

having kept a record with each colony for one year is then ready to select, say about four colonies that have scored the highest number of points from every ten colonies, from which to rear queens and drones, two of the selected colonies to be used for rearing drones and the remaining two being used for rearing queens.

No drones should be allowed to issue except from the colonies selected for that purpose. There are several methods in use by bee-keepers for rearing and utilizing queens from these selected colonies that will readily suggest themselves to the advanced bee-keeper, but I wish to briefly outline a method that may be of some benefit to the beginner.

The colonies for breeding purposes should be selected as early as the 20th of March, or, at the latest, the first of May, in this locality. The colonies selected for rearing drones should be given one or more sheets of drone comb, placed near the centre of the cluster, and the bees and queen stimulated by feeding, if necessary, to get eggs placed in the drone comb as early as possible, as the drone will require about thirty-five days from the egg to be of service.

I believe queen cells started under the natural swarming impulse are certainly as good, if not better, than those started by any other method; consequently, colonies selected for rearing queens should be brought up to the swarming point early in May, if possible, by stimulative feeding, and, if necessary, by the addition of brood from other colonies.


Watch them closely, and about six or seven days after eggs have been deposited in the queen cells, remove the old queen and a few bees to a new hive and build them up again to a full colony. In about six days after the removal of the queen, divide the old colony into as many nuclei as you have frames with queen cells attached. In about twenty-six days, or early in June, your queens will be laying and ready for use.

The above method gives us queens reared under the natural swarming impulse, and all drones and queens are reared from colonies selected after a competitive trial, and must, if persisted in, greatly improve bees of whatever race or color.

WM. HOYT.

Elm Apiary.

### THE ALPAUGH QUILT.

 HAVE just opened the C. B. J. for last week and the first thing that met my eyes was the engraving of my quilt. You have it very nicely illustrated, but I think you should not criticise it until you have some experience

with it. I would just about as soon think of doing without the quilt, as doing without the hole in it. When I moved my bees to this place three years ago, I had them all to feed for winter, some of them not having two pounds of stores when I started to feed. I did it all through the hole in that quilt. I use a nice little feeder that sits over the hole, and it can be covered up with a sawdust cushion, so that no heat can escape, and it works just as nice as anything I ever saw. I can feed from five to eight pounds a day.

You also speak of the bees clustering above the quilt when the trap door is open for ventilation. I always open the door in warm weather, and I have never had one colony to cluster above the quilt.

JACOB ALPAUGH.

St. Thomas, Ont., April 28, 1887.


It pleases us to have your experience in regard to the objections we raised about that trap-door. You see that if we did not raise objections we should fail to get this additional knowledge. We have had a good deal of experience in this feeding business, and we like something in the shape of a feeder that will do its work speedily and well. We can easily conceive how a feeder could be arranged to work satisfactorily, but we were not aware that you had tried it sufficiently to be able to speak positively with regard to that point.

You must have a pretty nice kind of bees if they will leave a nice little hole like that alone and not go on a tour of inspection. If there was plenty of room in the brood chamber or in the surplus case there would be less liability of their finding their way up to the top of the quilt.

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 X WE WANT YOU TO READ OUR X  
 X SPECIAL OFFER ON PAGE 107. X  
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For the Canadian Bee Journal.

The Experience of One Who Has Shipped Honey to England.

 AM much pleased with the C. B. J., and hope, with the aid of booming subscriptions, to see the JOURNAL increase its popularity and enlarge its sphere of usefulness. Your letters from "Peek-a-Boo" are exceedingly interesting. Your articles concerning the O. B. K. exhibit at the Indian and Colonial are in the