

ing the normal season for breeding, and after discovering and adopting better methods and devices for appropriating and depositing the seminal fluid, we are hopeful that the fecundation of queen bees may be controlled with the same ease and certainty as fecundation is regulated among all domestic animals, and that the pedigree of the breeding stock in the apiary will be as readily traced and as highly valued as is the recorded pedigree of the illustrious scions of the turf, and the aristocratic families of the American Herd Book.

We regret that the lateness of the season prevents the further continuance of these tests now, and as we fully appreciate the necessity of placing the evidence in support of the facts set forth on the incontestable basis of continued and often repeated successes, and not upon the success obtained in two individual cases. However, the fact that I have succeeded in producing queen bees of two generations which have by artificial means been made to perform the normal functions of naturally fecundated queens, seems to furnish ground to hope that this subject has passed from the plane of experiment to the position of practicability. Other methods for controlling fecundation also remain to be tested.

QUERIES AND REPLIES.

UNDER THIS HEAD will appear Questions which have been asked of 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 question 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.

BEEES BY THE POUND VS. LIGHT SWARMS

QUERY No. 69.—Which would be the more valuable, a nucleus consisting of half a pound of bees and one comb of brood (comb to be filled as well with brood as are those usually sent out) delivered May 15th, or a natural swarm, (say about three pounds of bees) issuing June 15th, the queens in either case to be of the same value? J. F. D. Rridge-way, Ont.

H. COUSE, THE GRANGE, ONT.—The natural swarm.

S. T. PETTIT, BELMONT, ONT.—Natural swarm every time.

DR. A. B. MASON, WAGON WORKS, O.—In my locality, a nucleus.

S. CORNELL, LINDSAY, ONT.—As a matter of choice, I would take the swarm.

M. EMIGH, HOLBROOK, ONT.—Can't say to a fraction. I would take the swarm.

G. M. DOOLITTLE, BORODINO, N.Y.—Would

prefer the swarm for honey. The other if I desired increase.

PROF. A. J. COOK, LANSING, MICH.—I have had so little experience with bees by the pound that I could not answer.

DR. J. C. THOM, STREETSVILLE, ONT.—If properly cared for right along, the nucleus and comb would be most valuable by June 15.

DR. C. C. MILLER, MARENGO, ILL.—The swarm would be my guess, but it is only a guess, as I never had experience in buying half pounds.

ALLEN PRINGLE, SELBY, ONT.—You do not say whether or not the natural swarm is also to be supplied with one frame of comb. If so I would prefer the natural swarm on June 15th to the half pound of bees on one frame of brood on May 15th, the queens of course being equal.

BY THE EDITOR.—It depends entirely on the quantity of brood in the comb and what stage brood was in, whether capped or merely hatched from newly laid eggs. If it was capped brood and some of it emerging in a full comb, would prefer the bees and brood, but if only eggs and young larvæ we would much prefer the swarm. We might also say that it would depend on the weather, which if favorable would incline us to favor the brood and bees, but if otherwise the swarm.

TIERING UP SECTIONS.

QUERY No. 70.—In the tiering up of sections there are two systems followed. Many place the empty case between the nearly finished ones and the brood, others place the empty case on top each time. (1). What are the reasons for, and the advantage of the latter plan? (2). Would it not lessen the chance of having unfinished sections? (3). Would less honey be obtained? (4). Would it make any difference in the condition of the cappings or in the complete ripening of the honey? (5). Which plan do you follow?

DR. A. B. MASON, WAGON WORKS, O.—Have had no experience in raising comb honey.

H. COUSE, THE GRANGE, ONT.—Will leave this question to the more experienced and larger producers of comb honey.

PROF. A. J. COOK, LANSING, MICH.—I prefer empty cases below, as it hastens the completion of the sections.

M. EMIGH, HOLBROOK, ONT.—(1) Don't know. No advantage. (2) Don't think so. (3) Yes. (4) Yes. (5) Empty case next the brood.