

making another, I would not make it any smaller.

J. E. POND, FOXBORO, MASS.—Cover the hive that is being examined with a bee-tent made either of wire-cloth or mosquito-netting. As the *best* is called for, I give my view above as to that.

S. T. PETTIT, BELMONT, ONT.—Well, I guess just about the best way is to let your bees alone at such times. But if absolutely necessary to open a hive use a bee tent. But in fact I have never used one for any purpose whatever.

BY THE EDITOR.—In this robbing business an ounce of prevention is better than a pound of cure. When the bees once get started, it requires a great deal of care and good management. Leave no honey about; leave no hive open unless protected by a wire tent; give them no chance to commence, and you will not be troubled with robbing; but should they begin, cold water thrown on hay placed over the entrance, will stop them almost instantly. A wet bee will neither fight nor rob; crawling down through the hay wets them, and the dry bees in the hive soon despatch them. Fine brush, straw, or grass may be used where hay is not obtainable. If wet grass is used, it must be laid on sticks placed over the entrance.

#### QUEEN NOT LAYING EARLY IN SEASON.

QUERY No. 85.—I purchased a colony of bees and queen last summer. The queen laid well last season, but so far (May 8th) has done nothing this year. Can you tell me the cause? Think she was a young queen when I received her?—J. A.

G. M. DOOLITTLE, BORODINO, N.Y.—Is probably failing. Some queens die of old age when not over six months old.

M. EMIGH, HOLBROOK, ONT.—Can't say what is the cause. Queens, like anything else, are liable to go wrong at any time.

S. T. PETTIT, BELMONT, ONT.—I cannot. But, my friend, all things mortal are liable to fail and even die. Queens form no exception.

S. CORNEIL, LINDSAY, ONT.—Give the bees all the warm syrup they will take for several days. If she does not start under this treatment she is worthless.

PROF. A. J. COOK, LANSING, MICH.—I should suppose she had failed. I never keep such a queen long, especially in early spring when the

bees are unable to supercede her.

DR. J. C. THOM, STREETSVILLE, ONT.—I cannot but suggest that you may not have fed previous to May 8th, and may be in a locality destitute of early bloom, and therefore she has not had the stimulus necessary for prolific deposition of eggs.

ALLEN PRINGLE, SELBY, ONT.—If the colony has plenty of honey and pollen, and the temperature of the hive is high enough for brooding, something is wrong with the queen. She is diseased, naturally inferior, old, or something else; just what, I cannot say.

O. O. POPPLETON, WILLIAMSTOWN, IOWA.—This is liable to occur with any queen, at any age, and under all circumstances. Causes are numerous, but it is impossible to even guess at the cause in this case, without knowing the circumstances better.

DR. C. C. MILLER, MARENGO, ILL.—Possibly the bees have no pollen, although there are few localities where this could be on May 8th. There is a great difference in queens. Some seem old the second season and are superseded. Or, as you say nothing about the size of colony, the cluster of bees may be too small.

J. E. POND, FOXBORO, MASS.—Probably the colony is too weak, to allow of caring for much brood, this early in the season. It may be there is a lack of pollen in the hive, and but little to be gathered from the field. Possibly lack of stores is at the bottom of the trouble; but any attempt at an answer is mere guess work, owing to lack of information as to condition of matters.

BY THE EDITOR.—It is no uncommon thing for the queen to cease laying or be superseded the second season. She may have been injured in some way.

Cayuga Advocate.

#### HALDIMAND BEE-KEEPERS' ASSOCIATION

THE Haldimand Bee-Keepers' Association met at Hagersville on Saturday, 5th June, pursuant to adjournment.

Present—Wm. Kindree, President, in the chair, and Messrs. James Armstrong, R. W. Beam, W. Atkinson, H. Smith, F. Rose, J. D. Rae, W. T. Anthony, W. A. Jones, M. Richardson, Daniel Rose, Robt. Coverdale, Joseph Carter, Hugh Stuart, John Kindree, Wm. Brown, David Anguish, J. D. Rutherford, D. Jeffrey, R. S. McGill, W. Richardson, Geo. B. Stephenson, and the Secretary.

The minutes of last meeting were read and approved.