

DR. C. C. MILLER, MARENGO, ILL.—(1) I believe it very profitable for bees to have abundant stores in spring, and if not left from previous fall they should be fed. (2) Contract the brood-chamber, tuck them up warm, but don't draw from strong ones until they have so much that they will still be left very strong. Practically this leaves it that very little drawing from strong colonies can be done. (3) Keep Italians and strong colonies.

A. L. SWINSON, GOLDSBORO', N.C.—Yes, I think it is, if done in time to get the young bees reared in time to make workers for the honey flow. (2) Begin feeding every few days, just as early as the bees will take it. You will get plenty of bees inside of two months. (3) Shut up the entrances to the hives, but be sure to give plenty of ventilation at the top, by putting on top story and removing the quilt or ducking (covers) for say twelve to twenty hours, then give but small openings at entrances for a time.

ALLEN PRINGLE, SELBY, ONT.—(1) If the strong colonies are deficient in stores in spring, supply them with plenty, and if the queens are good the brooding will be attended to without any artificial stimulation. If the queens are rather poor layers supply plenty of stores and in addition feed regularly. (2) Keep them rearing as much brood as they can care for. (3) Judicious management is the recipe for the prevention of robbing. Do not tempt robbers by careless feeding—contract the entrance.

O. O. POPPLETON, HAWKS PARK, FLORIDA.—(1) No, stimulative feeding in the spring was not profitable with me in the latitude of northern Iowa. (2) Just baby them all you can by such means as confining them on as few combs as possible and keeping them snug and warm by the use of chaff packing or its equivalent. When they get strong enough to need them, give extra combs one at a time in centre of brood-nest. (3) Don't give them any inducement to get started is the best remedy, but if they do get at it, I find the use of a bunch of wet hay or grass at the entrance of the hive being robbed, to be the simplest and best remedy I have tried.

H. COUSE, CHELTENHAM, ONT.—(1) Yes, if they have not got plenty of honey in their hives. (2) Crowd them on to as few frames as possible and keep them warm; but in case they are apt to dwindle to nothingness, then shake hatching bees at the entrance and let them run in, this will not injure the strong colony as much as taking a frame of brood from it, and besides the weak one might not be able to care for a frame of brood. (3) Use great care when bees are apt

to rob. If they get started pile wet grass against the entrance after closing the entrance to one bee-space.

S. T. PETTIT, BELMONT, ONT.—(1) Most emphatically no. Give your bees plenty of water with just a very little salt in it, in some sunny, warm place and they will do their "level best" at breeding. Bees' watering troughs should be cleaned once a day. (2) Give weak stocks in spring a few young bees from very strong stocks and they will work wonders in a short time. (3) Hard to say, circumstance has so much to do with it. I think we often lose more time in fussing over very weak stocks in spring than they are worth. To prevent robbing when the honey season closes, give large entrance say six inches long by three-eighths, for full stocks. I think ten inches safer than two.

DR. DUNCAN, EMBRO, ONT.—I find the best way with strong swarms that have plenty of honey, is to let them alone. Build up weak swarms by taking a card of brood and the adhering bees out of a strong swarm, a card where the young bees are coming out of the cases, shake them all in front of the weak swarm, returning the card to where it was; the old bees will return home, but all the young ones will remain. Feed them, keep them warm with cushions; repeat the same from another strong hive in a few days. To prevent robbing, be careful that they do not get the taste of any honey that may be left out, and feed at night. If they commence on any weak swarm it is likely they have no queen, but if there is a queen, put the weak one in the cellar for a few days. Contract the doorway when put out to the space of about one bee.

DRONE REARING.

QUERY, No. 123.—The best way to get drones early in the season and prevent the bees from killing them in cold weather when there is no honey coming in?

G. M. DOOLITTLE, BRODINO, N. Y.—Liberal feeding with plenty of bees.

DR. C. C. MILLER, MARENGO, ILL.—I should depend on feeding, but it is difficult to control.

O. O. POPPLETON, HAWKS PARK, FLORIDA.—I have never had occasion to experiment any in this matter of early and late drone raising and keeping.

J. E. POND, FOXBORO, MASS.—Force brood rearing early and supply drone cells profusely; later, remove the queen and the drones will ordinarily not be destroyed.