

Bro. W. Z. Hutchinson is revelling in the possession of a new house, built to his manner and liking. Soon may it be paid for and long may he and his good wife enjoy it, is our best New Year's wish.

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The Chicago Northwestern Bee-Keepers' Association held their thirteenth convention recently at Chicago. Dr. Miller and W. Z. Hutchinson were present, also Mr. R. F. Holtermann from Canada. The meeting was a very interesting one.

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There has been a smart movement in new subscribers for the C. B. J. during the past month, which is most encouraging. Several of our readers have sent us in their neighbors' names, together with their own renewals. No bee-keeper can afford to be without the C. B. J.

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Mr. McEvoy's letter in this issue is pretty strong testimony to the effect that full combs of honey will bring bees through the winter and give them a big start off in the spring. He makes no allusion to the so-called "winter nest," but it is quite evident that there could be no winter nest unless the bees first cleaned out the cells. Would they clean out the cells and waste the honey? There would not be time for them to consume it in sufficient quantity to make a winter nest by the time cold weather arrived. That they would waste it, is unthinkable. That abundance of stores is a prime necessity all will agree. But we do not think that all will agree to a "winter nest" being made with deliberation. We are inclined to believe that it is the result of the ordinary consumption of stores from well-filled combs or of combs that have not been full. The cluster of bees keeps moving, rolling and working from inwards to outwards and vice versa. Being buried in a cell may be all right temporarily, but we do not think the bee would wish to remain there long.

OPINIONS ON HONEY PAILS.

Indexed

Mr. J. L. Byer.

Perhaps a few words of explanation might be in order, relative to the discussion on honey pails at the closing session of our late convention. Said explanation I deem to be really necessary after reading the editorial on the subject in the November C. B. J. In the first place it might be mentioned that in the season of 1908, the 10-pound pail gross weight size, i. e., the pail supposed to weigh 10 pounds pail and all, which was put out by the Macdonald Mfg. Co., was too small and would not weigh the 10 pounds by quite a margin. The company learned of the mistake, and on the suggestions and instructions of one of our members, the size of the pail was corrected, and as far as I know is giving satisfaction. Personally, we use nothing but the five-pound pails, so can give no personal experience with the ten-pound pail as put out this season. However, the five-pound pail, gross weight size, which the most of us found satisfactory last year, was this year slightly reduced in size, and while it could be made to weigh five pounds, yet the pail had to be made too full to do so. As honey will never be heavier in body than was the case this season, quite a number thought that the pail should be made a trifle deeper, and the Macdonald Company were made aware of this at different times this past fall. Accordingly a member of the firm visited the convention at the last session and asked that instructions be given them as to the exact sizes required for both gross and net weight pails in the two or more sizes. While I am aware that the discussion that followed drifted off into comparative merits and demerits of the different styles of pails, yet that discussion was entirely foreign to the question at issue, as the manufacturers will make just what the bee-keepers ask for, in spite of any motion that the Association might choose to make to the contrary. Accord-

ingly after much consisting of Mr. and the writer, with the Macdonald fully decide by the correct sizes of different pails, be styles. A well much opposed weight size, remain as soon as the pail was made known, see what the decision the men on the has been no meeting yet, we feel that circumstances as given as there will be try and arrive at styles of pails. I so apprehensive mittee, thinks to dictate as to what size of pail, the to say that it was things thought would be very different none of our business he chooses to understand to others they cannot allow him?

So far we have desirability of another, and advantage if all pails made of a standard sibility is one of the great major now used are yet quite a lot turned out. The Macdonald people make both sizes the committee in view. While question can be arguments, yet weight size is particularly in