

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS.

STORING COMB HONEY.

R. H. JOHNSTON, LYNN, ONT.—How should comb honey be treated after it is taken out of the hive? The best place to store it? What temperature should it be kept in? If you suspect moths, how to get rid of them?

Place it in a warm, dry room, the warmer the better, so long as it is not more than 100°. Comb honey may be ripened by placing it under glass, exposed to the sun, or in warm dry place.

SPRING DWINDLING.

CHARLES MITCHELL, MOLESWORTH, ONT.—About two-thirds of my colonies are dwindling terribly, caused by a gap of about eight days of no flying. On May 1st of about twenty colonies examined I only found two bees coming out of cells, and will not have much hatching brood this week. It is good weather here now. Spreading brood would be a sad business just now. What will the end be do you think?

Keep them closed up warmly, thereby assisting them, by protection from the cold, in proportion to their requirement. We think this will be a remarkably good season for honey, the indications thus far being very favorable.

QUEEN REARING.

FRED. TRIGG, OSHAWA, ONT.—I write to ask you about raising some queens from the colony I got from you in the spring of 1884. It is a Holy Land and Italian and it has come through all right so far. I placed it along with four other colonies in the cellar on the 5th Nov. I think I put them in too soon, a third swarm died. In the *Beeton World*, of June 5th, 1884, there is an article on "queen rearing," I have it now and think I will follow the directions given there. In one part of it says "When you have secured one lot of queens you put the old queen back into the hive." What I want to know is this, do you need to introduce the old queen into the hive, she was taken from, in the same manner as if you were introducing a strange queen, or will it be safe to put her right on to the combs? When I have secured enough queens for all my colonies will I introduce them at once? Do you think I would need a queen nursery to raise about twelve queens or could I do without it? I like the C. B. J. very much and will be a subscriber as long as I keep bees. Do you think bee-candy as good as liquid food for stimulating brood rearing in the Spring.

Introduce her just the same as a strange queen. She might be accepted in the way you mention but it would not be safe as a rule. It would pay you to have a queen nursery, as you then could take time and dispose of the surplus queens at your leisure and in all probability you could sell enough over and above what you require for yourself to more than pay for the nursery. Liquid food is the best to stimulate brood rearing in the Spring but there is the liability of encouraging robbing, but bee-candy properly made and arranged in one of the winter feeders described on page 34, would prevent robbing and stimulate the bees to brooding as much as would be necessary.

FERTILE WORKERS.

JOHN P. SHAW, PORT PERRY, ONT.—I received the *CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL* all right, and like it very much, it will be gladly received by me each week, and contents perused, as I am a novice in Apiculture, and am anxious to get all the information I can on the subject. Although I am taking the *American Bee Journal*, still I think two bee papers none too many for an apiarist to take. I presume you will gladly answer the following question through your *JOURNAL*. In looking over my colonies of bees this Spring I came across a colony that contained, as I supposed, a fertile worker, there were eggs and larvæ deposited in worker cells and capped up the same as drone cells. The eggs were placed in all positions; against side of cell, in bottom, and other positions, and sometimes two or three in a cell. There was no proper worker brood in hive. You will no doubt say the colony contained a fertile worker. Well, of course I concluded the colony was of no use as it was, and intended to try and introduce a queen, having saved one from a colony that died. I proceeded to lift frames from hive, and placed them in another, and carried them a short distance from their old hive, lifted frames out and shook bees off and supposed they would all go back to their original hive, but to my sorrow they nearly all went into another hive standing close by, so I had my queen on my hands and said colony broke up. In looking on the ground close by the original fertile worker colony, I found a queen, but very small. She was nevertheless a queen, as I showed her to apiarists having more experience than myself, and they pronounced her a queen