

upon the principles of wintering in which Messrs. McKenzie, Malcolm, Myers, Bueglass Bros., Willows, Beckett, Mott, and others took part. Points touched upon, bees should not have both upward and lower ventilation.

In a repository the weakest colonies should be placed at the top, the strongest at the bottom, as the temperature at the ceiling is higher than at the floor.

If cellar is moist the temperature should be higher than if dry as the atmosphere can retain a greater percentage of moisture as the temperature is raised. Whilst colonies within, when temperature is high, may do without upward ventilation, those wintered outside should have some provision on top for absorbing moisture and retarding in consequence keeping in the hive of the heat.

Bees are handled too much; if strong they should be left alone as much as possible and not paupered in the way they generally are.

Bees should be taken out as soon as possible if very restless; otherwise leave them in repository (to avoid spring dwindling) as long as possible.

Rev. W. F. Clarke then gave an interesting account of the late New York Bee-Keepers' Convention and his visit to L. C. Root.

"The honey market" and "The reversible hive," were the leading topics.

As to honey there was a general impression it would have to come down yet. It was generally admitted the local press had not been made use of sufficiently and the public educated about honey. This would create a demand. The reversible frame and Heddon hive had been looked upon with very strong doubts by a large majority of the practical bee-keepers much to Mr. Clarke's surprise. Mr. Root had his bees in fine condition; they were wintering well.

Next came a paper by Mr. Allen Pringle, of Seby. No doubt it will be published in the C. B. J., as it has been forwarded.

There was one point which those present found might be misleading, viz:

The handling was dwelt upon fully, and the caution about too much handling being dangerous comparatively little. Those present generally favored handling colonies, whose outward indication showed they were prosperous, very little in fact, not at all during cool weather. They agreed with Mr. Pringle that it was an injury to build up weak at the expense of strong, unless the queen was a valuable one. It was thought this was an important and valuable point and did not agree with popular opinion at present.

Mr. L. C. Root then gave a paper upon "Ventilation for the hives."

Many of us know Mr. Root as an extensive and successful bee-keeper. He has tried ventilation and stated in his paper found marked beneficial results from the use of a ventilator even as large as 10 x 12 inches. A solid slide can be put in the place of a screen. It kept down swarming and also kept bees at work better. The paper was looked upon as of great value although only dwelling upon one point and almost all present decided to experiment with the ventilator.

Next came a paper by Mr. S. Corneil, of Lindsay. He gave it as his private opinion that comb honey would have to be shipped to the Colonial 1 doz. sections in a crate and six crates in a larger packing case, the latter being sufficiently large to permit of ample packing of straw amongst the within crates. He thought this would be the plan adopted by the commissioners. This was followed by a paper upon honey which I cannot do better than report as found in the *Toronto Daily Mail*, 2nd March.

Mr. R. F. Holterman, of Brantford, gave an essay upon honey. What is it? What shall we do with it? He gave the chemical constituents of honey; compared its value with fruits preserved and canned, showing that its nourishing properties were far ahead of the latter. A quart of honey costs less than the same bulk of fruit. Honey was not injured by contact with the atmosphere, neither moulding, fermenting, nor in any other way deteriorating as a food. He urged upon Canadian bee-keepers the importance of sending only the best of honey to England. The British butter dealers did not care to handle Canadian butter, because 5 per cent was good, a little fair, the balance bad. They had to prole to the bosom of every package. Danish butter they never need look at, every package was as represented. Let them (Canadian honey producers) act as do the Danish, and now from the commencement establish a reputation. They must expect competition in Europe, and only by dealing in the way described they could expect to succeed. The grand display would put honey in the hands of people never having used it before."

The Brant Bee-Keepers' Association was inaugurated at the close of the meeting; the following officers were elected:—E. C. Edmonson, President; R. F. Holterman, Brantford, Secretary and Treasurer. Fourteen were at once enrolled; several have since been added.

The objects of the society were briefly spoken of. They were preventive of foul brood; the gathering of statistics in full for Brant County; giving per annum No. of bee-keepers; No. of colonies in spring; No. in fall; cost in winter-