

happens that some queens and bees are "unusually large," it is from some other cause, and not from the fact that the cells were extra large as some seem to think. He asks those who are so enthusiastic on rearing large queens from large cells where they are going to draw the line as to size. Why don't they make cell cups half as large as a hen's egg, and raise queens proportionately large? Rats! Mr. Alley, what are you giving us? why we would have to build henneries to house them in.

"To prevent swarming. When bees show signs of swarming, and upper story is on, raise it and put excluder between. Put in upper story queen cells, also two or three frames of brood, make entrance at rear end of upper story. As soon as the young queen begins to lay, dispose of old queen, and remove excluder, and work is done. The colony has not been without a laying queen at any time; and the young queen will not swarm no matter how many bees are added."—J. F. Leel, in *Gleanings*. Editor Root does not think it safe to assume that such colonies would not swarm, and thinks Mr. Leel will agree with him if he tries the plan on a large scale. If this Picker went to the trouble to re-queen at that season (when bees are showing signs of swarming) he would not consider it any benefit to have the colony without a laying queen at any time, but rather a detriment; where a fall flow can be had it may be an advantage.

In my last notes I reported a case of bad wintering. Now at this date, May 10th, I am pleased to say that, after a thorough examination, I find the bees in better condition than I had anticipated. While my loss is 25%, those left, excepting a few, are in a prosperous condition. Their only salvation lay, however, in the propitious weather which obtained since the 12th of April, only about two days during that time that they could not forage. My first experience of leaving honey-dew in the hives for winter stores, has taught me an object lesson, and I now promise NEVER to do it again.

All the bees in this section are out and seem to be strong. Prospects are now fair for another good season as clover is all right, the frost not having affected it up to date. The goods sent are very satisfactory, especially the Holtermann covers. I like them very much.

E. A. BUZZELL.

Rouville Co. Que. Apr. 25, '99.

Moving Bees for Fall Pasture.

—R. F. HOLTERMANN.

During the years 1895, 1896, and 1897, we moved bees after the clover and linden flow to fall pasture, buckwheat being the particular blossom in view. Last year we had 155 colonies within range of buckwheat. For the past three years it has paid us to move the bees. This year we had 173 colonies within range of buckwheat. They were at three different apiaries, and in two of the apiaries the results were satisfactory. The bees built up well, and had plenty of young bees for winter; they also put in ample winter stores for themselves, and gave a surplus in comb and extracted honey which more than paid for the labor expended. The third apiary did nothing at all; the bees when placed there did nothing at all, and although buckwheat was in full bloom, they were continuously on the verge of starvation. Four years of experience and observation, combined with previous experience, have put us in a much better position to judge as to the expediency of moving bees to any location for a honey flow, and while that experience applies to a greater or less extent to the flow from all blossoms, it is particularly applicable to buckwheat which is very susceptible to drouth. Buckwheat is mostly grown on sandy soil; the lighter the soil, the more readily it dries out, and then the honey flow fails. When the weather is dry, and this condition has been prolonged, pasture and crops generally feel the effects, and under such circumstances it is not advisable to move bees to the vicinity with the expectation of a return in honey.

The bees had better be held in readiness to move, and should copious showers come, with buckwheat still in blossom, and the time when frost may be expected still remote, they can be moved. The two apiaries referred to above gave good results, simply because there had been plenty of rain in the vicinity; the third apiary, only nine miles distant, gave no return, because little or no rain had recently fallen in that locality.

EXPERIENCE IN MOVING BEES.

Bees in July and early August that are able to use two and three comb honey