

tractor with very good success. E. H. Sturtevant uses the Doolittle method. He could make, with very little labor, fine wax ready for use from old combs.

Reports of the members for the season of 1914 showed that the crop of honey throughout the State was rather light. Some localities reported a good yield, but it was obliterated by the shortage in other places.

The question box was next opened.

What can the association do to prevent injury to bees from spraying of fruit trees?

J. E. Crane recommended the distribution among the farmers of a pamphlet by A. I. Koot upon the subject of spraying. Educate the farmers as to the best time to spray.

Would a colony of bees be worth as much the following spring if when the supers of honey were taken off the bees were destroyed instead of letting them return to the hive again?

R. H. Holmes thought it would be detrimental to them. He wants both young and old bees for wintering.

H. B. Isham wants August to September bees to winter. J. E. Crane wintered a colony successfully that were queenless after the middle of July.

#### EVENING SESSION, JANUARY 30.

"What I think of House Apiaries, and how to work with one." H. H. Burge. "I have a house holding fifty-two colonies, the lumber of which cost \$50. Have used it one year. There was not much difference from the chaff hives in the production of honey last season, but the work could be carried on much easier because everything was more convenient and accessible. One is not as apt to be stung. Fall feeding was much easier than when the colonies were out of doors.

"What has been done at the Experiment Station," C. W. Fisher. During the winter the temperature of the bee room in the apiary varied considerably. Records were made which showed that at times the thermometer changed 30 to 35 degrees in the course of five hours. The hives were well packed in chaff or sawdust, with cushions of same on top and a dead air space below. The temperature in the brood-nests also changed; sometimes there was a variation of fifteen degrees in the same period of time. The bees wintered very well, not seeming to be affected by the changes. The spring was so very early there was no chance to do experimental work in spring feeding. The colonies averaged heavier, in the spring, wintered in the house than in chaff hives outside. The honey yield was much above that of the State in general, notwithstanding the experimental work.

Mr. D. D. Howe, Farm Superintendent, first said that the Board of Control of the Station commended the work done the year and they requested that experiments be prescribed for another year. Director J. L. Hills requested that a report be prepared for the yearly bulletin. Mr. Howe then gave results of the experiment with the Langdon non-swarmers. Four colonies were run with the non-swarmers through the swarming season. There was no swarming. The colonies were much weakened during the time because the queens nearly stopped laying. Two of them were destroyed by the bees before the non-swarmers were removed. The directions as to changes, etc., were closely followed. However, a good many capped queen cells were cut out. The first capped cells that were destroyed by the bees was July 6 after the non-swarmers had been on a month. The yield of honey from either set was not as much as from single colonies equally heavy at the commencement of the honey flow.

Mr. O. J. Lowrey read the experiments that were accepted by the Board of Control to be tried during the past year. A row of evergreens was set around the yard for a wind break. One of these experiments, which was carried on under Mr. Lowrey's supervision, was for the purpose of determining whether the bees added to or chemically changed sugar syrup when transferring it to the cells. Empty combs were given colonies in the fall, and sugar syrup was fed. One colony was fed three pounds, another twenty pounds per day. After feeding it was extracted and samples taken which were chemically analyzed.

The samples taken were numbered 2, 3, 4 and 5. Nos. 2 and 3 were from the colony fed twenty pounds and Nos. 4 and 5 from the one fed three pounds per day. If these honeys were sold in open market, sampled and analyzed, Nos. 2 and 3 would be condemned as adulterated with cane sugar without question, and Nos. 4 and 5 almost without question.

A very interesting letter was read from V. V. Blackmer, who has moved to San Mateo, Florida and purchased an interest in the apiary of A. F. Brown.

#### FORENOON SESSION, JANUARY 31.

The convention assembled at 8.30 and listened to the reports of the committees. The committee on nomination of officers of the association for the ensuing year gave their report, which was accepted and the nominees elected as follows:—

PRESIDENT—H. W. Scott, Barre.

VICE-PRESIDENTS—Addison Co., Miss M. A. Douglass, Shoreham; Chittenden Co.,