

about equal to a ten-frame Langstroth). These two sections are usually large enough for the early part of the breeding season; the upper section is filled with brood first, then the sections are transposed. The devotees of this hive claim that it is surprising to see how soon the queen will now fill the transposed combs with eggs.

Many sectional hive beekeepers first adopted this style of hive because they found that the bees, in deep hives, very often store a rim of honey above the brood in the brood-chamber. Once this has been done the bees are loth to go up and work in the supers. With the brood-nest in two shallow stories the sections are transposed and the rim of honey thus kept away from above the brood. Beekeepers who use the divisible brood-chamber hive say that the expansion of the brood-nest upwards is in keeping with the nature of the bees, and produces better results, as the same amount of heat generated by the bees will warm a much larger area above than at the side of the brood-nest. As to the stimulating feature, the transposing of the shallow stories before the honey season begins is claimed to be one of the very best ways of stimulating the queen to greater egg laying.

With the deep frame hives this manipulation is also possible, but it involves more labor, and the prevention of the swarming fever (it is claimed) cannot be so well accomplished. There are several objections offered to this transposing feature of the hive by beekeepers who have tried it. In the first place they claim that they have no trouble with a rim of honey along the top of the frames in this brood-chamber. They also claim that this storage of honey is due to the stretching of the cells along the top-bar caused by improper wiring, which results in

the foundation sagging and stretching the cells. These stretched cells are only suitable for the storage of honey. They also found that exchanging the two brood sections does not always result in forcing the honey along the top-bars into the surplus boxes. It works reasonably well, they say, providing the change is made before the honey is sealed; if it is sealed the bees will remove very little except in two or three central combs. It was also stated that the queen, in spring, is slow in crossing over from one section to another to lay and start a brood-nest there.

E. Eggman says: "Scores of times I have seen enough surplus bees to cover and nurse a Langstroth frame of brood, clustering in bee-way spaces and empty combs for a week or more waiting until they get strong enough in numbers for the queen to start a patch of brood in that part. After steady warm weather I could see but little difference between the Langstroth and the sectional hive as to the amount of brood cared for."

Beekeeping with sectional hives produces better combs. In the transposing of the sections in the shallow hive, the combs are generally built out better and more uniformly attached to the wood than in the standard Langstroth.

It is seen that the bees have built their comb to within half an inch of the bottom-bar of the Langstroth frame, while the shallow frame is attached on all sides. Comb space is thus wasted and a hiding place is provided for the queen. Lack of attachment renders a new comb liable to fall out through handling and extracting.

Probably the greatest advantages of the sectional hive are those which apply to the production of comb honey, and these hives, in one form or an-