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W. BEESON.
BEEHIVE.

APPLICATION FILED MAR. 2, 1907.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

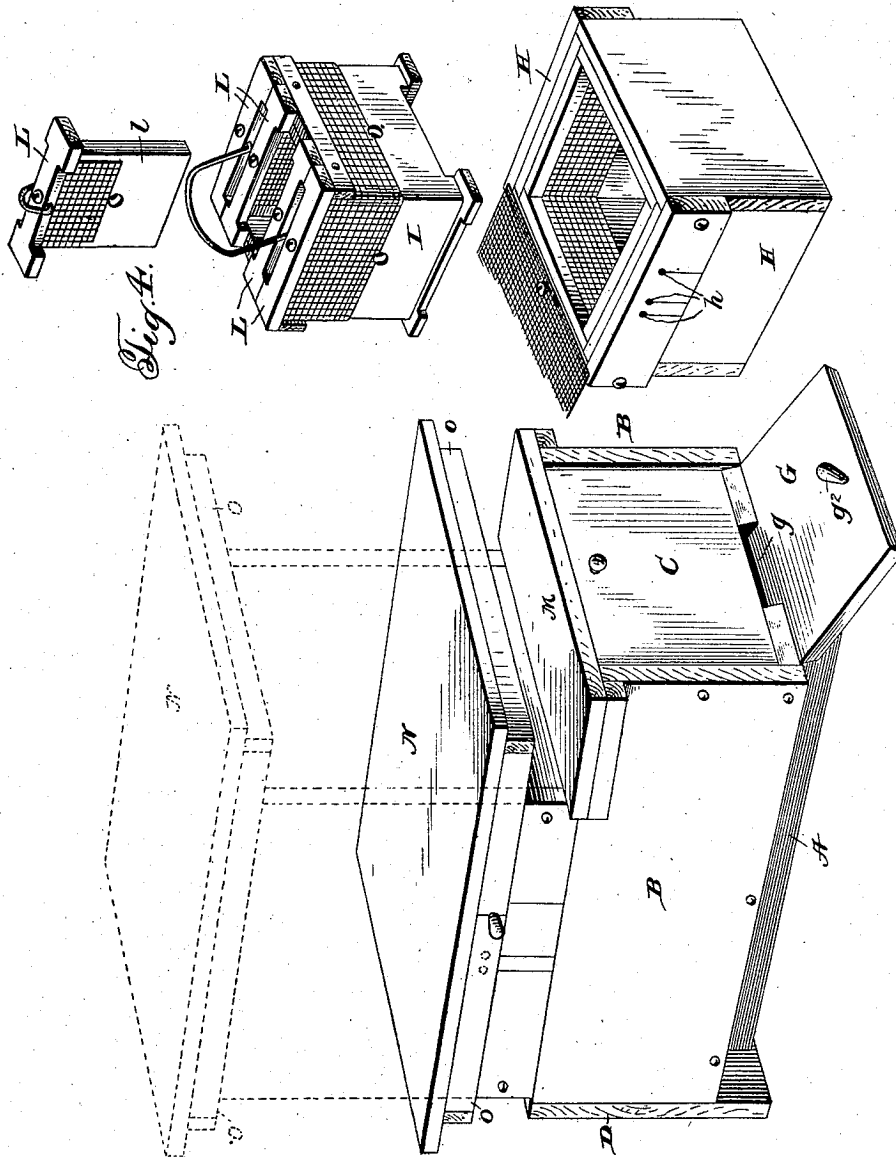


Fig. 4.

Fig. 1.

