

QUERIES and ANSWERS

Circumstances made it about impossible for me to prepare my bees for winter when they should have been attended to, and now find, when perhaps they should be in the cellar, that half a dozen or more hives out of 25 are short of stores. What had I better do with them—risk them over until spring or try to feed them inside?—Subscriber C. B. J.

Answer—Colonies of bees that are short of stores may be fed in the cellar without much trouble, either with combs of honey laid on top of the frames, or, in case you have no honey, sugar syrup may be given. My plan is to make a good syrup of best granulated sugar and put this into sealer jars. Tie a piece of muslin over the mouth, or, better, use the rubber ring, then invert the jar of syrup over the cluster of bees so that they can suck the feed through the cloth. When the jar is emptied it may be replaced with a full jar. Another way is to make a candy of sugar and honey as directed in the October number C. B. J., 1905. By either method of feeding I have brought colonies through the winter when, if they had not been fed, they would have starved. The temperature of the cellar should be not less than 45 degrees.

Can bees be safely taken in a car of household furniture, Ontario to Edmonton, and how early in the spring could one venture to do this?—H. R., Alberta.

Answer—I would have no hesitation in taking a small number of colonies of bees to Edmonton in a car of effects, providing there was some person in charge to give them water if needed. Twenty-four years ago the writer took

a colony to Indian Head, was 15 days on the journey, and the bees arrived in good order. The best time would be any time after the first flight in spring.

What are the benefits of membership in the Ontario Bee-keepers' Association? Does it guarantee any protection to a bee-keeper in case of a lawsuit over keeping bees?—J. S., Bruce Ont.

The benefits of membership in the Ontario Bee-keepers' Association are mainly of an educational nature. Members receive a copy of *The Canadian Bee Journal* each month, also a copy of the report of the annual convention and report of Honey Crop Committee, etc., and if a member can attend the annual convention he will meet many bee-keepers and gain much knowledge of bee-keeping that he could not acquire in any other way. The O.B.K.A. is not a union or protective association.

R. H. SMITH.

St. Thomas, Ont.

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