

comb honey, I would say that the size of the hive hadn't so much to do with it as the size of the colony. A strong colony, I always find, produces comb honey much better than a weak one. I find no difference between the eight, ten and twelve-frame, only so far as the strength of the colony affects it, and the size of the clover field, too, has a little to do with it.

Mr. Holtermann—I learned a very good thing from Mr. Sibbald last year in connection with the strength of the stock. You know we can't get every stock the same strength, and in private conversation with Mr. Sibbald he mentioned that when your honey flow comes on, if you have, say, a twelve-frame hive, and your brood chamber is in such a condition that it cannot well utilize twelve frames, to not, during the honey flow, go on increasing the size of the brood chamber, but put in your division board and use it for whatever it is worth.

Mr. Smith—I would like to ask Mr. Holtermann if he ever tried uniting before the honey flow, instead of running the colony for what there was in it?

Mr. Holtermann—I may be wrong, but I don't believe much in uniting bees.

Mr. Smith—Not so much in uniting bees as in uniting brood.

Mr. Holtermann—I would not unite brood, but if I have a stock that I cannot control its swarming, I would shake it off and give its brood to stocks that are not full, and in that way, in a very short time, you can make good stocks out of it.

Mr. Pettit—I suppose along the line of uniting brood would be equalizing brood at the beginning of the season. I don't know whether we need discuss that here. It has been threshed out at other conventions, but if we find a stock that is extra strong and liable to swarm, take one or two combs of cap-

ped brood from it and give them to weaker stocks. Don't give too much brood to stocks that are too weak, and don't take too much brood from any one stock, or it weakens it too much.

Mr. Chrysler—I don't believe in strengthening weak stocks after a honey flow is on unless they are in a shape to store honey. When the honey flow is on, if you can get it, you should get it as quickly as possible.

The President—Mr. Alpaugh, when shall we put on our sections, at the opening of the honey flow or after swarming?

Mr. Alpaugh—It is some time since I have been much in comb honey business. When I was in the business I liked to put my sections on in good time so as not to have the bees get the swarming fever before I put them on. I don't think it hurt them much to have the supers on in good time and the bees started up in them. That is not the time when they glue and propolise things as they do later on in the season.

The President—Don't they nibble the foundation?

Mr. Alpaugh—Not necessarily. They do that more after the season. I prefer putting the sections on in good time and giving the bees to understand what they have to do.

The President—When do you put on your sections, Mr. Smith?

Mr. Smith—In my experience I don't like to put them on till they are just about ready to work on them. If there is nothing coming in they are very apt to chew the foundation. That makes sections that you can't get properly filled. It is a good thing if you have a super of sections with the foundation drawn out, from the previous season, if you can get that on; if there is anything coming in from the fields they will be apt to go into it and get started on the drawn comb, then you can put on a super filled with foundation later, and they will continue the work. I