

Eighteenth Annual Meeting

OF THE ONTARIO BEE-KEEPERS' ASSOCIATION.



Continued.

able to see that there is any very great difference. I imagine that the bees do not work with the regularity that some of our poets have supposed them to, and the season and the flow of honey and many other circumstances have an effect upon this matter of wax and its production, and consequently I am not surprised at finding that we are not able to draw conclusions showing that there are great differences between waxes somewhat similar in weight. I think I have brought before you practically the lines of work that we have been engaged in and the results that we have obtained. I do not hope and I do not expect that these results will solve the question as to the relative usefulness of various foundations to the bee-keepers, because I am fully aware that there are other considerations that must be thought of besides that of furnishing the wax for material in comb building, but I think that we have arrived at conclusions as far as that point itself is concerned, which are of some importance and value to bee-keepers. I trust that there will be some little discussion on this point, so that if we find it possible to continue this work we may start it with more information that we have had in the past. (Applause.)

Mr. Holmes—Mr. Chairman and brother bee-keepers, before this discussion, which may take place, is opened I would like to make a motion. I think we have been very highly favored by the most elaborate and instructive lecture that we have listened to, and the very concise reports of the experiments conducted under the supervision of the learned professor, and not only so, but I think we have been highly honored by his presence in our midst to-night, therefore it affords me very great pleasure to move that the best thanks of this association be tendered to Professor Shutt for his presence here and for the great favor he has conferred upon this association on this occasion.

Mr. Gemmell—I have much pleasure in seconding that.

The President put the motion, which, on a vote being taken, was carried amid applause.

Prof. Shutt—I do not deserve all this kindness, but I may say that as regards my presence here, those thanks should be conveyed to the Minister of Agriculture to whom you owe my presence here. As far as I am personally concerned, I am very pleased to come; I have been wishing to come for the last two or three years so that I could present personally these results. I know, in some measure they have been brought before you by others, but I thought when I was the one who was doing the work that no one else could really understand it in the same way and interpret it in the same way as I could, and when the invitation came I said to the Minister that although these results had come before you I thought I could probably add a few words of explanation, which would be of use to the association. He said, "well, if you think you can be of any value you may go". I thought if I was to continue this work, I wanted to get the voice of the association as to whether I was on the right lines, so that our work can be useful and practical, making our investigations and results of benefit, and I thought it was necessary, in order to do that, that I should get some further light upon the question.

Mr. Holtermann—With regard to the melting point of wax at 145 degrees and paraffine at 130, degrees, I understand some of these paraffine products have different melting points. I also understand that the melting point of some is so high that in Germany—I remember particularly Germany being mentioned in the European Bee Journals—they utilized a certain per centage of these paraffine products and not wax alone in the production of foundation.

Prof. Shutt—I just mentioned that fact to show our work at the Experimental Farm had been useful. Beeswax can be adulterated with vegetable waxes which