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Speaking of stimulative feeding reminds me of what Mr. Holtermann has to say in Gleanings relative to the discussion of the subject at the convention in Toronto in November last. He says: "Messrs. Wm. McEvoy, S. D. House, E. Dickenson and R. F. Holtermann were about the only pronounced advocates of stimulative feeding." As I said at the convention, and now repeat, there is a whole lot of misunderstanding as to what constitutes **spring** stimulative feeding. For instance, let us analyze the position of the four gentlemen named, who, as friend Holtermann says, displayed remarkably sound judgment in their views and convictions upon the question." Mr. McEvoy has declared, publicly and privately, scores of times, that any feeding for stimulative purposes before fruit bloom was worse than useless, as three old bees would be worn out for every extra young one reared. Mr. Dickenson may not be quite so radical, but I have reason to believe that he is pretty much in sympathy with friend McEvoy on this question. Mr. House is a believer in **spring** stimulation in the sense of the word as interpreted by Mr. Alexander, and as Mr. McEvoy and as friend Holtermann is concerned, honestly I do not know just how he stands on the question. The point I wish to make clear is that there were many bee-keepers at the convention, the writer among the number, who are thoroughly in accord with the idea that it is advantageous to feed the bees during the dearth that occurs between fruit bloom and cover, in most localities. Whether it is wise to feed during the unsettled weather in the early spring is another question; certainly my limited experience has decidedly proved otherwise. During the past summer, while out

on inspecting trips, evidence was collected as different yards were visited, and although the early spring was one of the worst on record, in not a single case was the benefits of early stimulation apparent. In the comparatively few yards visited that were in good condition, each of these apiaries had had abundance of stores, the bees were well protected and given a severe letting alone right through all the bad weather preceding fruit bloom. Mr. Sibbald told me that this had been his experience to the letter. Possibly the peculiar season may have had a different effect than would be the case in other years, but I am very doubtful on the subject and more than ever convinced of the truth of the old saying, that early spring feeding is apt to act like a two-edged sword.

From the foregoing, you will, Mr. Editor, have a pretty good idea of my notions as to "Spring Management," a subject you desire to have discussed in this issue of the C.B.J. Feeling sure that my bees have abundance of good stores, are warmly packed in winter cases, I desire nothing more than to leave them alone till fruit bloom. By providing water easy of access, many bees will be saved that would otherwise be lost while flying long distances during a period of cold winds in search of what they must have if brood-rearing is to go on properly. Left alone in the condition described, if the bees have wintered well, even with the large hives I use, the majority of colonies will need supers to ward off swarming during fruit bloom; i.e., if any nectar comes in from that source. How do I clip the queens when no hives are opened? Perhaps you will be surprised when I say we do not practice clipping queens in March or April, but prefer to leave