

QUERIES AND REPLIES.

UNDER THIS HEAD will appear Questions which have been asked, and replied to, by prominent and practical bee-keepers—also by the Editor. Only questions of importance should be asked in this Department, and such questions are requested from everyone. As these questions have to be put into type, sent out for answers, and the replies all awaited for, it will take some time in each case to have the answers appear.

Strips of Foundation for Bottom of Section.

QUERY No. 195.—Have you ever tried the plan of putting a small strip of foundation at the bottom of sections say a quarter or half an inch wide letting full sheets of foundation for top of sections reach down within a quarter of an inch of bottom strip, if so, what has been your experience?

DR. DUNCAN—No, never tried.

G. M. DOOLITTLE—No. I fill the sections full of foundation, or use starters of natural comb.

DR. C. C. MILLER—I have used thousands so, generally with good results.

ALLEN PRINGLE—I have never tried it; I can get all the sections I want in a good season without any such botheration.

PROF. COOK—Only a little last year, too short an experience to express my opinion. Last year was a bad year for experiments.

H. D. CUTTING—I don't think I have tried this method myself, but am told by those that have used foundation in this way that it is a success.

J. F. DUNN—Yes, I have done that same thing when for some reason or other the foundation did not fill the section. I never placed them in that position from choice. It answers just about as well as a full sheet but is a great deal more work with no advantage. Why not use full sheets and be done with it; that is if you can get *first-class*, thin foundation. I like full sheets when the foundation is No. 1, otherwise I prefer a *very* small starter.

Preventives From Propolization.

QUERY No. 196.—Is there any substance that can be put on wood or metal to prevent the bees from propolizing it, if so what?

J. F. DUNN.—Try mutton tallow.

DR. DUNCAN.—I don't know of any.

H. D. CUTTING.—Tallow will prevent in many cases.

DR. C. C. MILLER.—I have read that tallow would be effectual, but I never tried it.

G. M. DOOLITTLE.—Some use grease, but I rather prefer the propolis to the grease, so do not use anything.

PROF. COOK.—I know of none. Use Heddon slotted honey board and exact bee space, scant $\frac{3}{4}$ inch, and you will be pleased.

ALLEN PRINGLE.—Friend Jones will please answer this question here, as he stated some time ago in the C. B. J. what was effectual, but I do not now remember what it was.

Brooding All or Part of Season.

QUERY No. 197.—Whether is it better to let bees brood all they can during the entire season, or curtail their brooding space when the honey harvest sets in?

PROF. COOK—I favor breeding all that is possible. We have three honey harvests, clover, linden and fall.

G. M. DOOLITTLE—Curtail it to a partial extent that being in accord with the spare time you have and the profitableness of your honey harvest.

DR. C. C. MILLER—Just what I would like to know. Unless you are well posted as to your honey resources better do no curtailing.

H. D. CUTTING—This is a mooted question. Some theories look well at the time but in the end don't pan out.

ALLEN PRINGLE—I prefer to curtail the brooding when the first heavy flow begins, and then let the queen swing again in time for the buckwheat flow.

O. G. RUSSELL—Let them breed all they can during the entire season. Just as much as you curtail their brooding space, just so much you weaken the future strength of the colony, and if one would make a success of bee-keeping he must keep his colonies as strong as possible all the year around.

J. F. DUNN—If I am having a first class honey flow I pay little attention to brooding space during that time. Some first-class beekeepers say that it pays to contract the brood-chamber to the capacity of 5 L. frames during the honey flow. I have tried this plan but one season and expect to know whether it pays me this season. No opinion to offer yet.

DR. DUNCAN—It is better to let them brood all they can, especially in the brood chamber, as they work better when there is a continuous supply of young bees; if not, you will soon notice that the colony is getting fewer in bees every day, because there is a continual waste by old age and accident; the larger the brood chamber, if it is full of bees, the more surplus honey will be stored in a good honey season.