

and brush the bees into the prepared hive. When the bees are removed put the diseased combs into a spare super and cover immediately. Remove all parts of the infected hive and combs to a place of safety out of reach of the bees. In four days' time the operation of removing the "starters" must be undertaken, when in their place frames fitted with fresh sheets of foundation are substituted. Shake the bees off each of the "starter" frames, and insert the frames containing full sheets of foundation. The comb built from the "starters" must be cut out and melted up. The object of the treatment is to induce the bees to use up the infected honey taken from the old hive, so that when they are given the second shaking they start clean.

It may happen that the bees will swarm out when given the second shaking. To prevent this either cage the queen or, better still, place a piece of queen-excluder in front of the entrances. This will prevent the queen from leaving, and all will be well.

A further examination should be carried out in three weeks' time to note the condition of the brood. If disease reappears after treatment do not start tinkering with the brood by cutting out isolated cells. This practice is dangerous, and although often advised is misleading. A much better plan is to remove the entire comb or, better still, make use of a modified form of the McEvoy method. In place of shaking the bees on to strips of foundation ("starters") for four days, the bees are shaken on to nine sheets of foundation and an empty bone-dry comb, this being inserted in the centre of the hive. At the end of twenty-four hours the comb can be removed and a frame containing a sheet of foundation put in its place. This operation should be performed quickly and quietly, with the use of very little smoke. The object of inserting the dry comb in the centre of the hive is to induce the bees to store the honey which they took from the diseased hive when shaken.

Treated Colonies.—If bad weather sets in a strict watch should be kept over treated colonies to prevent them from starving out. Feed sugar syrup in the proportion of four of water to one of sugar. Feeding should be kept up until the bees are gathering nectar freely.

VITICULTURE.

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THE VINEHOUSE.

THE growth of vines during November is very strong, so that there will be much pinching and tying-back of the fruit laterals to be done. If this has been followed up as advised in Bulletin 40, "Cultivation of the Vine under Glass," there will be no great reduction of foliage at any time sufficient to cause a check to the plant. An hour or so, according to the size of the house, should be devoted daily to this work. As the shoots acquire sufficient toughness they can be tied back to the wires, and this can nearly always be done before the thinning of the fruit.