

on rough days and provide a shelter board on the wind-ward side.

Denver, Col.

W. M. BARNUM.

HOW TO BUILD UP TWENTY-FIVE STOCKS, ETC.

Examine them as early as possible in March or April after they have had a good fly. Leave only as many frames as the bees can nicely cover, always to contain 5 lbs or more of honey or other stores. Plenty of stores in easy reach encourages breeding with less desire to fly when weather is unfavorable. They should have access to water either by a feeder in the hive or close by. If your hive will permit of such, place frames containing honey or other supplies, so that the bees by going over or under the division board, can work on them. This will keep many at home that otherwise may be tempted to go abroad and be lost. Not only this but bees will live longer when thus occupied and what ever tends to lengthen life until the young brood is hatching freely, goes towards making strong colonies for the expected harvest. Strange as it may seem yet too much flying early in the spring is not desirable. I once had a number of colonies nearly depopulated by one week of summer weather immediately after being removed from the cellar. If you winter in-doors give your bees a fly as early in April as possible, this starts them breeding and if you do not mind extra work put back again for about two weeks, and feed them or not as you choose the former preferable. I do not do this as I have too many, and too much other work to do, but I have done so with great advantage, give another frame as often as required which may be when you find brood on both sides of the outside frame, placing it in the centre if settled warm weather and colonies strong, but if any doubts make it the outside frames.

G. A. DEADMAN.

Brussels, Ont.

I DON'T LIKE THE TERM "BUILD UP, BEES SHOULD COME OUT ALREADY "BUILT UP."

Begin in the previous September or October, be sure that each stock has at least 30 lbs, good stores, winter well—if wintered out-doors leave packing on until near swarming time. If wintered in cellar when set out put on the cushion a heavy well-fitting cover, leave $\frac{3}{4}$ inch entrance from 3 to 6 inches open. Now just let them alone; don't open the hives nor tinker with them in any way; but if you find on setting them out by their weight that some are short of stores feed as follows:—Slip the cushion a little to one side (don't take it off) and close the entrance to conserve the heat, turn back the quilt sufficient to remove an empty card, and put in a filled comb, kept over

from last year, it should be uncapped or partly so. If you have none of these dilute some honey with warm water and with a tea-pot pour it into empty combs. The comb must be held over some dish and at a certain angle. I would use sugar only if I were obliged to, and with great care that the bees use it all up.

S. T. PETTIT,
Belmont.

March, 1891.

Each bee-keeper must study his own location, climate etc. for himself. No bee literature can help him much in this particular matter.

When the first pollen shows up on the approach of spring, and the bees begin to collect it for spring breeding, I go over the entire apiary, carefully examining every colony, and arranging the brood nests for spring breeding. If any of the colonies are short of stores, they are supplied. At this time all upward ventilation is prevented by a tight covering over the brood nest. I use news papers which are spread over the quilt or board used for a cover.

If the colonies have plenty of stores nothing more is done to them till fruit bloom gives them some new honey. They are then examined the second time, and help needed is promptly given. At this time all queens reared during the preceeding season have their wings clipped. One more manipulation fixes them for the harvest.

G. W. DEMAREE,
Christianburg, Ky.

My method of building up colonies for the clover harvest beginning with the earliest flowers is as follows: As I winter the bees outside I leave them packed in their winter quarters until June. By doing so they are able to hold all they gain and it enables me to spread the brood if desired without any danger of it being chilled; and if cool weather sets in, I feed honey or syrup, which enables the bees to continue brood rearing without any check. Under this system my bees are generally so crowded that I have to put the top stories on before the dandelion bloom is over. Then during the period between dandelion and clover bloom, if the bees have stored sufficient honey to carry them over, which they generally do, I uncap a little every day or two which encourages them to continue brood rearing, or if they have not got the honey, then I continue the feeding until they begin to bring in honey from the field, and if this system is followed out, I guarantee they will be ready for the clover harvest.

A. E. SHERRINGTON.

Walkerton, Ont.