

ing a new colony of the brood) giving room in the supers and they are safe for another week, but I find it a job lifting the heavy supers and would like to learn of a better and easier way to accomplish the end sought.

Mr. Sibbald: I have had some experience, but my experience is, perhaps, exceptional. My bees were all at home for the winter, and in the spring in moving them, I moved them just before the season, I picking out an average lot to take to the out-yard and put on the supers the day after they were taken there. They went into the supers immediately. The queens were clipped. Friends were there so that if one would swarm they would mark the hive, when I came out they would say, such and such a hive came out yesterday and went back again, and, of course, I would make an examination of that one, and cut out the cells or take away a frame or two or do whatever I saw fit, and in that way I managed first rate, and I was not in the yard very much.

Mr. Hall: But you had a watcher. I had no watcher.

Mr. Walton: Is it advantageous or desirable to put a queen excluder over the entrance?

Mr. Hall: I have not tried it, and I don't like anything over with a heavy stock of bees. It makes them warm, and keeps the drones in.

Mr. Miller: I do not know that I have anything to add to this: it is something I would like to know, but last year I practised a system that worked very well for a time and was prepared to follow it, but found later that it would not work: I should like some information. I made an increase from two colonies by shaking the first colony out and placing that brood on the stand of another colony

that was about to swarm, and in removing the second colony from the location.

Mr. Hall: How long did they stay without getting the swarming fever again?

Mr. Miller: Last season they did not trouble me much.

Mr. Hall: My experience is they remain just eight days and then they swarm again.

Mr. Post: "Necessity is the mother of invention." I used to screen my bees top and bottom as I handled them in carload lots, and I experimented on leaving the bottom board off entirely from say June to September, and I have never been troubled with swarms. From 300 colonies I may get four and five, sometimes ten swarms through a season, but a plan that I would say would be almost sure to keep them from swarming would be as follows: When you put the super on the hive in the spring I would leave the bottom, of course, screened, although there is no bottom boards on it; put the first top story on without a queen excluder, and as they store some honey and put in a little brood, I would raise it and put an empty one under, and then put a queen excluder between the brood chamber and the first top story.

Mr. McEvoy: I do not think you will be understood. You say about screening the bottom—how high up?

Mr. Post: A wire cloth is close on an inch square frame attached by Van Deusen clamps to the bottom.

Mr. Darling: That simply takes the place of the surface of the board work?

Mr. Post: Yes.

Mr. Hall: That is just what I have done the last two years; it is location.