

instruction given is not plain enough to be grasped by the mind of the average amateur or novice, and turned to practical account at once?

It may be that the object for which we are working makes a difference, and the advice that would be suitable at one time would not do for another. If that is so, why is it that the different results are not stated?

I do not wish to intimate that the statements are not correct, far from it. I believe they are not only correct, but in nearly every case the advice is given with a desire to help, and I cannot understand it unless there is a lack somewhere, some trifling act overlooked or some little preparation forgotten. And yet on these very little things has hinged the success or failure of the experiment.

For instance, one of our best writers has taken for his motto "Keep all colonies strong." Very good,—extremely so in the honey season—and still it would be quite interesting to know how many of us have found that very strong colonies are not the best for wintering.

Again, there are some supply dealers who do a very good business in foundation mills, and give instructions to their customers how to handle their wax. All very good as far as it goes; but if the purchaser tries to do his work in a comfortable room he will be ready to return the machine, and sell his wax for anything he can get, until he finds out that all instructions are useless unless carried out in a room where the thermometer registers somewhere from 98° to 110°.

Now, Mr. President, and bee-keeping friends, I leave this with you. If this paper should prompt questions and draw out answers that will throw light on some of the difficulties above mentioned, and help some of us over the sand banks into smooth water I shall be satisfied. It will then have accomplished the purpose for which it was written.

#### AFTERNOON SESSION.

At the afternoon meeting it was moved by W. McEvoy, seconded by Dr. Duncan, that the questions in Mr. Darling's paper be handed to the editor of the C.B.J., and that he be requested to send them out to prominent beekeepers, and have their replies published.

A question drawer was opened, and the questions discussed for some time.

Mr. McEvoy, Foul Brood Inspector read his report.

Moved by R. McKnight, seconded by J. B. Hall, that the Inspector's report be

adopted and filed, and engrossed in the minutes.

#### SYNOPSIS OF INSPECTOR'S REPORT.

According to the Inspector's report, operations were begun on the 11th May, and finished on the 4th November. During the season one hundred and eighty-four apiaries were visited in the counties of Essex, Kent, Huddersfield, Wentworth, Oxford, Middlesex, Lambton, Perth, Waterloo, Wellington, Halton, York, Hastings and Lanark, and in the cities of Hamilton, Guelph, Stratford and London. In these places, he thinks, there were not less than one thousand cases of foul brood. In one locality he found an apiary of fifteen colonies badly diseased, and the combs built every way, so that they could not be moved. These he got a good beekeeper to buy up and cure. He found a strong desire among beekeepers in almost every locality to get rid of the disease, and when he was appointed Inspector he fully expected to get every foul brood colony cured without burning a single hive. Those with whom he had the greatest difficulty were individuals owning but a few colonies, and who had consequently but little at stake. The burning of a few diseased colonies, thus owned, would be of comparatively little consequence compared with the injury inflicted upon large and important apiaries by infection. A case of this kind occurred at Woodstock, where Mr. Coventry had a large and very fine apiary which cost him a good deal of money. One of this gentleman's neighbors bought a few colonies of bees that were affected with foul brood, and placed them in the neighborhood of Mr. Coventry's apiary. The few foul brood colonies soon died. Then Mr. Coventry's bees robbed the foul brood hives and got the disease. Mr. Coventry was very busy at the time, and having a dread lest the disease should spread through the whole apiary, he had twenty-two colonies that were affected by it burned up. I was sorry to hear this, for the reason that all these colonies might have been cured. In most foul brood localities which I visited, the beekeepers having foul brood in their apiaries complained bitterly against others having foul brood colonies which their bees had robbed, and so got the disease. In some localities the feeling ran very high on account of the heavy losses which had occurred from the disease. I am glad to say that things have now assumed a much better aspect, and that bee-yards that were once very foul are now in fine condition. I burned one colony in Woodstock, seven in Stratford, and three in the county of York, between Newmarket and Aurora.

Woodburn, Jan 9th. 1893.