

combs removed, the bees being crowded up on as few combs as possible. When the packing is removed, each alternate hive is moved ahead a little ways, and the other hives moved back a little, and then in a few days the distances are increased until the hives are sufficiently scattered. As soon as the bees are crowded for room the combs are spread and empty combs are put in the centre. This is usually done for the first time just before the harvest from white clover. A week or ten days later the colonies are again gone over, and the combs of sealed brood in the centre shifted to the outside; the outside combs that are largely filled with honey, being moved to the centre of the brood nest. At the opening of the bass wood flow the brood nests are again overhauled, and this shifting process gone through with; but, in many instances, in fact almost instances, that is, if the colony is strong enough, two combs of bees and brood are taken away and used in starting a nucleus, their places in the centre of the brood nest being filled with empty combs. Each nucleus is furnished with a queen cell, the quantity of which will be found in the overhauling the colonies. The empty combs that are placed in the centre of the brood nest at the last overhauling, are usually filled, to a great extent with honey; but as the flow begins to slack up, the honeys will be removed and used in starting what sections may be on the next day. It is astonishing how a colony so treated will go on finishing the sections after the flow from bass wood is over.

With this management there is a little swarming, and as the bees are clipped, the swarm always comes, and usually the queen gets into her own hive. If she does the fact is shown at the next examination. Mr. Koeppen says

that if he can get around and examine each colony as often as once a week there is practically no swarming. Upon reaching an apiary, if there is not time to go over the whole number of colonies, the strongest ones are selected for that purpose.

Comparing one location with another, Mr. Koeppen believes that it is more profitable to keep not more than 50 colonies in one location. None of his apiaries are nearer each other than three miles. His principal honey resources are white and alsike clovers, and basswood. One of his apiaries was located near a river-bottom, and he often secured 25 lbs. of surplus in the fall, from this yard, when nothing was secured from the others.

During the last three years that he was in Michigan he secured on an average each year 20,000 pounds of comb honey.

His wife was a Virginia girl, and she persuaded him to move to her old home, else I presume he would still be piling up comb honey in Michigan.

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In the absence of Mr. Gemmell the President called on Mr. Holmes to open the discussion on the paper.

Mr. Holmes: Will you kindly excuse me?

The President: We will consider the question open for discussion from any quarter.

Mr. Hall: Mr. Hall is not capable of managing 500 colonies of bees for comb honey. I would like to hear from someone that is. I am behind the age, I am not up to that. Perhaps I am too old; perhaps I am too lazy.

Mr. Frith: My experience is that our larger bee-keepers are gradually moving away from the large quantities of bees, but if a man can overtake 500 colonies and do it himself well