

off and turning the other queen out, or putting her in a condition to get out. After 20 years' trial I do not think that that statement is in a bee book, or in any bee literature that has not come directly from my mouth in reporting something that I have said in a convention about it.

Dr. Miller—Allow me to speak and say right here that Mr. Abbott perhaps never reads anything I write, or he would not say that sort of thing.

Mr. Abbott—I beg your pardon, then. It is not in any book.

Dr. Miller—It is in the "American Bee Journal."

Mr. Abbott—I have said it in the "American Bee Journal" several times, commenced about 25 years ago, and I have been saying it ever since. I want to say again, for the benefit of those who have not heard me say the same thing, that I never make a colony queenless. I do not rear queens any more, but on every cage I find directions, and those directions I invariably tear off because they say to make the colony queenless 48 hours, and then introduce the queen.

Dr. Bohren—Do you simply remove the queen, destroy her, and turn the other one loose?

Mr. Abbott—No, sir. When I have a queen or half a dozen queens that I want to keep I put them on top of the frames of a colony and leave them there two or three days. If I want to introduce one of those queens I hunt out the old queen, pinch her head off and turn one of the others free. If I wanted the old queen free in the hive day after to-morrow, having introduced one to-day, I would take that old queen out, put her into a cage and turn another one free, and in a very little while the queen in the cage is out on the combs laying, and the bees never know they have been queenless. They have no feeling of resentment towards

those queens in the cage any more than they have to the one free on the combs. They are just as friendly with any one of the five queens on top of the frames as the one in the hive laying eggs, and they take one just as well as another. What is the use of killing the queen and having them start queen-cells, which they will in 48 hours, and take the chances of their killing the queens? When they start cells they are antagonistic to any queen, even their own queen.

Dr. Miller—How long after you put that queen in before the bees liberate her?

Mr. Abbott—I fix it so that she will be out in an hour—not to exceed an hour.

Mr. Whitney—I purchase a considerable number of queens usually, and I have been anxious to find the best way of introducing queens, having tried various methods. I heard Mr. Abbott give his method of introducing queens here, a couple of years ago, I think, and thought I would try it. I sometimes get a half-dozen queens in rainy weather. Perhaps there will be two or three days of bad weather; I can't introduce them. I know what colonies I wish to introduce those queens to, and I distribute them around over the frames and leave them there till the weather clears up so that I can introduce them, and then I remove the old queens and let young queens free immediately. I have never lost a queen, when introducing them in that way. Of course, I would do the same thing if the weather were not bad, but it is a convenience if the weather is bad, to take this plan of doing it, and it never fails under any circumstances with me. Always place the queens over the frames of the colony in which you wish to introduce them, without removing the little pasteboard or cork

and when them, remove her over the hive and liberate her; and, as do not the bees in the on laying moment of and the new think it is known.

Mr. Wilcox—her over the her between

Mr. Whitney—that; but I entrance of ces are wide enough.

Dr. Miller—cool weather

Mr. Whitney—no. I would But I merely it in warm w of hives there for it.

Mr. Wheeler—the attendant the queen? I

Mr. Whitney—themselves, or care of them.

to them at all Mr. Abbott—will do no harm

Mr. Kimme—queen loose in opening so that

Mr. Whitney—through and put and let the queen remain in the and the bees will often run out I let them free as Ordinarily they several minutes

Mr. Hutchins