

## QUERIES and ANSWERS

Department conducted by Mr. R. H. Smith  
St. Thomas, Ont. Queries may be sent direct to  
Mr. R. H. Smith or to the C. B. J.

Q.—Please tell me the best way to requeen my bees from six Italian queens I purchased last summer. Would you give them a queen cell as soon as possible in June or July, or what time?

A.—To Italianize an apiary from choice stock in June or July, first build up your breeding colonies to the swarming point, and when they have queen cells about ripe, or ready to hatch, remove the queens that you wish to replace, and give a cell in a cell protector.

What we consider a better plan is, when honey is coming in freely and they are likely to swarm make a two or three frame nucleus from each colony that you wish to requeen, this will prevent the old colony from swarming, queen cells may be given to the nuclei the next day. After the young queens begin to lay, or at the close of the honey flow, the nuclei may be built up from the old colonies and the old queens may be destroyed. This plan gives the use of the old queen until the young queens are ready to take their places.

Q.—A Manitoba bee-keeper inquires about four colonies that he is wintering in chaff hives outside. He says the walls are 6 inches thick but he has the entrances closed with mosquito wire to keep out mice. and they are filled up with snow, not snow drifted in from outside but snow

caused by inside heat of the colonies (we presume he means frost).

He wants to know if this snow is going to do any harm to the bees, and if so would it disturb the bees if he were to rake it out.

The outside temperature keeps about zero and sometimes even considerably lower.

A.—If there is sufficient snow or frost to close the entrance, I would remove the wire cloth and snow, and leave the entrance open about three-eighths of an inch. As there is very likely to be an accumulation of dead bees in the entrance, these should also be removed, which may be done by raking them out with a piece of bent wire, without disturbing the bees very much. Mice are not likely to cause so much damage as having the entrance closed. I have found that a small opening or crack about 1-8th in under the board or quilt above the bees, and this opening well covered by packing or a cushion, would allow the moisture to escape from the hive and which would not have to be expelled by them from the entrance. Bees prepared in this way usually come out clean and dry. Care must be taken to exclude mice from the packing.—R. H. Smith.

St. Thomas.

### Medical.

For rheumatism take a bee,

Then pet it;

The sting is recommended and

You bet it

Will either cure the pain or you'll

Forget it.

Cheerfulness is a sign of sanity. is the person who has no laughter, fun in his nature, the person who comes morose and melancholy who is in danger of losing his balance.—Success Magazine.

The best poultry

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