

swarming. (2) How to unite weak swarms in the spring. I have read of it being done, but they don't say how. (3) Will daylight hurt the bees in the cellar if they cannot get out of the hive? Would like to ventilate by opening the windows.

I will tell you how I fixed my hives last fall. I took one super for each hive and bored a two-inch hole through each side. In this I tacked wire mosquito netting so it did not protrude on either side. This I put between the hive and the bottom-board. I took a thin piece three inches wide, put close to the hole on both sides of super, one screw in super opposite centre of hole, one in hive, one in bottom-board, with a small piece stopping the bee-way. The bees cannot get out when I go down with light to bag up potatoes or any like work, and are in nice shape for shipping. They can't smother, and it does not hurt the super. When I take it off I take out the top and bottom screws and turn the three-inch piece over the hole, not removing the centre screw, and there is nothing interfering with the inside of super.

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[1. Your chief difficulty lies in the fact that you have allowed your bees to swarm too often. Any time after the first of May, if your bees are in good condition, put on the super. You may allow the queen to go up in this super and let her lay therein. This doubles the capacity of the hive, and prevents that crowded feeling among the bees that is supposed to provoke swarming. Of course, if this is done, your hives will require prompt treatment when the honey flow opens up. Your super with brood in it must be disposed of in some manner, according to the object you may have in view. If you have no object in view, other than that of preventing swarming, it will be necessary to put your queen down in the brood chamber, then put on your queen-excluder under the super. Then put your second super on top of the first to receive the surplus honey that may be coming in on a rush. Before confining your queen to the brood chamber proper, it would be well to raise one

or two frames of brood to the supers above, and put in their place one or two frames (as the case may be) of empty comb or foundation below. This ensures ample laying space for the queen, while the bees will now have three hives to work in, which will still further eliminate the swarming impulse, viz.: the brood chamber with one or two empty frames for the queen to lay in; the first super, which is partly filled with brood, but which from now on will be hatching out while no more is being laid, owing to your queen being below; the second super, which will contain frames for surplus only. Remember also that your first super will be receiving the surplus honey as fast as the bees hatch out of the cells. By this plan it is possible to carry many hives through the clover honey flow without swarming. We are writing this for you only as a beginner who wishes to avoid swarming. There are other plans by which the brood in your first super might be disposed of. Good bee-keepers would not want their surplus honey to come from this super, as the color would be injuriously affected. In the event of your having first swarms, set the new hive with the swarm on the old stand, and set the old hive near by, with entrance turned the reverse way. This will turn all the old bees and field bees into the swarm, and when the new queen in the old hive hatches out, there will not be enough old bees to swarm out with her when she takes her flight to meet the drone. Hence your "after" swarm is entirely prevented. It is these "after" swarms that have given you all your trouble.

2. Disturb the bees as little as possible. Take the cover off the hive to which the weak one is to be added, making as little noise and disturbance as you possibly can. Now lift your weak one off its bottom-board and set it on top of the one you have uncovered, and the job is done. If you have no particular choice of queen between one or the other, then let the queens settle the matter of supremacy themselves. If, however, you have one queen that you think more of than the other, it will be necessary to hunt out the undesirable one and kill her. This, of course, cannot be done until the weather becomes quite warm.

3. We cannot say that daylight would hurt them, but they would be far better if kept dark. Daylight and a high temperature acting upon bees that are confined and cannot escape from their hive might cause the death of a great number

by excitement to get out.

At another fix your bee-wintering corner of our reader will give us a benefit. Owing to swarms, your supers too weak

MR. J.

I note page D. Chalmers mentions the starvation. He wishes to stand starving. I have never experience with the declined to place hours. "It would think, to fix an as the time would son, whether ho or not. I would her of bees which

I agree with you say (page 87) to pense with a b here. I use the Hive. It has a them solid and On account of th matically, as it below the frames other hive, so I use a board or t pinch," and, inc danger of killing itself. They ha anyway, so when one bee-space.

I prefer the un too. Their term c ally unlimited, w "bound" to go to

By the way, Mr a Honey Market De tal, to give prices whole Dominion, sa largest cities in ea not take a whole