

tract. He first became interested in bees when a lad at home, his father and mother caring for a few skips in the old fashion straw hives. When he commenced the stove and hardware business in Kincardine, he kept bees and did so not for the purpose of making money out of them so much as for the pleasure he realized in studying their habits and incidentally securing honey for the use of his own family. He very early abandoned the old fashioned method of raising a disturbance by bell ringing and tin can beating, when he wished to hive a swarm. A number of years ago he imported a number of queens from Italy and his colonies have always been known as pure Italians. Some four or five years ago, when he was devoting his whole time to the apiary, with 145 hives he extracted a little over seven tons of honey which he disposed of at a good figure. One reason of his success in caring for bees was that he was always ready to purchase the best appliances and he subscribed and carefully studied the Bee Journal and other publications dealing with the apiary. He was a man that could discuss bee culture with marked intelligence and nothing gave him greater pleasure than to give advice and assistance to new beginners.

Moths in Combs, Spreading of Brood, Etc.

By A. Boomer, Linwood

I have read with some interest the articles in the last number of your journal on this subject and I am somewhat surprised that practical beekeepers should have so much trouble in preserving their combs. My yard comprises about 125 colonies, and I have every season a very large number of combs, more or less filled with pollen and liable to be attacked

by the moth, but of late years I have had really no loss from this cause. My plan is this:—As soon as the extracting season is over, which here is usually before the first of August, and the combs cleaned up by the bees, I assort them by taking only those that are free from pollen and place seven of these in a super, and stack them up in my shed where they remain safely until wanted. Next year those that have pollen in I put eight in a super and put one or two of these supers over a strong colony and let the bees take care of them until late in the fall, then they are taken off and stacked up in the cellar where they remain until the swarming season comes on next year. They are then brought out only as wanted and so far in my experience they have been free from the ravages of this pest, and also from mold. Spreading of Brood—Results: Having had a good season last year and anticipating a fairly good one this year, I tried the spreading of brood as practiced by more practical apiarists than myself, and now I have come to certain conclusions, be they right or wrong. Where I spread the brood at the commencement of the honey flow so as to give the queen the whole of the brood nest for brooding purposes I found that she occupied every comb and when the honey flow was over I had the brood nest and super crammed full of bees and a lot camping on and very little honey, in fact the brood was in a most destitute condition. My conclusion is this, that if a colony is weak let it entirely alone and the chances are that you may get some surplus, and not such a quantity of bees, and the brood nest in a much better condition for winter. With strong colonies the spreading of the brood will retard and possibly prevent swarming if such is desired.

The season, as is now well known

was a poor failure and will not. This, however, 600 lbs levelling some 20 colonies to fix up. Let us season.

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