

with the brood?

Mr. Hall: Oh, various things. I don't shake off all the bees first; I set them down along side of the new hive and when I go the next week I make it my business to shake them all off.

QUESTION DRAWER.

Conducted by Mr. Morley Pettit.

Question: The prevention of pollen in section boxes when working on the contraction system and narrow strips of foundation in the brood chamber when hiving swarms?

Mr. Pettit: In hiving swarms on starters we use one worker comb. This one empty worker comb catches the pollen and prevents it going up into the sections. We also find a queen excluder is a help.

Mr. Sibbald: I would not agree with having one empty comb. I think that would start all down below and keep them there. That is not what we want.

Mr. Pettit: I know by experience we do not have that trouble that Mr. Sibbald has mentioned.

Mr. Sibbald: You get your bottoms filled with comb.

Mr. Pettit: They are working in the sections at the same time.

Mr. Sibbald: Slowly and not so fully.

Mr. Pettit: I think this question is a question of locality and those who have not had trouble with pollen in sections do not need to consider it. In some localities the bees do not pollen enough and in others we do not know what to do with it. Unfortunately that is the case in our district.

Mr. Vincent: By putting in one frame of drawn comb when using starters I would like to ask if there will not be more drone comb built?

Mr. Pettit: Yes, that is the objection to the system, but I have

not been able to keep the pollen off in any other way.

Mr. Gemmel: If you limit the number of starters in the brood chamber it will not be so bad—say five starters and one empty comb—the more empty frames you have in the brood chamber the more drone comb you have.

Question: When rendering wax what is the best method of cleaning it of propolis which I find melts and combines with the wax?

Mr. Pettit: The only method I know of is to keep it out of the wax before it goes into the wax extractor.

Mr. Brown: I would like to know how you do that?

Mr. Pettit: We do not find propolis on the combs themselves enough to do any harm except what is stuck on the edges of the top bars and around the frames and when you are scraping frames do not scrape that in with the wax, scrape it outside.

Mr. Post: Will wax and propolis mix?

The President: No.

Mr. Hall: Both in propolis and also in bee pollen if you have two vessels or anything that will keep warm, make it hot and pour it into your vessels and pour some boiling water to fill up. Shut it down with a cloth and leave it to settle and your propolis and pollen will be found at the bottom every time.

Mr. Holtermann: I rather agree with the idea that there is nothing in propolis proper that will melt, it is simply the wax that is in it and I would object, as far as color goes, more to the pollen getting in than the propolis.

Mr. Hall: If you give it time to cool the propolis will be next to your wax and below that the pollen, and the pollen you can wash off with your

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