

packing but I cannot see any marked difference in favor of any one of the different kinds. We did at one time think we preferred chaff, but whether there were any better results I could not say.

I think Mr. Smith referred to packing more than one colony in a case. In our experience packing more than one has nothing of advantage. We find they winter better with us in single cases. When there are more than one, and one of them becomes uneasy from any cause, you will usually find that the colony on each side will be attracted by that uneasiness and will be effected, whereas, if they are packed in single cases an uneasy colony will not effect any of the others.

Mr. Smith: I have never found any trouble in that way. If one colony didn't winter as well as we liked it didn't make any difference the next time. We simply pack them in the same shape as they are in the summer; they are set in fours, two facing east and two facing west and the cases are so made that they can be taken apart and piled away for the summer; each case holds four hives. It doesn't take many minutes to pack them and we find they winter in that way as well as any other way we have ever tried. We used to have long cases when we lived in Muskoka.

Mr. McEvoy: I have tried both ways and I have found everything in favor of the single cases. The trouble I believe, when they are put together is, that if it comes a warm spell in January they become a little over-heated and break the cluster, and some young queens begin to breed. They seem to winter better in the single cases and not to start brooding so early in the spring as they do when bunched together.

Mr. Shaver: Do you notice the bees from the hives on one side of

your cases go around to those on the other side on a nice day, Mr. Smith?

Mr. Smith: No. We narrow up the entrance. We have an entrance of about five inches by three-eighths and we narrow that up still more with a piece of cardboard. We leave an entrance on the windward side of about an inch. If the colony wants more room they make the entrance to suit themselves.

Mr. Darling: There was a question asked Mr. Fixter a little while ago and while I have not made or tried any experiments I have had a little experience, and I suppose, although one or two experiments would not establish a theory, it might suggest one. The question was about the loss of bees by snow in case there was plenty of snow upon the ground. I am one of these fellows that sometimes does things that I would not do if I could see a little way ahead. A year ago last spring I carried out quite a number of colonies on the 11th of March and the balance I put out on the 26th. It was rather a fine spring, and for some time I thought those taken out on the 11th were going to outstrip the others, but I found when it came to the honey flow that those were the poorest we had. With regard to the bees flying out I think I would throw a little of that snow in front of the hives. Sometimes I have put out bees a little late in the evening and I remember once in particular I set some out at night for I was sure the next day was going to be fine, but I think it was three days before it was fit for them to fly.

Mr. Post: That exactly agrees with my experience. I have a great many bees and I am not very particular to tell whether it is really fine for them to fly or not. I would rather have it so that they could fly well or else not at all. If they can't fly at

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