# THE APIARY.

F. A. JACOBSEN.

## HIVES.

THERE are two descriptions of hives that are popular in New Zealand — viz., the ten-framed and the twelve-framed Langstroth. Their relative values depend upon the district in which they are used. The ten-framed hive is used extensively in the South Island and in parts of the North, but the twelve-framed is rapidly coming into more general use. Its particular advantage is that it gives the queen two extra combs in which to lay eggs, and when a queen-excluder is used this large brood-chamber does not cramp her operations to the same extent as a ten-framed one does. Again, the three supers necessary for manipulating hives would contain thirty-six frames, which is six frames more than three ten-framed supers would contain. This allows extra storage room, and means less handling of supers for the same amount of honey. The twelve-framed hive is very popular in the Wairarapa and Taranaki districts, where there is a goodly number of successful beekeepers. From observations made it appears to me that the larger hive is the more advantageous and economical to use in localities where there is a wealth of clover and nectar-yielding flora. A large super requires a little less attention than a small one, and when a consider-able number of hives has to be attended to the saving is great.

## LABOUR-SAVING DEVICES.

### A Wiring-board.

There are many little labour-saving devices which can be used in the apiary. For instance, a quick method of wiring frames will in the long-run save an immense amount of both labour and time. A good plan is as follows : Get a well-seasoned board, 12 in. by 1 in. by 6 ft., and at one end fix your reel of wire so that it will revolve towards the other end. Place a zigzag line of staples, through which the wire is threaded, and at the other end nail a piece of $\frac{1}{2}$ in. timber flat into the wiring-board, this to be of the same dimensions as the inside of a standard frame. The empty frame is now placed over this board and the wire inserted through the two bottom holes and brought back through the two top ones. The