

in long rows, as there is a danger of the queens entering the wrong hives and being destroyed; moreover, the plan will militate against successful manipulation, as the closely adjacent colonies will be disturbed whenever one is opened.

A good arrangement of the hives is to set them out in pairs with at least 3 ft. between each two pairs. This affords the beekeeper plenty of operating room. The two hives comprising the pair may stand within a few inches of each other, leaving clearance for the roofs. The space between each two rows should be at least 6 ft., but more can be given if space is not a consideration. In order to preserve the bottom boards the hives should be raised a few inches off the ground. Concrete blocks or old bricks make excellent supports for the hive. Each hive should have a slight cant, so that the entrance is about 1 in. lower than the back of the hive. This will prevent water from collecting on the bottom boards.

#### USE OF FOUNDATION.

Section 6 of the Apiaries Act provides that "In any case in which it is found by an Inspector that the bee-combs in any hive cannot without cutting be separately and readily removed from the hive for examination, he may direct the beekeeper to transfer the bees to an approved hive within a specified time." This makes it very clear to the beekeeper that he must exercise some care to get the bees to draw down straight combs. It often happens that bees are put into hives fitted with frames which contain no foundation. Having done this the beekeeper is satisfied that he has complied with the Act, but such is not the case. It invariably happens that the bees cross-draw the combs, and the hive is in the same condition as if the bees had been put into a common box. The bees build the combs to suit themselves, and instead of drawing them straight down, as in well-built frames, they fill the hives from side to side with irregular pieces of comb and render the manipulation of the frames an absolute impossibility without breaking them to pieces.

By the use of foundation beekeepers can obviate this trouble and induce the bees to draw down straight combs; thus examination for disease can proceed without hindrance. By the introduction of comb foundation a great step was made in modern apiculture, and perhaps, next to the invention of the frame hive, it marked the most important development in beekeeping. The judicious use of comb foundation gives the apiarist complete control over brood-rearing, and this factor is perhaps as important