

vessel that you know the weight of syrup it will hold, and then give the amount required to each. As regards

THE FEEDER.

If you want a cheap, home-made, serviceable feeder, one that with care will last a life-time; you simply make a box about two inches deep; let one side or end be double, with a bee space between, but have the inside piece about three-eighths of an in. lower than the remaining sides and ends. Make it large enough to cover eight or more frames. To render it water-tight, have some melted wax, and pour from one to another until all have been waxed. You can make a float of wood, or of cut straw or hay, or you can make partitions in it, leaving them up from the bottom, but the float will answer every purpose. It is well to have covers to fit on the feeders to be used if the weather is cool. Before putting on the feeder turn back one side of the quilt or covering over the bees, and place that part of the feeder with the double side or end over this, so that the bees may have access to the feed with very little waste of heat. It is not necessary to have one feeder for each hive, but I would have at least one for every three, so if you can make your feed fast enough you should be through in about one week's time,

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FOR THE CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL.

Wintering Bees.

YOU have chosen a very important subject this time, indeed—more important than your last; for if we can succeed in wintering our bees without loss, we shall not have many empty combs to preserve for future use. Now, in order to winter with little or no loss, and have them strong early in the season, I should proceed about as follows:

As soon as the honey season is about over (which is early in September), examine each colony, and ascertain whether it will have honey enough to carry through the winter. An experienced hand can tell by simply lifting the hive. A novice should look in and make sure that each hive contains not less than twenty-five pounds of good sealed stores; if any are found with less they should have combs of sealed honey given them, some of which should be kept on hand for that purpose.

Now, as soon as the nights begin to get cool, each hive should be placed in an outside case made for that purpose, four or five inches larger on all sides than the hive, and about six inches deeper. This outside case should have an entrance

to correspond with the one in the hive when in place, and a bridge should be placed from the entrance to the hive to the outside case, so as to allow free passage for the bees in and out of the hive. When the hive and bridge are in place, remove the cover and put on a honey board having a bee space, or any other arrangement which will give the bees free passage over the tops of the frames. Over that place a coarse linen cloth. Now fill in the space around the sides and over the top with wheat chaff, cork dust, or other suitable packing. Then elevate the back of the case about four inches, which allows the rain to run off, as well as any bees that may die during the winter to tumble out or be removed with ease. Put on the cover, (which should be flat), and then leave them alone till spring. Don't even thump on the hive to see if they will hum—it disturbs them.

Bees prepared in this way will winter with an average loss of not over five per cent. This system has the advantage over cellar and clamp wintering in two particulars: First—they require no care whatever during the winter; and second—your bees are protected from the cold winds in the fall before it is time to place them in the cellar or clamp; and again, in spring, when placed on summer stands.

It also has two advantages over wintering in chaff hives: First—it enables you to use nice, light, portable hives; and last, but not least, it costs less.

A suitable outside case, all painted and complete, should not cost over seventy-five cents.

A. W. BROWN.

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FOR THE CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL.

Annual Meeting of the Ontario Bee-Keepers' Association.

IT has occurred to me that as our annual meetings are to a great extent local in their character, notice of the next meeting to be held in Walkerton should be published in the various local newspapers in that section of the country, as I am quite satisfied, had such a course been pursued in the past, that the meetings would have been more largely attended. Hence I have written to Mr. Couse, the Secretary of the Association, asking him to correspond with the individual members of the Executive Committee to consider the matter, and agree to advertise as suggested. I may at the same time add that I am not one of those who think that the best meetings of the Association are a thing of the past, by any means; on the contrary, I believe such are yet to come; and it only remains for us to judiciously advertise in order to secure the end.