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secure the desired end?"

"Outside of stopping after-swarming, there is generally no desired end to be accomplished."

"How is that? Is not the succeeding in having a laying queen in a hive as soon after swarming as may be a desired end?"

"Well, that depends altogether upon the locality and result in the end."

"What do you mean?"

"Just this: With a continuous honey-flow from the time of swarming to the end of the season there might be some gain, provided the advantages were not lost by swarming again. With such a continued honey-flow the colony having such queen given up it would be far more likely to conclude to swarm again than would the one where the bees had their own queen, and they did not get a laying queen till near the time the brood had all matured which was in the fall when the old queen left. Ask yourself what conditions bring about prime swarming, and you will understand this."

"But I do not know that I could answer such a question fully, did I ask it."

"Yes, you could. If you think a little you know that the conditions bringing about prime swarming are, plenty of brood in all stages, plenty of bees of all ages, and honey coming from the fields. With any of these lacking, prime swarms rarely come."

"Why did you emphasize plenty of bees of all ages?"

"Because, where the honey-flow keeps right up and the bees take their own course, or all after-swarming is prevented by the apiarist cutting all queen cells after the first laying queen has emerged from her cell, the colony is without a laying queen from 18 to 20 days, as a rule,

(Continued next month.)

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