

hive is not half appreciated. Its capabilities are yet beyond what is generally supposed.

JAMES HEDDON.

Dowagiac, Mich.

UNFAIRNESS.

THE POLLEN THEORY, HEDDON HIVE, ETC.

MR. Pond starts out on page 68 by saying that "the originator of the 'pollen theory' claims that in that theory lies the whole secret of success in wintering." On page 247 of the A. B. J. (the same date of issue as that of the C. B. J. containing the above) is an article written by Mr. Pond, which begins as follows: "Mr. Heddon says, 'I no longer doubt that practical success in wintering depends upon proper food and temperature.'" Will Mr. Pond please harmonize these two quotations?

But this is a small affair compared with the garbled quotations from Mr. Heddon's book. Mr. Pond does not take the trouble to explain that the cellar containing the forty colonies having sugar stores was kept very cold for the purpose of seeing what the effect would be, and that the thirty-five colonies that perished *showed no symptoms of diarrhoea*. They simply died of long continued cold. He fails to notice that the other cellar containing ninety-one colonies was kept warmer.

The bees in this warmer cellar, *i. e.* those having sugar stores, came through all right, while of eight on natural stores, six died of diarrhoea, and of ten with little bee-bread and mixed stores two died. Mr. Pond makes no explanation of this, but quotes in such a manner as to lead the reader to infer that *all* the colonies in this cellar had sugar stores. Just notice how he tells it, he says: "Of ninety-one colonies wintered in another cellar seventy-five on sugar syrup came through in good shape, while sixteen died." Not a word about the difference of temperature in the two cellars, nor that the bees that died in the warmer cellar had natural stores, or part natural stores, and died of *diarrhoea*. He does not explain that the bees that died out of doors having sugar stores did not die of *diarrhoea*, while those having natural stores *did* die of *diarrhoea*.

The space that it would require forbids my quoting from Mr. Heddon's book the report of wintering experiments of 1884-5, as given on page 107, 8 and 9, but how *anyone*, after reading it, could write as Mr. Pond does, is a mystery to me.

That the pollen theory is untenable may be among the possibilities, but not upon the grounds lately entered upon by Mr. J. E. Pond, Jr.

W. Z. HUTCHINSON.

Rogersville, Genesee Co., Mich.

When you speak of cold you touch a more important point than even pollen. We are more firmly convinced than ever that when the temperature is right the pollen will not be wrong, but too low a temperature may cause pollen to assist the difficulty. When we learn the proper degree of heat for the repository, under all circumstances we will have less to fear from pollen.

FOR THE CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL.

A GOOD REPORT.

THE 14th being a fine warm day I decided to take my bees out of their winter quarters, they having become rather uneasy owing to the temperature having got up to 52°. During the winter my house kept at 45° most of the time, only falling to 40° in the coldest weather and the bees kept very quiet till it rose above 45°. After taking the bees out of the house, which is built in a hill side, the temperature fell to 36°, so it seems that twenty colonies in a small house made a difference of 16°. The twenty colonies put in the house all came out alive and all but one or two seem as strong as they were in the fall. Of five wintered out of doors one died and I account for the loss of this one by its only having a cheese cloth quilt under thick sawdust cushion; of the other four, two had the propolised summer quilts under cushions and two cotton batting quilts, and they all did finely. The only one without starved in March after eating eight frames of honey—six I gave them in the fall and two I gave them in February. Colonies united the middle of September and full of bees with ten frames filled about half way down with honey, had five left when I examined them after they began carrying in pollen, which they did on the 14th.

Before ending my letter I wish to ask whether it is best if one moves the old colony to a new stand when it has swarmed and sets the swarm on the old stand, to give the old colony a queen or let them hatch their own queen? Also if a queen was given them would the bees accept her with queen cells in the hive, and how soon after the swarm issued would it be best to introduce the queen?

HENRIETTA F. BULLER.

Campbellford, Ont., April 26th, '86.

The queen may be introduced as soon as the swarm issues and the old colony placed on the new stand without running any great risk, but if the colony is a good one you might allow them to raise their own queen, as the moving of the colony would reduce its working force so there would be little chance of