

bees so late in the season. "Fall flowers" are too uncertain.

ALLEN PRINGLE, SELBY, ONT.—You can do so, but I would not recommend it. Usually they would not be strong enough for winter.

G. M. DOOLITTLE, BORODINO, N.Y.—It might answer, but I would prefer to let them do the necessary dividing by swarming before basswood.

H. D. CUTTING, CLINTON, MICH.—Not knowing your locality, I cannot give to you a satisfactory answer, but in my locality you could.

R. McKNIGHT, OWEN SOUND.—That depends on your yield from fall flowers. In ordinary localities it is not wise to divide after basswood blooms unless you are prepared to feed largely.

PROF. A. J. COOK, LANSING, MICH.—Very likely yes. And quite likely no. I should not fear to try it here. I could unite in fall if I wished to. I have done just this several times.

JAMES HEDDON, DOWAGIAC, MICH.—We could here, and do it successfully too. Of course much depends on how it is done, and what material you have to aid the bees with, how good the season is, etc.

EUGENE SECOR, FOREST CITY, IOWA.—If as you say, there are plenty of fall flowers I see no objection to the plan you propose. Bees in this locality will do finely if they swarm after the basswood harvest.

W. M. BARNUM, ANGELICA, N.Y.—Yes; but why divide your bees; why not allow at least one natural swarm, you will thus get more honey and more value. Natural swarming has not yet been improved upon.

G. W. DEMAREE, CHRISTIANBURG, Ky.—In my locality it would be a failure four times out of five to divide my bees that late in the season, unless I was willing to feed as much as the increase was worth.

WM. McEVoy, WOODBURN.—The chances are that you would not make it a success, as the risks are too great. Divide your bees in the swarming season, and build all colonies up good and strong before the basswood season closes.

A. B. MASON, AUBURNDALE, OHIO.—Certainly you can if you wish to, and know how. A good

location means plenty of honey, but fall flowers, although plenty in this locality, frequently fail to yield nectar. You must judge of your own locality.

G. A. DEADMAN, BRUSSELS.—If you wish increase there would be no risk in dividing full colonies if each half is given a laying queen. I have no doubt but that each part would build up strong for winter and make as good, if not better, colonies the next year than if not so divided. I would not give much though for the surplus honey you would get.

J. K. DARLING, ALMONTE, ONT.—Would not like to divide so late in the season, sometimes a colony will gather a full winter supply after the first of August. This, however, is in very exceptional cases in this locality. If the querist's locality and the average length of his honey flow were known, the answers could be given more definitely.

J. E. POND, NORTH ATTLEBORO, Mass.—You can divide your bees before moving as well as after, but whether it would be advisable or not, depends upon so many possibilities not stated, that I cannot say. I divide bees any time when I think they can build up, but I always use the nucleus system, described by myself several years ago.

SUNDRY SELECTIONS.

Judge W. H. Andrews says in Am. B. J.: "Ninety-five per cent. of all the bees in North America, kept by professionals and their neighbors, are just mongrels."

WM. W. S.—I find the JOURNAL very useful and enclose renewal of my subscription. 'In the fall of 1887 I placed 29 colonies in the cellar, brought 11 through in a very poor state; increased to 14; took about 50 pounds of extracted honey. Packed the 14 stocks in chaff; last fall three of them seemed to be diseased; they come out and get lost in the snow. Would like to know what is the cause of the disease, also if anything can be done for them.

Ronson, Feb. 19th, 1889.

EARLY POLLEN GATHERING IN ENGLAND.

Bees were carrying in pollen in my apiary on the 5th December, 19th January, and 17th February. On the 5th December I saw swallows—three (*Hirundo urbana*)—flying; Markham gives an instance of their appearance on Dec. 8th; wall-flowers, and colored primroses, were in bloom. On the 19th January, wall-flowers, primroses and snowdrops in bloom; and on the 17th February, together with the before mentioned flowers, I saw a few catkins of the willow in the surrounding copses.—W. B. WEBSTER, in B.B.J.