

very unfavorable for honey, drought and high winds, but we have had more rain lately and the bees make noise enough just now, so we hope it won't be "great cry and little wool." I should like to say a great many good words for the C. B. J.; it is so nice.

H. F. MOWAT.

St. Andrews, N. B., July 30.

Of course we always try to give our customers queens that will please them, and bees, too, and think we have fully succeeded in our efforts, believing as we do that careful selection and breeding is the only way to produce the best results. Your caging the queens for 36 hours would result in their death in all probability unless you put a few bees with them, but had you placed young bees in the cage to feed the queen you might have kept her a long time.

Unless great care is taken in uniting swarms with a colony, which had already been at work a week or two there is danger of having more or less of the bees destroyed; sometimes even smoking them will not prevent them from killing each other, especially if honey is not coming in. Colonies that have been separated for weeks may be united by removing the combs, and shaking both colonies up together and leaving them without combs until evening or morning, when combs may be given them. This can be done in the way we recommend sometimes to introduce queens into fertile worker colonies. The dead brood you speak of may have been caused by the bees trying to cut out moth webs and remove the larvæ, as their instinct teaches them that the presence of these is a fore-warning of their destruction and they will even sacrifice their brood in order to remove the webs. If you had examined the young bees that were alive no doubt you would have found their wings defective. Very often young bees hatched when moth webs are in the combs will have webs about their wings and legs and be otherwise defective. These are treated as dead larvæ, and carried out by the bees, who seem to know that they are of no use in the hive and that their removal is a matter of economy.

We sent you a price list showing the foundation fastener, which is used for fastening foundation in sections, but if you have only a few sections to put foundation in you can do it by simply

putting the edge of the foundation in the centre of the top of the sections pressing it firmly with a putty knife, or any other device, to the wood. The sections should be very warm and the wax cool that you may put a severe pressure on it to make it adhesive, as described in previous numbers of C. B. J.

From Live Stock Journal.

THE WEATHER, AUGUST WORK, ETC.

SUCH a drouth as is now affecting central Ontario is altogether unprecedented in the recollection of the oldest inhabitant.

The afflicted district is mostly included between Toronto and Brockville, in some parts of which, including the most of Lennox and Addington, there has been but little rain since winter. As a consequence the face of nature presents a spectacle as unusual as it is discouraging to the agriculturist. The pastures are so dry and parched that stock has to be fed; the hay, which is now about harvested, is not half a crop, while the grain under the scorching sun and dry winds is not half a crop. Potatoes, between the bugs and drouth, are suffering greatly, while even corn, which will stand so much drouth and heat, is languishing. Wells and cisterns are giving out, and the water-wagon is increasing in weight, while the milk-wagon is rapidly decreasing.

Of course the bees, in common with other living things, are suffering. I took some surplus honey in June, but they are now at a standstill, and I am feeding the nuclei to keep them from starving. The honey crop within the area indicated above, will, no doubt, be exceedingly light. And should the drouth continue much longer, thus cutting off buckwheat and other fall honey, the situation will be a serious one to the apiarist, for in that case the colonies will not only be without winter stores but without young bees to go into winter quarters. To have young bees for winter is one essential condition of getting through safely. The continued drouth and consequent dearth of nectar will inevitably check the brooding as it did last year, and this was one of the chief causes of the extensive mortality the past winter and spring. But this difficulty may be met and overcome, not, however, without skill, trouble and expense. And as these are not likely to be brought generally into requisition by the average bee-keeper, it will be quite safe to predict this far in advance another lot of empty hives next May. This may sound rather pessimistic, but no matter, I only wish it to serve as a warning.