

Mr. Hall—If you have good bees, by hiving on starters they are not in fit condition for winter unless there is a full flow. By good bees I mean, bees that will store the honey in the supers and not lodge in the brood chamber below.

What methods are desirable to restrain swarming in working for comb honey?

Mr. Emigh—Room early in the season and ventilation.

The President—How will shallow supers do until the honey flow comes?

Mr. Emigh—The difficulty which presents itself when the shallow supers are removed and sections are put on, is that the bees would as soon swarm as go into the sections, they appear to get discouraged.

Mr. Hall—I never tried the shallow super.

Mr. Martin, Belmont, Ont.—I give plenty of supers, I have had as many as three on.

Mr. Gemmell—I think it would work well to put on a shallow super and after a time when clover comes in raise this super and put sections between.

Mr. Holtermann.—I may be wrong but I like the variety of sizes of frames and cannot see that you have with your shallow super much advantage over me when I put four Langstroth combs with a division board on each side in an upper story. I like to draw out foundation at this season sufficiently to throw swarms on, or use for extracting combs. I think the practice of raising the super and putting section case underneath might be a good one.

J. B. Hall—With my Heddon hives I often winter in three cases deep. I have raised the top super and put in sections between. I find the bees will finish the upper combs and soil the sections travelling over them. I tried this plan extensively three years and I have no use for the system. The bees soil the sections.

Mr. Gemmell—I, by means of the bee escape soon run the bees down and take the super off.

Mr. Hall—I am opposed to it.

Mr. Gemmell—My combs are very clean.

Mr. Hall—I object to the travel stain of their feet.

As to swarming. How about that?

Mr. Hall—My hive lid has a cap eight inches deep, the super has a honey board to cover it and between this the eight inches makes a good sun break, such shade is the only kind I desire.

Mr. Gemmell—I often use winter case covers for a wind break.

Mr. Holtermann.—I use such covers not only on top but on the sunny side of the hive moving them once during the day.

Mr. Hall.—I object to shade on side by means of a board, it checks the currents of air.

Allowing that bees have swarmed once, what is the best thing to do with the old brood chamber?

Doctor Duncan.—I have the swarm on the old stand, my queens are clipped and as soon as she issues I clip her, and put her at the entrance of the new hive which is put upon a new stand.

The old brood chamber is treated in the following way; I take all the bees from the comb and cut out the queen cells, by shaking the bees from the comb, this can be done more readily and surely. I then give them cell from which I wish them to rear a queen.

Mr. Hall—Would you not do better to shake a lot of the bees from the old chamber and add them to the swarm leaving the new swarm on the old stand and let the bees in old brood chamber get ready for winter:

Doctor Duncan—I think not; I run the old colony for extracted honey.

Mr. Holtermann—I have tried cutting out queen cells, it is too much work, you do not get the same selection providing your bees are good; and after trying both systems I hive on the old stand and draw from the old brood chamber to keep the bees from throwing after swarms. I would prefer not to divide the winter force. I admit the bees incline a little more to swarm out when left upon the old stand.

Mr. Hall—Not at all, change the appearance by throwing a board on top of the hive or against its side any way so long as you change the appearance. When you swarm issues, move the old hive alongside of the new with back of hive alongside of entrance of the new hive. Put the new hive on the old stand and as soon as the bees get settled turn the old brood chamber so that the old and new hive fronts face the same way. After eight days I put my old hive on a new stand and the bees from this unite with the new.

Mr. Gemmell—Will the bees not go back to the old hive when so placed.

Mr. Martin—No; they have no desire to do so.

Wm. Goodger, Woodstock, Ont.—Did you ever have the bees of the new hive fight off these bees from the old.

Mr. Hall—Only twice during my life-time, that is all. In reply to a question Mr. Hall said: I have Carniolian Italian blood in my apiary. I like Carniolian very well they stick well to the combs, are gentle, a little heavier breeders than Italian, they go into the super more readily than Italians, but remember my bees are a mixture between Carniolian and Italian. I have no pure bred queens in the apiary.

How long is it profitable to keep a queen, one, two, three or four years?