

makes a botch of putting his bees up for winter. When the C. B. J. was first started I directed this gentleman's attention to the fact and suggested that he subscribe; and the next year after he had lost all his bees I again suggested to him the propriety and profit of taking a good bee journal if he intended to do anything with bees; but he thought "for all he was going to do in the business it would hardly pay." Well, he has lost bees enough since the commencement of the C.B.J. to pay for some scores of journals, but of course he knows best whether it pays or not.

WHEN TO SET OUT BEES.

When shall we set the bees out? That must depend upon the weather and the condition of the bees. If they are healthy and quiet leave them where they are till towards the end of April or till the weather gets settled to warm. If any colonies have the winter disease (which may be detected by the hive being spotted around the entrance) set such out for a cleansing flight the first suitable day and take them back again to their quarters. Some two or three years ago I did not take the last of my bees out of the cellar till about the 15th of May. As to the time of day to take them out there is a difference of opinion. I always take mine out towards the middle of the day and never at night as I think it hardly safe to count for certain on the weather a day ahead.

SPRING MANAGEMENT.

The principal part of spring management necessary after taking the bees out may be put in a very few words, viz.: clean out the hives, give them plenty of stores, make them thoroughly warm and comfortable and then leave them alone. The *let-alone-a-tive-ness* is just about the most important part of the spring management, and although purely negative work it seems to be about as hard work as you can get some young bee-keepers at. These are the real essentials of spring management. The cleaning out ought to be done very soon after setting out so as to avoid the unpleasant bother of "swarming out." Any colony found queenless unite to some other most requiring it. Empty frames had better be taken out and then returned again when required; but the frames containing honey leave with the bees. There is no greater inducement to brooding than the presence of abundant stores in the hive. And if the queen is a good one the brooding will be pushed fast enough under such conditions without any artificial stimulation. But in this, as everything else, the bee-keeper must use judgment and discrimination as some colonies will require stimulative feeding and others not. When it is necessary to

feed at all feed at night, for at this time robbing must be carefully guarded against. Contract entrance to one bee-space till work begins and then enlarge as required. If natural pollen is slow in appearing and the weather is fine I always supply them artificially by spreading rye-meal, oil-cake meal, corn meal or wheat meal in the open yard in convenient reach.

ALLEN PRINGLE.

We must thank our good friend Pringle for his excellent paper on the work we must soon all engage in—and also for the very kind words which he has spoken of the CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL, which, thus far, has managed to pay its way. How much profit we have left we will keep to ourselves. It might make some of our friends feel bad to learn on what a narrow margin of profit we supply them with what is good and interesting in the apicultural world. Friend P. has been so busy during the past season that he has not given us as much from his pen as we would like, but we have his promise to give us his best thoughts quite frequently during the coming year.

FOR THE CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL.

A Coal Oil Stove in Apiculture.

FROM the attention that has of late been given to coal oil stoves, I am tempted to give your readers the benefit of my experience and the many ways we find use for the one I have. I would say that mine has four burners, and most, if not all the furniture required for cooking purposes. I scarcely ever use more than two of the burners and very frequently only one. We have not found it necessary to cook with it so cannot speak from experience, but for boiling a limited quantity of water or other liquid it is a great convenience and never makes much trouble or increased heat in the house during some of the warm days of summer. What I have to say regarding one is in connection with apiary work. I only mention it in reference to cooking as a greater inducement for apiarians to have one. I might say that in apiculture the first use that is made of it is in the making of foundation. After the wax for dipping is melted by placing it in a vessel of water on a coal oil stove, the right temperature for dipping is easily maintained. Then in pressing the sheets of wax I rewarm them by placing them, several at a time, in a vessel of water kept warm by this oil stove. By this method I can dip at one time all the founda-