

time and by the shortest and most convenient way. The proper time cannot be well defined, as it depends upon locality and the condition of the weather. Here in Ontario I consider the proper time is the second week in November if the weather is suitable. They should be dry when put away. I consider five months as the limit that bees should be confined, and this should regulate to some extent the time they are put away.

How to move them is a question that will remain open. The man of devices will contrive something he thinks that may aid him in the work (and the divisors amongst bee-keepers are legion). The man of good sense and muscle will pick them up and carry them off without fussing much over devices. My method of moving hives is to remove the cover, bend my back, turn the first and second joints of my fingers under the bottom board, then straighten my back and walk off with them. I have frequently an assistant in the work, and then sometimes we use the old fashioned hand barrow. Where there are no abrupt descents to be made I consider the hand barrow the best aid available.

You tell us of people who use hand-carts, slings and neck-yokes as aids in the work. I think we have seen Dr. Miller, Mr. Boardman, Mr. McFarland and others depicted in bee papers, each harnessed to his hobby, and the situation appears to me a trifle silly. That yoke is an old device. I saw it used by butter-milk venders and water carriers forty years ago, but that was where porridge was a staple article of food and wells and pumps few and far between. It was generally on the shoulders of an old woman in those days. Mr. Boardman's horned cart would be a good thing if hives were all cleated at top and bee yards as level and smooth as an asphalted avenue; but they are not. In most yards I fear the jolting of the wheels would create an uncomfortable commotion among the tenants of the impaled hive.

Your method of arranging the hives in a cellar differs somewhat from my practice. Instead of leaving a vacant space between the hives when piling them up, I place mine as close together as I can put them when the first row is completed. I remove the honey boards (there is still a cloth covering on top of the frames). I then spread two or three thicknesses of old carpet on top of the entire row. Upon this I put two 2x4 scantling, one along the back of the hives and the other along the front. Upon these I place the next tier, and so on to the top. After trying a number of devices I have settled down to the above plan and have practiced it with satisfactory results for six or

seven years.—R. M'KNIGHT, in Bee-Keepers' Review.

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The "Puzzle" of "Guessing" When to Carry in the Bees.—How to Carry the Hives.—Reversible Bottom Boards.

AS to the time of taking bees into the cellar, I am fully in accord with your leader, unless it may be that I am not so sure as to leaving them out till freezing weather sets in. What do you mean by "freezing weather sets in?" You say you have put in bees as early as Nov. 10. Well, if your climate is like mine, you have some pretty hard freezing before that time. On the morning of Nov. 2, this year my thermometer stood at 24°. Yet the days seem quite pleasant. To-day, Nov. 3, in the middle of the day the sun is shining bright, and it seems a very pleasant autumn day, with the thermometer at 48°. Scarcely a bee is flying. Now, would you say freezing weather has set in.

The question in my mind is, should the bees be put in the cellar yet or not? I am quite a little inclined to the opinion that it might have been well to have put them in a week ago. They have flown so little since, that nothing has been gained in that direction, and if they had been in the cellar they would have been warmer, and the cellar doors being left wide open they would have had just as good air. If taken in just as they are, to be sure they have not suffered any, but are they any better for staying out? But suppose to-night there comes a cold rain and then it freezes solid, as it may do any night, then they are worse for staying out. Especially if no warm days come again before spring. Of course it makes a difference where you are and what is likely to happen in your locality.

Now as to "how," I'm not sure that I agree with you fully. For some time I used a barrow such as you speak of, but the jarring is objectionable. If bees can be picked up, carried into the cellar, and then put in the place they are to remain, without ever knowing they have been touched, it is very much pleasanter for the carriers and perhaps better for the bees. As I now carry them I can hardly agree with you that it is "hard work at best." Take a rope, or several strands of light rope, tie together so as to be endless, let it be long enough to reach a little more than around the hive, and then slip it over the two end cleats, and two persons can walk along side by side and each one take a side of the rope. The work is so light that my eight years old nephew teases to help, although I