

and third, chaff in sacks. If the chaff were thrown in a super loosely, minus the sack, I might like it better. and right there is the only objection I have to leaves, so used, that is to say, the inconvenience of removing them, and replacing, in case an examination of the colony is desirable previous to the time when top packing may be safely left off. Top packing with me has always been allowed to remain until the bees were ready for the supers, and at times I am sure it was of specific value.

C. P. Dadant objects very strongly to, in any manner, disturb bees in cold winter weather. So do I; and never do it if it can possibly be avoided. He also objects to winter feeding. So do I; and yet I have had success with not a few colonies during the first few years of my bee-keeping in feeding right in the midst of cold winter weather, though I would not advise it. I did it because I did not know enough to make ample provision before cold weather set in. My memory just now reflects on a little occurrence that happened me about five winters ago right along this line. I had introduced my first carniolan queen the fall previous to a colony that had been queenless for considerable time and was consequently weak, and somewhat short in winter stores, and being late in the fall they went into winter quarters in that condition, on the summer stand. Fully expecting them to run short of stores before spring, I watched them very closely. One fine day in February, when the bees were having a good flight, I opened that hive and found the bees healthy and vigorous, but well nigh destitute of stores. But not being able to attend to the matter of feeding that day, I fully intended doing so the next and save that queen if possible, but Providence seemed to be against me, the mercury fell before the next morning to zero, however, I concluded, if they must die, I would rather have them do so with a full stomach rather than with an empty one. I prepared the syrup and opened the hive intending to place the food right over the cluster, but by bungling management I actually spilled between a pint and a quart of syrup right over the bees. Mad at myself (and everything else) I closed the hive, sat a vessel in front to catch the drip. I slunked off to the house feeling like a wallop dog, prepared to repent in sack-cloth and ashes for my carelessness. I fully expected that to be the end of my prized queen, but to my surprise, the first warm day those bees came out as clean and bright as before, and by more careful feeding thereafter they came through all right, built up quick

and gave a good swarm as well as a good yield of honey. In this case, as well as others that have come under my notice, neither the disturbing or the feeding appeared to injure them in the least, yet after all it would be well to consider those as exceptional cases.

A writer in one of the Journals just recently made the statement "that the bees that have the greatest number of winter flights in cold hard winters, are the ones that come out best in the spring." I wonder if that is the whole truth and nothing but the truth, everything taken into consideration. If it was within my power to control winter flights, I would order just four flights between December 1st and March 1st, would rather take chances of the bees being in better condition at the latter date in this latitude with only four flights, than if they had ten or twenty, all things considered. You may ask why? The advantages claimed for cellar wintering over outside, I think decide the point without further argument, namely: The consumption of less stores, and the less exhaustion of vitality. If bees wintered outside are permitted to have unrestricted flight with neither a shade board or thermometer to gauge the matter, many thousands will be lost, on account of rushing out for a flight when the sun's rays are warm just at the entrance, but the surrounding atmosphere is too cold for the endurance of the isolated bee, consequently they fall to the ground never to rise. And even a number which may succeed in making the return trip to the hive, have so exhausted their vitality that they very soon succumb. The consumption of honey is also greater, and if bees can endure four or five months confinement in the cellar, surely they can do so for one month (as I would order it) without very much inconvenience. It may be quite different in the latitude where the writer referred to resides, whose name and place I cannot now recall.

E. E. Hasty is also after that mush stirrer of the A. B. J's., saying he shows such careful reading and discriminating selection, that he (Hasty) is getting jealous, and is fearful lest the first thing he knows, he will be accused of egotism for even putting his head up that high. Now look here Bro. Hasty, I too am mad at that boiler, and just you never mind the egotism of putting your head up, but if you could so manage it as to poke your fist square and solid under that facial boil of the boiler.—Say, wouldn't I chuckle, and further if you and I could by forming