BRANT DISTRICT BEE-KEEPERS' CONVENTION

The annual convention of this Association was held in the County Council Chambers, Brantford, January 28th and 29th. There was a good attendance at all the sessions and a very interesting time throughout. The convention as a whole was conceded to be one of the most helpful and successful in the history of the Association. Mr. William L. Bayless, President of the Brant County Association, presided, and in his opening remarks spoke as follows:

In opening this, our annual meeting, it is with pleasure that the Brant County Bee-keepers welcome you as "friends and bee-keepers." I can assure you that we appreciate the honor of having the best bee men of our land come to our meetings. There are experts here on comb and extracted honey, home yard and out-yard, big hive and little hive, and how to manage your bees winter and summer. I had almost forgotten to mention the best bee doctors in the world to-day. Now, in the presence of such an array of talent I feel doubtful about saying anything about beekeeping, so will say only a few words on the importance of our industry. Our industry is one of the most important in Canada to-day. I do not mean in the production of honey alone, but in the benefits it bestows on all our people—the farmer, the fruit men, and also the people of our towns and cities. You may ask, what benefit does the farmer derive from the bee? Well, does he not get the seed from his clover altogether, or nearly so, by the aid of the honey bee; and all our agricultural friends know they would be in a poor position without their clover to enrich their soil for their other grain crops and hay and pasture for their fine dairy herds. The fruit man may select a site for his orchard, and plant the best trees of the many fine varieties, and till the ground and spray, prune and do all that the Government professors tell them to do. But the honey bee is their best friend, for without the agency of the bee



WM. L. BAYLESS President, Brant B. K. A.

they would have no crop, or a very poor one, to pay them for their time and outlay. The benefit to the people of the towns and cities is by helping the farmer and fruit men in their efforts to produce different lines and supply our people with the best milk, cheese, butter and fine fruits of all kinds in abundance. Who will say that the little honey bee is not of the greatest importance to all mankind? Is not the product of our apiaries -the delicious honey that the bee works so hard to gather for us-esteemed and sought after more and more every year? It will be thought more of as a necessity than a luxury than it has been in the past. If we will supply only the best to our customers our only trouble will be to produce enough to supply the demand. We thank the Ontario Government for their assistance in this convention, and I think we should also give them credit for the way they have helped the beekeepers in sending out some of the best men in our ranks to cure the brood diseases that have been so disastrous in the If we can show cause why we should have assistance we feel that we will be liberally dealt with and the country well repaid for the money expended. I hope the many splendid papers to be

read will be so that they industry, but existing amo tend a hearty hope you will able time at may rememb. County Bee-k

Feb. 1909

Conditions

Opening Paper

In reporting keeping in the take the Brand basis of my The number of local Association neighborhood of fall count, almost year ago. These estimate as being bees in the dist dius of, say, two think we would number of colon thousand.

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