

ours are often shut in from sixteen to twenty weeks and generally come out in good condition. In looking over some memoranda find that in winter of '01 and '02 bees at home yard were shut in from October 28th to February 25th, all were alive and in good condition on April 1st. The year previous they were without a fly from November 10th to March 25th with only a slight loss, the most of them being in good condition.

SHALL WE ADOPT IMPROVED METHODS OF HONEY PRODUCTION

By Irving Kenyon, Camillus, N.Y.

Notes from an address given at New York State Convention, Syracuse, N. Y. January 14th.

Whether we use improved methods in producing our honey depends upon the returns we will get for time and money spent with the bees.

One improvement a great many if not the majority of bee-keepers could make is in securing their supplies in the Fall: November 1st is late enough to order them, and then the bee-keeper will not have them in his shop before December 1st if they have to go far by rail. The bee-keeper can then busy himself during stormy days in winter in putting sections together and filling them with foundation. Also filling and cleaning supers and any and every other work that will save him time next summer during the busy season. This method will allow the bee-keeper to keep more bees if he can find pasturage for them, and he can make a business of bees which I think would be an improvement over having a few bees to be neglected

when the bee-keeper is busy with other work which is often the case.

Those that finally send in their order about May 1st may find there are fifty or a hundred orders ahead of theirs and when after delays their goods are delivered at the railroad stations the bee-keeper is never really sure of them coming through without vexatious delays. I have known of cases where the bee-keeper after making numerous useless trips to the freight house, and worrying, and wondering if their goods were ever coming and when they did come they were in a stew till they got them ready and on the hives. By this time the season was from two-thirds to three quarters over and the result was they had a lot of unfinished sections, had lost part of the honey crop, and just what they sought to avoid, they had their money tied up in supplies to carry over.

We might call it an improved method to have our dish right side up when nature is ready to fill it with honey.

My preference is for the four piece bee-way section, the four piece sections glued are more likely to stay true in shape and not become diamond shaped, the latter condition often breaks the foundation loose; one piece sections are apt to break in folding. The bee-way section can be glassed, protecting them from the air and dust of the stores.

The supers should be as cheap as possible and still retain all the good points of a good super. It should have as few loose parts as possible, it should be made so the honey can be easily gotten out without danger of being injured. It should be so arranged that the bees have no access to the outside of the sections and so the sections will come as close to the brood frames as possible.

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