moderately successful in wintering his bees; and if such be the case, wintering might also be said to be of primary importance. But such matters as shade, no walking or carrying of honey, no packing or unpacking, etc., while important and should not be overlooked, yet they are of secondary consideration as compared with location and wintering.

Therefore, with respect to the 100 colony house apiary described, I would consider that a feature of primary importance as compared with the advantages enumerated would be sacrificed, namely, the ability to handle the swarms and to keep each colony in shape so that it will work to its fullest capacity and make the most of the honey flow.

It would be like a fruit farmer setting out a large field of strawberries and making inadequate provisions for harvesting them. He works eleven months of the year and incurs all the expense in connection with tending and caring for them; the plants are in the best of shape and yield abundantly, but finds himself in the end unable to harvest more than 50 to 70 per cent. This is exactly what many bee-keepers are doing; they incur all the expense and labor and fuss with the bees for eleven months of the year, and yet, just at the last, through wrong management during the honey flow of the twelfth month, lose a large percentage of their honey crop, but unlike the farmer in the illustration, they do not as a rule seem to realize this, and in speaking with them concerning their summer management, they will say as if conclusive in defence of it, "Well, we get the honey anyway." If "Ephraim is wedded to his idols let him alone."

One of the most important features about summer management is the caring for and controlling of swarms. Some claim to prevent swarming through dividing the colonies, cutting out queen cells, etc., but the writer has never yet found that any of these give as good results as can be obtained, and with as little labor, as by working each colony for all it is worth for honey until it swarms, and then hiving the swarm upon the old stand in the way known as the Heddon plan; and I cannot see how this could be well carried out in a house apiary.

Besides this, it is important if the colonies are to be kept continually doing their utmost throughout the honey flow, that empty honey cases or supers be given them at exactly the right time. When a colony through neglect of having cases added when needed becomes honey bound, and the bees once stop working from this or other causes, it is extremely hard to get them started satisfactorily again. With a house apiary the condition of the many honey cases cannot be accurately kept track of without continally opening the hives and examining them. This necessitates a lot of work at a time when the bee-keeper is busiest and can least afford it, besides being some considerable disturbance to the bees themselves. Many do not seem to know that the advancement of the cases can be kept track of quite accurately, with almost no opening of the hives; but I do not know how it could be made practical with a house apiary.

I would suggest for all the family of "Greenhorns" living in the land of "Bee-keeping," to leave experimenting to the descendants of "Experienced," and for them to adopt the appliances and methods which are advocated and sold by the "Standards," the same as are used by the "Successfuls" and "Mr. Make-it-pay."

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