work being completed; but if, on the contrary, queen cells are started, or in any stage of completion, then a division is made as follows:

The top section of the brood-chamber, with queen-excluder, and, in most cases, with the queen, is removed and placed on top of a chamber of foundation or empty combs at the side of the colony; also placing a chamber of foundation or empty combs on the colony. Add a queen-excluder and return all supers to the colony. All danger of swarming is now over for the present. An abbreviated entry is now made, showing at a glance the date of this division.

On returning to the yard in four days the usual examination takes place; in five cases out of six the entrance of the division made four days ago will show dead drones, indicating the presence of the queen. A record now being made to this effect, no further work is required on this division or parent colony during this visit.

Four days later, or on the second visit after the division is made, the colony must have the queen cells removed from the combs in the bottom section of the brood chamber, and as they are likely to have larvae yet held back, of which they will again start queen cells, they require cutting again any time within the next two visits, and either give a virgin or laying queen, or return the division to the colony. Or the division may be left in the present condition beside the colony until the busy season is over, when, according to the strength and amount of honey it contains, it is made use of either to be placed on a separate stand or to be united with another division.

The system I have here outlined is one I have used for several years, and have found it to work admirably. The loss from absconding swarms does not exceed an average of two, or possibly three, for each yard during the season. Being a system of short cuts, it is capable of much improvement, according to the skill of the apiarist; and reduces the amount of skilled labor to a minimum, one man being able properly to attend to three or four yards of 90 or 100 colonies each, doing all of the yard work himself, only requiring the aid of one unskilled helper in the honey house during extracting.

Having endeavored to give as concise an account of my work as possible, I may have left out details, but I trust it may bring out either discussion or thought that may be profitable to the members present.

—F. J. Miller.

The President called on Mr. Hoshal, who used the Heddon hive, to open the discussion.

Mr. Hoshal—Mr. President, if I understand Mr. Miller aright in his description of what he has been doing to prevent his bees from swarming by simply giving them room beneath the brood chamber, I think it is right. All of you know as well as I know, that bees worked for comb honey are much more likely to swarm than those worked for extracted honey. There is a way of getting comb honey by which the bees are no more liable to swarm than for extracted. It is the way they did it on the old box hive system. You put a swarm into an old box hive and the bees begin to work at the bottom, and as long as there is room at the bottom to extend the brood nest down they will continue to work there, and they will fill that before they swarm again. For comb honey we can't do that. That is exactly what Mr. Miller is doing in the production of extracted honey. Those charts which I showed you illustrate how the bees store their honey above their brood, immediately next to it and below. As they crowd the brood nest below and these cells it lessens the brood chamber and they are going to move that up. They have