

just been exposed by removing the last comb. As the comb is exposed the bees are quiet and I find a side view of the comb often reveals the queen as the side of the abdomen is a different color and different in appearance from worker bees, more so than if the queen is seen from above. Comb after comb is taken out the bottom and sides of the hive being examined at the same time to see if she is among the bees which may be there. After the second or third comb is taken out the combs are returned to the hive beginning to place them at the outside space following the same order in which they were removed; by maintaining this order the colony is less demoralized. If the queen is not found by going through the first time then a second and more thorough examination is made, but this has been necessary only once out of eight or ten times, and the combs put back in order; when not found unless it is the winding up part of the apiary, the hive is closed up and returned to for examination at some future time. Sometimes a comb will stick or a slip may be made and the bees are frightened on the comb, by the roar imparting that to other bees the stock is no longer in its normally quiet condition. Carelessness and inattention has no place in finding queens, inexperience can be tolerated, the former never. Time and again I have noticed that if some other thought absorbed the mind less queens were found or it took longer to find them. In our apiaries we have learned to find a queen with absolute certainty and fairly rapidly.

INTRODUCING

We rarely if ever kill the old queen any time before the new is introduced, the new queen is introduced the minute after the old is destroyed, we sometimes introduce by

means of the cage system, but I prefer to introduce the new queen with tobacco smoke directly after taking out the old. The entrance must be blocked, and from the top through a small opening the tobacco smoke blown in until the bees lie dizzy at the bottom of the hive when the queen is dropped among them, the cover put on the hive and the entrance opened to the extent of one or two bee spaces. Within the last week we introduced a queen in this way to a stock which had rejected two queens and we decided this would be its last chance if it destroyed this queen it would be hopeless and it would be deprived of hive, combs and stores.

Brantford Ont.

End Staples in Brood Frames

We have several times in these columns expressed our preference for end-staples in the bottom bar of brood frames. An ordinary window blind staple driven into the end bar until it projects 5-16 of an inch affords a valuable safeguard against maiming or killing a queen and greatly facilitates rapid and easy work when manipulating a hive. This idea we learned many years ago in the apiaries of Mr. J. B. Hall, of Canada, have continued it in use ever since, with increasing satisfaction. The big guns of beedom, however, seem to prefer the end staple at or near the top of the frame where it is almost useless, notwithstanding our humble protests upon several occasions. It was therefore gratifying to learn, during Mr. Coggs's visit, that he invariably uses the staple in the end of the bottom-bar, where it is of genuine service to the rapid manipulator.—
Editor, American Bee-Keeper.