

having treated all his other apiaries to this same cleaning process. In this week if the weather has been fair the bees may have gathered a little new honey and pollen and be rearing brood very nicely; but on the other hand, if the week has been cold or wet some colonies may be holding back from rearing brood because of scarcity of stores and others may be actually starving. On his former visit any colonies that were short of stores were given enough to help them from some colony having a good supply. Now all except the exceptionally strong and well supplied colonies are fed a little syrup made from granulated sugar and water, or dilute honey. This feeding has a stimulating effect upon the colony and the queen. The queen, when honey is coming in, will lay more eggs than in a dearth of honey. This little feeding effects the queen just as natural honey from the fields. In addition to feeding at this second visit, the combs in the hive are so fixed as to give the queen the greatest opportunity to lay eggs, the bees to keep the brood warm, and to have access to pollen and honey. In this manner once each week the bee keeper visits each apiary and does his best to urge the bees to the greatest working strength for the honey flow. He knows to the day almost when to expect the main honey flow. To get the honey from this honey flow all into sections in marketable shape is his great aim. To do this his colonies must have the greatest possible field force just when the flow begins. If he has misjudged the flow and it comes before he is ready he has a lot of useless consumers left on his hands who soon eat up what little honey was gathered. If he has his force ready too soon his bees have died off without doing their work, and his honey flow is lost.

But if our friend calculated well, his colonies are running over with bees eager for honey to gather. As the flow from which he expects his honey begins to open, he puts on his supers, which have previously been brought from the home shop to the apiaries. The large flow may last but a few weeks, and often only a day or two. In this time his supers are filled, and as each super nears completion it is raised and another empty one is inserted between it and the brood chamber of the hive,