

the business into the hands of "Specialists" These are some of the methods by which bee-keeping is to be made a profitable and paying industry. Who knows but the weak and the small of to-day may become the great and the powerful of a few years hence. Banish the bee-keepers from towns and villages and where are yours pecialists? Are not the honey producers of to-day, both in Canada and the United States, located in towns and villages? And, who are the specialists? They have been recently defined as "those who confine themselves exclusively to the bee business." Those who have done most in the past for the promotion of apiculture, horticulture and floriculture, and many of the other sciences have been men who did not confine their researches and their labors to the particular work they did so much to promote. The history of the sciences teem with proofs of this fact.

The new doctrine of priority of location is the most presumptuous of all the claims the monopolists amongst bee-keepers have yet hinted at. I understand this doctrine to mean that if a man plants a bee-yard in a certain locality where no bees were theretofore kept, he is entitled to the exclusive right of forage over the fields and forests of his neighbors within the area of the flight of his pets. As well may we expect priority of location to be conceded in an enlightened country and by a free people as to expect bees to be interdicted as a universal nuisance. As well may we expect a man to be restricted by law in the number of cattle in his herd or sheep in his flock because his pasture is not sufficient to keep them all in first rate condition. As that he be deprived the privilege of putting one or one hundred stocks of bees on his farm because his neighbor farmer, half a mile away has one or one hundred stocks on his farm already. Such a doctrine is begotten in selfishness and opposed to justice. A fair field and no favour must be granted to those in the business and those who may hereafter embark in it and is that which must be insisted on and that which will obtain.

R. McKNIGHT.

QUERIES AND REPLIES.

UNDER THIS HEAD will appear Questions which have been asked, and replied to, by prominent and practical bee-keepers—also by the Editor. Only questions of importance should be asked in this Department, and such questions are requested from everyone. As these questions have to be put into type, sent out for answers, and the replies all awaited for, it will take some time in each case to have the answers appear.

UNCAPPING HONEY IN THE SPRING.

QUERY No. 136.—In the spring when bees are set out, when there is sealed honey at the top bar, do you cut them

all back in one day so as to crowd them together?—A. S. C., Que.

H. D. CUTTING, CLINTON, MICH.—No.

PROF. A. J. COOK, LANSING, MICH.—? ? ?

DR. C. C. MILLER, MARENGO, ILL.—No.

DR. A. B. MASON, AUBURNDALE, TOLEDO.—No.

DR. DUNCAN, EMBRO, ONT.—If your colony is strong let them alone.

G. M. DOOLITTLE, BORODINO, N.Y.—No. I allow $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches to the frame at all times of year.

S. T. PETTIT, BELMONT, ONT.—Certainly not. My bees always have enough difficulties in spring to contend with without adding to their burdens in any way unnecessarily. My frames always remain at the same distance, viz. $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches from centre to centre.

J. E. POND, FOXBORO, MASS.—I winter on summer stands entirely. The circumstances of each case determine my method in spring stimulation. It would require a long essay to give full particulars.

DR. J. C. THOM, STREETSVILLE, ONT.—I am not satisfied as to the meaning of this question. Place the cluster of bees upon as many frames as they can comfortably cover, hive being connected by a division board, is the advice generally given.

S. CORNEIL, LINDSAY.—We have not practised contracting the brood-nest in spring as a regular thing because generally we cannot remove combs without at the same time reducing the amount of stores and bees seem to breed faster when their larder is well supplied.

JAMES HEDDON, DOWAGIAC, MICH.—The practice of changing the comb spaces from summer to winter and winter to summer is one that in my apiary will never be generally adopted. It has been considered and recommended for years, but never gone into general use. Now that honey is so very low all such slow methods must give place to more rapid, safer, and less expensive ones. Mark the answers to this question, and what the future confirms.

ALLEN PRINGLE, SELBY, ONT.—When you set your bees out in the spring remove the combs that are empty, or nearly empty, leaving two or three or more of the heaviest frames with the bees—depending on the strength of the colony—then crowd these pretty well up together, contract the entrance to one bee-space or so, put