

be better able to understand peculiar conditions as they arise, and combat them successfully.

J. E. POND,

North Attleboro, Mass.

The cause is not always, in fact, not often chargeable to the depth of the frames. Sometimes two colonies appear to the observer to be of equal strength in number of bees, when, in fact one of the colonies may have largely the advantage in number of field workers, that is—bees that have arrived at the proper age to do field work. If I had a case on hand like you mention, I would put some partially built combs in the section case as "starters." This will start the bees to work, if there is any honey in the fields. I have heard many a fellow complain bitterly, that, "my bees won't work in the boxes," referring to a time after the honey flow was past, or when there was no honey flow.

G. W. DEMAREE,

Christiansburg, Ky., U. S. A.

See that your bees have a good laying queen, and give them two or three sections with drawn comb from some other hive.

W. SCOTT.

A shallow hive is considered best for obtaining comb honey. Your statement of the case suggests the same.

EUGENE SECOR.

Change supers.

R. A. MARRISON.

A frame 12 inches deep is rather deep for section honey. I should run the deep hive for extracted honey, or transfer to Langstroth frames.

R. H. SMITH.

Sometimes a colony will insist in keeping to the brood chamber, and hanging out in front without any apparent cause. I have known increased ventilation to have remedied the matter, that is, by raising the hive from the bottom board, using side strips $\frac{1}{2}$ in. in front and tapering to nothing toward back (as per Mr. S. T. Pettit). In your case, I am inclined to blame your brood chamber, they are too well accommodated. Transfer them to a Langstroth as soon as you can and save waste of time.

W. J. CRAIG.

Brantford, Ont.

ETHICS OF BEE-KEEPING.

The Sealing of Honey—The Cause of Sour Honey—A Platform Scales.

—A. BRIDGE, P. M.

Editor of the Canadian Bee Journal:

DEAR SIR,—This has not been a very good year for bees; most bee-keepers in the vicinity of Kingston report a small crop of honey and very few swarms. My bees, however, have done very well for a poor season. I commenced the season with 90 colonies of bees and increased to 115. I took off 5,615 lbs. of clover honey, of which 280 lbs. was comb honey in sections, and 5,335 lbs. was extracted honey. I also extracted 2,356 lbs. of Fall honey, making a total of 7,971 lbs. I fed back 300 lbs. to the bees, leaving a balance of 7,671 lbs., and thus making an average of 85 lbs. to the colony's Spring account. This honey was all taken from the supers, none taken from the hives. My bees will go into Winter quarters with double the quantity of honey required to winter them. I also made 100 lbs. of beeswax from cappings and old combs.

I allow my honey to remain with my bees until it is sealed over. The wax more than pays for the trouble of uncapping. By working on this plan I always have a first-class article of extracted honey. Quite a number of bee-keepers take off their honey before it is sealed over. They get along with their work faster on this plan of extracting, and produce a poor article of extracted honey. Honey, when first gathered by the bees, is as thin as water. Bees never seal their honey until it is ripe, and before they seal it they put a small portion of acid into each cell with the point of their sting. Honey that has been sealed over by the bees will keep forever, if kept in a dry place, in the comb or extracted. Honey that has been taken off before it is sealed is liable to sour, and this is the reason so many people refuse to buy extracted honey. They have got some of the sour stuff that has been taken off before it was properly evaporated and sealed by the bees, and they do not want any more extracted honey. Bees use their stings freely in protecting their hives, but the principal use of their stings is in curing their honey. Without the acid the honey will not keep, and, if it has been taken from the bees before it is sealed, the