

to contain the full amount of white honey expected per hive. Entrances are enlarged to their fullest extent, about 1- $\frac{1}{4}$ " x 17", and ventilation is given at the top of the super, so that a current of fresh air will pass freely through the hive. Now if hives can be partly shaded and the brood chambers are large enough to give full scope to the laying powers of the queen, swarming will be greatly retarded. At the next visit all hives are examined for indications of the swarming impulse, if only empty queen cells are found, and the brood chamber is nearly full of brood, a card of brood is removed and replaced by foundation; any cells containing eggs are broken down. The brood removed is used for strengthening weak colonies or forming nuclei.

If any cell contains a queen larva it is proof that the swarming impulse is far enough advanced to take action. Hives previously prepared for swarms have been distributed about the yard before starting operations. They each contain in the order named; two dummies, three starters, one worker comb, three starters and three dummies; twelve in all in a hive of 10 frame L. capacity. One of these is brought and set down on a bottom board and stand behind the hive to be treated. The operator who sits at the left of the hive removes the three dummies from the right to a farther side of the new hive, and shoves over the remaining contents so as to have the empty space next him. He now lifts the comb nearest him from the brood chamber, shakes it almost free of bees, and places it in the new hive next the left wall. The next comb has a double space for shaking off bees in the old hive. It takes its place beside the first comb, and the return motion of the hands carries a dummy from the new hive to the old.

Comb number three is shaken, carried to the new hive, and dummy

number two is brought back. The fourth comb exchanges places with the first starter and so on. When the twelfth comb has been shaken in its own hive and transferred to the new, the sixth starter put in its place, and the old hive filled out with the three remaining dummies, we put on the supers, close the hive and the bees have been swarmed.

There is now a hive swarmed on starters on the old stand under conditions fairly natural, at the convenience of the bee-keeper, without fuss, excitement or acrobatic feats. Leaving them in the old hive is merely a matter of convenience. Unless there is no honey in the supers it is not necessary to wait for the bees to fill themselves with honey before shaking, as they can do that at leisure afterwards. These swarms behave in all respects like natural swarms just hived. They swarm out next day, so would natural swarms under like conditions and the same little devices must be used to make them contented. For example, in comb honey production it may be best to hive on a full set of starter (not omitting the comb) for a few days, then contract with dummies. Shade should be given and always ample ventilation etc., etc. The empty comb in the middle is useful for various things. If the supers contain sections it catches pollen, which might otherwise go up, if extracting combs, it keeps the bees from all going up into the supers and deserting the queen.

In extracted honey production it may be best to shake on a set of full sheets of wired foundation to propose to test this matter fully next season.

A few minutes after shaking swarms sometimes show signs of queenlessness. The queen has been accidentally left with the brood, or in rare cases has been lost. In this case we do not bother hunting the queen, because

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