main where it is and not go any lower, is not, after all, so bad as at first sight appears. We can through various causes get larger yields of honey now than was the case years ago, which itself partly compensates for the reduced price. Everything we use in connection with bee-keeping is very much cheaper. Some of the articles are from 60 to 70 per cent, lower than they were when I adopted the modern system of bee-keeping nearly twenty years ago. Honey is not the only thing that has declined in value; everything we eat and nearly everything we use in every shape and form has gone down in price; consequently the purchasing value of a given sum of money at the present time is very much greater than it was years ago—a fact which, if borne in mind, would often enable us to crush dissatisfied feelings. Another thing which we must not lose sight of is the fact that there are thousands of people who have never yet tasted honey, while at the same time tons of honey are wasted because there are no bees to collect it. If this honey which is now wasted could be profitably gathered, not only would it benefit those who would look after the bees, but scores of others would be benefited either directly or indirectly thereby. It is therefore a most desirable thing to increase and extend the bee-keeping business, provided we can in the same ratio increase the demand for honey. But to go on increasing the supply with a constant downward grade of prices, means that sooner or later a point will be reached where profit will cease. If, therefore, bee-keeping is to continue to be a profitable and growing industry, we must one and all do our level best to extend the honey market. Those who are in a position to work up a retail trade should not let the opportunity pass. Those who have to rely on wholesale trade should be careful to send out nothing but good stuff put up in an attractive form and carefully packed for transit, so that the dealer is put to no unnecessary trouble, and has every encouragement offered him to push the sale of honey. Although what may be called an extensive bee-keeper, I am always able to dispose of my produce and more besides; and in spite of low prices, foreign competition, increased competition at home, &c., I am not inclined to take a gloomy view of British bee-keeping. Personally the apricultural outlook was never brighter. I have become acquainted with honest dealers, who are willingly to pay me a fair price for a good article. My bees were never at this time of the year in better condition than at the present time.—A. SHARP, *The Apiary, Brampton, Hunts.*

## When and How to Carry Bees That are Wintered in Cellars to Their Summer Stands.

—N. D WEST.

DEAR SIR,—This afternoon I received your very kind letter inviting me to write an article for THE CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL. Thanks for the compliment of appreciation expressed in your letter, for an article from a New Yorker. I will try and write something.

I do not know of a better subject to write on at this present time than the above subject. By the time this article can reach you I will consider our cellar wintering of bees done (here in central New York at 92° parallel) and all bees should be set on summer stands about March 15th or some seasons as late as April 1st, and not wait for natural pollen as many writers tell us to do. No! No! Don't do it! It costs too much. It wastes too many of these old bees before we can get any good out of them, and as a result spring dwindling comes and the swarms become weak in bees, at a time when the swarms should hold their own, and even be advancing with young bees faster than the old bees are dying off. Why is this so, and what is the remedy? My friends we are more likely to carry our bees out too late than too early. At least this has been my experience. I reason this way: Suppose on March the 15th or 20th I set my bees out late in the afternoon, so that the bees will not fly the same day that they are carried out of the cellar. The bees will fly the first warm day, but they will not all rush out of the hive at once and the bees will not begin to fly from the different hives in the yard all at the same, and get mixed up so badly as they would if they had flown the same day that they were set out. But again we will suppose our bees have now had a good cleansing fly, say March 20, and now I am in hopes they will not fly very much before April 10th and they are not very likely to fly much, for we are apt to have cold weather about this time to keep the bees in their hives, and that is just where we want them for the next three weeks. We want these old bees for our old setting hens to hatch the eggs. That is all they are good for. The next day after the bees have their cleansing fly the queen begins to lay eggs quite fast, and if we can keep these old bees quiet, we will have an early brood started, and it will be well cared for even in cold weather. When