

to enter into that discussion about the law being passed. My own opinion is that it is in the interest of the combined industry.

Mr. CASTON: I know a man in our neighborhood who began by hunting up trees; he got the bees in the woods, and now he makes an income of about \$500 every year clear from his summer's work with the bees, and in the winter-time he is free to go at something else. He does not work as hard as the farmers do, or as hard as I do; and he has frequently advised me to keep a few colonies of bees in connection with my work. I am very glad when I see my neighbor's bees among the blossoms, and I would be sorry to see anything that would reduce the number of bees in the country, because I recognize their usefulness. I am waiting till the bee-keepers produce a bee that has no sting. (Laughter).

Mr. LITTLE asked whether bees would fertilize strawberries?

Mr. L. J. MULLET (Waterdown): Bees work very little on strawberries. Raspberries they derive a great deal of honey from. I think they are a great benefit as regards strawberries; but the gentleman would have to have perfect flowering plants to fertilize his strawberries with. Some fruit-growers claim that bees injure peaches and grapes. That is, I believe, caused by hornets, whose jaws or mandibles are so placed for sawing. The bee has not that power to puncture the skin of the grape or peach.

Mr. HOLTERMANN: There has been a great deal of experimenting done in that direction, and I think it has been conclusively shown that the honey bee's mandibles are not sufficiently strong to puncture the skin of the grape or peach; but if a grape or a peach should break open or be bruised, then the bee will take the juice.

Mr. ALLAN (Goderich): I do not see anything injurious to fruit-growers in the Act forbidding them to spray with poisonous substances while the bloom is on; for a fruit-grower who understands his business will not spray then—there is no object in doing so, but quite the contrary; and it should be the object of every fruit-grower to take good care not to spray at a time when he would injure the bees, because the bees are among the best friends we have. I have noticed bees feeding upon the pieces of the grapes and pears; but I believe they never do so except when the skin of the fruit has been broken.

Mr. PATTISON: My neighbor on the west is the largest bee-keeper in our section of the country, and is distinctly making a success of it; and he also grows a very considerable amount of fruit, as well as attending to a farm of 125 acres of arable land. His fruit-growing and bee-keeping are decidedly a success—especially the bee-keeping. I see no reason why the two could not be combined; the only thing would be not to grow small fruits. My neighbor confines himself to grapes, pears, plums and apples.

Mr. HOLTERMANN: My father-in-law, S. T. Pettit, of Belmont, commenced with 69 colonies, and secured 8,000 pounds this year; and his increase he counts as nothing. I have known years in which he made as much as \$1,200 on honey alone.

REPRESENTATION ON AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE BOARD.

Mr. CAVERS (Galt) gave notice of motion as to representation of this Association on the Advisory Committee of the Agricultural College at Guelph. [See discussion further on.]

DISEASES IN FRUIT TREES.

Mr. E. D. SMITH, Chairman of the Committee, appointed to consider amendments to the Act relating to black-knot in trees, reported as follows: