

give full sheets of foundation. As to queens, while some of the well known queen breeders sometimes send out inferior queens and some comparatively unknown breeders have excellent queens, as a rule it pays to get the queens from a well known party and do not try to buy the lowest priced queens, I have had high priced queens not worth having but I have never had a very low priced queen worth hive room. If queens cannot be purchased to put in the nuclei then allow bees first to get the swarming impulse and after the queen cells are capped divide. Now let me give a word of caution, there is no system of artificial increase by means of which the operator may not make serious mistakes and get chilled brood and work other mischief. As a rule and unless under exceptional circumstances it does not pay to work for increase. Keep your bees together, get all the honey you can and then buy your increase out of the proceeds. I have a friend whom I advised last summer not to divide his bees but he would do so, his bees were wintered in our cellar and although two of them were no more than nuclei and light in stores only one was lost in the cellar the other hangs between life and death at this date with the certainty of death before it. The transaction was a loss but the temptation for increase with a beginner is often irresistible.

Stimulative Feeding

Nature's way in feeding is most conducive to the growth of the brood-nest; the old dame may be—nay, is—fickle, but when we get warm days, on which our bees gather a good supply of food, and then two or three dull and cold days, then another warm day or two, these are the times of rapid growth of the brood-nest.

The warming-up by the extra gathering of food, coupled with a rise in temperature, gives the preparatory vim that sets the whole united energy of the colony at work putting their house in order, and consequently moves them a stage forward. But the ingenuity of man has been directed to the supply of one continual dribble of food in such small quantity that unless Nature steps in and warms up the energy of the colony it would never grow to that effective "boiling over with bees" condition so requisite to secure that record quantity that maketh glad the heart of the bee-keeper when he totals up the results of the season.—W. W. in *British Bee Journal*

The Need of Thoroughness, Perseverance and Specialty.

I am sorry that such a large percent. of the people who keep bees do not realize the necessity of being thorough in everything connected with the business. Far too many of them are looking for "some other business to go with it," not knowing that hardly one man in a thousand is smart enough to be cut in two, and two men made of him. I have always known that I never was; therefore, I have given my bees my whole attention, as a business, for nearly 50 years. The chances to succeed in bee-keeping are, I think, better now than I have ever known them to be; but, like all other lines of business, you must be thorough in all the details. The time is past when the lazy, careless, shiftless man can compete with the man who puts lots of hard work, energy, and perseverance into his business. In conclusion I will say, either attend to your bees as they should be, or else sell them to some one who will, and then turn your attention to something else.—E. W. Alexander in *Bee Keepers Review*.