Witnesses:

Jesse Hutchinson
J. L. Lawlor,

Inventor:

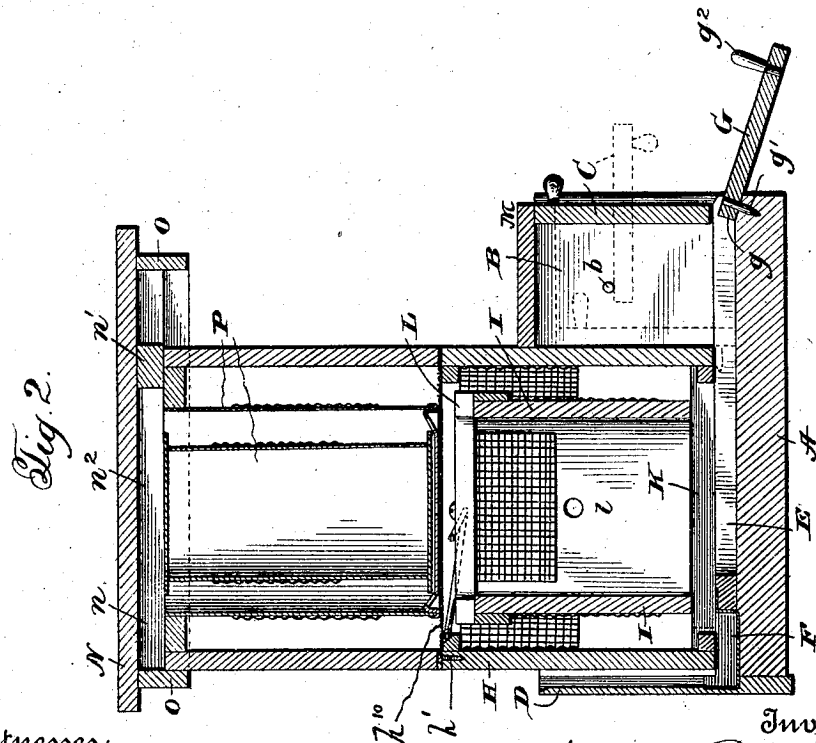
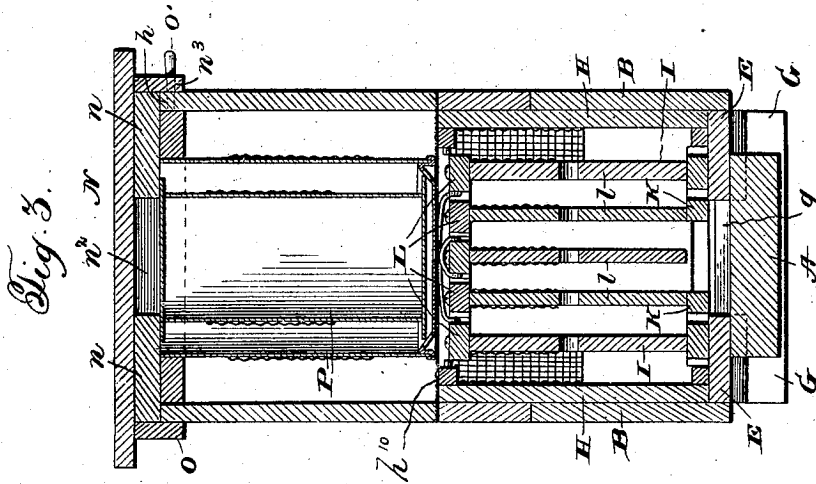
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2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.



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each other a quarter turn at a time, so that the bee force may be located at will at desired points.

I preferably make the bottom board oblong in shape, so that the hive bodies when in position therein will only fill the space crosswise between the bottom board sides B—B, leaving a vestibule-like space at the front of the bottom board, and I close the space at the top by a removable cover M that consists of a strip of suitable dimensions which extends across from one side board B to the other, and has at each end on its under side an outwardly projecting ledge or flange to fit over the outer side of the bottom board side. Said cover M, is useful as a shelf or table. For wintering, the alighting board is removed from its position at the front of the hive and placed in a vertical position in the vestibule against the front side or wall of the outer body H with its projection *g* extending down into and closing the space between the two floor pieces of the bottom board, it being secured in such position by a dowel pin *g'* that enters a hole in the front wall of the outer hive bottom.

