

section I find no need for the bottom starter. In some cases the foundation isn't cut just right, and I use the bottom starters and find they give very good satisfaction.

The President—I think Mr. Sibbald puts his foundation in with hot wax and not with a hot plate.

Mr. Holtermann—I don't use a hot plate for a one-piece section.

The President—I understand that Mr. Sibbald not only fastens it on top, but all around.

Mr. Dickenson—That prevents the pop holes.

Mr. Pettit—There is one point I would like to emphasize before we leave this subject, and that is to get nice straight sections we must have the foundation to hang straight in the centre, and we must have separators as well to have the sections nicely filled.

The President—We will ask whether we should use plain section and fence separator or slotted section and plain separator. Which is the better plan?

Mr. Pettit—Mr. Chairman, the best separator I have used and produced my nicest comb honey was a separator made by my father, which was bored full of holes. I think these holes were 3-16th or $\frac{1}{4}$ inch. It made a very expensive separator. It was a little thicker than the separators you buy. The blocks were bored before the separators were split. They were sawed separators. The plain separators are very good, but I think we get better results by having separators that the bees can pass through freely. Slatted separators are the next thing to that, but it is almost impossible to avoid the washboard appearance of the comb honey produced. The space between the slats must not be more than $\frac{1}{4}$ -inch.

Mr. Holtermann—I have nearly 100 comb honey supers, and they have a separator which, in my estimation, cannot be beat, and they have been in

use by certain parties for 20 years at least. I refer to the separator made of wire cloth. It was invented and patented by N. N. Betzinger in New York State, and the first time I saw it was 20 years ago at Rochester. I had it again drawn to my attention some two years ago, when I went to the New York State Bee-keepers' convention, and, knowing what the men were doing over there that are using that separator, I had nearly 100 supers with these made. The wire cloth is suspended and the bees can go through anywhere. Where I have a fence separator it is always rigid. These I have are good for 50 years as far as I know; I don't think they have an equal.

Mr. Smith—I might say we use a perforated separator, only it is cleated similar to the fence. We like that very well, but we don't think that is the finality in separators. I think it is in a state of evolution just now, and we will have something better after a time.

The President—We will suppose our first super is getting nicely worked out, the honey flow is starting, or not long on, and we think it is about time to put on a second super. Where shall we put it, under or over the first super? I believe Mr. Herschler advocates putting it on top. Are there any gentlemen who have practised that method of putting the next super on top of the first one?

Mr. Pettit—Towards the end of the flow.

The President—I think it is the general practice to put the second super underneath the first one. A great many bee-keepers who produce comb honey would like very much to control swarming, to keep them back from swarming. After our couple of supers begin to get nicely filled very often the swarm will come out. Is there any method by which we can keep them back? Do you know of any, Mr. Miller?

(Continued next month)