

From the ends of maple cord-wood sticks in the wood yard sweet sap will be exuding upon which the bee delights to regale herself. Morsels of provender from other sources may be picked up and appropriated. I do not think it is wise to keep bees confined indoors, while free flight and some food may be had outside. If hives are properly shaded from the direct rays of the sun, there is little danger of bees going abroad in unsuitable weather.

Many essays have been written upon how to carry them out. Such articles are usually contributed by "penny a liners" who write to order, or against time. A man must be deficient in the rudiments of common sense who cannot decide this matter for himself. Common sense together with his surroundings will be a better guide than any general advice that may be tendered by strangers.

Having set out the bees a careful inspection of each hive should be made as soon as the state of the weather will admit. The main points to be looked too in this inspection is to see that a vigorous queen is present, and that there is at least sufficient stores to carry them through till fruit bloom. There is little honey gathered in this section before the middle of June, except from fruit bloom and dandelion. As these sources of supply cannot always be relied on, there should be enough stores to meet the wants of the bees, when set out, till white clover comes into blossom. Where such is not the case feeding must be resorted to, for which purpose there are many devices amongst apiarists, and of those Jones' Canadian stands at the head of the list. A simple method of feeding and one in which almost any shallow vessel may be employed is to cut a section super on the bottom board, and place inside of this, a vessel containing honey or syrup, with the necessary floats in it, then set the hive on the super and thus feed from below. This plan can only be resorted to by those whose hives with a movable bottom board, and I would use no other kind, if their only advantage was there ease and rapidity with which such hives can be cleaned in spring, but they possess this other advantage that they enable one to raise the brood nest above the bottom board for wintering, and other purposes. For some years I have given up the use of any kind of vessel for feeding, and confine myself to a supply of honey in the comb. In my judgment this is the most convenient, and direct way of feeding, and the least likely to arouse a spirit of robbery in the yard. To meet the contingency of short stores in the spring, I put away a number of sealed cards of comb during extracting time. I keep these through the winter in a dry

warm place, and to the needy colony in spring. I give one or more as occasion may require first scraping off the cappings. In this way all the food required may be given at once. It can be placed just where it ought to be. The work is accomplished quickly, and the interior of the hive in no way deranged. These are good reasons for feeding honey in the comb as compared with any of the many other methods in use.

R. McKNIGHT

Owen Sound, March 20th, '92.

### To Our Subscribers.

WE have either adopted the clumsiest form of mailing our journals or else our explanations of it in late issues are not understood. Look at your BEE JOURNAL. This issue is No. 309. Look at the list given below. If the number of your wrapper in front of your name is less than 309 you are behind in your subscription. If it is greater than 309 you are paid up to the printed number. For example: 313 will be issued 1st June, '92, 319, Sept. 1st, '92, 327, Jan. 1st, '93, and 332 the last number of vol. 8. Any subscriber finding his number less than any on the appended list, owes for two years. This is surely long enough credit.

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### Preventing Swarming By Dividing Colonies.

WILL you tell me whether the following plan is likely *always* to succeed? It succeeded so well last summer with one hive that I should like to try it on a larger scale this season. I may mention that I have to go