

that; just give them the sealed comb and rest your queen.

Mr. Walton: When do they commence to breed in the other case?

Mr. McEvoy: Later on; as they consume a little more and more the season is getting further on towards the spring, and you can get more fly-days; you have rested your bees and you have saved them. I am speaking from experience.

Mr. McKnight: Does not your system prevent bees from clustering?

Mr. McEvoy: No.

Mr. McKnight: I understood you to say that all the bee had to do was to lean forward?

Mr. Gemmell: They are clustered on the honey.

Mr. McKnight: They are practically spread over the comb.

Mr. Gemmell: Oh, yes.

Mr. McEvoy: They are all crowded up solid, and some of them are behind the division board. Speaking of the division board I would like to improve on the division board. I like to have my bee space on the top and bottom, and if I do happen to crowd a few they will get in there. I don't want division boards to fit so close that I have to rip them up.

Mr. Gemmell: I have contracted in the fall and they wintered first rate, because there was no space for the queen, and in the spring they boomed right along.

Mr. Darling: Reference has been made to the strong colonies breeding early. I know what some of my experience has been. The seasons vary greatly in the eastern part of Ontario. I have seen me put out good strong colonies in the latter part of April or first of May with scarcely any young bees in the hives; I have seen me put out strong colonies in the last week of March and first of April

and I have found young bees crawling over the combs by the 10th of April.

Mr. Hall: Mr. Heise's paper spoke of wintering them outside and with a very large population there will be more deaths than with a small population; for instance the city of Toronto has more deaths than the locality where Mr. Darling lives simply because there are more to die; the dead bees clog the entrance and smother the balance.

Mr. McKnight: For twenty years or more I have had more or less that were not crowded, sometimes ten and fifteen; I guess this year I have about ten crowded on five combs, but I noticed in the spring of the year—take the ten or fifteen that were not crowded, although they had the weight, was heavy with honey, they would not average up the fifteen crowded ones.

Mr. Dickson: Some would agitate doubling up and trying to keep your colonies, but I say it is all very well for an amateur to try that, but since we have carried on the business exclusively we have found it does not pay to double up, neither does it pay to doctor a poor colony in the spring; let them go.

Mr. Holmes: My experience in the matter of the small colonies tallies exactly with what Mr. Hall told us. On more than one occasion it has happened to me that the small colonies have come up and done excellent work, as good as those of a great deal more pretentious dimensions.

Mr. Armstrong: My experience has been about the same as Mr. Hall's with his nuclei: when I put two or three colonies together and put them into proper shape as a general thing they were my best colonies in the spring, that is, if they did not start breeding before the spring. I have