

to find them. Choose a fine warm day when most of the bees are engaged in the trees, and the hive is sparsely occupied, she can be detected readily, and the work of searching for her is greatly reduced.

At the close of fruit bloom I aim to have each hive contain, eight solid combs of brood, and two of honey. During the week or ten days of dearth between fruit bloom and clover, place the combs containing the honey in the centre of the brood nest, one first, followed four or five days later by the other. The cappings having been scratched, so that they at once move the honey, feeding their brood more generously, stimulating and encouraging the queen so that she at once deposits eggs in the cell as they are thus emptied, making ten combs of solid brood and the hives ready for supers. By this plan the old honey and dark fruit bloom honey is actually traded off for brood, and the first extracting is all new, white, marketable honey.

Of the work in the honey house and work shop, I need not take your time any more than to say, if one has a large number of colonies to manage, or other work to attend to through the busy season, have all the preparatory work done you can, such as, new hives ready, supers cleaned up, barrels and tins washed, extractor, bee-smoker, and all other appliances in readiness for the rush of the busy season.

Thanking you gentlemen for the kindly hearing you have given me and hoping that these few remarks may provoke a valuable discussion.

Mr. D. W. Heise, Bethesda—The fore part of Mr. Sibbald's paper treats almost exclusively on the management of bees where they are wintered inside. I have never had any experience with indoor wintering, and therefore I am not able to say anything on their management. But the latter parts corresponds so closely with my experience in management that I have nothing to say there; I could not criticise it; the only thing I could possibly say is to emphasize the importance of some of the things he has there outlined.

Mr. R. F. Holtermann, Brantford—I happen to have seen a good deal of the comb honey which Mr. Sibbald has produced. I have seen it time and again on the Toronto market, and I must confess that from that standpoint I received an exceedingly good impression of Mr. Sibbald's ability as a bee-keeper. I have never seen anything, and I have seen it dozens of times on the Toronto market, which would not be a credit

to any bee-keeper. And I wish to say that particularly, because I think, coming from this standpoint, that it always adds value to the paper, and I know that Mr. Sibbald is modest, but I would like to emphasize that point. In his management I see one point—there are many points which are valuable—but one in particular which I believe would bear discussion, and that is the point of converting the honey which comes in early in the spring, which is dark and inferior, into bees. That is a point in successful management. There are so many who won't do that, and the result is not alone that they do not get the bees for the honey, but that honey is taken up in the upper stories of the hive, where for comb or extracted honey it deteriorates the value. I would like to ask Mr. Sibbald a question, whether under all circumstances he advocates the clipping of queen's wings.

Mr. Sibbald—No.

Mr. F. A. Gemmell, Stratford—Did I understand Mr. Sibbald to say that it was necessary to put them on five frames wintering in the cellar?

Mr. Sibbald—That is what I try to do.

Mr. Gemmell—Don't you think that for wintering in the cellar they would be just as good on eight or ten frames?

Mr. Sibbald—No, I don't think so.

Mr. Holtermann—I would like Mr. Sibbald to answer the question I asked him.

Mr. Sibbald—I do, before the swarming season.

Mr. Holtermann—All men keeping bees under different conditions you would advocate the clipping of wings?

Mr. Sibbald—I haven't considered it from any other standpoint than my own.

Mr. Heise—What injury would come from clipping it?

Mr. Holtermann—Of course it certainly comes under Spring Management, the clipping of queen's wings. You know there is a diversity of opinion about the matter. I will tell you the conditions under which I don't like to see queens' wings clipped. If the bee-keeper is not at hand always to catch the queen when she issues from the hive, then she is very likely to be lost, when many a swarm wouldn't lose the queen if her wings were not clipped and the beekeeper were there within a few minutes to get the swarm.

Mr. Gemmell—I think in the matter of clipping queens' wings everybody has to use their own judgment. Mr. Sibbald advocates the clipping of queens' wings, so do I, and I guess if a majority of hands were shown here they would favor it. You have to use your own judgment. I would