

gaged in the management of movable frame hives. They were the first wintering cellars, they were not what you would call dry cellars, they had water in them.

I remember once seeing Dr. Tom's cellar when it had a great deal of water in it for quite a length of time, but his bees came out well. I would not say it was a damp cellar, water was there for a short time and finally drained off. It was on a hill. I remember another instance, a man who knew very little about bees, bought them late in the season, and in order to winter them he put them in a glass house and he fed them every day. He said if they would not take it any other way, he would throw it over their backs, and he did so and the consequence was he did not have any bees in the spring. In a few years I went to Beeton and the bees there were wintered in sawdust buildings packed from ten to eighteen inches with sawdust all around and double doors, some with a floor in the bottom and some without. Those buildings occasionally got somewhat damp in the bottom, particularly those that had no floor, and if there was any loss of bees in these buildings it was in the bottom row of hives. I moved away from there and went into cellar wintering again. I came to Streetsville, we wintered in a cellar there with average success. A few years later I went into cellar wintering for myself at Meadowville, but we had a good cellar and it was successful. Later we got our place burned there and had no cellar and we used a sawdust house, and the bees wintered fairly well in that sawdust house. From all I have seen and have experienced where the bees are kept dry there are numerous ways of wintering them successfully. I remember going out to a farm on the centre road from Streetsville, a man there had a bee house something like an ash house, and he

had a box hive sitting on a trestle with a frame under it, 22"x18", the box hive was sitting on these frames with no bottom. They were in an open building, 8'x10', and he wintered the bees in that way for many years successfully. It was not the warmth, it was the dryness; I cannot think of any other reason. Since then I have done more or less wintering outside. When the bees were covered with snow to a great depth and kept damp, they did not winter as successfully as when kept up clear and away from dampness, unless they are kept high and dry they are not so successful. I find that the bees that are wintered inside, when you take them out not too early and set them down and cover them up, they are apparently better than those wintered outside. These last two years I noticed particularly bees that wintered in a cellar and were put out carefully were in a better condition when the honey flow came than those that were wintered outside. I am satisfied that where a man has a good cellar, conveniently situated, it is economical to winter inside. Last spring I put out bees at different times, and I found those put out first were not to be compared with those put out later; they seemed to start breeding and afterwards began to dwindle, while those that were put out late continued right through. This last spring, the bees that wintered outside were fine and strong, and those that wintered in the cellar were not so strong. I set some out on the 25th of March, and some the middle of April and some the 23rd of April. Those that were set out latest were in much the better condition. I believe a man who has got a pretty good cellar is well situated; they can winter them in many other ways, but I do not think they can be wintered successfully in a damp repository. (Applause)

The Chairman—We have been

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Smith to open

Mr. Smith—V

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