

worth more than the combs or the combs more than the foundation. I suppose Mr. Fixter is not through with the experiments yet.

Mr. Fixter: That is the reason I did not give the figures. We are very glad to have any member of the Association propose any experiments, and we will try and carry them out as far as we are able. We had started the experiment before Mr. McEvoy mentioned it to me, but he brought it to us on different lines. One of the best points that can be brought out is to find out how much more honey can be got from full-drawn comb or full sheets or half sheets or starters—which is the most profitable. I think that was the object.

Mr. Heise: I think Mr. Fixter rather advised hiving swarms on full drawn combs. Do you not find that very often the queen will deposit eggs perhaps in three or four combs, and in the course of a week or ten days will swarm again.

Mr. Fixter: When I hive a swarm on full-drawn combs I always put the paper on at once. My object in hiving on full-drawn combs is to get them so that they do not break the combs down. If you wire and wire well, they cannot break the foundation down. Our advise is more to the ignorant than experienced men, when we advise full-drawn combs if you have them, and if you have not then sheet foundation well wired.

The President: I hived about thirty hives on full drawn combs well filled and I never had a case where they swarmed out.

Mr. Holtermann: I certainly think there is a good deal of danger of the earlier casting of the swarm if you hive on full sheets.

The President: I do not know what the danger is, but I know as a matter of fact my bees do not do it.

Mr. Holtermann: Do you get a basswood flow?

The President: We do not get much of that.

Mr. Sibbald: I think it is wasting comb to hive swarms on them, I would rather have them for top stories. Hiving on full sheets I consider about half as bad, and I think to hive on starters is just right. Mr. Fixter says he wants to put the top story on right away, so that the queen would not lay in too many combs below. Is that the idea?

Mr. Fixter: So that the bees will go to work in the upper story.

Mr. Sibbald: He does not want them to use the comb he has given them. What is the use of wasting a set of combs down there? You might just as well have a few starters or foundation, and have those combs for the top story. It is for extracted honey I am speaking of. Combs are very valuable, and I want all I can get for top stories. One reason for that is that if the queen lays in those combs that are already for her they have a great big family to take care of, and when they raise them they are no use. There is a lack of economy there. In the starters they have not got the brood nest, and the queen cannot lay. She is put on a very small set of combs, as it were, and the bees go up into the supers and store the honey and the work goes along nicely, and we get a good honey crop and we do not have a lot of bees to hatch out the last week of the honey flow; where a person had a buckwheat flow it might be different.

Mr. McEvoy: If you are living in a locality where there is no buckwheat yours would be in pretty poor shape for winter in comparison with the swarm that has a good full comb.

Mr. Chrysler: You hive a colony on full comb and you have a few days of wet weather following, the bees