

frames of brood and fill out the hive, putting in two or three combs of sealed honey when you have done that. Now lay two half-inch strips, or strips the width of bee spaces, across the frames (if the frames are not spaced at the bottom, tack the strips on with small nails to keep the frames in position), put on inverted an extra bottom board in place of the quilt and cover and invert the hive, putting the back of the hive to the front. When inverted put on the cover and allow the hive to remain inverted for about a week; then return it to the right position and let it remain two or three days before you put on any upper stories, so that the bees will have time to place what unsealed honey there is in position in the brood combs. I like to have the upper stories on two or three days before the surplus honey flow starts. I do not know of any other way that you can get the old honey used up as fast and with as little labor as by inverting the hive, except possibly a double brood chamber, which I do not like. Try inverting a few hives yourself and let me know how you succeed."

The above extract from the letter requires very little explanation. The idea, of course, is to get the honey moving about in the hive by placing it where the bees do not want it, and at a time when there would be a check in brood-rearing. As far as I am concerned, I would like the bees to remove the old and surplus honey to the supers, taking it out at the opening of the flow. This is just what I want, and it is my intention, season permitting, to try at least 100 colonies in this way. Perhaps other readers of The Canadian Bee Journal will also test the matter and report. Let me add that the beginner had better be very careful about this, and only experiment with good strong stocks, and contract the entrance, leaving enough room for ventilation and passage for the bees. Mr.

White is a very progressive, careful and thoughtful bee-keeper, and could no doubt contribute some valuable matter to our bee literature.

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INCREASE

BY FRANK P. ADAMS

It has often been said that natural swarming is a slow method of increase, and I think that those who have depended solely on the natural swarms that issue from the hives during the season have usually found that their increase was not much more than enough to make up winter losses. Of course it is quite possible to let the hives throw out any number of after-swarms, dump each one in a separate hive, and come out in the fall with a largely-increased apiary, but such a method usually results in a poor honey yield and a lot of weak, miserable, nuclei that will go under during the winter.

There is a method of securing increase by a little judicious handling of the brood and young bees that are left in the hives after the first swarm issues, that has given me splendid results during the past season, and which I will give as clearly and simply as possible. Before going into details of this system, I would like to repeat here what has so often been said before, and it is that the proper development of the queen intended to head the young stock is the pivot upon which its success or failure depends. If the young queen-larvae has not been properly nourished, or if she has become chilled through, any cause during her development, then the chances are that the queen will emerge from her cell small, poor-looking and worthless. On the other hand, if the proper condi-