

# THE CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL.

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THE NORTH AMERICAN BEE-KEEPERS CONVENTION.

THE Convention just closed was one of the largest ever held, representatives being present from all parts of the United States and Canada, and the spacious hall was crowded to its utmost capacity there being hardly standing room for a number who had gathered to hear the speeches and essays to be delivered or read. The meeting was more than usually interesting as it was a gathering together of the most successful bee-keepers in America. Lady apiculturists, in goodly numbers occupied seats around the platform, while on the platform was our universally beloved friend, Rev. L. L. Langstroth. Next to him on the right sat our worthy president, L. C. Root, and on his left sat the worthy Secretary of the Society, Mr. W. Z. Hutchinson, who in his usual easy manner carefully noted in short-hand the proceedings of the meeting, which will appear in pamphlet form in due time. During the three days of the great apicultural Congress, with three sessions each day a vast amount of information was imparted and received; one note-worthy fact in connection with this great meeting was that the best of feeling prevailed on all sides throughout, nothing having been said or done to offend the most sensitive. Indeed it was a pleasure to glance over the room and see the bright cheerful faces, beaming with good humor and intelligence. At no time during the nine sessions was there one moment to spare, as there were always a number ready to take the floor and discuss each subject as it came before the meeting. Another feature worthy of note in connection with the Association was the presence of six ex-Presidents of the Society while the seventh (the newly-elected President) Mr. H. D. Cutting, occupied the chair. During the session, Father Langstroth frequently addressed the audience, seemingly with as much vigor

as in his younger days. The good results of this gathering must certainly have a favorable effect upon our industry. It is true that in Europe, especially Germany and Austria they have had very large gatherings of bee-keepers, probably larger in numbers than any we have had here, but for an array of advanced bee-keepers we think the Detroit convention can carry off the palm. Having secured all the essays and papers read and also noted many of the valuable points brought out during the discussions of the various subjects, we shall from time to time, and with as little delay as possible, have them appear in the JOURNAL together with a list of officers and members of the Association, and other interesting matters connected therewith.

The Detroit reporters have queer ideas of the business of bee-keeping, and their reports of the meeting are laughable in the extreme. They do not give reports at all reliable, and in this respect our Toronto papers are away ahead. A sample of the reporting will be found sufficiently ridiculous to be worthy of space, for the sake of giving our friends a good laugh, as we all had when the item was read in Convention.

"The Rev. Mr. Langstroth of Oxford, Ohio, prayed both for the producers and the consumers of honey. About 150 of the former were present and none of the latter, who had pressing engagements at home. Mr. Langstroth is an old bee benefactor, having studied their ways to such an extent that he can anticipate their wants. He invented the three-story 'bee mansion' so popular in apiary circles, in which the bee can retire to his closet when he feels like depositing in his bank without disclosing the size of his roll to envious neighbors. Each bee also has the combination to his own safe, and burglarious drones are often hustled before the queen for punishment for breaking and entering."

"One member of the association has a paper on the cure of habitual drunkenness in bees. It has been discovered since the last session that bees frequent cider mills and get intoxicated on pomace, preferring it to buds and blossoms and other æsthetic fancies. The case is cited of a bee, who was once a gentleman, having fallen so low in intemperance that he pawned his wife's honey two days ahead of production in order that he might indulge in strong pomace. This paper may be presented to the meeting to-day, and, if so, will open a deep discussion between rival bee-keepers."—*Journal*.