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did not swarm. We are trying to breed out, and I think we will succeed to a great extent in breeding out the swarming tendency, and that will be a great help to us. When you have a large apiary it is impossible to have the outfit to let them increase to such an extent. If we have any natural queen cells we destroy them.

The opinion of most bee-keepers that have experience with the different diseases is that Italian bees are better than any other bees to fight off disease, and that has been my experience. The working quality is the important quality in any strain. If a colony won't work well and gather lots of nectar, it doesn't matter what strain they are, they are no use. It is honey we are after. We should select for our breeding stock a strain of bees that are good workers. We can't get this always when we are buying. It is not advisable to get all your queens from one man. I would advise any one in buying new stock to breed from queens bought the first season; test them well first and notice what they are going to do. I have heard lots of people express themselves that they would have given \$100 if they hadn't got a certain strain into their yards. Don't encourage new strains until you find out they are better than, or as good as you have.

On red clover this year we found some bees that would store a surplus and other colonies that were equally as strong didn't seem to gain a bit. Some colonies actually filled a super of red clover honey. The strain of bees are different in their ability to get at the clover. As far as buskwheat honey is concerned, the blacks were just as good, if not better than the Italians. It is a comfort to be able to handle a colony of bees without too much punishment. If we have neighbors it is a good thing to have bees that are quiet. If we can get a strain that will work well and have the virtues of being reasonably quiet, I would encourage that quality in

my yard. I think you can get those that will mind their own business and work.

Then as to the prolific queen. Some people prize that greatly. That to me is a fourth or fifth point.

You have a colony that is prolific, that is a joy to you, but as soon as the clover comes out they will sulk and won't work, and another colony that was not nearly so prolific gets away ahead of them when it comes to getting honey into the super. I look for the other qualities first, and then a good laying queen is always in order. I have inspected yards where there might be 20 colonies of bees, and out of the 20 you could only find ten that had queens that were doing anything like they should do, and there was a failure on account of having poor old queens.

Every year when we clip our queens we mark the date on the hive with a pencil so that it won't come off until that queen gets out of there. If we clip a queen this year we mark "C" for clip and "9" after it. If we come to a queen that has been clipped, we just mark "C" on that hive. In that way we can always tell if the queen had been raised previous to last season, and all those queens with "C" on must be changed this season. Those queens with "C 9" on, we might not change them all. If we find a colony doing good work and putting up lots of honey, and we think they are a valuable strain, we like to keep them because we think we gain a little point in drones that might be produced from that colony, and they will have a good influence over the breeding in the yard the next season.

I think every bee-keeper should have in an apiary of 100 colonies, 15 nuclei.

By re-queening as you notice the queen failing you do not have all your work to do after the season. There is no robbing going on; you can find your old queen very easily, because all the bees are out in the field, and they accept a queen readily, and everything goes like clock work.