

for the beekeeper to discern whether his bees require more ventilation. The bees, finding their quarters too warm, may be noticed on the alighting-boards driving the cool air through their hives by rapid movements of the wings, and in cases where the temperature is much above normal the bees will hang out in clusters. Should more ventilation be required this may be given by inserting two 1 in. blocks of wood between the front of the bottom board and the hive. This should provide ample ventilation to meet all cases.

ENLARGING THE HIVE.

A little judgment is required as to the proper time to put on the supers. This may be done when the brood-chamber is getting full of bees and during mild weather. As soon as there is a fair flow of nectar the operation should not be delayed, as the bees are liable to be cramped for room. In cases where the beekeeper has plenty of drawn-out combs no trouble will be experienced in getting the bees to go up into the supers. However, where sheets of foundation are used the bees will not readily take to these, and it may be necessary to encourage them. Do not place a queen-excluder between the brood-chamber and the super when the latter is fitted with foundation. Much time is lost and very little honey will be gathered, as the bees will rarely work foundation in the supers when excluders are used. Should the bees not start work in the supers they may be induced to go up by elevating one or two frames of honey from the brood-chambers, at the same time inserting in their place sheets of foundation from the super. On no account break up the brood by transferring it to the super. Until settled weather is experienced this practice cannot be too strongly condemned.

WORKING EQUIPMENT.

It is surprising how few beekeepers provide proper equipment in the shape of convenient tools for manipulating the hives. A little attention paid to the right tools will save endless labour and worry, and will pave the way for fewer stings, besides making the handling of the bees a permanent pleasure. The requisities for handy work are a good smoker, bee-veil, hive-tool, and brush; and if many supers have to be handled a light wheelbarrow is indispensable. One cannot pay too much for a good smoker. It is the most valuable tool the beekeeper possesses, and by its use bees are easily brought under control. Good fuel for the smoker may be made from old bags cut up into pieces. A supply should always be kept in hand. A bee-veil will prevent the beekeeper from getting stung about the face, and enable the hive to be opened up quietly and with confidence. These can be bought