

WHICH WILL GIVE BEST RESULTS? Feeding Up in October on Foundation, or Giving Sound, All-Capped Stores?

[By Wm. McEvoy]

The sound, all-capped stores will give best results every time, and cost less money. Mr. Byer reported through the Canadian Bee Journal for February that my method of treatment for curing diseased colonies of foul brood in the fall had failed to cure his colonies. How could it fail if the honey in his combs was sound and all capped? I positively declare that it would be impossible for it to fail, because the bees would not have any place left in the all-capped stores to hold any of the diseased honey which they took out of the old combs, and after the bees consumed the honey they had in them the cure would be complete. I get more or less foul brood colonies cured in many apiaries every fall, and where the people are old and their sight is poor I go back in the fall and do the curing myself.

This fall treatment of mine is the simplest, cheapest and by far the best ever offered to the public. I have followed this fall treatment of mine since 1875, and made perfect cures in every case, and never in all my long experience did I have a single failure. I have treated hundreds of colonies in my time by shaking the bees off diseased combs and giving all-capped stores in the fall. Mr. Byer says that it is very difficult to get all-capped combs. Oh, my, no! It won't be if people will only follow my instructions—and this they should do—and get the combs all nicely capped right down to the bottom of the frames—a thing that any man can do for very little cost by placing Miller feeders with sugar syrup in on brood chambers about the last of August, when the hives are pretty full of brood and the outside combs pretty well filled with honey, the bees will rush the syrup into the remaining space in the outside combs and will cap every cell right down to the bottom of the combs, and when this is done each of the fed col-

onies can spare the outside combs, and in evenings in October fine cures can be made by shaking the bees off diseased combs and putting in six combs all sealed, which have been fed up for this purpose, and then put in the division-boards, and in the spring take out the division-boards and put in the full set of brood combs. These colonies with choice stores and plenty of pollen in their combs to keep up brood-rearing will come into spring in booming condition.

The colonies fed up in October on foundation (which cost more to fit up) will fall behind at brood-rearing through not having enough pollen in their combs, and by the middle of spring will be weaker in bees than my colonies which had plenty of pollen in their combs. For several years I was given bees in the fall that were short of stores. I shook the bees into empty hives and brought them home. I filled some of these hives with old empty combs that had a good deal of pollen in, and in other hives I put new white combs that had no pollen, but had some honey. I then fed all until they had plenty of stores to winter them. About the first of April I found more or less brood in all the colonies that had pollen in their combs when I fed them in the fall. But those that I fed on the new combs with no pollen in had no brood in any of them. I took combs from other colonies that had pollen in, and put one comb in the centre in each colony that had no brood. This started brood-rearing at once in all these colonies, but they had been too long without pollen and fell behind my other colonies that went into winter with plenty of pollen in their combs. For many years I left the supers full of sealed combs on my colonies until the season closed, and in the fall took the combs out of the brood chambers and put in plenty of these all-capped super combs for winter stores. In several colonies I put in new super combs with no pollen in, and had to put combs with pollen into these colonies in early spring before I could get brood-

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rearing start last thirty- colonies in t Ontario with ing the bees ber and givin sealed stores. mend this p many years c cheapest and diseased colon them into spri

When on my ince in 1890 I places where t been practised, proved to be things that th The bees were of them began hives and fed bee-keepers, no much starving t them too long in when they went all dead. This v that I found thir starvation treatm men had sprayed until they smoke were used foul b Others had fed they also failed. "cure-alls" had be malin drug was t drive the disease do this? No. It of the greatest fa have taken all the the cruel starvat quietly and tenderly them side by side the world, and now ment for curing apia disease are followed of every land. Whei mention I was surp Mr. Byer speaking in about black brood, almost incurable, and not so sure as to the