

a hundred, but I have no established rule.

Mr. Holtermann—How do you treat your brood chambers. Do you just give them starters.

Mr. Hall—I prefer starters for comb honey. For extracted honey I prefer combs if I am with the bees. Otherwise I would prefer one sheet of comb and starter. That catches the pollen and keeps the bees there.

Mr. Pettit—There is a point I would bring out in connecting with adjusting the brood chamber for the swarms. We know that bees differ in different years as to their desire to swarm. In some seasons where you hive them on the six starters and one comb and the rest of the hive filled out with dummies you find they will stay hived all right. Other years they do not like such a small brood chamber and we give them the full set of starters with one small comb. In two or three days, walk around and take out the starters at the outside and put dummies in their place. This contracts the brood chamber and gives more honey in the super and better finished combs in the brood chamber.

The President—In seasons when there has been trouble with the bees swarming out, on a contracted hive, I have often put an empty brood chamber underneath the one with the frames, and after they have got nicely at work removed it.

The President—How shall we remove our sections?

Do you use smoke or do you use a bee escape?

Mr. Hall—Both, and oftener neither. The nicest way for removing comb honey is just to quietly give them a puff of smoke, or, in fact, no smoke at all. Take them off gently and set them down a few inches in front of the hive, and after you have gone all the way around you can take your wheelbarrow and gather them up and take them to your house. That must be, of course,

in the honey flow. The next best thing is bee escapes. Bee escapes are very nice, but the bees sometimes act very contrary. With 19 colonies you can do what I have said very nicely, but the 20th one says, What business have you here? And they begin to sting. I like bee escapes for comb honey, especially in the fall.

The President—How do you remove your sections, Mr. Pettit?

Mr. Pettit—I use escapes mostly, the Smith escape.

Mr. Brown—Just one escape in the board?

Mr. Smith—There is one escape, but it has a number of openings, so that the bees, when they come to it, can simply go the whole width and go out of eight openings and a spring closes behind them. They are attracted to the light. At the same time, it affords more or less ventilation. We find it answers very well.

Mr. Holtermann—There are perhaps some that have not bee escapes. A good many years ago I read in The British Bee Journal of a way of taking off sections. Bee escapes may be better, but it is a question that will be open to argument. That way is this: Carbolic acid is used, and you make a diluted solution, in which you can put your hand without injuring it very much. Dip your cloth in that and spread it over the super, and it is astonishing how quickly the bees will rush out of the sections. Insects object very strongly to carbolic acid. They will go out like a shot, and it is a way of taking off sections for those who have not bee escapes which they will find very advantageous.

Mr. Hall—But, Mr. President, sometimes we have to take off a case of sections when there are six hundred in that case. It will drive them down out of the seventh super. We don't want them driven down. We only want them out of the super we have