

we have not needed the veil all day. We find that the colonies have from four to six combs of brood, with a good number of hatching bees. In the case of a Jones hive, there were eight combs of brood, hatched drones, and eggs in cell cups.

The outside wintered ones look pretty poor. A month ago there were only a few dead, and they seemed mostly strong, but since then they have dwindled down terribly, and we removed about 50 out of 250. Although the balance contains some very good colonies, yet the majority are very weak. I am leaving some of them merely for the sake of the young queens they have.

Most of our bees have been wintered upon fall honey, and only those that were short were fed on sugar syrup in the fall. These are mostly fair. Those in the cellar had also fall honey, but did not consume half so much as those outside, and did not contract dysentery as did those wintered outdoors, nor was the granulation of the honey in the combs quite so bad.

We still possess a number of Jones hives, and although they usually winter well, this year they have proved the very worst. Some of them had the greater part of their honey stores granulated, and none contained any sugar syrup, as they had been heavy with fall honey.

Until this season I had always wintered one-half outside and the other half of the colonies indoors. Last year, however, I took a notion to winter more outdoors, mainly on account of the "spring protection" that was required to be given to those wintered in the cellar. This present season, since we set the cellar bees out, I have noticed very little dwindling amongst them, whereas the outside packed colonies have dwindled at a rate awful to contemplate! The lesson for me is this: the winters are not alike, nor will the

results be alike, and it is impossible to say that outside wintering is better than inside wintering, or that the reverse is the case. Therefore I will go back to my old plan of wintering half indoors and the other half out. And if we get such severe winters again, goldenrod and wild aster honey will not do. Buckwheat is better, as it will not granulate much in the combs—at least with us.

But after all, we have no reason to worry about losing a few colonies. Gleanings tells us how Harry Fort of Greenwich, N.Y., made 30 strong colonies (?) out of one, in one season! Shall we try to do likewise, or get him to manufacture some for us? No, we will go a little more slowly.

Zurich, Ont.

### COMB HONEY PRODUCTION vs. NON-PROTECTIVE HIVES

By Samuel Simmins.

"The commercial hives in this country are very simple and easy to manipulate, but I do not think they go far enough to make any records as to honey gathered. Of course, tons of honey are produced here, but we have to thank the immense richness of our country more than any intensive or exact manner of handling bees."—Letter from an American bee-keeper, Mich., U.S.A., June 9th, 1911.

Perhaps all Americans will not agree with the above; but it is possible, and I have always considered it to be the fact, that both American and Canadian hives and supers are too cheaply made, and non-protective for securing the highest results.

More expensive, better made, more protective hives and cases would pay the purchaser better than demanding cheap, makeshift hives. He would gain the additional cost in one season, and have 50 per cent. to the good each year after.

His stocks would build up more quickly and store more rapidly when the

Chaff hives are, of course, excepted; but bees often suffer in non-protective hives when set out of the cellar.

season was well be protected from and the cool air plenty of flimsy but they are greater than most American

### Area of Section

In using the L has been a tendency to adopt a hive of the extent of the formed. This has me to be bad at the outer ends of the especially without sure to lag behind as whole end section

I have, since then, against thin end by allowing additional outside walls parallel and that is now done of bee-keepers. But work at the ends disposed of by but double at the side rial packed between the line of section frame instead of full

I should like to have a little economy the work four sections pecially in non-protective work of comb-build very much slower, there are many more on hand.

The result is somewhat protected cases, with a line, seven in a row will be completed in one case, four in a line thirty-two in all, in case, while the forty perfectly finished.

It is better to cone in a narrow space, if serving the upward t air from the stock; r