the convention that it was a fact and that he was not joking as we had thought. We have known colonies to winter thoroughly well where the snow was covering them in solid drifts from ten to fifteen feet in depth. Later in the spring when the snow was shovelled off, in fact after seeding had commenced in April, a hollow was found in the snow opposite the entrance varying in diameter from seven inches to two feet. After the entrance was cleared Old Sol had to shine on those bees a long time before they awakened to realize that the glad spring time had come and that their season for gathering nature's nectar was at hand. It is impossible to say how long the colonies would have remained in that condition had they been undisturbed and the snowy covering unmelted, but judging from appearances we should say for months. Residents in the regions of heavy snowfalls can try this with every assurance of success provided the hives are kept continually buried under the snow. Perhaps if we only knew "just how" to do it we might be able to enclose our bees in air-tight jars as we do fruit and keep them pertect until they could be poured on the combs when the harvest was on. There is this difficulty however. McFadden freezes the bees, the housewife scalds the fruit; freeze the bees *we* cannot and scalding does not seem as though it would answer!

IRREGULAR FOUNDATION.

Much interest attaches to Mr. Stalhammar's reports of the working of the irregular celled foundation. We would ask him to send us full reports of past experiments. To such experimenters as our correspondent the entire apicultural fraternity is indebted.

Concerning his use of iron rods in lieu of the screws on the Heddon hive, his invention is practically the same as our own except that he uses iron where we use wood. Another instance of two men widely separated having the same idea.

We have sent our fyle of the Swedish Bee Journal to a friend for translation, and we shall publish Mr. Young's notes if worthy. His statement that Professor Cook, Messrs. Heddon, Hutchinson and Jones belong to a "ring" for getting money out of "other stupid bee-keepers" is too ridiculous for comment. But what does he mean by saying "*other* stupid bee-keepers"? We don't object at all to belonging to a "ring," if such were possible, with such *grand* men as Professor Cook, Heddon and Hutchinson in it.

For the Canadian Bee Journal.

A NOTE OF WARNING.

I HAVE discovered that a considerable proportion of the honey gathered in the fore part of the season, and in July during the drought, has candied in the comb in the hives. This is a very unusual occurrence, and is probably due wholly or in part to the drouth.