

Mr. Pettit: In order to answer any such question we must describe our whole system of bee keeping because it is all involved and every man has his own system. No man should start the white honey flow without his colonies being good and strong, strong enough so that an extra super on top would not chill the brood.

Mr. Newton: Do you put on your three-comb honey supers when you start?

Mr. Pettit: That is different from extracting.

Mr. Newton: I don't think so in that connection.

Mr. Gemmel: As regards the size of hives, I think the locality and management has a great deal to do with what hive is used.

Mr. Lowey: I use a nine-framed Langstroth or a little longer hive. If beginning again I would not have less than ten frames. You can make it as small as you wish but with an eight-framed hive you cannot make it any larger. I put on three at once and in this very poor season with us they filled them. They were filled with bees too.

Mr. Hall: I believe bees are like almost anything else, you can educate them to do certain things. If you use a certain hive from year to year your colonies will not want a larger hive and they will not fill any more with brood; but I have had the large hive, such as I use, on the 24th of May with several of those combs full of brood and the others half full. I have also the Hedden hive but allow me to tell you I never got so many bees in them as in the large frames, eighteen and one-fourth inches inside by ten and one-fourth inches deep. In a normal condition when they swarm there is not three pounds of honey in that hive; it is full of brood and just at the very

corners a little piece of honey. I keep a record slate on every hive I have and I give credit to any extra stock. I start with No. A. A 1, means better than A; A 1 X, means breed from that queen; A 1 XX, means breed from her all you can. Those that do not fill up the hive we naturally call them B. You can never give them too much room in the brood nest before they swarm. When we contract is after swarming, if at all, but never before.

M. Armstrong: Take the whole season through has Mr. Hall two sizes of brood chambers?

Mr. Hall: Yes.

Mr. Armstrong: Which hive gives you the most in dollars and cents in a season?

Mr. Hall: The old standby I have had for twenty-seven years. I have had them give me as much as 228 pounds of section honey coming on the 28th of June. If you can do that from any small hive I would like to see it.

Mr. Armstrong: Was that the average for the hive?

Mr. Hall: No, I am sorry to say. I wish it was.

Mr. Webster: With me the Hedden hive is just what Mr. Hall said it was with him.

Mr. Pettit: I do not use the Langstroth hive. I speak of a ten-framed Langstroth because that is the capacity of my hive.

Mr. Morrison: I think it makes a great difference whether a man is a professional or is simply running it as a side issue.

Q. What is the best method of feeding bees after they are put in winter quarters and what is the best to feed them?

Mr. Pettit: I have had no experience in feeding bees in winter quarters.

Mr. Hall: It does not pay to feed