

MATING OF YOUNG QUEENS.

Supposing the queen-cells have been inserted on the fourteenth day, in two days more the young queens will emerge, and when about five days old, if the weather be favourable, they will take their "wedding flight," and in about four days after meeting the drone will commence to lay, when they may be made use of, though they should be allowed to fill the combs with eggs before removal.

PREPARING FOR SURPLUS HONEY.

In an average season the main honey-flow is well on at the beginning of this month, and plenty of working-room should be provided from now forward. As a rule the extracting season in the northern part of the Dominion does not commence earlier than about the 12th, and later further south. In any case, do not let the hives be overcrowded before giving more working-room by extracting, and if working for comb honey remove the section boxes as soon as finished, but not before all cells are sealed.

COMB *v.* EXTRACTED HONEY.

For the sake of economy I always advise beginners to start raising comb honey in sections. There is no honey-extractor or tank needed then; but as soon as it is decided to go into beekeeping for commercial purposes in a clover district, then by all means get the necessary appliances and go in for extracted honey. Larger crops can be raised with less trouble and expense, a readier sale and better prices can be obtained for the latter than for comb honey, and it will carry to distant markets better.

KEEP DOWN SWARMING.

Make every effort from now forward to keep down swarming in the manner suggested in previous notes. Remember that the more swarming the smaller will the honey crop be. Plenty of working-room in advance of requirements is the best way of preventing swarming. When placing on an extra surplus box always put the new and empty one next the brood-chamber and under the others.

Keep all weeds and grass down around the hives, and always have the apiary tidy.

The Garden Island Honey Company, of Honolulu, is planning to establish a breeding-station for the improvement of Italian bees on an isolated island of the group, as soon as necessary arrangements can be made. The company hopes not only to improve the bees, but also to furnish an early supply of queens to beekeepers in the United States.