

G. M. DOOLITTLE, N. Y.—From one to two square inches necessary only, as the bees will have some drone comb anyhow. At best I never saw a colony in prime condition that did not have capped drone breed at or near the swarming season.

EUGENE SECOR, FOREST CITY, IOWA.—The least amount you can keep in them. If you have an extra fine queen you wish to breed from, you might furnish that colony with an abundance of drone comb.

J. ALPAUGH, ST. THOMAS.—I prefer from one to two combs, that being each outside comb in the brood nest. Yes, all colonies should have drone comb, no matter what size the apiary is.

JAS. HEDDON, DOWAGIAC, MICH.—Have no drone comb in any hives except say ten or fifteen (in a large apiary) of preferred blood. Raise your drones where you want them, and do not raise them anywhere else. That is the way I do and I know it works splendidly.

DR. MILLER, MARENGO, ILL.—I try to keep out all drone comb except in one or more colonies which I think best stock, and in spite of my efforts I always have more drones than I need. Doolittle may be right that it is best to have perhaps an inch square of drone comb in each hive, and shave these drone cells once in three weeks.

J. E. POND, NORTH ATTLEBORO, MASS.—I deem it necessary for the best welfare of a colony to have some drone comb in every hive in order to keep the colonies in a normal condition. Unless one is engaged in rearing queens two or three inches square is enough. At some seasons there is as much desire for drones as for workers, and unless provision is made, the colony will not be at its best.

J. K. DARLING, ALMONTE, ONT.—If you want drones from that particular colony 1/12th to 1/10th of the comb in the hive. A good colony will make sure of having enough if they have the least chance even if they have to build between the bottom bars of the frames and the bottom of the hive. 2. No, not necessary, but I rather guess it would bother you to keep them from having a little. Would not advise you to try it.

G. W. DEMAREE, CHRISTIANBURG.—In a large apiary it is not essential to provide drone comb for all the colonies. Still I think it is well to give each colony about four inches square of drone comb. It depends on the stock of the bees as to whether or not I allow them to rear drones. I remove all drone comb from such colonies as I don't wish to breed from, and such colonies prosper as well as any. The old idea that drone rearing is a "sign of swarming" is a mistake, in fact a superstition. Aged, and other like failing queens, are the chief cause of swarming. It is in accord with the "eternal fitness of things" that the swarm impulse should begin whenever a queen begins to fail. In such cases either a swarm issues or a superceding of the queen takes place governed by the season or time of the year. But ultimately the superceding takes place.

## SUNDRY SELECTIONS.

WORTH \$2 A YEAR.

THOS. J. SMITH—I would not be without your JOURNAL if it cost two dollars a year instead of one.

Aylmer, Ont., Jan. 20th, 1890.

WINTERING 70 COLONIES.

F. D. TESSIER—I am wintering 70 colonies this winter, all black bees. If I see that I can do it all right, I will try even more.

Mount Oscar, Que. Dec 16, '89.

SOLD HIS HONEY TOO CHEAP.

GEO. MORRIS—I have enjoyed reading the JOURNAL very much. My bees have done fairly well this summer, more than doubled and given us about 800 pounds of very fine honey. I have clamped about 40 colonies and have doubled up five. I lost ten colonies from spring dwindling, which left 18 swarms, 16 fair ones and two which did no more than build up for winter. I sold the comb honey at 12½ cents per pound, and the extracted at 10 cents. Bees have done well in Essex this season.

Stony Point, Ont.

Did you not make a mistake in disposing of your comb honey at 12½ cts.; surely if it was a good article you could have just as well had 15c. or 16c. per pound for it.

HAVE LEARNED MUCH FROM ITS PERUSAL.

ALANSON MICKLE—I beg to renew my subscription for 1890. I have learned much from its perusal, and I look for the C.B.J. and P. W. anxiously every week.

Amherstburg, Ont.

SPRING Dwindled DOWN TO ELEVEN.

JACOB BULL—I wintered 23 colonies, which dwindled to 11 in the spring and some of them were very weak, but during the summer increased to 26, all of which are now in comfortable quarters in my cellar. I took about 250 lbs comb honey, but had to feed some in the fall. There are about 100 colonies within a mile of here, and a great deal of the land produces nothing for bee pasturage, yet any colonies which were strong in the spring have done very well.

Weston, Ont.

CIRCULARS RECEIVED.

E. L. Pratt, Marlboro, Mass.—4 pages—Car niolan queens.

CONVENTIONS.

May 3, 1890—Susquehanna, at Hop Bottom, Pa. H. M. Seeley, Sec., Hartford, Pa.

May 19, 1890—Northern Illinois at Rockford, Ill., D. A. Fuller, Cherry Valley, Ill.

Jan'y 9, 10, 1891—Ontario Beekeepers Association, at St. Catharines; W. Couse, Sec., Streetsville, Ont.

Feb. 19, 20 '90—Ohio State, in conjunction with North Eastern Ohio, Northern Pennsylvania and Northwestern New York, at Cleveland Ohio.