

during a long spell of bad weather with no feeding being done at all. The results were overwhelmingly in favor of the colonies with honey stores—any harm in chronicling the result as we honestly found it? As to ways of feeding, although the Editor condemns the outdoor method, I know a lot of first-class men who prefer the practice—in fact Mr. C. D. House recommended it, if I mistake not at a convention held in Toronto not so long ago. Certain it is I saw no such trouble as the Editor describes, and a few minutes after the feed was taken up everything would be quiet in the yard and no more bees were worn out than if the bees had been fed in the hives, as the yards are both sheltered by a hedge and scarcely a bee raised outside of it at time of feeding.

Now, as to the bees going after pollen, which the Editor describes as an "absurdity," let me say that whatever the condition in Brant County our bees were short of this article. Be it remembered that our bees were not "weak," as is usually understood by the term, for in going over every colony, out of the nearly 300, not more than 20 were found that had as many as three combs without brood; and be it remembered also, my hives are a good deal larger than eight-frame Langstroth. The trouble as stated was that just at the opening of the clover the field bees were scarce, but after a few days the hives were boiling over with bees—too late for the only real flow that we had from the clover. As to the "stimulating" effect of feeding syrup with the total absence of honey in the hives, this is a free country and all can do as they like, but personally will bank every time on the abundance of sealed stores in the hives in early spring, and let the other fellow turn on the sugar syrup. No harm in that position is there? And if, unfortunately, we should again run across another spring like the last one, and our bees should run out of stores, we too will

feed, not to stimulate but to prevent starvation. The Editor's advice to readers to feed their bees this spring was sound, and I cannot see wherein I hinted otherwise in the article in question—indeed, without such feeding thousands of colonies would have starved. To feed colonies that had honey on hand—well that is another question and the one in which I was dealing with; in fact I was comparing results from colonies that had honey and were not fed, with those that had no honey and had to be fed. That's all.

In the discussion of all these kindred matters, it is well to remember that all can exercise the prerogative of doing as they think best, and I have often been surprised at the attitude of some when size of hives and other like questions are under discussion. Actually some seem to think they have a grievance when they cannot get the other fellow to see and do as they do, whereas they fail to realize the fact that all cannot see alike—indeed, it would be a misfortune in many instances if such a thing was possible.

Before concluding this rambling letter let me tell the readers that after all our mistakes in methods of feeding, or of not feeding, we are glad to say that we have enough honey to sweeten our porridge for another year—in fact in only two previous years have we had much more honey, but it is only fair to qualify the latter statement by saying that he have more bees than formerly.

With hives boiling over with bees and a very large acreage of buckwheat coming into bloom, we are on the eve of (writing this July 26) preparing to go for a week's trip on the Georgian Bay. As the buckwheat will not be in full force for another ten days, and little honey will be coming in, we will leave them and let them go without feeding, even if they do starve the brood, for lack of "stimulative" syrup. Joking aside, there is just as much danger of bees with a dash of Carniolan blood in them, starving their

brood with honey present during a spell of bad spring, as there is during days when no honey comes from the fields. Has such a strain of bees been wise? If so I would have them as I feel sure they are mistaken in supposing Carniolans when they

[If business will please, I will accept your invitation to the water wagon city, therefore, adequately stimulating, and heart-to-heart talk on ever, you feed us as you did your bees last spring, with a shabby idea of it there now, you are well in mind the fact that I have no misgivings.

We appreciate the substance of our remarks last month that you have misinterpreted our argument. Our attitude only insofar as your opinion of feeding was our only motive. The idea is "absurd" we think in English that expresses out in any way transgressions of debate. There your letter, neither to Mr. Adams or anyone in debate must not be personal offence or motivation. If it is, then the find himself in a false position.

In his reply Mr. Byer "We fed this spring season, and incidentally we had an opportunity to try syrup feeders as to the results as compared with our bees having a supply of long spell of bad weather