

nicely on the inside, and tack it around, and you have there a perfectly watertight feeder, needing no paint on the wood to shrink or anything; slide that under the hive and they are there right under the cluster. Take it in the spring of the year, you like a small entrance, and when it gets warmer you want a larger one, and it is an awful task to change all these bottom boards, and you will gradually dispense with it if you possibly can.

CHALMER'S OBSERVATIONS

Indexed

Women's Department. Talk of "making a hit!" Without question, Mr. Editor, you have "made a hit" in having a women's department started in your valuable journal, and made no mistake in securing Miss Ethel Robson of Ilderton, Ont., to conduct it. The one and only trouble that looms up before me is the difficulty we men will likely have in keeping up our end. She says "they don't propose putting men out of business," but methinks some of us contributors will be put in the shade at any rate, if not totally eclipsed.

Miss Robson's introductory in March Canadian Bee Journal is certainly an able contribution, and I trust the lady readers will not be slack in venting their troubles in this new department, and let me say to those concerned, that we gentlemen, one and all, wish the ladies' department long life, with success at every turn.

Inventions. In February Canadian Bee Journal, Mr. H. D. McIntyre describes a system he devised of having queen bees matured and mated with little or no loss to a colony, and we might say with no forming of nuclei. If there is any trouble with this idea it will only be in the event of examining to see whether the queen has started to lay or not, but she could be kept in by slip-

ping a small pane of glass down between the nursery and the side of the hive and holding it on to the face of the tin box until replacing the comb. I suppose it is intended to leave it strictly alone until the queen is mated. I have much more faith in this project for what it is intended than in Mr. McIntyre's hive weighing scale, which he illustrates and describes in March Canadian Bee Journal. Like Dr. Miller, I consider if the end of the hive with most honey is next the scale it will not weigh as much as if it was in the far end of the hive from the scale. I know from what I have seen of devices got out by Mr. McIntyre that he is a genius, and rate him as one of our greatest inventors, but must say that I have some little doubt as to accurate weighing being done by arranging the scale in this way.

Wintering Case. Mr. E. T. Bainard, in February Bee Journal objects to what he calls a collapsible wintering case, but because a case is made of bottom, sides and roof separately, it can hardly be termed collapsible. I have a good many cases made in that way which have stood the racket for 20 years, and are good for several years yet, with the exception of the roofs, which are giving out through the action of the weather. Mr. B. objects too to the bottom of the case being left for platform for hive. I haven't done so yet, but such is my intention as soon as I can get cement platforms made. Would not advise setting the hives flat on them but on two half inch strips of lumber. This is not in accord with Mr. Byer's idea for a hive stand, as I notice by a late Gleanings that he wants a high hive stand to save the bee-keeper's back. That, of course, is quite a plea, but it sends the supers up too. My impression is, that the nearer earth bees can be kept, the cooler they will be, i. e. cooler than with a hot air rushing through under the hive.

April, 1911.

My latest idea made of inch lumber right, cut shanty and bottom to stre of this is nailed ha inch lumber place beveled on edges There is an entran three-eighth deep w inches of the botto ed by means of ti class of lumber is only one-third at th the upper two-thir cleats and hooks se be removed at 2-tir The roof is made s can be left with th not, takes up less r where else, makes where the hives sta can be tilted forwa remove the bottom all accumulations, an board. I feel certa platform, which wo thick would be no o ing about the hive, e removed.

D/

Poole, April 7th, 1911

HISTORICAL

Indexed

W. H.

I noticed in the Canadian Bee Journal mentions the "Thor" hive as patented, was one in the early sixti It was gotten up by of Brooklyn, at that a village about five m by and nine miles no town. There were for them engaged in bees and the other two in believe they were the Italian bees in Canada