

from the cellar when my other bees were nearly through with swarming. It was amusing to see what a grand fly they had after their long winter's repose.

In this connection I would give my method of transferring bees. I do not transfer until late in the fall when the hive is most free from brood and when I am preparing them for winter. I then drum out the bees running them into a hive containing a set of combs filled with sugar syrup food.

Now, if there be any brood, I cut it out and transfer it into hives placing it in the centre of the brood-nest after which I pack and prepare the bees for winter. There are valuable features in this method. First, you are not obliged to stop during the busy season to attend to this work. Second, as all bee keepers are aware, if the bees are transferred in the spring and the season proves a poor one, while the expert may overcome this and build up in time for winter, yet with the beginner disastrous results are almost certain to follow on account of the bees not properly building up in time for winter.

While I consider *strictly pure*, sugar syrup food, properly sealed, the best thing for winter stores (pure clover and basswood honey free from fall honey are good, but more expensive), yet I would caution my brother bee keepers *never* on any account to allow one ounce of it to be placed in with the surplus honey.

I trust that these few hints may prove beneficial to your readers.

HILAS D. DAVIS.

Bradford, Vt.

#### STIMULATIVE FEEDING USELESS.

**E**NCLOSED find subscription for the CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL, the first number of which has been received, and is very nice indeed.

All Canadian bee-keepers should take it in preference to an American paper. I believe in "Canada for Canadians."

The past winter has been splendid for bees, almost all over the country. Most of them have died which is money in the pockets of three-fourths of those that try it, thus you see nature has preceded you in "the greatest possible good to the greatest possible number." It is a law in nature that the animal or insect world shall not be over-stocked, and bees cannot of course be excused. It is a kind of "preserve-the-balance-of-power" law, and a good one it is. The big reports of the past few seasons have set folks crazy on bee-culture. I know fifty men trying to keep bees in a very short radius, and not more than ten of them are students, but get a few to

bring out 100 lbs. per colony, "just for their own use" and that of course swells the "grip sack" of the supply men. The fever is now, however, down to zero with most of them, and beeswax should be cheap this year. It seems to me that stimulative feeding in the spring is useless. The queen will not lay any more than the bees can attend to, and if other things are right she will do that anyway. It may be different in warm weather, and between honey flows. If bees are short of stores in the spring, and no other bees near, how would it do to have one big feed trough out of doors for the whole apiary? A sort of "Government Chest" you know.

JOHN YODER, 52-90.

Springfield, Ont.

Now then here is the other side of the picture. You see friend Yoder fears an overstocking of bees, which is about as unlikely to occur as anything we can imagine. There is an immense quantity of honey going to waste and why should not every person keep bees if he desires, especially a few to raise a little honey for their own use. If more bees were kept and more honey consumed the demand for honey would be greater and less glucose and adulterated stuff sold. He says Canadian bee keepers should take the CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL in preference to an American bee paper. We think Canadian bee keepers should take the CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL and some of the American bee papers as well. Any person who wishes to make apiculture a success will be doubly compensated by taking several journals. We believe all our most successful bee-keepers take all the leading papers in apiculture, and that that in a measure accounts for their success. If there were no other bees but your own in your locality you might then place a trough outside but we much prefer feeding inside the hive for this reason—all the bees in the hive are required to carry on brood rearing to its fullest extent, and heat being one of the principal accessories to brood rearing, if one third of the bees leave the hive all the heat that they would produce in the hive is lost, therefore you will readily see that by allowing