around, which I have packed all around with wheat chaff. On top of the frames I have placed a piece of flannel. On top of that a lot of pea straw, and surmounted all with a weather proof cover lid. Possibly I may be asking you questions that a little research and study of Root's book would answer, but up to the present I have had very little spare time for reading, although I do it every available minute. First of all, I want to know if it is feasable to fill a jar, say a quart self sealer, with honey, and tying a piece of flannel or muslin over the top of frames, invert it on top of the frames having first made a hole through the flannel cover, and in this way feed the weak swarm. The Langstroth frames seem most generally used, but it seems to me that the Jones or Callup frame must be easier to handle and extract honey from without so much risk or damage to the comb. Kindly tell me which you use and which you consider BEST for all purposes.

Would you think it necessary, or at any rate advisable, for a "would be" apiarian to have in addition to the A. B. C. of bee culture "Cook's Manual," "Langstroth on the Honey Bee," also Quinby and Newman's books.

Would it be advisable on the first bright sunny day, when there is no frost, to open up the two hives, and take about two frames, say the two outside ones, from the full and strong hive, and transfer it with all bees attached to the weak swarm, or would you leave them undisturbed till spring, feeding them well until then?

I am intensely interested in bee culture, both as an interesting study and as a means of profit, and any information given will be gratefully accepted.

HENRY T. THOMPSON.

I have no use for the "Jones," hive. I began bee-keeping by purchasing 100 of these hives, and the last in the apiary was destroyed after removing the bees and cutting out the combs. The Jones' hive is too deep to use to the best advantage for super, and it is a great mistake to extract honey from the brood chamber. With the "Langstroth" hive I rarely extract from the lower storey of the hive. By taking the honey from the brood combs, we have first, the disadvantage of taking all the brood from the hive, and often throw out uncapped larve, and then if all the honey is extracted, the quantity is not large, and when this is done, should the honey flow give out suddenly, the bees are on the verge of starvation. To begin with, a hive with the entrance parallel to the combs, does not ventilate as well as the Langstroth. I extract the Langstroth frame on its end, and having had an extensive experience with both frames I do not see that the Jones' frame has any advantage. Bees should never be fed liquid during the winter. If they are short of stores, make a cake of granulated sugar about one and a half inches thick and put this under the quilt, and resting on the top bar frames. If you are putting flannel next to the bees, you are making a great mistake, as the rough surface catches the bees and angers them. Do not try to change combs from one hive to another, especially if there are bees adhering to them. For packing I prefer dry forest leaves, chaff, straw, sawdust or planer shavings. The maple and oak are preferred to leaves that curl much, such as the chestnut or small leaves. The flannel is excellent above the bees, but a piece of cloth without fuzz, or a honey board should be placed next the bees.—ED

COMBS OF POLLEN.

Would you use combs half or two-thirds full of pollen. I had a hive of bees that died this last winter, the combs of which were all two-thirds full of pollen.

Was that the cause of the bees dying? Would you use such combs to put a new swarm on. JOSIAH WHETSTONE.

I am afraid I cannot give a very satisfactory answer to the above question. The amount of pollen varies in localities. If it is a usual thing for you to find so much pollen in the combs, you evidently have plenty of pollen without supplying it. In that case I would cut the pollen out and render the wax out of the comb. There is a way of getting the pollen out, without destroying the comb. Mr. F. A. Gemmell gave it in a previous number of the Canadian Bee Journal but it requires a stream of water. A force pump would do. From the way in which the question is put I suspect that it is not a usual thing