

Some of those who are in the position of doing a great deal of good or harm according to the wisdom

Requeening in or otherwise of what Spring. they advocate have been favoring the

requeening of colonies in the spring of the year. Some of us who write much have a strong influence upon bee-keepers at large, and we should remember that it is our duty to advocate what will do no harm and to be too cautious rather than over venturesome. We may at times require correction along this line. We know that we feel sure about points which others dispute, and because we doubt that requeening in the spring of the year pays it may yet be the proper thing. As we look upon it at the present time we incline to condemn it. Our arguments are as follows. A good queen should not have lost her full vigor the second season or if requeening be done during the honey flow or at its close she should yet be in her full vigor within a year of her birth. This being the case the hive need not be disturbed for this purpose at this season. We have heard the argument that the hive need not be queenless for any length of time, but in practical experience we all know that in the purchasing of queens, their shipment, the taking out of the old, the introduction and acceptance of the new are matters that do not always run smoothly. The order may not be shipped promptly, early in the season. When they arrive it may not be favorable weather for hunting up the old queens, and the conditions may be yet more unfavorable for keeping queens which have had a long journey already outside the hive. Then at that time it is by no means certain that the queen will be safely introduced. We know the argument that may be used, how *reasonably* certain it *generally* is that the queens will be accepted we grant that but sometimes when the honey flow has slackened quite a percentage is lost, and that means a very serious set back to a colony. Days are lost and each day not only decreases the

output of young bees but it otherwise demoralizes the hive. Many an inexperienced bee-keeper has lost his hive of bees by thus tampering with them at this time, and amongst the better bee-keepers we can find some who have had colonies which have taken the entire season to build up. Again if we are careful bee-keepers, love our work and our bees, we should have, or at least we should think we have, a blood in our apiary which we would not readily exchange. How can we breed a strain of desirable bees by requeening our apiary every spring, how promote longevity? And now comes another point: Is it in the interest of the northern part of this continent to get our stock from the south? When such wide-awake bee-keepers as we find belonging to Vermont State say queens should be brought from the north it is time we gave this matter careful consideration. Because they can be bought earlier and at the lowest price from the south does not go to show that they are the best to buy. Certainly the fact that some find it to their profit to requeen every spring with queens from the south demonstrate practically that the queens fail sufficiently in prolific qualities in one year, to go to the trouble and expense of requeening, we should want a stronger argument in favor of the system.

We should be pleased to have the views and experiences of others and if they conflict with our own views all the better.

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Although it will be months before the North American Bee-Keepers' Association meets at Toronto, we The Toronto have not been idle. The Convention. splendid auditorium in connection with the Normal School has been secured for the convention. This is situated in a very desirable part of the city of Toronto. The Toronto Industrial Exhibition apiarian prize list has been increased about \$100, and other advantages have been secured. The prize list has been changed to encourage less extensive exhibits and we want a good