

Mr. Holtermann: The Inspector has a number of times told us what we were to do with the bees in the evening. A good many people don't know what that time is. Is it after the bees begin to crawl up your sleeves and so on?

Mr. McEvoy: I thought that you understood that evening was along sometime about sundown, just a little before dark.

Mr. Newton: I would endorse Mr. Chrysler's system, only doing it in the evening, but I don't want to smoke them; I generally lift them up and put a board between them and leave them and I think the job is done.

Mr. Armstrong: Don't you have some killed in that way?

Mr. Newton: I have never noticed a hive where they fought and killed one another.

Mr. Armstrong: I had one this fall in which I did as Mr. Chrysler says. The next morning I was passing along and I saw there had been a general fight; the ground in front was strewn and the entrance was filled with bees. I would take the inspector's plan. If I was going to unite any time in the afternoon I would bring the two colonies together and put an upper story on to shake the bees into, giving them first a thorough good smoking so that they would fill themselves up and take the fight out of them; then I would take them, comb by comb, and shake them right down in the super on top and give them a thorough good smoking at the entrance and put the cover on and everything would be alright the next morning.

Mr. Newton: Do you use a metal queen excluder between two stories when you unite them?

Mr. Armstrong: Sometimes we do and sometimes we do not; it depends

on whether I want to get hold of the queen.

Mr. Heise: I go to the hives I wish to unite and remove all the frames except just what the bees occupy; I do that one evening and the next evening I come along and generally lift three out of one hive and place them in the other, leaving space for one frame between; let them remain on those for three or four days or a week and I then put the rest of the frames in and I have never noticed any fight.

Mr. Miller: There is a difficulty with some of us being able to attend to those bees in the evening. We should have a method whereby we can do it at any time through the day. I have found a very successful method by adopting partly what has been said and taking a short cut. I would smoke both hives well, carry the one up to the other, and if I didn't choose to remove the frames I would leave the body and give it a shake in front and I would set one right on top of the other any time of the day and set up a board at the entrance. I never had any difficulty with fighting or the bees being lost.

Mr. Sibbald: What is the advantage of uniting?

Mr. Chrysler: The advantage would not be much with a large beekeeper who has lots of bees but there are some cases where bee-keepers wish to winter over all the colonies that they possibly can for the next year and the chances are that he has a number of young queens in each one; the two united will raise enough brood to enable them to winter very safely whereas if they were left they were they had not enough brood to winter very safely. If I thought they would safely winter over they would never unite them.

Mr. Holtermann: Could you winter a two framed nucleus with safety?