

ion that we went to the extreme, and I think it is rather too small. It is better that occasionally a virgin should go through, and in rare cases a small queen, than that it should prevent the bees going through easily, and sometimes there is a little hesitancy.

Mr. Hershiser—I would suggest that the queen that got through was not a very good queen.

Mr. Holtermann—I have had excellent results from queens that could go through again and again.

Mr. Root—I would like to hear from the gentleman who sent in that question.

Mr. Pratt—I have not had much experience, but in reading the "Journal" there was some fault found, and I thought I would enquire before buying any more and find out if it was right.

Mr. Hershiser—I think the perforations might well be made a little larger. That is my opinion. I have not had any great trouble with it, but it strikes me this way: When the queen-excluder honey-board first came out it consisted simply of strips, and acted more as a discouragement than an excluder.

Mr. House—I have 400 or 500 of this kind, and something like 100 of heavier metal with square 168-1000 perforations. Occasionally with the old ones I find a small queen will pass through. I have never yet discovered where this was any hindrance. All my comb honey is produced over these excluders.

Mr. Cogshall—I think if once in a while a queen goes through, what is the odds? It is only once in a while, and I do not split hairs over it.

Mr. Miller—Occasionally I find queens give considerable trouble, but I have always made a practice of beheading that queen on sight, but I would not like to see that metal reduced.

Mr. Pratt—About wax extractors. I

have got a lot to extract, and I have broken mine. Can you recommend a good one?

Mr. Smith—My experience is to break up the old comb as small as possible, boil it and put it into a good press. I would not like to say which is the best press, but I believe this is better than handling in the steam press.

Mr. Cogshall—This is a very important question. I have ignored it for years, to my sorrow. The first thing you must do is to get the old comb as fine as you can, as fine as powder, which is best done in the winter. The stronger the press the greater amount of wax you will get. Now it was my fortune to get the boiler and press together. I used to boil it in an old kettle, skim it off and put it in the press. Well, I saved up for the last 18 months about 20 barrels of this slum gum, and I got a press about December 1st. I got 700 pounds of wax out of those 20 barrels that I intended throwing away.

Q.—How did you press it?

Mr. Cogshall—With the Hershiser press.

Mr. Hershiser—I am a very modest man, so, without referring particularly to my press or trying to be personal, I want to just say one or two words about this matter. In order to get wax out of old combs, it is necessary to have them fine. I have not found it necessary to pulverize it, though I think it might be a good plan. I am thoroughly satisfied that the hot water is the method. I have frequently used an illustration which I think will bring it to your minds in a way that nothing else will, and any of you can try it. If you will saturate a sponge with any coloring matter that can be washed off, press it until you can get no more out, then soak it again and press again, and you will get more color; and if you repeat this a number of times you can