



THE LATE MR. ALLEN PRINGLE, SELBY, ONT.

amount exceeding the annual membership fee, without a majority vote of all the members of the Association.

Sec. 8.—Any member refusing or neglecting to pay said assessment as required by the Board of Directors shall forfeit his membership, and his right to become a member of the Association for one year after said assessment becomes due.

#### ARTICLE VII.—FUNDS.

The funds of this Association may be for any purpose that the Board of Directors may consider for the interest of the members of the association and in the interest of the pursuit of bee culture.

#### ARTICLE VIII.—VACANCIES.

Any vacancy occurring in the Board of Directors may be filled by the Executive Committee; and any vacancy occurring in the Executive Committee shall be filled by the Board of Directors.

#### ARTICLE IX.—MEETINGS.

This Association shall hold annual meetings such time and place as agreed upon by the Executive Committee.

#### ARTICLE X.—AMENDMENTS.

This Constitution may be altered or amended by a majority vote of the members provided notice of the said alteration or amendment has been given at a previous annual meeting.

## The Aims of Australian Apiculture.

From the Australia Agriculturist.

The principal aim of the Australian apiculturists should be to produce a first-rate honey-gathering bee, that surpasses all other varieties in this respect. What can be done by selection has already been proved by the increase in the yellow bands but this tends too much in the direction of creating merely fancy breeds, and is purposeless in improving the main object for which bees are kept—their honey production.

The advice I cannot too strongly urge is to aim at the lengthening of the tongue, together with activity, both of which are indicated by a good storage of honey.

If fancy colour or better appearances of the comb and other minor qualities can be combined with it there is no objection but it will be found difficult to achieve a desired quality at once when selecting; in fact I feel sure it cannot be done. One characteristic must be attended to at the time, in order to attain a striking result; for a selection that aims at too many things at once will never produce a decisive result in any particular direction. A famous judge of pigeons says: "The excellence of the Almond Tumbler lies in the plumage, carriage, head, beak and eyes, but it is too presumptuous to try for all these points from the beginning. There are some young fanciers who are over covetous, who go for all the above properties at once; they have their reward by getting nothing." The principle of aiming at one point of excellence must be steadily kept in view in preference to anything else, and the fancy colour mania ought to be sunk in favor of the practical aim of obtaining a more vigorous strain, and an extremely prolific honey gatherer.

The general conditions for the welfare of bees seem to me to be extraordinarily favorable in Australia, and consequently no difficulties should be met with in producing a vigorous race of bees which are excellent honey gatherers but I am also of the opinion that external influences are sufficiently strong to produce modifications in the character and the physique of the bee. The constant introduction of new blood has, however, prevented so far the indication of any special modification making itself felt. One might almost say that in the short space of time since bee-keeping has been earnestly attended to in Australia, the constantly imported foreign blood, and the