

combs, while allowing the queen unlimited space in newly built cells.

Old queens, with much drone comb built in consequence, and an excess of pollen have much to do with the meagre results reported from some lands enjoying almost continuous sunshine; and where a boundless wealth of bloom would lead us to expect a harvest of ten times the quantity.

IN CONCLUSION

I would request the necessity of working without disturbing the economy of the hive, that the desire to swarm does not exist; making increase when desirable by division as the most profitable method to follow. Use only young queens reared in autumn. Allow plenty of room under the brood nest, which being also a cause of better ventilation, permits of more continuous work being carried on, and at the same time does away with continual shifting of heavy weights as well as useless clay-traps.

SAMUEL SIMMINS.

Mapassa Villa, Seaford, England.

This brought out quite a lengthy discussion. The best bee-keepers are certainly in America not in favor of artificial swarming.

Mr. Boardman had, some years ago, been in favor of the prevention of swarming, but he was not now in favor of such. When he wanted to prevent swarming he shook the bees out of the hive upon empty combs. If after he gets the surplus honey, he wants no increase he returns the bees to the colony having the young queen.

To the question, "For the best results in comb honey, is it desirable to prevent swarming?" 31 said yes it is, fifty-two said no. So it will be seen opinions were pretty well divided. Byron Walker thought the season, its length, had much to do with it, if it had been short it should be prevented.

Mr. Boardman, an extensive bee-keeper, had swarms on scales. He estimated that bees did better after swarming.

Mr. Aiken was so sure better results could be had, either for comb or extracted honey, by preventing swarming by means of dequeening that he challenged the best man in the convention to get as good results from swarming. Upon putting the question to a vote, 49 favored nonswarming for the production of extracted honey, two desired swarming.

It was pointed out that the season, its duration, &c., would make a very great difference. If the season is long and the colonies strong, swarming would give the

better results, if short the prevention would work to better advantage.

Mr. Boardman had during the past season secured 100 pounds of comb honey from swarms and 50 pounds of honey from the old stock.

In reply to a question Mr. Boardman stated he put his new swarms on the old stand.

Byron Walker, in his locality, had 100 pounds of comb honey per colony and get 3,000 pounds of honey from the late flow. Swarming had paid him.

Mr. Jacob Alpaugh, St. Thomas, Ontario, being questioned, did not believe in giving an empty hive underneath the brood chamber. He had practiced this method extensively one season with no good results. In a large number of cases the bees did not accept of them. He would prefer putting the empty chamber above, and so on, this largely prevents swarming. He liked new swarms for comb honey. He lived on a contracted brood nest, spacing the frames very closely. If section supers are on the old hive, he puts them on the new hive with a queen excluder between. If the old section contains no partially finished sections he gives the new swarm new sections at the time of swarming. A slatted honey board may or may not be put between, about this he is not very particular. He hives on starters and puts on a surplus arrangement at once. Mr. Alpaugh has had 100 pounds of comb honey from a swarm and another 100 pounds of extracted honey from the old colony. He hives on a new stand. Mr. Alpaugh made a point which should not be forgotten, one upon which it is our intention to touch upon in an editorial. The statement was: "If one hived on full sheets, one may have re-swarming; if the bees are hived on starters there will be no re-swarming."

EVENING SESSION.

Mr. Muth gave an address on the grading of honey. As the paper has some valuable suggestions in it: we give it in full:

GRADING OF HONEY.

Should there be any change in the ruling adopted at the last International Convention?

The arrivals of shipments of honey in good condition are many times of the same importance as the production of a good crop. After the industrious bee-keeper has put to the test all of his energies for nine or ten months of the year, in order to get his bees in a proper condition by the time that his season begins: and after a good crop has been harvested, the honey is generally sold to dealers in large cities. The safe