

than it can be removed with deep combs, as it takes longer to cap or ripen the deep ones entirely. This feature shows a particular advantage when the honey flow slackens up suddenly, as it reduces the amount of ripe honey on the hive. Of course, using shallow supers would accomplish the same purpose on the regular standard depth brood-chamber, but special super accommodation would have to be provided. The narrow combs of the sectional hive may be uncapped with one stroke of the knife. The same is true, however, of the regular Langstroth frames, where they are properly bulged and a long knife is used. However, the firm attachment of the combs in the shallow frames permits less careful handling than is required with deeper frames. Many sectional hive beekeepers state that there is no need of wiring the frames and that thinner foundation can be used. Nevertheless, it is a common practice in Ontario to wire the shallow frames even more because of the thinness of the top-bar.

The difficulty of finding the queen in a divisible hive may be objected to, but the queen need only be seen once in the season, generally in the spring, to note her age and see if she is clipped. The general condition of the colony will tell the experienced beekeeper how the queen is doing. An easy method of finding the queen, which is very effective, is to take a bottom-board, tack a piece of cloth or canvas on same and paint the canvas with crude carbolic acid. Substitute this bottom-board for the bottom board of the hive in question and place a queen excluder

over the brood-chamber. In about 30 seconds the queen will be found on the underside of the queen excluder, having been driven up by the carbolic fumes.

The aim of the divisible hive advocate is to cut every unnecessary manipulation, and it should not be necessary to handle frames if the proper system of management is followed. In a locality where foul brood exists the divisible brood-chamber proposition is not one that will permit economical handling of all its frames.

The cost of the divisible hive owing to the accuracy necessary in the construction of its various parts is an objection often put forward against its use. Especially in those types where closed end frames are used the workmanship needs to be much more exact than that required by other hives. It is due to lack of care in this respect that some beekeepers have been troubled with bur-combs. With ordinary care hives last a life time, and the extra trouble and expense involved at the offset may be amply repaid by the other advantages.

The reader will see for himself that the value of the sectional hive depends, firstly, upon the man who is going to handle it and, secondly, upon the district in which he is going to keep his bees. No hive can claim perfection, and what is suitable for one set of conditions is very often unsuitable for another. In every case it is essential to know the system of management which is the most practicable in the individual case, and then choose the hive which is adapted to the system.