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B swarm A came off again and lit on the very spot from which I had a few minutes previously taken swarm B; in fact, I had to carry swarm B to the stand to get them out of the way, so that I might shake down swarm A.

Soon my wife called that swarm A was off again, and, sure enough, about a handful of them came off and went off post-haste to the woods, and I lost them. The remainder of swarm A came off shortly after and filled the air. But now comes what I think is the unusual part of the program. According to rule, these bees from swarm A, having lost their queen, which had gone to the woods, ought to have returned to their parent hive. A few of them did so, but the great part went in with swarm B, which, as I said, I had placed on the stand. This, I think, is proof again that you cannot always tell how bees will act. And I suppose that is because they are females.

Kaslo, B.C.

H. BEER.

[Are you not just a little hard on the "females?" Your experience is nothing new in swarming-time. There are various kinds of swarms—a prime swarm, that goes out with the old queen; a swarm (usually small) that goes out with a virgin queen when they are superseding. If there is only one virgin they usually go back. This accounts for a swarm returning. Should there be more than one virgin queen on the wing at this time, a bunch of bees may leave with one of them. There is, however, another problem that often arises that is puzzling. If your queens are clipped, and a swarm issues without your knowing it, or perhaps not knowing which hive they came out of, the probabilities are you will lose your clipped queen. In this case the swarm will go back and will issue again as soon as they have reared new queens. Under these circumstances, you will lose this swarm if you are not at hand to take care of it. The bees know that they can now swarm, and seek a new home with one of the young queens, as the hive is left safe for a young queen, anyway, either hatched or about to hatch, as there is sometimes a day or two difference between the ages of cells. The mixing up of swarms is a very embarrass-

ing thing when it happens. But there seems to be no way of preventing it sometimes. There are many unusual things happening in a bee-yard that test the skill and judgment of the operator.—Ed.]

ADVANTAGE OF YOUNG BEES FOR WINTERING—SECTIONS

It is some time since you have heard from me, but that was because I have been too busy to find something to write about. Last fall I wrote you telling how I tried to have young bees only wintered, and those hives so treated have produced one or more supers of sections than those not touched. They were always boiling over with bees, so this fall I am going to give every hive the same chance.

Another thing I have found out is the advantages of the sectional and eight-frame deep body. So far the eight-frame $9\frac{1}{2}$ " body is ahead, both with ease of handling and results. In another paper I could describe the system by which I make use of the defects of the deep hive and prevent swarming, and was sure the other hive beat any other for comb honey, and my prejudice died hard.

I used two widths of sections this year, the $1\frac{5}{8}$ " and 1 15-16", and under same conditions the narrow sections were far better filled than the wider; but they are much objected to on account of the light weight, and they cost a bee-keeper just as much as a heavier one. Alsike lasted nearly four weeks, but white didn't count for much; basswood about five days. Bees are now on sweet clover. I must report a fair crop, but not equal to 1908, either in quantity or quality.

WM. A. LISHMAN.

Cayuga, Ont.

[Glad to hear from you again, and we hope you will let us have the paper describing your system of work and prevention of swarming. Yes, abundance of young, well-fed bees are what is requisite to successful wintering. The bee-keeper who keeps this point in view, and also keeps his queens young and full of vigor, will be successful in reaping the harvest.—Ed.]