

We consider its presence in the hive indispensable to the most successful wintering.

Hibernating bees winter the best; frequent flights are unnecessary.

Bee-diarrhoea in a properly ventilated hive having good natural stores does not occur except the temperature in the hive falls so low as to condense the vapor.

Upward ventilation is not only against the instinct of the bees, but mismanagement (as it usually is) in allowing the ready escape of heat from the cluster, has been a cause of incalculable loss.

Lower ventilation either out doors or indoors is the natural and proper method of ventilating bees in winter confinement, but it must be free.

Bees cannot be wintered here at the North on the summer stands with safety by any system of ventilation on a full set of combs in single-walled hives.

A large, well packed, double-walled hive is perfectly safe if its brood chamber be contracted to five or six combs. It is safe in this locality on ten to twelve combs. It gives the best result but is more expensive than cellar wintering.

DR. G. L. TINKER,

New Philadelphia, Ohio.

We think our friend the Dr., has given this matter a great amount of careful study else he could not have made so many valuable points. There are many points that we have carefully considered in years gone by. One is the moisture in connection with the excreta, never having known a case of dry dysentery. We have always found so much water associated with the discharge that we see no reason to doubt the assumption that if the moisture were removed bees would not be subjected to dysentery from the more solid residue. We have frequently set out colonies from their winter quarters and some time afterwards have opened or jarred the hive in order to stir them up to see if they were dead, but found them alive. Such colonies always winter well and we have yet to find one case of spring dwindling with such colonies. We presume this quiet state is what some of our friends call "hibernating." It appears that they are clustered together more closely and do not seem to have broken that quiet state as other colonies.

For the CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL.

WHAT SHALL THE HARVEST BE?

AS far as the yield is concerned this question may be safely answered—a short crop—aye a short crop and difficult to sell, but the man who has even a short crop may be congratulated because there are many throughout the land who have on hand an array of empty hives without either bees or honey to cheer their drooping spirits. We fancy such people sitting upon their hives, mentally, if not audibly, swearing over their misfortune and attributing their failure to bad luck—forgetful that management and not luck is the key to success in bee-keeping as it is the secret of success in every other undertaking. A glance around the county—at least as far as this section is concerned—reveals the fact that two thirds of last year's bee-keepers are out of the field, retired in disgust, bad luck sent them adrift. It is ever thus, ever was, is now, and ever shall be. We see it in business circles. We see it in farming, we see it in everything, the weak, the careless, the incompetent are elbowed aside by the financially strong, the energetic, and the skilful. The logic of events level up things to rational and normal condition. Every line of business has its ups and downs. When the storm of adversity does come it requires a steady, a courageous, and a skilful hand at the helm to weather the gale. The prudent mariner will busy himself in fine weather repairing his chafed running gear and putting his craft in ship shape order so taut when the hurricane comes down upon him he is prepared for the worst and rides out the storm in comparative safety. While the man who neglects such necessary precaution suffers the consequences of that neglect by seeing his braces snap, his masts go by the board, his bark driven high and dry on an inhospitable shore, and there battered and broken to pieces. So it is with the bee-keeper. The man who succeeds and comes out triumphant in times of adversity is the man who makes the best of his opportunities, who, by intelligent foresight and judicious management, prepares for the storm that will sooner or later overtake them. He is then in a position to take advantage of the propitious weather that invariably succeeds the hurricane. The foregoing reflections are the result of a glance over the apiarian fleet that were running under full sail and within sight of the writer last year. The hurricane of last Winter and the chilling blasts of a protracted Spring dismasted the greater portion of them, and we see disabled and battered hulks lying stranded at every point. Out of all the convoy I can see but three gliding proudly and uninjured over the placid waters this Summer. Why their safety