

G. M. DOOLITTLE, BORODINO, N.Y.—Never had a loss of this kind, except one, when the queen fell off the comb and was stepped upon.

PROF. A. J. COOK, LANSING, MICH.—Very unusual, I think. I do not know. Almost none. I found a fine young queen dead the other day. Can assign no reason.

J. E. POND, FOXBORO, MASS.—This is unusual in my experience. If honey is being gathered freely I cannot even guess at the trouble. If honey is not coming in freely that is probably the cause.

JAS. HEDDON, DOWAGIAC, MICH.—Yes, such a phenomenon is unusual here. I do not know the cause, in your case, but might guess what it might be did I know all about the conditions of things in your apiary.

DR. C. C. MILLER, MARENGO, ILL.—I have had considerable experience in the same direction and do not suppose it is so very unusual. A queen may be virtually old in less than a year, and will then be superseded.

O. O. POPPLETON, WILLIAMSTOWN, IOWA.—Have never been troubled much this way myself, but have been told by other extensive bee-keepers, that they have been very seriously troubled in this way. It will probably pay to keep a number of young fertile queens on hand in nuclei.

JUDGE ANDREWS, MCKENNY, TEXAS.—You give no idea of the extent of your losses. Losses of this kind are unusual, but with me not more than five per cent. The causes are bad handling and ordinary mortality. If your losses are greater than mine, I am at sea for the additional cause or causes.

DR. J. C. THOM, STREETSVILLE, ONT.—When I extracted from the brood chamber itself I often lost queens in this way. When brood chamber is often disturbed, loss of queen is likely to occur. I have not had much loss in this way this season; some seasons are worse than others, scarcity of honey may be one cause.

DR. DUNCAN, EMBRO, ONT.—The loss of your queens is unusual. I have not lost one, either old or young, this season. I have raised about thirty and they are all laying now. The cause, in all probability, is disturbing them too often; they will often ball a young queen if disturbed. Sometimes birds catch young queens. It is not often they enter the wrong hive.

H. COUSE, THE GRANGE, ONT.—Such is often the case in spring especially with weak colonies.

and also when bees are disturbed during a dearth of honey, in the latter case it is more prevalent with young laying queens which are more excitable. When the hives are opened they rush wildly over the combs and the consequence is, the queen is balled.

ALLEN PRINGLE, SELBY, ONT.—I have had more loss of queens one way and another this season than during the six or seven previous years combined. In a majority of cases I was able to trace the cause but in other cases I was not able to trace it—perhaps owing to the fact that I had not sufficient time to bestow on the matter. Bees this season have been very perverse in accepting young queens.

BY THE EDITOR.—The season has much to do with it, weather turning cold and honey flow stopping; the slightest jar disturbing the hive sometimes causes them to destroy their queen. When honey is coming in plentifully there is very little danger in handling bees but with a sudden stoppage and cold weather bees become very irritable and queen much more easily disturbed causing her to be balled and destroyed.

SOWING MELILOT CLOVER.

QUERY NO. 101.—I have some light, sandy land, that I have sown to Melilot Clover, and both times it has died out. Once, almost before it germinated, and the other time, after the young plants were an inch or two high. Both times I sowed in spring, with nothing else, and now I wish to be told if any one knows from experience, what is the best time and way to set the ground with the plant in question. I prefer to plant this year, if as well.—J. H.

DR. DUNCAN, EMBRO, ONT.—I don't know any thing about it.

J. E. POND, FOXBORO, MASS.—I know nothing of the subject.

H. D. CUTTING, CLINTON, MICH.—Have had no experience.

O. O. POPPLETON, WILLIAMSTOWN, IOWA.—I cannot succeed, in my locality, in getting me lilot clover to make a good stand.

G. M. DOOLITTLE, BORODINO, N. Y.—Melilot does not thrive here, only in gravelly soil, so I have given up trying to make it grow else where.

H. COUSE, THE GRANGE, ONT.—Have had no