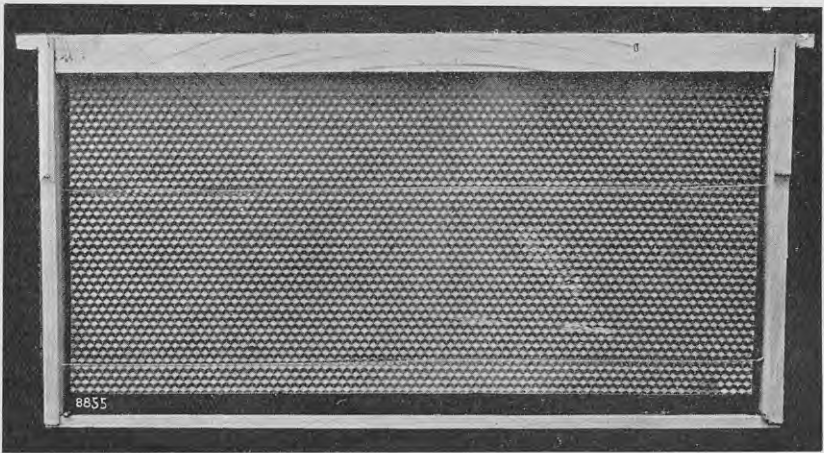


Various mixtures have been advocated, such as a weak solution of lye obtained from an ordinary ash-leach, a solution of slippery-elm bark, ordinary starch paste, or a solution of salt and water. After testing several of these mixtures, however, I certainly favour soap and water. Put a cake of ordinary soap into half a bucket of boiling water, and when melted allow it to cool to under 100° before use. The tray below the rollers, as illustrated, is for holding this solution. The rollers, both top and bottom, should be quite wet with this fluid before use. The sheets as they leave the dipping-boards are usually ragged and thickened at the ends. Instead of trimming each sheet singly, take a pile of them and trim evenly and squarely with a large knife. Put this pile into the



[F. A. Jacobsen, photo.]

SHEET OF FOUNDATION MOUNTED READY FOR HIVE.

heating-tank and you are now ready for rolling. For this work two persons are necessary—indeed, two carry out the work better all through. It may be found advantageous to stir a little salt into the water.

Dip the end of the sheet in the soap and water, place it between the rollers, and give the handle a half-turn, then lift up the rear wooden roller; the assistant next detaches the end of the sheet from the top roller with a blunt comb or other soft article, and after securing a hold on the sheet with the grippers pulls it from the machine as the handle is turned. It will roll out to a length of about 7 ft. Before putting through each subsequent sheet moisten the top roller with the hand dipped in the soap and water.