CONTEMPORARY METHOD OF SPLITTING

To make each split: Take two brood frames plus one frame of honey and give them two shakes of bees off brood combs along with old queen and then move two miles away. On queen-less splits, move two miles away and then give a cell or caged queen.

You need to move these starts two miles away so that the bees stay put because there is a lot of stress on that start to seal the unsealed brood. By giving a cell or queen you have relieved that two-frame split from having to raise a queen which they would not be able to do with quality.
Doolittle put honey frames into the brood nest and then shook all the bees into it. He then added a brood frame that was about one-third full along with the old queen. Next, he put on sections with a bait section so that the bees would move all the honey that was in the brood nest into the sections (bees will not tolerate honey in the brood nest). The one-third frame of brood would hold the queen and give her room to lay so that she would not swarm.

Doolittle gave the bee-less brood to a support colony above an excluder (as explained in chapter 4 of his book). One week later he would remove the brood box which would then have all sealed brood and place it in the same yard and give it a cell that he raised by grafting in a full-strength cell builder. The split would work because there were enough bees that stayed with the split and there was no stress because all the brood was sealed and the cell was already produced.
**MEL’S MODULE: HEALTHY, RAPID, POPULATION EXPANSION IN 3 EASY STEPS**

Sealed Brood, Same Yard, Successful Queens

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Step 1</strong></th>
<th><strong>Step 2</strong></th>
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| **Remove overwintered queen with 2 brood frames**
  **(to serve as future increase)**
| **Notch 36-hour-or-younger larvae on six different frames in queen-less cell builder** |
| ![Overwintered hive](image1) 8 frames of brood | ![Queen-less cell builder](image2) 6 frames of brood |
| ![2-brood-frame start](image3) Move two miles with old queen | ![2-brood-frame start](image4) Two miles away with old queen |

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<th><strong>Step 3</strong></th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>One week later:</strong> check cell builder for sealed queen cells on notched frames and make 2-brood-frame starts utilizing queen-celled frames. Destroy excess queen cells to prevent mini-swarms</td>
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<tr>
<td><img src="image5" alt="2-brood-frame start" /> Move two miles with sealed queen cell</td>
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HOW TO MAKE THE MOST OUT OF YOUR HONEY FLOW
Don’t Underestimate the Value of Drawn Comb

Overwintered hive with 20 drawn comb and 8 frames of brood 1 week before swarming starts in your area

Notch one comb

Now Drawing Comb + Honey

One week after notching, break down all queen cells except two

Value of Drawing Comb

Original price of frame: ~$1.50
Selling price: $5-6
Profit: $3-4 or $24-32/hive

Value of Honey

Check hive in 35 days and because there are no brood to feed, the bees should store over 100 lbs of honey and you will have a newly-mated queen. If queen fails to mate, you still have the over-wintered queen as well as the surplus honey

Remove and move 2+ miles away the over-wintered queen + 2 frames of brood + 3 extra frames. This leaves the original hive with 15 drawn comb, 6 of which have brood. Notch one of those brood combs that has 36-hour-or-younger larvae. (Note: the Queen is located on a brood frame in this illustration)

Because bees have emerged in this past week and all the open brood is now sealed, the bees have extra capacity to draw comb to extend brood nest. Placing foundation between brood frames stimulates the bees to draw those combs in order to keep brood nest intact

One week later, this is how the original hive is reassembled on the original location. (Note: the Queen cells are located on and count as a brood frame in this illustration)
EXAMPLES OF YOUNG LARVAE (MARKED IN RED)
AN EXAMPLE OF LARVAE THAT ARE TOO OLD
ROYAL JELLY IS A GOOD CLUE THAT THE LARVAE ARE VERY YOUNG
SPRING 2011: ENTERING THE HIVES FOR THE FIRST TIME
SPRING 2011: ENTERING THE HIVES FOR THE FIRST TIME