

all over the province in the last half of May and first week of June, 1894, was very hard on the constitution of thousands of colonies, because it shut off all honey gathering during that long rainy time and after the bees used up the unsealed honey (a thing they always use first) they did not uncup the old sealed stores fast enough to keep pace with the large quantity of larvæ that required feeding and the result was a lot of starved brood, weak colonies and a small honey crop in many places. During that three weeks of wet weather I kept my colonies well supplied with unsealed honey through uncapping the sealed stores from time to time until they were all used up, and after that I fed the bees until they commenced to gather honey. When the honey season opened the combs in every brood chamber was full of brood and a large quantity of bees hung out on the front of every hive. I then put the supers on and from 90 colonies in that off season (1894) I took over 10,000 lbs of clover honey and left abundance for the bees to winter on. Last season (1899) I kept my colonies supplied with unsealed honey between fruit bloom and clover, and when I finished extracting the balance of my crop in the fall I found that I had taken over 11,000 lbs of clover honey from 100 colonies, and left plenty to to winter the bees.

You say that you tried the starvation plan and it showed up again; that you starved several of them twice. I will stake my life that dead brood (starved brood) would not have shown up again after you put the bees on foundation, if you had fed the bees freely until they began to gather honey. You also say that many a score of white comb you melted, my, oh my, what a loss, these beautiful combs should not have been melted. With different manage-

ment you could have made \$250 or more and saved all the combs and yourself from a world of worry.

WM. McEVoy,

Woodburn, Feb., 19, 1900.

Questions and Answers

[Questions to be answered in these columns should be sent to us not later than the 15th of each month in order to insure their answer appearing in the following issue. We wish to make this department as useful to our readers as possible and a reliable source of information. For the present at least, the replies will be procured from various sources.]

QUESTION—We got scarcely any honey in this district last year. Some of my bees, I am afraid, will be suffering for lack of stores before the weather will permit feeding them outside. They are in the cellar, would it be possible to give them anything there?

BEGINNER.

ANSWER—If those colonies were mine and had no combs of honey to supply them, I would make cakes of sugar candy and place above the frames in the brood chamber and under the quilt, allowing the candy to rest on strips of pine so as to give the bees full access to them. In such cases, whether in the cellar or outside, the tops of the hives should not allow the escape of either heat or moisture. A stitch in time saves nine.

F. A. GEMMILL.

Stratford, Ont., March 26.