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## FEEDER

Toronto last Ne-  
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and said that I thought as bee-keepers we were not as loyal as we ought to be to our Canadian Journal, intimating that I thought we should take more interest in writing for the Journal and helping to make it a success; and I am pleased to see that recently there has been a marked improvement in this respect. So far I have kept quiet, and perhaps would have continued mum if you hadn't stepped on my toes, and when you do that you know one is very likely to squeal, so here goes. I exhibited at Toronto Fair a large feeder to attach to the back end of hive, with a hole cut through the hive about three inches long by three-quarters of an inch wide, to connect with hole in feeder of similar size. When feeder is not on, this hole in hive is covered with a piece of heavy tin, with a screw through one end, and to attach feeder, or ventilate hive, all you have to do is to swing this bit of tin down, opening the hole.

The feeder has a fine wooden float inside, bored full of holes, and has four light wire nails driven in the bottom, but projecting about five-sixteenths of an inch, so as to keep the float that much from the bottom of the feeder, so the bees can go down and work under the float, thus carrying up every particle of syrup. The float also has a nail in each end and two on each side, projecting the same as the bottom ones, so it is kept at all times at about equal distance from ends and sides, and the bees can work all around it, as well as through and under it, so it is cleaned out perfectly dry, and there is almost no possibility of drowning a single bee.

The ends and bottom of this feeder are made of  $\frac{3}{8}$ -inch lumber, and the sides are made of Paroid roofing, with strips nailed around the edges to hold it solid. I chose this material for sides to avoid any possibility of their checking with the heat, but, of course, one could use boards for sides if they preferred.

Now if you will refer to Page 30, January issue of the C.B.J., you will find that the principle and application of this feeder which I have just outlined is almost identical with the one there outlined, though the material of which it is constructed is different.

Now you seem to think this feeder is nothing like equal to the Alexander, judging from your comments, and I am free to admit that the Alexander is a good feeder, but I can imagine a host of trouble with the Alexander feeder. For instance, you say, just place feeder at the back of the bottom board and draw the hive back over it, when, of course, it is inferred that everything will be lovely. Well, Sir, judging from what I have seen around this country of hive foundations, I think about 95 out of 100 times you would have a genuine circus, and if the man was given to the use of profanity the air would probably smell of sulphur if he had to adjust many of those feeders; in fact, the Alexander feeder will not work with any degree of satisfaction whatever unless you have a real good foundation and reasonably level, whereas the feeder outlined by Rev. Mr. Charbonneau, similar to my own, can be applied to any hive, irrespective of what kind of a foundation it has, or whether it is level or otherwise.

The galvanized metal would be poor material for a feeder for cool weather, and I think it is possible that for cool weather the Alexander feeder might be a little warmer for the bees, but as far as adjusting the feeder to the hive, once the holes are made, and the nails on which I hang mine I could put on 100, I think, in thirty minutes. You say you could not use this feeder without removing the packing. Well, in the name of wonder, how would you put an Alexander on a packed hive? Further, you say with the Alexander you do not have to open the hive. Good point, Mr. Editor—a dandy point; and that is one of the