

absence of the queen for one day would, I think, be a damage.

5. They would in some colonies; in many colonies they would not.

ANSWERS BY J. H. MARTIN.

1. For my locality, a swarm in September would be an unheard-of case, and would be returned to the parent stock.

2. Our bees never swarm or have the swarming fever except when getting honey freely. Swarms having an old queen will swarm at such times, but if the queen is very old and unprolific she will be superceded, and, ten times in one, there will be no swarm, or if a swarm issues it will be a small one.

3. It is a good plan to supercede all old and unprolific queens in August or September.

4. I don't know. I have had bees winter from September to February with no brood, but how much longer they would hold out without damage and no queen I am unable to say. It is well known that a queenless colony is usually very uneasy and the bees are constantly leaving the hive until it is completely depleted.

5. I have had fertile workers develop after September 1st.

ANSWERS BY HENRY ALLEY.

1. Destroy the cells, return the bees, and give the colony a new queen. I would kill all queens that should lead off a swarm in September.

2. In my opinion late swarming is owing, as a rule, to the superceding of an old queen; this is why I should destroy the queen that leads a swarm so late in the season.

3. Yes, as stated above.

4. A queen should be introduced late in the fall, as soon as it is known that a colony is queenless. Such a colony would winter unless the queen was lost in July previous; but it would be in bad condition in the spring, so far as the number of bees is concerned, as the bees would be very uneasy all winter and continually getting out of the hive; the sooner re-queened the better.

5. No; fertile workers would not take possession till spring. As soon as the bees can fly, in March or April, the fertile worker will commence to lay eggs. At that time the best plan would be to destroy all; as, if a queen is introduced, the worker bees would continue for a while to fill the cells with eggs, and, before any brood could be reared, the entire colony would disappear.

We have just received from our lithographers several hundred thousand labels of the various kinds, so that those who had labels on order will receive them at once. The price of these is much cheaper this year and we anticipate a larger sale than heretofore.

## BOTANICAL.

For the Canadian Bee Journal.

### HONEY PLANTS.

DEAR SIR:—On returning from my holiday trip I find two plants awaiting identification, sent by C. F. Bridgman, Killdonan, Man.

No 1 is *Symphoricarpus occidentalis*, (wolfberry) belonging to the *Caprifoliaceæ* or honey-suckle family; flowers large, funnel-formed, in close axillary and terminal spikes, white tinged with rose; color. Stamens exserted, corolla bearded within. Found in Michigan and Northwestward.

No. 2 is *Spirea Salisifolia*, (meadow-sweet); family *Rosaceæ*. It is widely diffused throughout Canada and the United States, and is generally found growing in wet meadows and along the banks of streams. Flowers generally white but sometimes tinged with purple.

C. MACPHERSON.

Prescott, Aug 20, 1887.

## SUNDRY SELECTIONS.

### DYSENTERY IN SUMMER.

J. Y. YORKE.—I have one colony of bees that are hanging out all the time and are spotting the hive from top to bottom, and they have not gathered a pound of honey since the 1st of June. They have swarmed twice and they came out every day for two weeks as though they were going to swarm, and they would stay out an hour or two and then cluster on the front the size of a felt hat. Can you tell me what is the cause? and if a subscriber of the BEE JOURNAL can tell me a remedy I will be pleased.

Evergreen Apiary, Wardsville, Ont.

It would appear from the above that your bees have had dysentery, and yet we do not know how to account for that in the summer season. It is quite a usual thing for bees to lay out during the hot weather after their hive is filled with honey and even if you had sections on the hive. If they had stored it pretty full of honey and reduced the brooding space down very small they sometimes refuse to enter the sections, but if they have gathered no honey since the 1st of June they should have had all their honey consumed long ago unless they had a large stock on hand. Last season many colonies gathered large quantities of honey dew (or bug juice as some call it.) If they had a large stock of that on hand and were consuming it no doubt it would affect them some-