

the entrance closed, otherwise there would be bad results from so closing it, or the bees would wear out more by trying to get out than they would by flying in search of pollen.

ALLEN PRINGLE, SELBY, ONT.—It depends upon circumstances. At such a time if you are feeding to stimulate breeding it will be necessary to shut the bees in during very unsuitable weather for flight, otherwise they will, under the artificial stimulation, assuredly venture out in unfavorable weather and be prematurely lost. This is one of the secondary causes of "spring dwindling." On the other hand if the bees are not being fed or stimulated in any way they can pretty safely be left to their own instincts as to when to leave home.

H. COUSE, THE GRANGE, ONT.—In cold spring weather leave entrance open about quarter of an inch, if left entirely open the bees are more exposed to the cold and the weaker colonies are liable to be robbed. As the days grow warmer and the nights being yet cold, the entrance should be opened in the mornings and closed in the evenings, gauging the opening according to the strength of the colony. After bees have had a good cleansing flight they don't usually fly out much when the weather is unsuitable, unless there is pollen, honey or feed to entice them.

R. MCKNIGHT, OWEN SOUND, ONT.—It is not safe or advisable to keep entrance to hive entirely closed except in case of robbery, or under some extraordinary circumstance. It irritates, excites and confuses the inmates to such a degree that unless free upward ventilation is given them they may be smothered, and free upward ventilation is not always desirable in cold weather. Indeed very populous hives—even when covered with wire cloth—will sometimes crowd up to such an extent and pack the spaces between the combs so tightly that they suffocate one another. This has been found to be the case in transporting bees where the wire cloth was not sufficiently removed from the frames so as to allow the bees room to crawl out and spread themselves over the top bars of the frames. It will be a wise course to contract the entrance in cold weather so as to allow but one or two bees to pass out or in at a time, but not sufficiently so as to lead them to think they are imprisoned.

BY THE EDITOR: We always keep the entrances to our hives closed during the cold weather in the spring and fall or when it is unfavorable for the bees to

fly out, more especially when they are rearing brood rapidly as it is then more necessary that the entrances should be closed entirely or closed so that only one bee can pass in or out at a time. By this means a more uniform temperature is kept up. We close our barn or stable doors and do not leave the doors of our houses open during the cold weather, and why should we allow our bees to fly when many of them would be lost in the spring just at the time when it is more necessary that all should be saved?

THE BEST LOCATION.

QUERY NO. 10.—OTTAWA, ONT.—I want to pick out a spot for an apiary, and would like to know what the surroundings should be to make the location a favorable one; and should my bees be protected from wind, &c., by the lay of the ground, or by wood fence or what?

G. M. DOOLITTLE, BORODINO, N. Y.—A gradual slope to the south east, protected from winds by woods, would be my choice.

PROF. A. J. COOK, LANSING, MICH.—I should prefer a dry location, with gentle descent either South, East or West. A wind break is very desirable.

DR. J. C. THOM, STREETSVILLE, ONT.—Protect from wind on west and north, in spot facing east or south, water near, (small stream), low trees or shrubbery, high fence or wall to protect, if trees are wanting.

DR. C. C. MILLER, MARENGO, ILL.—I should like a spot sloping to the south, protected on the sides whence cold winds by hills or trees, in preference to fences, with trees for shading the apiarist when at work in the apiary.

M. EMIGH, HOLBROOK, ONT.—A spot where willow, soft maple, elm, apple, and raspberry are within easy reach. Where plenty of white clover and basswood grow naturally. Protected on the north and west by high board fence or trees.

S. CORNEIL, LINDSAY, ONT.—Plenty of alsike clover, white clover and basswood. A row of buildings, a high board fence, or a high hedge of evergreens, on the north side for a windbreak. The lay of the land is not of much importance. For convenience I prefer a level yard.