

Mr. Hall—So long as their daughters are in love with them.

Mr. Gemmell—If you get good queens in the start that way is all right.

Mr. Hall—I got no great trouble, but any queen of 1891 I can lay my hands on conveniently this season I destroy unless I want to breed from her. Undesirable queens I destroy sooner.

Mr. Holtermann—If you have a choice queen and a choice strain of bees the more quickly you re-queen the more foreign blood you are apt to throw into the apiary and the more quickly you are likely to deteriorate your own stock.

Mr. Holtermann—We have bought twenty colonies of black bees. I do not like to leave the colony for a day without a queen at this season. I have young laying queens. What shall I do.

Mr. Hall—Catch the black queen and introduce the yellow queen immediately with my cage. The bees eat their way through candy.

Something like the Benton cage as far as eating their way through is concerned?

Mr. Hall.—Yes but it is a coil.

Mr. Gemmell—Remove the old queen, tap on the old hive so they fill themselves with honey; when well filled let the young queen run in at the entrance. Remember this is when honey is coming in.

Mr. Newton—I think the best way is when the bees eat their way through the candy.

Mr. Holtermann—I know that is the safest way, our shipping cages are all made on this principle but it means a delay of 24 to 48 hours.

Messrs. Hall and Newton—Twelve to twenty four hours it need be no longer.

Doctor Duncan—Shake the bees in front of the hive and let the queen run in with the bees when filled with honey and smoked there is no danger.

How about five banded Italian bees, is any one present using them?

Mr. Hall—I had some beautiful yellow bees but they are not much use for honey gathering.

Mr. Gemmell—I have tried them but although beautiful to look at they are not of much value.

Mr. Newton—I found them good for stealing honey when other bees were working, but otherwise they are no good. I have had them from several sources.

Mr. Holtermann—I have been hard on these bees but I believe you can beat even me in condemning them.

How do you know when a hive is queenless?

Mr. Hall—By the entrance, when they first miss their queen they run about the

entrance, later they stand at the entrance neither going in or coming out. When you open the hive there is a peculiar mournful hollow noise. With black bees this is more difficult to distinguish from their regular actions. Then absence of the queen, perhaps eggs, and the presence of queen cells. The queen should be looked for.

The meeting then adjourned.

Various Matters.

For The Canadian Bee Journal.

LOSING QUEENS WITH CLIPPED WINGS.

I am asked if many queens are not liable to get lost during swarming time where they have their wings clipped, by their straying so far away from the hive in the grass while the swarm is out, so that they never find their way back to the hive again when the swarm returns. In reply I would say that scarcely a queen need be lost. In fact, I do not know that I ever lost a single queen from this cause, in all my experience with clipped queens, which covers a period of twenty-three years. Where the apiarist is at home when the swarm issues, there should be no trouble in his finding the queen at once, while the good wife or children can let her run into a cage just as well as he, when the apiarist is absent, leaving her at the entrance of the hive till the manager returns. If all are absent, then the queen need not be lost, should she not get back, which thing she will do nine times out of ten, unless the hive is raised on posts so it is not easy for her to find her home. When the bees return, if the queen does not go back to the hive, a few bees will always gather about her, and by walking through the yard and looking on the ground, the apiarist can easily see these ball of bees and pick her up with the bees. I have never known of a case where the queen did not get back to the hive, but what there was a ball of bees with her from the size of a butternut to that of a goose egg.

HOW TO FIND WHERE THEY CAME FROM.

But I think I hear some one ask, "How do you find where the queen came from?" This is not quite as easy as it is to find the ball of bees, but it can be done by any one after they know how. To tell where the bees and queen came from, leave them where you find them till about sunset, or after most of the other bees have stopped flying, when we go and take the queen away from the bees, putting her in a cage, and putting the cage in your pocket or in some place where the bees cannot find her. If this is not done the bees will go