

From  
the  
Journals

## Seasonable Items

ARE YOUR BEES READY FOR WINTER—  
Fearing that some may not be, (from the many letters I receive telling of the poor season and that they will be obliged to feed) I am led to urge any who have not attended to this matter of winter preparation to do so at once. And I am asked to tell what to feed when stores are lacking and the person has not enough honey to go around. In such a case I know of nothing better than the following: Take any tin, iron, or copper vessel, of suitable size, and pour therein fifteen pounds of water, placing the vessel over the fire till the water boils, when thirty pounds of granulated sugar is poured in, stirring briskly while slowly pouring, so that it may not fall in a mass to the bottom of the vessel and burn before it is dissolved. Having stirred till all danger of burning is over, allow it to remain over the fire till the whole begins to boil again, when the vessel and contents are set from the fire and five pounds of extracted honey stirred in. As soon as it is so cool that you can bear your finger in it, it is ready for the bees, and can be fed in any of the good feeders in use, or you can provide a feeder by using any pan, basin, or can you may happen to have, always using some grass, shavings, corn cobs, etc., for a float to keep the bees from drowning. The honey is put in the feed to keep it from turning back to sugar again, and is the only sure thing in keeping thick sugar syrup in the liquid form that I know of.—G. M. DOOLITTLE, in *Progressive Bee-Keeper*.

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"All combs should be examined to make sure as to stores, bearing in mind that weight alone is not a safe guide because many combs may be filled with pollen only, which is not food for adult bees, and such combs should be removed altogether, along with any others over and above the number the bees can cover. In giving food at this season it is best to use a feeder of the "rapid" type, large enough to hold the full supply needed, and after the bees have been tested as to their readiness to take food readily, by giving half a pint of warm syrup as a

trial dose, the rest may be given at one operation next evening after sunset, and if the feeder is properly arranged its contents will be taken down by the following morning.—*British Bee Journal*.

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Not later than October 1st, every colony should be in good shape for winter.

The bees to be wintered out-of-doors should be packed during the latter part of October or early in November.

The bees to be wintered in the cellar should be made ready to place there early in November, so that when rough weather comes they may be promptly put in.

It is very desirable that they have a good flight just before their removal to the cellar.—F. A. SNELL, in A. B. J.

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Our experience is that colonies put away with plenty of young bees have come through the winter strong.

The individual units have energy and vigor, and such colonies give a good account of themselves the following season. On the other hand, colonies put away with old bees either die outright or come through so weak as to be worthless at least half the next season.

Packing pays well. Getting a colony through the winter alive is not necessarily successful wintering; it may be very poor wintering if being alive means having a queen and a pint or so of spiritless bees that go feebly forth when the fruit trees bloom, get a little load, return, and light on the fence to rest. When a colony comes through, strong in numbers, with bees full of push and pluck, rushing to the early flowers and, returning, light at the entrance and go in with a Chicago rush,—that is successful wintering.—S. P. CULLEY, in *Progressive Bee Keeper*.

### The Author of "In His Steps."

The author of "In His Steps," the famous religious book, of which over three million copies have now been sold, has been induced to answer, in an article which he has sent to *The Ladies' Home Journal*, the question which unconsciously comes to the mind after reading his book: "Is this plan practicable in our present daily life?" Mr. Sheldon does not evade the question, but answers it in a direct and vigorous manner, and tells exactly what he believes would be the effect of his plan upon modern business methods and present-day social life.