

each other, but I can say in Mr. Sibbald's favor, that I have kept bees for 23 years past, and I have been a clipper. I have never had but one queen leave the second year. I attribute it to putting them in a cage and checking their laying qualities. Last year we had a queen in its fourth year, and it died. If you had offered in the spring \$10 for that bee you couldn't have had her. She was clipped when six weeks old. That is the only thing I differ in from that gentlemen. Never open a hive of bees from the top until the fruit blossoms. You may do some good but you will do a great deal of harm. You will come into clipping. I was laughed at 20 years ago for clipping. I stood that laughing. Clipping their wings keeps them at home, and they cannot get off where or they choose. My advice is, keep on clipping.

Mr. Gemmell—I don't think it is fair to say that clipped queens are superceded any sooner than any other. Take your young queens and clip them and put them right back in the hive again, and then see. We all know that if you buy a queen from any part of the country and introduce her into the hive, she doesn't live as long as one that has been born in the hive. Queens should be caged in the hive a day or two before they are sent away.

Mr. Holtermann—I wouldn't like to be understood that I think the clipping of the queen will result in superceding. I think a great many think that queens are not superceded when they are; when they clip them they know it, and when they do not clip them they don't know it. I would not like to lay down a universal rule for clipping. Where a person has 4 or 5 swarms they can keep their eye on those swarms to a certain extent and nearly always will catch a swarm, when, if they are clipped, and the queen comes out and she is lost or goes back, they will destroy the queen and then that bee-keeper rests under what is false security; he thinks he will be able to get his swarm, when, as a matter of fact, the young queen is going to go out. I would like to ask Mr. Boomer, do you set out your swarms a few at a time or all at one time?

Mr. Boomer—I set out some 30 one day and the same number the next day.

Mr. Holtermann—What do you do, Mr. Sibbald?

Mr. Sibbald—I set them all out at one time.

Mr. Holtermann—What time of the day?

Mr. Sibbald—Morning.

Mr. Holtermann—I set out my bees not

all at one time, and I try to set them out when they are not going to fly immediately, and I think that makes a great difference. If you set out your bees all at one time the result is they do not locate themselves, and in this question of bee-keeping we want to get at the bottom of the business, and we will find our differences are not as great as we imagine.

Mr. J. D. Evans, Islington—When my bees swarm, and the bee-keeper is not there and the queen gets lost or destroyed, how does the keeper prevent the first hatched queen from going away with the swarm before she is old enough to be clipped.

Mr. A. Pickett, Nassagaweya—I am listening to this matter of handling bees in the spring with some interest, and with perhaps profit. My method of setting out bees of late years has been to set them out towards evening, so that they are calmed down and quiet, and when they fly out the following day they go out as calmly as they would any other day, and there is no excitement, or not that excitement which prevails when they are set out in the early part of the day. Like many others, we are anxious to see what they look like in the spring, and when a fine day comes, are eager to set them out. Around one hive you would find there was quite a large number flying and perhaps another one with quite an amount of disturbance was not flying scarcely at all. To my mind the bees were changing position in many cases and were flocking to the front of other hives, or, in other words, to the old stand whence they were carried. And I think if we note the matter carefully we will see at once that it is wise to put them on the stands from which they were removed in the fall, and all that mingling will be done away with, we will have less bees lost, and the result will be that they will go forward with their work in harmony and with a will. I approve of the method of setting them out in the evening, as I said, because of the fact that this mingling is done away with. The question that Mr. Evans asked, I am not prepared to answer just now.

Mr. John Newton, Thamesford.—I was very much pleased with the paper our brother read a few minutes ago, and I thought at the moment that I couldn't say a word on the clipping of queens. Of course I have been in favor always of clipping queens, and there was just this drove my attention to it. I was not able on going over my hives to find all my queens, and for that reason I think I have