

question in my mind, that my old bees were lost in a vain attempt to get pollen which was absent in the hives at this time. As we have stated before, the brood in our hives did not suffer during all the cold weather—why such was the case when others report to the contrary we can not explain,—but at the close of our feeding the old bees dropped away by the thousands. Yet, for all that, I know that our bees were in fair shape at the beginning of the harvest, but they were not literally boiling over as they must be to be able to get a large surplus when the flow is very poor as it was this season after the first six or eight days of clover bloom.

Really, I feel like apologizing to the readers of the Journal for taking up so much space as I have done, and with this we promise that it will take something out of the usual order of events to stir us up to say anything more in this line for some time to come. Just a word regarding the Editor's comment on Friend Ferrier's letter. He says: "Your experience but confirms the position we took this spring in the matter of feeding." Please note that Mr. Ferrier fed his bees only three or four days, and then only to avoid starvation; and as to feeding for stimulative purposes he says that it is a "delusion and a snare." We have taken that position in the discussion on spring feeding, and never for a moment questioned the matter as to fed rather than let the bees starve. In that respect Mr. Hurley would have to agree with me too, for it surely would be a fool of a bee-keeper that would not feed rather than let his bees starve, i.e., if he knew they were about destitute of stores. We were discussing an entirely different phase of the question of feeding, and on that particular phase there is, and will be, a lot of differences of opinion for some time to come, although we believe that it is no idle statement to say that the number of spring feeders are decreasing each year, and more and more are bee-keepers learn-

ing that the secret of successful wintering, is to have an abundance of sealed stores in the hives during the winter and early spring. Certain it is that with my present ideas on the matter, would think that the shabbiest trick I could play on a beginner asking me for information, would be to tell him to give his bees just enough in the fall to carry them through, and then feed them sugar syrup in the spring till clover bloom. We tried the game ourselves two or three times, and learned the lesson thoroughly, and while experience of that nature is pretty expensive, yet after all it is generally quite effective.

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J. A. McKinnon.

In the fall of 1909, I got from different parties twelve swarms of black bees, all second and third swarms that I had to drum out of hives of every description. Not knowing any better I fed them on sugar syrup, half and half, and wintered them along with thirteen other colonies in the cellar. The most of them were wintered on four, five and six extracting combs, that had very little or no pollen, and as I got them about October 1st, they had no time to lay in a supply. Not one ounce of honey was fed these bees. They were taken out of the cellar last March, and placed on their summer stands. On looking through them about three weeks later, I found about half of them on the verge of starvation. Not having enough division board feeders, I fed in the comb; that is, on a warm night about dusk, I removed the outside comb and shook the bees at the entrance. I held the comb flat over a wash pan and filled with sugar syrup half and half. A wired frame with full sheet of foundation was put in next the first brood comb. At the next feeding I would find the foundation partly drawn out. I would then spread the brood and insert this sheet of foundation between, and worked this way until all had their full sets of combs, then a full set of frames, with full sheets of foundation was placed on top, and the queen

allowed full swing if s
At the beginning of
frame of brood in th
filled with foundation,
cluder on top; shook
the entrance and plac
foundation with the
over all; nine days
venience), I used this
Now for the results.
got from T. W. Jones
roduced to one of these
fall and worked on the
me over 250 pounds o
sides enough brood to
and, with possibly a
brood from another col
are good strong colonies

I had some blacks t
well, and my average
count, will be 200 pou
little over.

Pretty good locality
know; there are bee h
of me here that did n
surplus honey to grease
I got two small swarms
did not consider them
winter. He wintered fo
increased to seven. One
from him, that "had be
vitality on sugar syrup
pollen in the early sprin
the same locality, gave
of honey than he got
Perhaps it was in the smc
They were pretty high
over fifty Italian queen
sides buying a good r
strains; not that I coul
ence in gathering quali
thing I do like the Italia
simply wont be robbed-
to start in their shanty
my young Italian queens
in mating, and if there i
tario for bees with long
them.

Just a word about the
bees in the spring. T