

say never mind what anybody else does, go on and do it in that way.

Mr. Pettit—Mr. Holtermann and I tried the same experiment, without consulting each other. My usual method has been to have a chaff cushion on top of the hive. I use white duck for a cloth. I turn the edge of this back a few inches and put common cotton over that space. That allows upward ventilation through the chaff cushion. Every hive has that and they are piled up in the same way Mr. Chadwick mentioned. Besides this they are raised up at the back off the bottom board three-eighths of an inch, which gives free ventilation at the bottom and this small amount of upward ventilation through the cushion. Last winter I tried several hives with the cover clamped on tight. The cover was three-eighths of an inch of board and half an inch of felt paper and painted cotton over the top, which I consider made a warm and practically air-tight cover, so that the top of the hive was practically air-tight, but it had the bottom ventilation all round. The hives I put in that way came out fully as well, if not a little better, than those that had the upward ventilation. The temperature in the cellar ran from 38 in extremely cold weather, to 42.

Mr. Hall—Our temperature in the cellar runs from 44 to 48, and I winter them without top at all and it doesn't seem to make any difference.

Mr. Darling—I have been in Mr. Hall's cellar and I think he has one of the best-ventilated cellars I ever saw. I don't think there is very much variation of temperature. I used to use sawdust cushions, and I was very particular to get very fine sawdust. I used common factory cotton to make the tick of, and I was very particular not to have any propolis sheets on and I was careful in other ways. I found if I laid a piece of lath on top of that cushion there was a wet streak about

the width and length of that lath all the way on the cushion. About three years ago I was not able to put the bees away myself and I got a pretty strong man to carry them in, there was a storm likely to come on and they went in in a hurry; I thought I would get them straightened up afterwards. We got about half of the hives put away, and the other half were carried in and I intended to put them on the racks afterwards which I have up from the floor nearly the height of these chair bottoms, so that they might not be in the way of the bad air. The hives were piled up one on top of the other, three or four high. It transpired that it was along in the winter before I was able to touch them. I had examined them three or four times without disturbing them at all, and they were getting along so nicely I thought I would leave them alone. I left them there till spring and took them out, and some of the best colonies that went out of that cellar went out of those piles that had been set right on the floor, and it wasn't the top ones either. There is not a cushion on my bees to-day. I put them away last week. I have left the propolis sheets on some of them; I have put a nice seven-eighths inch cover laid on top, on others I have just picked up any stray piece of board I had and laid on until every hive has a board on top of that sheet. Those hives that came through successfully last winter were covered up in the same way. Unless something changes me I don't think I will ever make another cushion.

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Do not pound a tin pan when the bees swarm. It may injure the pan, and does no good, unless it may be to let your neighbors know your bees are swarming.—Modern Farmer.

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Canadian Bee Journal and The Weekly Sun (Toronto) clubbed, one year, for \$1.75.