My top cover consists of a top N formed of a board or boards and a rectangular frame O which corresponds to the lateral dimensions of the hive, but is longer than the latter from front to rear, and on the underside of the top N at opposite sides thereof are two filling pieces *n* between which is a space that extends longitudinally of the top cover, and is divided transversely by a crossbar *n'* near the front end of the top cover into two sections of unequal length, one *n²* being about equal to the dimensions of the hive body from front to rear. When the top cover is shifted as far forward as it can be, there is no communication between the interior of the hive and the outside atmosphere through the space *n²*, and this is the condition desired in the spring of the year; while, when it is shifted to an intermediate position which will carry the cross bar *n'* slightly to the rear of the front wall of the hive body, communication between the interior of the hive and the outside atmosphere at the top will exist at both the front and the rear end of the top cover, which is the condition desired in summer. In the adjustments of the top cover for both spring and summer, the hive entrance is open, and, as will be evident, there will be a freer circulation of air in the hive in summer when it is warm than is desirable in the cooler spring. When the top cover is shifted as far rearward as it can be, which is the position desired for wintering, the top of the hive is placed in communication with the outside atmosphere through the top cover space *n²* at the rear of the hive, and this is the only communication between the interior of the hive and the atmosphere in winter, as, at such time, the entrance to the hive is tightly closed, as by means of the alighting board, as hereinbefore described. I thus secure top ventilation of the hive in winter, which experience has shown to be the most advantageous, as it insures the evacuation of moisture from the hive, with no circulation of cold air therein, and the hive is maintained at a higher temperature.

Suitable means are provided to fix the top cover in its various positions of adjustments, as, for example, a pin O', which passes through a hole *n³* in one of the side flanges of the top cover and into any one of three holes *h* of the outer hive body H, which holes are located to fix the position of the top cover for the various

seasons. Over the top of the hive bottom H is a cover *h¹⁰* of wire cloth, to prevent the bees from filling the air space with bur and brace comb, to serve as a protection against robber bees and to enable inspection of the hive by removal of the top cover, without permitting bees flying out. To prevent said cover *h¹⁰* being lost or misplaced, or moved when the top cover is slid back and forth in adjusting it, said cover *h¹⁰* is secured at one point to the hive body H by a screw *h'* which forms a pivot on which the wire cloth cover may be swung into and out of place. The cover *h¹⁰* is not used when it is desired that the bees shall store surplus honey in the super.

For producing comb honey, any standard super may be tiered on, but, for obtaining surplus honey that is to be extracted, as I employ surplus honey sections that are cylindrical or drum-form in shape, I prefer to make the super round or cylindrical, although it may be made rectangular to conform to the rectangular shape of the outer body of the brood chamber. If made round, the super is provided with a flanged rim at its bottom to conform to the shape of and fit over the rectangular top of the hive body H. The cylindrical or drum form super sections P, one inside the other telescopically, are stood on end on the top of the brood chamber. The cylindrical super sections are hollow, but I force comb building only on the outside thereof, and I do this by leaving the space on the interior of the sections too small for comb building, and varnish the inner surface, using, for example, a position composed of equal parts of lard, kerosene and sulfur. As the honey flow is at a season when cold weather does not have to be reckoned with, I make my super sections of some light, cheap material, such as paper, sheet metal or the like; and, as bees prefer to work vertically rather than sidewise, I make my supers high, rather than multiply them. The uncapping of the comb on the exterior of the sections can be very readily done.

When in position in the apiary, the bottom board is placed level on the ground, and to keep it dry, sand is tamped under it where the floor pieces overhang the base piece.

It will be evident from the illustration and description of my hive that, by reason of the provisions which it contains for control or regulation of ventilation, it is adaptable for all seasons of the year; that its interior is independent of extremes of outside temperature; that, as far as can be regulated or controlled by hive construction it is non-swarmer, and that it is labor-saving by reason of its convenient construction for manipulation.

