

## THE BEE-KEEPERS' PARLIAMENT.

RE-ORGANIZED—  
IMPORTANT CHANGES.

### FOR JUNE NUMBER OF JOURNAL.

Artificial ripening of honey as opposed to ripening of honey by the bees in the hive. What benefits are to be derived by either system? Which is preferable? (Not more than three-hundred words.)

### FOR JULY NUMBER OF JOURNAL.

Suggestions applicable to July, that will aid in the successful wintering of bees. (Not more than three-hundred words.)

### FOR AUGUST NUMBER OF JOURNAL.

Suppose that your comb honey is yet on the hive. Handle it until ready for the wholesale or retail market. (Not more than three-hundred words.)

### FOR SEPTEMBER NUMBER OF JOURNAL.

What can you do during September, to assist in successful wintering of apiary, (not more than three hundred words.)

"To what extent is the prevention of swarming desirable? What method shall be adopted?"

I want to be counted in with the majority of the brethren, advocating one swarm per season, and one only. It is a fact, as I have always claimed, that the two will produce more honey, and consequently more money, than the one alone. Therefore, it seems to me to be plain, we should "raise" one colony, and prevent all further effort in that direction. But how? Well, my method is to keep all queen cells cut out, attending to the job at ten day intervals. This is the only safe and practical way.

W. M. BARNUM.

Denver, Col.

No doubt there will be a great difference of opinion of your correspondents as to what extent is the prevention of swarming desirable.

It is only desirable to the extent that as it makes less labor and a larger yield of honey. All the devices hitherto advocated for the prevention of all swarms, make more work than allowing the bees to swarm at least once. I believe just as much honey, if not more can be secured by allowing the bees to swarm once. More

than once is not desirable unless you want bees instead of honey. The surest and possibly the best way to prevent second swarms is to examine the colony that has swarmed on the eighth day and destroy all the queen cells, making sure before doing so that one has hatched. It is advisable to shake the bees from the frames when looking for cells so as not to miss any. Not only this, but the new swarms should always be hived on the old stand. This sends all the working force with the swarm, in many cases preventing any second swarms without further trouble. If preferred, keep the old colony close by and on the seventh day after swarming move it far enough away, so that the flying bees will go with the swarm. This should remove any desire to swarm again.

G. A. DEADMAN,  
Brussels.

I think it depends on the number of colonies I have and the number I want to keep. If I had ten colonies and wanted more I would let them swarm twice, but if I did not want increase and wanted to get all the honey I could from them, I should try and keep them from getting the swarming fever, but if a colony makes any preparation for swarming, I think it is a waste of time to try and prevent them doing so, just let them swarm, they will do more after swarming than they would if you went on tinkering with them trying to prevent it.

The method I adopt to prevent increase is to give them plenty of room in the upper stories, also lots of ventilation, and then if any get the swarming fever let them swarm. If two swarms come off at the same time unite them, hive them in a new hive filled with foundation, and in six days cut out all the queen cells but one and unite all the old stock placing one on top of the other, if only one swarm at a time, hive it in a new hive filled with foundation and cut out all the cells in the old hive and place it above the surplus cases.

Stratford.

JOHN MYERS.

Every man must to a large extent answer this question for himself. There are many bee-keepers however, who allow too much swarming of bees. There are others who attempt to keep down swarming by removing queen cells, or prevent increase by returning swarms, these latter practices are to be avoided. In a locality where fall honey flows are rare and unlikely, it is well to prevent swarming to the extent that it can be prevented by shading the hive. Giving room in time and plenty of it, by ventilation of the proper kind. In producing extracted honey, using