

swarm. We must prepare a hive to receive it. There is first a bottom board. On that I place an empty case. On top of that we put a case of comb. If you haven't a frame of drawn comb have one filled with foundation. Then a cover. Now we will suppose the swarm in this hive is issuing. Provide yourself with a little cage and plug for the end of it. As your queens are clipped, they cannot fly. The swarm issues and you go to the front of your hive, and you examine the ground in front of it and you will find the queen there if she is out. You pick her up and put her into this cage and fasten her there and put her in your pocket, or lay her down where she will be safe, and you are master of the situation at once. The swarm will not go away without their queen. Now, as soon as we have caught that queen and the swarm is out of the hive you are ready for operations.

You lift the upper cases off your hive and set them down anywhere. Take the brood case off and set it to one side. Take this other hive which you have prepared, place it on the stand where this one came off. If you have a honey board, put it on, or take the one off the other and put it on. Take the upper cases removed from the other hive that the bees have been working in, bees and all, and put them on the new hive. Cover up the parent colony, pull up two or three handfuls of grass and close that entrance, or else move the hive a little way off, so that the bees on returning will not go back. Now, your queen that you have got in the cage place at the entrance of the new hive, and in a few minutes the swarm will come back. When they start back seeking their old home the new hive is ready for them, and the queen is at the entrance. As soon as they have started in take the cage, remove the plug from it and let the queen run in with the bees, and the

bees will go in and go to work. You leave them in that condition for two days, when you begin to again operate on them. You need this arrangement again. (Refers to table.) If you can lift your hive bodily upon this, so much the better. You quiet the bees with the smoker, as before, put the cover on the hive and lift it bodily on to the stand. You will remember that this lower apartment is simply an empty case. The reason why that is put on is, if you run your swarm into one of these single cases, the chances are they will leave it the day following. This lower case is simply put on to hold the bees till they are established. A double brood chamber is far too large. You won't get the results from it that you will from the single one. You blow a few puffs of smoke until the cluster has run up into the upper case. You can take your hand and pull out any little bit of comb that is built. Pick the hive up leaving the empty case, and put it down on its stand again. Put back these cases. If that colony of bees is ever going to do work, it is going to do it now. The one thing you will have to watch is to keep them supplied with cases. If the honey flow is good, and the swarm is strong, it will surprise you how fast they will fill them. The only thing you need to watch is, don't let them get honey-bound. In filling these cases in ordinary seasons with comb honey, when the honey flow is strong, about once a week you will have to add a case. Sometimes it runs from five to six days and other times two weeks.

The next operation is to look into the parent colony. It is going to cast a second swarm in about eight or ten days, and that is something we don't want. As soon as this new colony is settled I move the parent colony around. Some time during the week I will take it and move it around

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