

place a strange hive filled with strange combs. Now shake your bees down in front and let the queen run in with the bees, and all will be right, at all seasons of the year, at least I have introduced a great many queens in this way and have never lost one. All you have to do is to exchange hive and combs with some other hive in the apiary. If you have only one hive in your apiary, then cage your queen from 24 to 48 hours as the case may be.

MISS H. F. BULLER, CAMPBELLFORD, ONT.—I have introduced queens, I think, with the best success by caging between combs in a round wire gauze cage with a stopper in the upper end, which I replaced with a piece of comb after 48 hours, and allowed the bees to liberate the queen at night. Have also found the old shipping cage with the tin points to fasten it to the combs, answer very well, but it has seemed to me that the mode of introducing does not make so much difference as having the colony just in the right condition, *i.e.* no queen cells and no chance to make any. I have had so little experience in introducing except during the honey flow that I am not competent to give any light as to the best methods of procedure at other seasons. I have found it the best way to introduce virgin queens in the evening, chloroforming the bees first and then let the queen run in at the entrance.

W. Z. HUTCHINSON, ROGERSVILLE, MICH.—(1) Confine the queen in a cylindrical, wire-cloth cage, between two combs, just above the brood-nest. She may be released the next day if the bees are walking about quietly upon the cage. If they are found clinging closely to the cage, *i.e.* balling it, wait until they are in a better mood. After the queen is released do not open the hives for several days. (2) After a colony has been queenless 24 hours, shake the bees from one or two combs, add, as they are crawling into the hive, allow the queen to enter with them. I particularly like this method when the queen can be taken directly from a colony or nucleus. (3) Same as No. 1, except to feed the bees slightly while introducing the queen. I have noticed but little difference so far as regards the success of the different methods; I lose perhaps one queen in twenty.

GEO. LAING, MILTON, ONT.—(1) Smoke the bees well about 4 o'clock p.m., when they are well filled with honey, shake them off their combs onto the bottom of the hive, and then drop your queen immediately among the bees and then close up the hive. Do not touch the queen with your fingers. (2) Cage the queen on

comb over a few cells of honey with one-half dozen of her own bees in one of Jones' perforated zinc cages and put comb in the centre of brood-chamber for twenty-four hours. Then look at your queen and if there are any bees clinging to the cage as if trying to get through, let her remain twenty-four hours longer. Then cut a hole through the comb from the opposite side of the cage about one-quarter of an inch in diameter, close it up with honey cappings, mixed with honey, and then the bees will let the queen out by gnawing through the mixed honey capping. (3) The same as in the honey flow, only let the queen remain caged from one to two days longer. I have introduced a great many queens in the above mentioned ways with good success.

G. M. DOOLITTLE, BORODINO, N.Y.—I know of only one absolutely safe way to introduce a queen and that is by the wire-cloth-box plan. Get out a box of a suitable size, both sides being of wire-cloth, the rest of wood. Bore a hole in the top for a large funnel such as is used in shipping bees by the pound, and shake all of the bees from your colony into the box, less the queen. Leave them to fill themselves full of honey before shaking from the combs. Having them in the box fastened in and set in a shady place when a temperature of about 65° to 70° is maintained, leaving them for four hours. At this time they will "fairly cry" for a queen. Dump them to the bottom of the box by setting it down suddenly and immediately put in the queen. Now leave till near dusk, when their combs of brood and honey are to be placed on a new stand and the bees hived on them, making a nuclei of the few bees left on old stand. If you do not wish this nuclei, set the old hive aside and put the colony in its place early next morning so that the bees from the old hive may slowly return the next day. I have never lost a queen in this way nor heard of but one loss out of the many thousand tried in this way. I often use other and shorter plans, except on valuable queens, but they do not always prove successful. The above works the same at all times of the year.

G. A. DEADMAN, BRUSSELS, ONT.—If a very valuable queen, and one I could not well replace, I would cage the bees of a colony for five or six hours in a dark place, release them on combs of honey or unsealed larvæ and would liberate the queen, after being caged for fifteen hours, upon the frames. To introduce ordinary queens in the spring and during the honey flow, would remove any queen cells, and release the queen after being caged for twenty-four hours on the top or