

stands as to when they pack their bees.

Mr. Sibbald: I have not very much experience in wintering outside. I have wintered some in that way for two or three seasons and this season I have packed them only a couple of weeks ago. I believe they would be better packed earlier, but I had not time to do it.

Mr. Saunders: As far as wintering outside my hives are packed all summer; the only trouble I have in the fall is putting on the cushions, which I do about the last of September or the first of October. I asked this question. I winter the bees in my home yard in the cellar. After I had left for the West about the 1st September last they got some honey dew for about a week or so, and I have been too busy to put them in since I came home, and I wanted to know whether it would be advisable to give them a fly on account of the honey dew or to put them in right away.

Mr. McEvoy: This is a serious thing. If he puts them in the cellar he will have to bring them out pretty early. Leave them out a little longer and bring them in earlier, too.

Mr. Evans: I winter both in the cellar and out of the cellar. I packed some outside a couple of weeks ago in saw-dust, clamping eight or nine of them in a twelve foot clamp. I usually take the saw-dust in the spring and put it in the honey house, so that it is perfectly dry. I can winter in the cellar without any loss whatever, unless from starvation, but I do not think the bees come on as well in the spring after they are taken out. I do not usually put them into the cellar until the middle of January; and I think it is wise to keep them out as long as possible and take them out as early as possible. My cellar is

particularly dry; the room is just opposite the furnace so I can open the door and heat it, or close the door and cool it off. Instead of propping up the hives I simply slide the hives back so that they are a couple of inches behind the bottom board. I don't put any cushions on top—just leave the ordinary quilt without losing it. I set them around in rows, and they seem to winter all right. The only objection I have to that system is they don't come along in the spring as well as those that winter out-doors. At the same time this is not a fair comparison, because I always put the light bees in the cellar.

Mr. Hall: What time do you set them out in the spring?

Mr. Evans: Last spring I did not set them out until about 1st of April the year before about the middle of March.

Mr. Hall: If you have time, put them out on the first of March.

Mr. Newton: I am an out-door winterer, and I fixed mine up about one month ago. Bees that are wintered out-doors should be fixed up just as early as those that go into the cellar and I think the sooner we get done with them and leave them to settle down quietly for the winter the better. If we keep disturbing them in the fall I think we will not have such a successful winter. Then, too, I winter in separate cases. I used to winter four in a case, and I think that is a very good way and cheaper than single. I like either in single or in four, but I do not care for clamps.

Mr. Armstrong: How much packing does Mr. Newton use?

Mr. Newton, 4 inches on the sides and about 10 on top.

Mr. Armstrong: Is it necessary for 10 inches on top?

Mr. Newton: I won't say it

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