

marked in that way there is no trouble about getting the colonies back on to the same stands they formerly were on.

Mr. Hall: I will improve on Mr. Dickenson's plan. We put ours four on a stand and in the fall when we are putting them in we mark on them, for instance, B northwest, B southwest, B north-east, B southeast; they are marked right on the front of the hive and when we take them out of the cellar we run over them and put each hive where it belongs. I find it very essential to put them on their old stands for various reasons; there are some of them which are cross, others good tempered, others pretty, others are not, others good honey gatherers, others are not. We get acquainted with these individual stocks of bees through the summer and if they get mixed up with others in the spring, we don't know where to find them, and the summer goes by before we find the characteristics of each stock of bees in the apiary; but by putting them on the same summer stand we have no trouble that way.

We winter one of our apiaries in the country, out doors and with leaves. If Mr. Cogshall will try leaves he will never go back to sawdust. I find sometimes my boxes leak, and if the sawdust gets wet the moisture won't dry out of it; it is different with the leaves and they last for years. I believe that packing with forest leaves is superior to sawdust or chaff. I prefer wintering them inside whether the quantity is large or small; it is much easier to carry them in and out again than it is to pack them. We winter one hundred and thirty stocks of bees in a small cellar 12x12.

Mr. Post: I usually winter both indoors and out. This year I am not wintering any out doors on account

of not getting my bees home in time to transfer them to the chaff hives. In the last three or four years in wintering forty-five stocks outside I don't think I have lost half a dozen colonies. My hives are filled in with sawdust four inches all round and two inches in the bottom and permanently packed to remain winter and summer and I have a cushion of about three inches of forest leaves that goes on top, and they are put in with a press so that there is a large quantity put in each one and a cloth over the top and bottom. That cushion goes over the top of the hive and the sun cap behind is raised up and rests on the top of that rim. That is the only way I can winter bees outside and I have tried almost every other way. The sun cap is four inches deep and it telescopes down over the hive three-quarters of an inch, resting on cleats. I don't allow the cover to go down; I raise it up behind. About the first of March I shut it down; it is painted red and forms a regular hothouse.

Mr. Hall: We don't live in such a cold country as you. We have a large entrance; it is one half an inch deep and five inches wide, and is four and a half inches back from the front of the box.

Mr. Post: My entrance is three eighths of an inch by the whole width of the hive and it is left open during the whole of the winter. I can't winter with a small entrance on the outside. Inside they are piled in the cellar in the usual way; I raise them on blocks behind, similar to Mr. Sibbald. They are carried into the cellar now and the cellar doors and windows are opened and they remain open until cold weather sets in; they are just the same as though they were under a shade or cover outside. When extremely cold weather sets in the doors are closed and they are

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