

duces is a needed and wholesome article, the richer man of the two.

If a man does not get out in the spring, and in the raw, wet and unpleasant weather plow and sow he cannot reap. His work must be done in faith and hope in the future, and so a bee-keeper must, long before he can hope for results, do requisite work. I know well, many bee-keepers, especially beginners, tinker too much with their bees, they are like the little boy or girl that sows the corn and then keep digging it up to "see if it is growing," but that does not make it wrong to weed the corn and carefully cultivate about it to keep the soil in proper condition and the moisture from escaping.

During a trip in the Maritime Provinces, giving addresses in bee-keeping for the Dominion Department of Agriculture, I contracted what I never had before, genuine la grippe, and not being able to take care of myself for some time, by the time I got home I had a slight pneumonia. This is the reason why this department did not appear last month in *The Canadian Bee Journal*.

After an absence of over a month I went to the bee-cellar with its colonies. The temperature had remained steadily at from  $41\frac{1}{2}$  to 43 degrees. The seven hundred colonies with plenty of ventilation had kept the temperature sufficiently high. The hives are largely under similar conditions, but owing to pressure from hives above, and the blocks being small and of soft material the brood chamber and bottom-boards at the back were not 3-8 of an inch part as intended, but less. We intended to have the brood chambers 3-8 of an inch up from the bottom boards at the back. I found where it was less there was some moisture on the 7-8 under edge of the brood chamber back board and the 7-8 rim on the bottom board upon which the brood

chamber ordinarily rests. The back of the hive is two inches higher than the front, the intention being to have the fresh air go in at the entrance and the foul air escape at the back. This was evidently taking place, as the moisture-laden air escaped at the back of the hive a portion was condensing on the hive. This condensation is not desirable, and I found that where the space was 3-8 inch none took place. Now, I consider this matter of raising the brood chamber from the bottom board very important, my intention is, in future, to make the opening one-half inch. I find the bees winter better, and an entire absence of mouldy combs in the hive.

The day before yesterday I met an amateur bee-keeper who sometimes consults the writer. He stated that some of the comb upon which the bees were not clustered were moulding, and asked the reason. (He has an observatory hive with glass at the side, and by loosening a button can remove the wooden piece that cover the glass. He keeps the hive all summer in the library window, inside the house, and handles them there and entertains himself and his friends in no mean manner by either watching the bees through the glass side of the hive, or by removing and examining the combs.) I asked him if he had the hive up 3-8 of an inch at the back. He said yes, but to my surprise, after a little more conversation, I found he had the cover raised, not the brood chamber from the bottom board. In cellar wintering let us remember that unlike the outside, where the air is practically never at a standstill, and air currents are forcing themselves in every direction, the air is practically stagnant in the cellar, the bees are giving off all the moisture there is in the honey, and to say nothing about carbonic acid gas, which is just as