
*What We Have to Hope
 for from the Non-
 Swarming Bee*

Address by L. A. Aspinwall, Jackson, Mich., at the National Bee-Keepers' Convention.

I am much obliged to Dr. Miller for bringing this matter up. Perhaps if Dr. Miller will look over the past and present he will see that other factors help out in this matter. The matter of drone cells; the matter of hive room and ventilation; all these are factors that enter into the control of increase. When I looked over the past and referred to Quinby's work of 1852 there was such an enthusiasm in reference to the increase of bees that Mr. Quinby said that the season had prospects, or something of that kind, or charms that the different beholders could never realize.

Mr. Langstroth said it was one of the most beautiful sights in the whole compass of rural economy. People were looking for swarms then. We are not to-day. It is the bane of bee-keeping. I doubt if there are a half a dozen in this room who are keeping many bees, but have gone home at night, thoroughly worn out with the swarming of the day.

I will merely say that the matter of controlling on my part is more with the hive than with manipulation. I have tried these various methods same years ago. To show that there is a prospect of a non-swarming hive, I have been at work eighteen years upon it, but many in the audience know I am an experimenter in potato machinery; I have been at it ever since I was nineteen years of age, and the first invention required twenty-one years to

practically give up all attempts to get any of the small amount of nectar available. Some strains that showed up good in fair seasons were this year among the latter class, so it is quite a problem whether it would be best to stock up from colonies selected in a good season. All things considered, suppose the safer plan would be to compare colonies after three or four varied seasons.

Setting Out Cellar-wintered Bees During the Night.

It will be remembered that lately a number of apiarists, among whom notably Mr. Alexander of New York State, have been recommending setting out cellar-wintered bees on summer stands during the night, claiming the plan to be a universal panacea for all the troubles incidental to the cellar-winterer during the early spring, such as "drifting," "mixing up," etc. Now along comes Hutchinson, telling us that he pinned his faith to these claims, and this spring set his whole apiary out during the night, only to meet with the most disastrous results, many colonies being left with only a few handfuls of bees, while others had their hives filled to overflowing. When "doctors disagree the patient dies," so in regard to many things apicultural it seems safest to use one's own judgment, always making allowance for local differences and peculiarities as much as possible. Markham, Ont.

RATIONAL FOOD FOR BEES.

According to experiments made in the chemical laboratory of the Elsass-Lothringischen Bee Association, which the "Leipziger Bienenzeitung" publishes, the most rational bee-food is made the following way: Two kilos of sugar are put into a saucepan with two litres of water and two grammes of acetic-vinegar, covered with the lid, and allowed to boil gently for two to two and a half hours. The syrup is then strained through a linen or flannel cloth, and when cold is ready for use.—English Bee Journal.