

r will not increase
em that the gran
do not disappear
ng, and the hard
batch do not dis-
mixing, and so on.
in use in my yards
sing and construc-
e from good pine
in thickness. All
h white lead before
ds the feeders are
oats of paint, both
painting on the out-
necessary, as is also

the floats (B.B.) all over, and to drive four staples into the under side of each, to permit of the bees passing underneath when the feeder is nearly emptied and cleaning up to the last particle of syrup. The feeders should be of the same width and length as the hives, and of sufficient depth to hold all the syrup a colony will require at one feeding.

During the coming season I shall be using a tank of sufficient capacity to hold all the syrup requisite to feed up one yard. This tank will be placed on a two-horse wagon and fitted with an agitator connected with the wagon wheel by means of a crank clamped on to the hub. The water and sugar will be put into the tank before I start, and by the time I shall arrive at the out-apiary the syrup will be ready for use.

I have devised a weighing contrivance (Fig. 1) specially adapted for use with hives. This contrivance, being constructed from wood and weighing five and a quarter pounds, is both portable and handy. By its aid I am able to weigh 100 colonies in 35 minutes, and can thus ascertain the amount of syrup required by each. The machine is simply slipped underneath the hive, and a gentle pressure on the handle enables the index to register the weight. The weights are chalked on the hives as I pass through the yard. The feeders taken from the honey house are now loaded on to the cart, and commencing at hive No. 1, I lift off the cover and lean it against the side. A feeder is then quickly but gently placed over the brood-nest, and as the bees cannot escape when slat (A) is in position over the passageway, the feeder will answer as a cover for the time being. Any bees that are on the cover leaning against the hive will have left by the time I have all the feeders on. Then, armed with a long hose-pipe, passing, syphon-wise, into the tank of syrup, I proceed to fill the feeders with the proper amount of syrup. The hose is car-

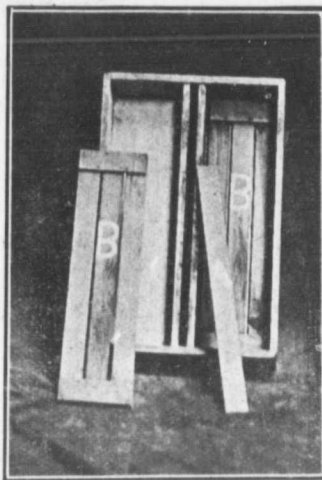


Fig. 2, Feeder.

ried in the right hand, whilst with the left I am able to pick up and replace the covers. When the bees have ceased flying for the day I commence again at hive No. 1, lift up the back end of the cover and remove slat (A) that covers the passageway, thus giving the bees access to the syrup. The whole apiary is gone through in the same manner, and by the morning most of the syrup is stored in the combs. Very few bees have left the hives; there has been absolutely no robbing, and everything is as peaceable as during a honey-flow.

With the system generally employed, the first colonies fed have their syrup taken down into the combs before the last ones get started, and robbing commences in earnest. After fall feeding the robbing will continue until cold weather sets in. The bees will look black, shiny and worn out, and not at all in condition to stand our long cold winter. Spring dwindling usually results.

When taking off the feeder in a day or two's time I commence as before at No. 1, leaving each feeder against the hive from which it is taken. By the time they are all removed the bees that

ale.

If not painted on
and absorbs the syrup
afterwards, when dry.
it is made will open
painted feeders, in con-
sorbed syrup, always
action to robber bees
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have not leaked since
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y years longer I shall
it is advisable to paint

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