It is to be understood, of course, that while all the features of my hive which I have described may be embodied in a single hive, and cooperate to produce the objects of my invention, it is not necessary to combine them all in one hive, and, therefore, the scope of my invention is to be understood as extending to the employment of any number of the novel features of my hive in a single hive.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim is:

1. A bee hive, having a plurality of nested or telescoping boxes, separated to provide comb spaces between the walls of adjacent boxes the hive being constructed to give the bees access to such comb spaces.

2. A bee hive, having a plurality of nested or telescoping boxes, separated to provide comb spaces between the walls of adjacent boxes, said boxes being shiftable relative to each other, so that at different times they may be in different relative positions the hive being constructed to give the bees access to such comb spaces.
3. A bee hive, having a plurality of nested or telescoping boxes, separated to provide comb spaces between the walls of adjacent boxes, said boxes being shiftable relative to each other, so that at different times different side walls may be near each other the hive being constructed to give the bees access to such comb spaces.
4. A bee hive, having a plurality of nested or telescoping boxes, separated to provide comb spaces between the walls of adjacent boxes, the innermost box having a chamber for brood frames the hive being constructed to give the bees access to such comb spaces.
5. A bee hive, having a plurality of nested or telescoping boxes, separated to provide comb spaces between the walls of adjacent boxes, said boxes having at their bottoms bars that lie alongside each other between which are bee spaces.
6. A brood frame comprising a solid comb supporting core, and means for supporting such core.
7. The combination of a brood chamber and brood frame consisting of solid comb supporting cores, and means for supporting cores in the brood chamber.
8. A bee hive having an air-admitting opening in its lower part, and a top cover that is shiftable horizontally to vary a means of communication between the top of the hive and the external atmosphere.
9. The combination of a bee hive, and a top cover that is shiftable horizontally to control means of communication between the interior of the hive and the external atmosphere.
10. The combination of a bee hive, and a top cover having in its underside a space forming an air passage, said top cover being shiftable to different positions to change the position of such air space relative to the interior of the hive.
11. A bottom board for bee hives having side walls longer than the hive body from front to rear, whereby a vestibule-like space is provided at the front of the hive body, said bottom board having a front wall that is shiftable from a vertical to a horizontal position in said vestibule its horizontal position being above the floor and providing bee passages above and below it.
12. A bottom board for bee hives comprising a base piece and floor pieces at opposite sides of the base piece, between which, above the base piece, is a space, and said floor pieces extending from front to rear and projecting beyond the sides of the base so that beneath the floor pieces there is a space on either side of the base piece.
13. A bottom board for bee hives, comprising a base piece and floor pieces at opposite sides of the base piece, between which is a space said floor pieces extending from front to rear, and projecting beyond the sides of the base.
14. A bottom board for bee hives comprising a base piece, floor pieces at opposite sides of the base piece, side walls arising from said floor pieces, a rear wall, and a horizontal frontwall shiftable to different positions.
15. The combination of a bottom board having side walls, a hive shorter than the side walls, from front to rear whereby a space exists in front of the hive in the bottom board, and an alighting board shiftable from its position at the front of the bottom board to a position in said space next the front of the hive.
16. The combination of a bottom board having side walls, a hive in the bottom board shorter than the bottom board, from front to rear whereby a vestibule-like space exists in the bottom board at the front of the hive, the bottom board having a passage leading beneath the hive, and an alighting board having a projection fitting such passage and shiftable from a position at the front of the bottom board to a position at the front of the hive with its projection extending in said passage.
17. The combination of a bottom board having side walls, a hive, the bottom board having a vestibule-like space in front of the hive between the side walls, and a removable cover for the top of said vestibule-like space resting on said side walls and having a projection engaging each side wall.
- In testimony that I claim the foregoing I have hereunto set my hand.

WILLIAM BEESON.

Witnesses:

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