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C. A. ZAVITZ,
Director.

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OF RE-QUEENING.

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e honey flow. If he does,

he puts his hive in possession of a new, young and vigorous queen that will give him a young, active, vigorous lot of bees to go into winter quarters. They will also be effective for gathering a fall flow if he has one. But, the prime point in this is that he has a new queen put in his hive immediately after the close of the white honey, which will give him a vigorous stock of young bees to go through the winter. This is one of the first requisites for good wintering. Having your good stock for winter, I will assume that you know how to winter your bees. That is no part of our present discussion. We will assume your hives have gone into winter quarters and wintered well. You have a minimum of chances that you are going to lose your queen during the winter because she is a new, young and vigorous queen, and the probabilities are she will come through the winter more successfully than if she were an old queen.

Having come through your winter you enter into your spring work. As you enter into it you have also the assurance and the further satisfaction that you have a young and vigorous queen in your hive. You know that other things being equal she is going to be able to stock that hive well with young bees, and you are going to come into your summer flow with a good hiye full of bees. During the time that breeding is heavy, just prior to the white honey flow, (and also during the flow), see to it that your queen is laying—laying to her utmost capacity. To insure this care must be taken that the brood nest is not so crowded with honey and capped brood that she will have no empty cells in which to lay. If this crowded state occurs—and it is very likely—lift frames of honey or frames of capped brood to the upper storey, replacing same with empty comb below, thus providing her with ample room in which to lay. She will not exceed that which the bees will take care of. By thus keeping the brood chamber roomy you eliminate that

crowded feeling that prompts the desire to swarm. Swarming is largely prevented by giving abundance of room on top, and avoiding a crowded brood chamber. The man who will thus manipulate the brood chamber will get the bees, and having the bees he will get the honey. At the end of the honey flow you have done with that queen—you have exhausted her—and you will renew her again; and so the process will go on. This to my mind is the philosophy and utility of re-queening. There are subsidiary questions, which might be taken up as to where you are going to get your queens. I presume that the man who requeens knows where to buy his queens, or if he is not buying his queens, that he knows how to raise them, but neither of those questions have anything to do with the question of re-queening. Mr. Sibbald told you the virtues your queen should possess. That was very nice. It was a most desirable thing to get queens possessing all those virtues—all those admirable strains. Perhaps it is my fault, but I have not known where to locate such a queen. It is nice to have a queen that has a good laying strain; and a honey gathering strain; and a mild temper, but for the life of me I do not know where to find such a queen.

If you are raising your own queens you will, of course, select the best queen you have in your yard and breed from her, but whether you are going to get all these various strains in one queen, and whether or not you can buy such a queen, is something I can not advise you upon. But, as a general principle, I am a thorough believer in putting new and vigorous queens in your hives every year.

Mr. Anguish—As Mr. Sibbald said in his outline, this is one of the most important things to the bee-keeper. I say it is the most important thing in bee-keeping—that is looking after your-queens. As soon as the honey flow is about at a close I re-queen my yard all over as much