

them in the new hive, you haven't any of these difficulties.

Mr. Gemmell—I have 7 or 8 of them in the yard, and I never mind the first swarm, but just as soon as I see the second coming, up goes the cage. I carry them into a little shop where it is shady, and after half an hour if I want to use a catcher, I use it. I remember hiving 11 swarms from half past ten to twelve o'clock, and not one of them were in the air at the same time. It saves trouble and saves mixing up. I have used those catchers for some time. I have them standing at different places through the apiary, and when I see a swarm coming I look for the first catcher and it is clipped on.

Mr. Hutchinson—I rather object, these gentlemen are spoiling all my fun on me.

Mr. J. K. Darling, Almonte—The discussion started on clipping queens, and we have wandered off to something else I think. As Mr. Hall says here, I am a clipper. I wasn't at first, but I have clipped the queens for a number of years. I was forced into it by a very disagreeable neighbor, and I don't know that he ever did me a greater favor in his life. I know he didn't; he has saved swarms for me that I would have lost if I hadn't clipped. I lost those that issued with unclipped queens in several instances. Friend Hall here says that if they come out the second time they will stop at home, is that it?

Mr. Hall—No sir, after the third time. Three times and out.

Mr. Darling—Well, I had them seven times and out.

Mr. Hall—Did you put them back in the brood chamber?

Mr. Darling—It was a new swarm, and they had been in for a time. It was a Jones' frame, and I had, I think, four supers on top, working on the principle that if we give them room enough they won't swarm. I have had them leave the hive after the young queen hatched out. I have had them leave the hive without a queen. The bees come out with the young queen. I found the hives queenless because the queen did not go back, but the bees came out all the same and left the hive without a queen. I believe in clipping every time as soon as they begin to lay. I don't think they are superseded any sooner on that account, because one year I had one hive hatch out one queen after another; they were young queens and could not keep the colony up to its normal strength. With regard to them becoming dissatisfied with the queen coming out, I have had them

where I captured the queen and put them back again, and the old bees drove them out. They will do the same thing with queens whether they have wings or not.

Mr. Hall—Our friend talking about clipped queens in hives or swarm catchers, if I am permitted, I will relate to you gentlemen that, in four days in an apiary of 225 colonies of bees, we had 18 swarms in three days. We had no swarm catchers, we had all clipped queens, and we hadn't all hard work. We let the queens into the cage, and let them stay there till we could attend to them. We had no means of catching them, only in clipping them. I have had as many as 8 of these swarms hanging together. True, they didn't all want to get into one hive, neither did they want to go into any hive, but they came back. The chief object of clipping queens is to keep a record of their age, and to keep them from going to the woods. If you contract your brood nest they are very apt to be dissatisfied with it. If they try several times and cannot get off, they will then go to work. You can do that with clipped queens, but other queens you can not.

Mr. Newton—The question of clipping queens ought to be just about threshed now. I heard a question asked brother Sibald, if he got the drone comb out in the spring, and the thought struck me, how does that brother hive his bees? I think it is a point we ought to have some discussion upon. As far as mine is concerned, I don't have any drone comb to come out in the spring. I very rarely look for it because in hiving a swarm I contract my hives to either 5 or 6 frames, and therefore have very little, if any, drone comb at all.

Mr. Atkinson—There is one question I would like to ask concerning the clipping of queen's wings. Do the gentlemen who practice that put back the queen into the old hive? Say, for instance, there is an old swarm of bees with a clipped queen; do you take that swarm and return it back to the same hive without taking out the cells?

Mr. Hall—Never.

To the Merits of the C. B. J.

I have read a great many bee papers, but none of them throws as much light on the subject as *The Canadian Bee Journal*. I owe my success as a bee-keeper to the perusal of its pages.

ALBERT J. CUNDICK.

Warwick, Sept. 8th.