

one expect to spring his bees successfully when brood rearing ceased in July of the previous year as was the case a year ago, or at most the forepart of August, consequently before such could receive any assistance from the spring reared bees they would be probably nine months old, and the chances are that when they arrive at that age spring dwindling has so depopulated the colony that it will be of no further use. This factor, perhaps, may and no doubt can be largely controlled by the apiarist who will give to his bees the attention that they justly deserve. But with the other, the apiarist is powerless to control the elements. For instance, take the present season, we had a few perfect days for bees when cat-willow first came into bloom, and the bees worked well indeed. But suddenly the atmospheric condition changed. Temperature merely high enough to entice the bees out, but fierce gales prevailed for ten or twelve days which blew hundreds and thousands of them to eternity. What could the bee-keeper do to prevent that style of "spring dwindling"? Simply stand by and lament over his calamity, eh?

If the Ontario bee-keepers are so fortunate as to secure a reasonable crop of honey the present season there is no reason in the world why better prices should not be obtained than has been the case for some years past. The markets have undoubtedly been completely cleared, and the demand for honey has been strong. So if honey producers will only make an effort to maintain prices there should be no difficulty in securing a living profit for the capital invested as well as compensation for their labor.

Contrary to my convictions, and what I and others have advocated as the proper spring management, I am

this spring adopting J. B. Hall's advice, to not open the hives until fruit bloom. Only having so far examined those stocks which I knew required attention. Whether this is an advantage over my former management, I will report later.

Association Meetings.

HALTON.

The Halton district Bee-Keepers Association meeting was held in the Town Hall, Streetsville, on Tuesday, May 15th. There was a good attendance of members and others. Among those present were Mr. W. Couse, Streetsville, Mr. Geo. Laing, Milton, Mr. H. G. Sibbald, Cooksville, Mr. J. Perie, Duimquin, Mr. A. R. Brunskill, W. F. Switzer, Mr. J. Armstrong, Mr. C. Adamson, Mr. Geo. E. Saunders.

The president, Mr. Geo. Laing, occupied the chair.

After the usual routine business a number of questions were proposed and profitably discussed as follows:

The cause and prevention of spring dwindling.

Spraying of fruit trees.

The wax Press versus the Solar Wax Extractor.

Honey for Paris Exposition.

Regarding the prevention of spring dwindling, most of the members considered that plenty of good stores and young bees in the fall would do much towards this.

The circulars sent out by the O. B. K. A., re spraying of fruit trees was commented upon favorably and all present believed that bee-keepers throughout the country would be materially benefitted by the action.