

us in scientific terms the nature of bee-food, and the process of assimilation. He has maintained that bees cannot breed without pollen, and that they cannot stand work without taking nitrogenous food. If they take that food it must be digested and the feces excreted. Well, Mr. Barber and Mr. Hall have proved that bees breed largely, *i. e.*, work hard, and therefore must eat and digest strong food. The inferences are plain. The bees, if they excrete, do it in dry feces. They must excrete, that is clear. Therefore there is no danger in having pollen in the hive. On the contrary, it is necessary.

Thomas G. Newman, chairman of the committee on statistics, reported as follows: There were 103 members present, but quite a number had given no report of the past season's operations. Those reported summed up as follows:

Bees.—Colonies last May..... 4,283
Increase..... 3,195

Total now..... 7,479

Honey.—In comb.....lbs, 155,354
Extracted..... " 86,928

Total honey produced.....lbs, 242,282

Beeswax produced.....lbs, 2,233

Honey Unsold.—Comb.....lbs, 43,275
Extracted..... " 33,425

Total honey unsold.....lbs, 76,700

Only about one-third present at the meeting had become members of the Society, and only about one-quarter of those present were included in the statistical report.

The smallest report was: 1 colony last spring, increased to 5, giving 43 pounds of extracted honey.

The largest report was: 47 colonies in May, 740 in the fall. Honey obtained from them 38,000 pounds in comb, and 6,000 pounds of extracted; 125 pounds of beeswax—all having been sold except 2,000 pounds of extracted honey.

All other reports of bees and honey varied between these. It was requested that no statistical table be published—the aggregate amounts being all that will serve the interests of bee-keepers in general.

The report was received and adopted, and the committee discharged.

The committee to whom was referred the address of Mr. T. G. Newman on the National Bee-keeper's Union, reported in favor of uniting the two societies. Mr. Heddon, president of the Union, remarked that he did not quite see how it could be done, and the resolution was tabled.

The committee on resolutions reported the following, which were unanimously adopted:

The committee on resolutions recommended that the thanks of the Society be, and are hereby presented to the retiring President, Secretary and Committee of Arrangements, for their energetic and efficient services in connection with this meeting.

To the railroads by which reduced fares were given to members attending this meeting.

To the proprietors of the Antisdel House for reduced rates, excellent fare, and polite attentions.

To the editors of the various bee-periodicals, also the publishers of the *Prairie Farmer*, for the publication of early and full notices of this meeting.

The committee also recommended the adoption of the following resolutions:

Resolved, That this society has felt it an especial privilege and pleasure to have had the presence of the patriarch of American apiculture in the person of Rev. L. L. Langstroth. It has gratefully appreciated the active part that he has been enabled to take in the discussions at this meeting, and rejoices that still, in his old age, he is enabled to do something for his favorite pursuit. The warm affection and best wishes of all present will hover about him so long as he shall be spared in this life, and his memory will be held dear while honey distills and bees fly.

Resolved, That a committee of one be appointed to present to the Commissioner of Agriculture our appreciation of his valuable efforts to aid our business in urging the importance of apiarian statistics, and suggest our desires in respect to the chemical examinations which we deem very important to our pursuit.

Resolved, That we appreciate the presence of ladies in larger numbers than ever before, particularizing Mrs. L. Harrison, of the *Prairie Farmer*, and Miss Johnson, of the *Michigan Farmer*.

Resolved, That the thanks of the North American Bee-keeper's Society are due to Prof. C. V. Riley and to the United States Government for its action in forming an experimental station for the promotion of apiculture.

Resolved, That we tender the thanks of this Society to the Department of Agriculture in sending to our meeting in Detroit, Prof. McLain, and for the able paper he has presented to us.

Resolved, That we recognize this step of the Department of Agriculture as in the right direction, and bespeak for it your continued support.

Resolved, That we recommend to the Department the making of accurate reports of all data concerning the production of honey, and have them embodied in the usual agricultural reports.

Resolved, That the Secretary of this Society