

full of frost, and thus automatically reduces the size of the entrance to fit the weather. If the lower entrance is entirely closed it does no harm, but may be a decided advantage. Thus fitted, I sometimes do not visit a yard of bees for several months during winter." So good a Canadian bee-keeper as Mr. J. T. Storer of Lindsay has used this device for many years, and is quite positive as to the benefit accruing from its use.

Although he now winters mostly in the cellar, he has the same principle incorporated in his single-walled hives. While in winter quarters the tube is open, and I think this explains his splendid success in wintering, regardless of the fact that he never loosens the bottoms from the hives. In the early spring the openings are closed with corks, and later on, when the hives are populous and the weather hot, these corks are removed, and the openings act as ventilators. From what I have seen of their use I believe they are a splendid device, and if used more would save many colonies each winter.

#### Good Queens Do Not Always Duplicate Themselves.

"Like begets like" is a quite common and generally true axiom. That there are exceptions to this rule has been amply verified in my one yard this season. Last year three queens that had for three successive years been the best in the apiary were superseded. Naturally I expected great things from their daughters, but in this I have been disappointed, as the daughters' work has hardly come up to the ordinary. No question but that drones from some poor stock are responsible for this deterioration, and I suppose, until the question of controlling the mating of our queens is solved, we

will occasionally have such experiences occur. However, in the majority of cases, I have found that an exceptionally good queen generally duplicates herself in her progeny in the matter of good qualities, and I still think that breeding from such queens is a safe rule to follow.

#### Introducing Queens.

This is an old subject, and as nearly every bee-keeper has the "best plan," as I have had considerable experience this summer, I will give my methods and tell of the success (and failure) of the same. Owing to quite a heavy loss at two of my yards, coupled with the fact of my being very busy and the almost total absence of swarming, I bought forty queens from two reliable breeders. Twenty of the queens were Carniolan and twenty Italian. A few days before queens came two combs of brood were put above the excluder in forty strong colonies. When queens arrived forty nuclei were formed with these brood combs, and in addition each nucleus was given a comb of honey, and some bees were shaken in the hive, taken from the colony from which the nucleus was formed. The entrance was closed with grass, and the queen was placed on top of the frames in a cage, the attendant workers having first been removed. The twenty Carniolans were all accepted and are at the present in good condition. Three of the Italians disappeared mysteriously, no trace of them being found on board in front of hive. Of the 17 left, although the queens were large and looked perfect in every way for some reason I cannot understand just as soon as they started to lay the bees were determined to supersede them. Seven of the queens were superseded for all I could do, and in all but two or three cases the young

queens mated all right. The all received by were introduced same conditions related details to prove entirely su at another time, ditions, losses in whole I was well son was very po that at time of though clover wa the bees would ro whatever. Past e me that robbing conditions to be c introducing queens to lose some of th arrived during a t the almost total a

#### Peculiar Place

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(Paper by Mr.

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Fall management (ing our bees for win next season, and in laying the foundation ess.

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