

few men in a committee room. One suggestion leads to another and "in the multitude of counselors there is wisdom." The questions in the question box (often of importance) are frequently referred to a committee to be answered. A discussion in full convention is more likely to bring out the truth. If any one has any topic or question that he would like discussed and will not be present to ask for its discussion, let him write to me at once and I will see that the matter is brought to the notice of the convention. The discussion of a topic often leads to another which it would be very desirable to discuss, but lack of time prevents. It is believed that the above programme will allow a reasonable time for the discussion of these interesting side-questions that are continually springing up.

W. Z. HUTCHINSON, Sec.

FOR THE CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL.

YELLOW BEES.

In issue of the CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL of November 15th, appeared an article under the above heading, by S. E. Miller. Now, as I have had some experience with this strain of bees, perhaps a few lines from me would not be amiss.

Mr. Miller appears to believe that in breeding five-banded bees, breeders generally lose sight of, or sacrifice every other good quality for color. Very likely he has good reason for thinking as he does, still I cannot imagine what they can be; but I will admit that for a breeder who is surrounded by all kinds of bees, and who would probably have to mate fifty or a hundred queens to get one mated just right, the temptation to use the yellowest for breeding purposes, irrespective of other good qualities, must be very great.

But why cannot the same be said of the breeder of the three banded leather colored bees, or the Carniolans, or any other race of bees? Why is he not as apt to sacrifice good qualities for color? No, Mr. Miller, I beg your pardon, but I do think you are just a little off the track.

A breeder who breeds at all extensively,

and who has any control of mating, could perhaps show you a hundred queens producing bees so near alike that you could not tell the difference. Now, suppose this breeder wishes to select one queen from the hundred for a breeding queen, would it not be reasonable to suppose that he would carefully consider every good quality in selecting? Certainly he would, for there is all to be gained and nothing lost by so doing.

My experience with the five-banded bees as honey gatherers is just the reverse of Mr. Miller's.

Since first introducing them they have each season outstripped all our other bees in honey getting, and we have had the Germans, the German and Italian crosses, the Carniolans and the Carniolans and the Italian crosses, and the three-banded and leather colored Italian during the past season. The difference was so great that there can be no mistake, and our verdict is "they are hustlers." Of course our stock may be superior as honey getters to what Mr. Miller has tried, and while we are right in this respect, he may be also.

In conclusion, Mr. Miller says, (and I heartily agree), let us rear our queens by the very best methods. Let us breed for all desirable qualities and beauty along with them; but if anything must be left out, let it be the fourth and fifth bands rather than some of the more desirable qualities.

Now, Friend Miller, you are on the track again, but when you see the coming bee you'll find it hasn't got even a black tail.

A. W. BROWN,

Port Rowan, Dec. 12th. 1892.

Canada will spend one thousand dollars for an apicultural exhibit at the Columbian Exposition.

A Californian who has six thousand colonies producing two hundred thousand pounds of honey yearly is said to be the largest beekeeper in the world.

Best breeds do not insure most profit without proper treatment.

If you cannot have all your stock of the best, have the best you can.