

have practised putting in a card of unsealed brood instead of an empty comb and I found the bees were far more contented and went to work in better shape than on a full set of starters or if there was an empty comb put in the centre, and in every case I think the comb was as much worker as drone comb.

Mr Holtermann: I would like to ask Mr Hall whether he has any trouble in putting in that card of brood and eggs? any tendency to swarm earlier?

Mr Hall: Last year out of forty stocks we had only two of the "shook swarms" that ever attempted to swarm.

Mr McEvoy: Sometimes it is the old queen and they get lost, but by putting that in they have the material to start another. They stay better. It is necessary to have that.

Mr Sibbald: In the next case we have a clipped queen and she is lost and what will the bees do? Perhaps they will join in with the neighboring colony. In the other case you put a frame of brood in and they have there something to raise a queen from, and suppose you have got an old queen in there and a shaken swarm, the first thing you know they will hatch a queen and they will swarm out and perhaps take another swarm out.

Mr Hall: Allow me to tell you, I have lost several queens and I have been very busy and couldn't attend to things and I simply put in the very young brood into that and they started a queen cell and fifteen days after that the queen hatches but the bees are pretty old and they have lost the swarming fever and stay at home.

Mr Shaver: Will they always raise just one queen cell?

Mr Hall: No sir, from two to one hundred.

Mr Shaver: Then you get your swarms?

Mr McEvoy: I can do much better by putting in that frame of brood.

Mr Pettit: When I first started this shaking of swarms I tried the frame of brood a little. I must admit I didn't test it very thoroughly, but the experience I had at first set me so against it I didn't go any farther. I found they started queen cells from this young brood at once and swarmed out the next day.

Mr Hall: In that case your queen cell would be pretty far advanced before you did it.

Mr Newton: I have tried that this year and with the same success as last year. I never had a swarm issue from those hives that I have left the brood in.

Mr Dickenson: I think perhaps locality might have something to do with that. I think the danger in a good locality where the shaken swarm is about to swarm is that by putting in the frame of brood it might lead them to swarm.

Mr Holmes: My experience does not favor the card of brood in the centre of the chamber; it gives them the inclination to swarm.

Mr Byer: Isn't there a good deal in how far the cells are developed before the change took place? With the right cells my experience was when I shook them out the bees swarmed out the next day.

Mr Sibbald: That is a point we have missed and it is a good one too. As soon as the queen cells are started and from that on to five days is about the best time to shake.

Mr Hall: If you only go out once in seven or eight days some of them have got the cells started for six days.

Mr Sibbald: Shake them as soon as you see the egg. If you shake them you don't need a card of brood to keep them quiet.

Mr Morrison: The difficulty is overcome when a man shakes if he finds a number of bee cells pretty well advanced and has reason to believe the

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