

QUERIES AND REPLIES.

UNDER THIS HEAD will appear Questions which have been asked, and replied to, by prominent and practical bee-keepers—also by the Editor. Only questions of importance should be asked in this Department, and such questions are requested from everyone. As these questions have to be put into type, sent out for answers, and the replies all awaited for, it will take some time in each case to have the answers appear.

INFLUENCE OF CHLOROFORM ON BEES.

QUERY No. 154.—Please inform me if bees fall from their combs when put under the influence of chloroform. For instance, if I were to place chloroform under a box hive would all the bees fall from the combs. (2) How long would it take them to recover from its effects.—R. L. C., Lyndhurst.

S. T. PETTIT, BELMONT, ONT.—Never tried chloroform.

H. D. CUTTING, CLINTON, MICH.—Cannot say from experience.

G. M. DOOLITTLE, BORODINO, N.Y.—Have never used chloroform.

M. EMIGH, HOLBROOK, ONT.—I never used chloroform, so can't say.

O. O. POPPLETON, HAWK'S PARK, FLORIDA.—Have had little or no experience with chloroform.

ALLEN PRINGLE, SELBY, ONT.—I have never used chloroform on bees. Mr. Jones is the man to answer this question.

S. CORNEIL, LINDSAY, ONT.—Don't know. Never tried it but once, and that time I failed to introduce a five dollar queen.

PROF. A. J. COOK, LANSING, MICH.—They do fall. The length of time for recovery varies according to degree of anæsthesia produced, from a few minutes to hours. I should not recommend profound coma in such cases.

DR. J. C. THOM, STREETSVILLE, ONT.—Never gave the chloroform to the point of complete insensibility. The bees would mostly fall on the bottom-board; in eight or ten minutes they would revive. Why, do you ever want to use chloroform in any operation about bees? It is never necessary.

BY THE EDITOR.—Chloroform is very heavy, and that would not be a good way to administer it. It should be blown in by a smoker. Some of the bees would fall, while others would remain on the combs. We have frequently, when experimenting, given them so much that they would be attached to the combs in every conceivable position.

(2) From five to ten minutes after the hive is opened, unless a very large dose was given them, then it might take longer.

WILL BEES CEMENT WOOD TO TIN WITH PROPOLIS.

QUERY No. 155.—Where wood is laid on tin in the hive will the bees use propolis on the tin to such an extent as to stick them all together?—R. L. C. Lyndhurst.

O. O. POPPLETON, HAWKS PARK, FLA.—Yes.

G. M. DOOLITTLE, BORODINO, N. Y.—Should say they would if they had free access to it.

S. CORNEIL, LINDSAY, ONT.—Don't know. They do not put much propolis on tin.

DR. J. C. THOM, STREETSVILLE, ONT.—Yes, very little propolis is necessary to cause them to adhere.

H. D. CUTTING, CLINTON MICH.—In this locality they will, but not quite so much as wood on wood.

M. EMIGH, HOLBROOK, ONT.—Yes but propolis don't stick so solid to tins as it does to wood.

DR. C. C. MILLER, MARENGO, ILL.—I don't know but they will put just as much propolis on the tin as on the wood.

S. T. PETTIT, BELMONT, ONT.—Propolis does not adhere as tenaciously to tin as it does to wood, but the bees will use it all the same.

ALLEN PRINGLE, SELBY, ONT.—Yes, bees will use propolis wherever they want to and can, whether on wood, tin or any other metal.

BY THE EDITOR.—If the wood so rests on the tin that it leaves much of a crack, the bees will usually place a little propolis along the crack. A little grease on the tin will prevent them from sticking propolis.

SUNDRY SELECTIONS.

An Indiana farmer, who told his boys to burn every bumble-bees' nest they found on the farm, and who was complaining at the failure of his clover seed crop, was surprised when Maurice Thompson, the naturalist, said: "That is why your clover seed fails you. Bumble-bees make your clover seed." It is a fact that a strong nest of bumble-bees in a big clover field is worth \$20 to the owner; for these insects are the chief agents in fertilizing the blossoms, thereby insuring a heavy crop of seed. In Austria there are no bumble-bees of our kind, and they could not raise clover seed until they imported some.