

deep, with an empty space five inches deep below them, will be strictly in harmony with bee nature, and therefore will give better results in wintering than combs that are ten inches deep or deeper. While all my experience is in support of this theory, I have not as yet carried the experiment far enough to warrant me in making a public statement to that effect; it gives me great pleasure however, to note that so good an authority as Mr. Simmins, has antedated me with this theory by several years. It seems quite reasonable to suppose that ten combs of Langstroth length and five inches deep would contain sufficient stores for winter, and also that a ball of bees of goodly proportions hanging in a natural unbroken cluster from the lower edge of these well filled combs and extending downward into the open space below would enable them to withstand a low temperature, and maintain a normal temperature by bodily contact in full force and in harmony with the natural habits of bees.

In view of such broad and sweeping concessions as these we can well afford to forgive any previous reflections of a derogatory nature that Mr. Simmins has (perhaps inadvertently) cast upon the merits of the most popular frame in America, the Langstroth.

In conclusion, if there be any advan-

tage in having combs that are deeper than the standard Langstroth, then the advantages are realized in the highest stage of perfection in the use of two or three horizontal divisions of a sectional hive, thus forming an ideal brood chamber which approaches more closely the cubical form—nature's greatest winter protection—than any solid full depth comb of whatsoever proportions; simply because this system admits of free and full communication of bees and queen horizontally and vertically to all parts of the brood chamber through its centre, and enables a colony to change position in cold weather without breaking cluster or suffering any inconvenience whatever, a feat that would seal the fate of a colony on deep slabs of solid combs.

Furthermore this system admits of the economical method of manipulation by hives instead of by frames which should appeal to the judgment of the busy bee-keeper whose time is too fully occupied to admit of useless frame handling. However, since modern methods of handling bees automatically independent of hives and frames precludes to a great extent the handling of either frames or hives, it is doubtful whether there is a better all round general purpose hive in existence today than the justly celebrated American Langstroth hive.

Birmingham, Ohio.

WOMAN'S DEPARTMENT

CONDUCTED BY

Miss Ethel Robson, Ilderton, Ont.

Winter Loss

Did you notice that in last month's Journal I never mentioned winter losses? Well, that was because I was ashamed. Ten colonies perished from starvation. This is a humiliating confession, but, fortified with resolutions to do better next year, I am able to make it. Next fall, too, there will be a

little more money in hand, which will make it easier to feed generously. But if I was caught, I was not the only one. A good many bees starved to death last winter.

A Recruit

This month sees an addition to the ranks of prospective women bee-keepers

in Ontario. Miss lady, has come on and after one or other bee-keeper herself. This is The Isle of Wight making such ter apiaries in England to start there.

A Start

Since the coming of chickens is recent these days, it may be the beginning of the experiment in chicken raising. "our" I mean not she being the main money to get might be more profitable to the bees, but why? This may be the reason for the instability in our market to be deplored unstable in the market just as well were other reasons. The department stands the girl who remains in the country ought to make a little money. Bees and chickens nearest at hand knowing something wanted to know sons, too.

For years the hated nuisance on the house indifferently its account being late, and existing until that she hardly paid eggs were needed the chickens formed adjunct to the meat when the cured pork butcher had ceased to round.

But a new era has begun, and chicken is