

the evening with the value of the same in general farm produce. I hope some of our Ontario bee-keepers will try the plan and give us the benefit of their experience through the columns of the C.B.J. No doubt the rest of us would prefer to change said ad. a little and have it read: "Wanted—to exchange honey for silver dimes—no exception taken to greenbacks."

#### LOSS OF BEES BY FEEDING SUGAR SYRUP

Mr. Boomer's experience, as related in Nov. C.B.J. is something peculiar to say the least. While none of us will for a moment doubt the veracity of our friend, I feel sure he will pardon me when I venture to think that he must surely have been mistaken in some way or other. I have been scratching my head a little, trying to recollect if I ever heard of any evil effects from feeding sugar syrup. The only thing that comes to my mind in that line, is that some of our English brethren across the sea, claim that continual feeding of sugar syrup will weaken the constitution of the bees. Of the thousands and thousands of pounds of sugar fed every year to bees, the general opinion seems to be that bees so fed invariably winter the best. Personally, while not feeding as much as some bee-keepers, I am bound to say that the colonies I have fed, nearly always wintered the best, probably because the necessity of feeding caused me to contract the hive and put them in better shape for winter.

#### SEALED COVERS FOR OUT-DOOR WINTERING

Editor Root in answer to a correspondent, advises a sealed cover over the bees in the northern and east central States. Of course he would include Ontario.

I am inclined to think that the

most of the Ontario bee-keepers would hesitate to take his advice.

I hardly know what to think about it myself, For a few years I renewed the cotton quilts each fall, but for the past three or four seasons have paid no attention to the matter. They are left "any old way" just as they are in the summer. So far, I can see no difference as to the wintering of the bees. It is only fair to say, that a lot of these quilts have holes in them while hardly any of them are thoroughly propolized. If I had to make a choice in the matter, as to sealed or porous covers, guess I would choose the latter and take chances.

#### Split Top Sections.

"Spyglass," in the Irish Bee Journal, remarks:

"The Canadian experts are dead nuts on split tops. J. D. Hall, one of the largest comb honey producers in the world, is happy in having never used them; says 'they are good enough for an amateur, but require too much scraping for a professional, for, wherever there is bees-wax the bees add more to it and you have to scrape it off,' and the convention cried out 'agreed.' I suppose that we use 1,000 split tops to one not split in Ireland, aye, and three split sections also. Do we have to scrape more now than we did in the old days of the melted wax fixing? I think not. Friend Hall is on for saving time. He ought to come over here and see our 'amateurs' fixing foundation in three sections with one squeeze. Give me the three-split for time saving." Editor Digges adds, "We have never had bees add wax to the foundation outside the sections, whether one-split or three-split; they don't get the chance with  $\frac{1}{4}$ -inch carriers. Editor Hill, (A. B. J.,) does not consider the split top an improvement, but perhaps, like Friend Hall, he hasn't tried it."