

of swarming, if they build just ahead of the queen they will have an idea that they are going to be crowded soon and will build more drone comb. As for supers being placed on bees I think there should be very good care taken to have them down very tight so as not to allow any light or air to pass through. Draughts, even though very slight, hinder the building of combs. Try to protect the bees building comb as much as you can. If you take them out into the air and light they will stop; I would even rather have the supers overlap the body of the hive in order to thoroughly keep the draughts and light from them.

Mr. Darling: Lest I forget, with regard to one thing Mr. Chrysler said that drone comb is build when the bees are affected with the swarming fever, I had a little experience about ten years ago. I think it was ten colonies I thought I would take comb honey from; they were new swarms and as some of you know, I used altogether at that time the old Jones' hive. I placed the swarms on from five to seven frames with starters, put in the perforated metal, gave them the sections behind this perforated metal. Three out of seven I think would have been completely ruined for the next season if I had not overhauled them and taken the combs away and given them some other. There was more drone comb built than worker comb. They were new swarms on starters, and not too much room, and they had only the sections to work in; they did not build the drone comb very fast. Of course, I know people say old queens will be the cause of more drone comb than young queens; in this case I cannot say as to the age of the queens.

Mr. Chrysler: What I meant about the drone comb in contracted frames

was that I think you are liable to get as much, if not more.

Mr. Newton: I must say in regard to Mr. Chrysler's remarks that we do not get anywhere near as much drone comb when contracted as if we left an open space.

Mr. Shaver: Do you and Mr. Chrysler use the same sized hive. I have an idea that Mr. Newton's five frames are equal to Mr. Chrysler's hive.

Mr. Newton: Well, I can tell you this, I have worked with a dozen different hives, and my experience has been the same in every instance, that contracted hives do not produce as much drone comb.

Mr. Sibbald: Comb honey is a part of bee-keeping that I am very fond of. I have given it quite a bit of thought and study, and I think from the paper that Mr. Newton has read that he would be able to produce first-class comb honey. In some things I agree with him, in other things I have a different opinion. He said he used perforated divider on the outside. I would like to ask him why it should be perforated when he wants to retain heat? Why not use an unperforated divider at the outside? Then he uses a half super. Well, I can understand why he would use a half super when he contracts his bees that way up to the centre of the hive, because they would not fill the outside sections so well. I rather think Mr. Chrysler's idea is right in the matter of full hive: and I would rather have swarm starters, not two inches, but half an inch or quarter of an inch, just sufficient to let the bees start, and instead of clustering in the centre they will cluster across the top, and they will start every one of those little starters. You can spread them out