

year, something unusual in his locality. This is a free country, and friend Holtermann has the right and liberty to overhaul brood-nests, clip queens, etc., in the middle of January if he wishes, but in our locality bad results of such unnecessarily early manipulations have so thoroughly convinced me of the fallacy of the same that I would not overhaul the brood-nests in March, even if paid 25 cents per colony for so doing. To my mind, about the only excuse for looking into colonies in the early spring is to see regarding amount of stores present, and the desired information can be easily obtained without lifting out a single frame. During the same warm spell in March that Mr. Holtermann refers to, while driving past a bee-keeper's place I was stopped for a chat and asked to tell why his queens were being "balled." On enquiry I found that he had been going through the colonies, seeing how many frames of brood each one had, and while looking at one stock headed by a queen bought last fall he noticed a bunch of bees on the bottom-board. As quickly as possible he smoked the bees and released the queen, and thought she would be all right, but half an hour later he found her in the grass in front of the hive. He had happened to see this queen balled, and I was not surprised to hear a few weeks later that a number of his bees had turned up queenless. While I am not insinuating that like results would follow friend Holtermann's manipulations, I do contend that they are entirely unnecessary and, with the average bee-keeper, extremely dangerous. Mr. Holtermann says that if bee-keepers would daub propolis over their fingers before catching queens to clip them, that no evil results would follow. That advice is not necessary in our locality—the stuff will get there without having to go to the trouble to "put it on." I have

had my fingers so badly daubed that the queens' legs would adhere to such an extent that I was afraid they would be pulled off. D. W. Heise and some other apiarists I know follow the plan of greasing the fingers with vaseline or some other emollient to overcome the difficulty. To be sure, propolis does not adhere to one's fingers in March to the same extent as it will during hot days, when queen-clipping is usually done.

How Can Our Local Associations be of Most Benefit to the Bee-keepers?

The annual meeting of the York County Association was held in Markham on May 23rd, and was largely attended. The Association was fortunate in being favored with the presence of Mr. P. W. Hodgetts, Secretary of the Ontario Association, who addressed them on the above-named topic. Mr. Hodgetts spoke much along the same lines as when at Brantford, and assured his listeners that the Department of Agriculture were willing and anxious to help along the industry by any means in their power. Co-operation among the bee-keepers, especially regarding foul brood suppression, was very necessary, as without this it was very hard for even the Government to do anything very effectual. Mr. Hodgetts was in favor of field meetings to be held in some apiary, where demonstrations could be made relative to the practical side of bee-keeping. The idea seemed to meet with much favor on the part of those present, and Mr. Hodgetts was assured that if he would attend such meetings he would receive some "pointers." In the discussion that followed Mr. Hodgetts' address the foul brood question seemed to be uppermost in the minds of all present and before Mr. Hodgetts left on the afternoon train the following resolution was presented and carried unanimously:

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Should a be or run bee-ke some other bus matter depend there are sever involved. It first, and ther which he is loc There are so specialists, and and thoughts the one thing th cessful; but if t in the fire they the ground, whi there are men ning several co a man is locate best thing to a bees, and there ergy any man n ing of out-apia queens, and gen business, as also ketting the produc A man who is a s likely to make h well, where the c