

work, too much worry and too much humbug for me. I have too much to do on the farm to be running to the house every little while to the tune, "Bees are swarming," often to find that it only a false alarm.

Last year I tried dividing by taking away brood with a queen cell. It worked well considering my little experience, but in studying the subject during winter and spring, I got hold of something I believe to be much better and more according to the natural tendency of bees.

It came about by my reading a book by E. A. Morgan, printed in Cumberland, Wisconsin. He advocates encouraging bees to swarm, then dividing them on the stand, giving them the super if there was one on the old hive. That struck me as a good idea, but I would not allow myself to believe that natural swarming was any better than artificial, so I racked my brain to study out a plan that would beat his, myself being judge, of course. I reasoned the matter out this way:—The natural way for bees in swarming is for the queen and a large number of workers—say three-fourths or seven-eighths—to leave the hive and find a place where they start life anew. Then they hustle. They are not at all particular as to locality, they may enter an occupied or unoccupied hive being a few feet from their old home, or they may go two or three miles to some hollow tree. Also they prefer to go to a new place of their own free will, rather than to be shaken or crushed into it. These considerations led me up to a decided plan. When ready for operations I went to a hive preparing to swarm and spread a sheet in front of it, setting a prepared sheet on this, same as for swarming. This sheet gave them a clear road to the new hive. Then I took the frames out of the old hives, one by one, and

shook about three-fourths of the bees off them in front of the new hive, and set the frames into another hive ready to receive them. If I saw the queen go into the new hive I would then merely lift away the old one, now empty, brush or jar the bees off, and set it aside, and set the new one in its place, letting the bees go in while I was engaged with another. If I did not see the queen go in I would brush off the hive and stand before changing the new hive. I would also go over the brood frames again. Since trying the plan I have often thought it would be well to place a comb containing some honey in the hive, so that the colony would have stores in case a few cold, wet days should follow. I found the plan a great success. A weak colony was made a good strong one by shaking in among them three frames from another hive. A new super or the old one was put on right away. A capped cell was left with the brood. I see the bee journals in the States are discussing this plan, the details being slightly different.

Mr. R. H. Smith, St. Thomas, asks me to publish the following note, which we think should also be sent to the "Canadian Grocer," which is published in Toronto: "I wish to call the attention of bee-keepers to a ¾ lb. jar of stuff that many grocery stores are being supplied with labelled "Upton's Clarified Honey." It appears to be a thin mixture flavored. I wrote the Inland Revenue Department about it and they promised that their collector should include honey on the list of samples to be collected, but they are very slow. If bee keepers would warn grocers about it where they see it offered for sale they would be on their guard. The only inducement to buy the stuff is that it will not candy.