

to take to the honey house. I have never tried carbolic acid. In the honey season I want nothing at all—smoke or anything else. You better not use smoke, because sometimes they bite the capping, and if they do it makes it unsaleable; also by smoking you disturb the bees in the other supers. Use bee escapes if you have four supers on.

Mr. Holtermann—I was especially referring to taking them off at the close of the season. I can't use carbolic acid for extracting honey, because the effect is not sufficient to drive them out of the extracting supers.

Mr. Craig—It depends on how strong you make your solution.

Mr. Holtermann—You can't make it any stronger than your hand will stand. The skin feels dry when it is about the right consistency.

Mr. Craig—If you use soap liberally on your hands you will find it does not affect them.

The President—Do you use queen excluders in producing comb honey?

Mr. Pettit—I consider it an important question, and I would like to have it discussed more fully than time will permit. I don't use queen excluders when I put the sections on first, but as soon as the swarm is hived I put the queen excluder between the brood chamber and the sections. My object in doing that is, first, to keep the queen from going up, which seldom but sometimes does happen, and to keep them from carrying pollen into the supers. Another point is to keep drones from going into the supers, because we find it very inconvenient getting them out.

Mr. Hall—Whether you hive with a contracted or full hive for comb honey, always put on a queen excluder. Never use it for comb honey after the sections have been on a few days; they are better without it. In hiving for comb honey we always put on queen excluders. If we have got the hive

partially full of comb we prefer to leave the queen excluders off. The bees have a freer passage up and down. They are not crowded, and it feels more like home, and they certainly give you more honey. If I was at your age, Mr. Pettit, I wouldn't take a pound of extracted honey.

Mr. Holtermann—Do you think it is possible to successfully produce comb honey and run out-apiaries where there is no one to watch the bees?

Mr. Hall—I would rather run it with out a watcher than with one. If I had a watcher there he would go to sleep and wouldn't watch the bees on a warm day. One year I was troubled in one of my out-apiaries with foul brood, and I didn't want it there, and your inspector pronounced them half-diseased. He said, "What are you going to do?" We hived them on starters and put the sections right on with the queen excluders, and we got 140 sections to the hive off those bees, and they filled up nicely for the winter.

Mr. Holtermann—Was that a season where there was an exceptional tendency to swarm, or at what part of the season did you do this?

Mr. Hall—I did that just at the commencement of the honey flow, about the 10th June. I stayed for two days in that yard, and did the whole transaction. I shook off every colony, clean or dirty, and we had two of them swarm after that, but at home they swarmed and swarmed unmercifully.

Mr. Holtermann—Do you know how long it was from the time you shook them till the close of the honey flow?

Mr. Hall—I wouldn't like to say. It was a good clover and basswood season, and we got some of the prettiest comb honey that I ever got.

SECOND SESSION.

Wednesday, November 16th, 9.45 a.m.
—The President, in the chair, called the convention to order.

The-President—The first thing is an