

This he (Mr. House) from various conditions in connection with the shook swarm system had not found to be correct.

To shake the bees he proceeds as follows:—In the latter part of May he stimulates his best colonies for queen cells, and when the time for shaking arrives he puts the new hive on the old stand, finds the queen in the old colony, setting her and the comb on which she is to one side he shakes three-quarters to seven-eighths of the bees from the other combs, allowing the old queen to run in at the entrance of the new colony with the bees.

The old hive is then put on a new stand and given a queen cell, which is likely to hatch in twenty-four or forty-eight hours. He puts the queen cell in the lower part of the hive. He uses a shallow brood chamber and puts two of these shallow chambers, from which the bees had been shaken, together, making a new colony sufficiently strong to winter.

Often a colony is not strong enough to shake, these he runs for extracted honey. With half chamber there is a certain amount of sugar from pollen in the sections. To avoid this he places an empty comb in the brood chamber.

In his thirty-three years experience he never has had an absconding swarm if the queen was in the new hive. The brood chambers

in which the bees have been shaken can be tiered up or given to weaker colonies. Comparing the

systems Mr. House said he did not know what he would do if he had to go back to the old system of natural swarming. The artificial system shows the same vigor as the natural swarm and they build just as well. Seven days are needed for the shaken colony by

giving it a ripe cell, and if a young queen is given, twelve days work by the queen was gained for the colony—that is for the colony from which the bees were shaken.

When Mr. House wants to shake he sees that there is plenty of honey coming in. The bees could fill themselves from the honey shaken out when the bees were shaken from the combs on the front board.

MR. F. H. CYRENIUS, OSWEGO, N. Y., found that when the bees were shaken early full sheets of foundation should be used. If close to swarming, with nearly mature queen cells, then starters could be used. He did not hunt the queen but if he had to do so he put a queen excluder on top of the new hive, and on this an empty super. Into this empty super the bees were shaken. The worker bees would pass through and the queen readily found on the metal. It is radically wrong to put a comb of brood into the newly shaken swarm.

Mr. House prefers shaking the swarms about 10 a.m. The queen is found more easily at that time and less fresh honey to be shaken from the combs.

MR. N. BETZINGER, CAMILLUS, N. Y., stated this was a very old subject, very old indeed, the subject of shaking swarms. Driving swarms was more perfect. If he were standing by the hive and the bees came out and without any effort on his part the bees would return in fifteen minutes and go into the new hive, he would not have it.

He would give them a pointer and all he asked for it was credit for what he gave. Just before the honey harvest he drove or drummed the bees into a box and after they have been left there a short time hives them. In this way drone