

The sections will rest directly on the honey board or rather on the raised slats in it. We think you will find when you have had actual experience that there will be very little trouble with propolis, at least such has been our experience. We trust that this explanation will enable you to handle the hive and supers properly. It will also give others information on the points which perhaps they may not understand.

From the American Agriculturist.

MANAGEMENT OF FRAME HIVES.

THE first and most important step in bee-keeping is to choose some good moveable comb hive. To insure success some knowledge must be had of the manner of manipulating such a hive. No frame hive is made that is capable of taking care of itself. Inexperienced persons will purchase a frame hive that is highly recommended and put their bees in it, thinking that the work is all done and nothing remains but to await success. But success will never come without proper management. Doubtless some of the so-called moveable frame hives on the market to-day are worthless, but we are happy to state that they are becoming increasingly scarce. The improved Quinby hive, as described in *Quinby's New Bee-Keeping*, is an excellent one, the new Quinby swinging frame which is $11\frac{1}{2} \times 16\frac{1}{2}$ inches, being our choice of all frames. To secure perfect combs, foundation combs are necessary, using full sheets. We thus not only get perfectly straight combs, but those made up of worker or drone cells, as may be preferred. In this way we can manage the supply of drones. The saving of labor, time and honey makes foundation a very desirable article in the apiary. Straight combs can be secured without foundation, but it requires close attention and careful adjusting of the inside furniture of the bee-hive. The frames should be placed $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches from centre to centre. All wood frames should be $\frac{7}{8}$ of an inch wide; that is, they are cut from a board planed down to that thickness. They will give a space between each frame sufficient to let the points of the fingers down between them, so they can readily be drawn out. It is necessary in making frames to cut the stuff accurately, so when they are put together they will hang straight and plumb. The hive or body should also be cut and put together correctly. It is of great importance in locating the hive ready for the swarm to occupy to place it exactly level, so that the frame will hang perfectly straight. Bees always build their combs exactly

vertical, and if the frames are not plumb the comb will not strike them at the bottom. If foundation is not used in the frames they should be supplied with comb guides. These are thin strips of wood tacked in the centre of the under side of the top bar of frame. After the frames are all spaced, a cloth should be spread over them before any lid or top covering is put on the hive. Bees are not so likely to build comb to cloth as to wood. These spaces of cloth also serve as a guide. The frames should be examined daily, and if any combs are found crooked during the process of construction they should be straightened and put into place, until all is completed. When once completed in good shape, such combs are ready for handling twenty years or more, if properly cared for. When combs are built crosswise in a frame hive all we can do with them is to transfer them as from bee-hives. The comb must all be cut out and placed straight in the frames before we can receive any advantage from a moveable frame system.

A. H. DUFF.

Ohio.

From the British Bee Journal.

The Medicinal Properties of Honey.

WE should like to enquire into the reasons why or in what respect honey is a medicine, supposing we take it as admitted that such is the case, an assumption many medical men might object to, seeing that the position of honey in the British Pharmacopœia is such a very modest one, its use being chiefly that of a vehicle for other medicines and as an adjunct to gargles. I should say that children in the stages requiring *mel boracis* receive the greatest share of the officinal preparations of honey. True, oxymel (a mixture of honey, acetic acid and water) is used as a demulcent, softening mucus lodging in the air-passages and facilitating its expectoration. In my own household, however, I prefer the use of citric acid to acetic. In bronchitis, honey pure and simple is always at hand, and more relief is obtained by frequently tasting it than from anything else. Nearly twenty years ago I found the greatest benefit in an attack of quinsy by using a gargle of red sage, acidulated with vinegar, and well sweetened with honey. Honey *ad libitum* as a laxative, and mixed with borax for thrush, is, of course, a common household medicine for children. We will leave out of our view the value of honey as a food, as a heat-producer, consisting, as it does principally, of carbon and water, the two sugars, dextrose and levulose, invert-sugar. We know it is readily assimilated in the stom-