

experience for himself whether it is profitable, and an expression from this convention by a show of hands that they all think it is profitable, gives me encouragement to do it myself.

(Continued next month.)

The Wintering Problem — Scientific Breeding, etc.

(By a York Co. Bee-keeper.)

That wintering is not a very seasonable theme for March discussion, I am free to admit, but seasonable or unseasonable I will venture to predict that the subject will be discussed more among bee-keepers this, and the following two months, than at any other time of the year. When numbers bring their bees up out of the cellar, reeking with dampness and mold, with a number of colonies dead; and others find their stocks badly depleted on the summer stands, is it any wonder that "wintering" is always a live topic at the spring meetings of our County associations? To be sure, we have some who contend that wintering has ceased to be a problem; the less fortunate ones will offer congratulations but will continue to think as Mr. Bingham, of Mich., says in "Gleanings," page 155, that "The winter problem remains the problem, where the mercury for the months registers from 35 above to 12 below zero." Bee-keeping seems to be made up of many contradictions, of which wintering is no exception. Personally, I know of successful beekeepers who formerly wintered in the cellar, who are now wintering exclusively outdoors, while others who wintered outside are now enthusiastic cellar winterers, even our good friend, Editor Root, of "Gleanings," who was formerly advising Dr. Miller and others to winter outdoors, says in "Gleanings," page 15, (in speaking of the cold snap in Dec.) "There was

a peculiar satisfaction during the cold weather in thinking that we had so many of our bees indoors." When "doctors disagree" (or change their minds) it is not to be wondered at, that beginners are often in a quandary as to how best to winter their bees, as well as how to decide some other important questions.

No doubt, cellar winterers are in the majority, but I have no advice to offer one way or the other, all I know about wintering in the cellar is what "the other fellows tell me." One thing I do know is that bees can be wintered in our locality in first-class condition outdoors, provided they are properly prepared in the fall, which, I suspect, is the secret of good wintering indoors or out.

LONG TONGUES.

In connection with Prof. Gillett's experiments re long tongued bees, it is interesting to note that he states that if there is any kind of bees worthy of being called "long tongued" that distinction belongs to the Cyprians. However, from the fact that the Cyprians are credited with having another member of their bodies very long and exceedingly sharp, not many of us will care to experiment with them.

SCIENTIFIC BREEDING.

This subject has been receiving a lot of attention of late in some of our journals, especially in the "Beekeepers' Review." Editor Hutchinson, in a lengthy editorial in Feb. issue, says that "while the leaders in apiculture have rejoiced in the discussion, he believes that a goodly portion of the rank and file has read it with scant patience—if they have read it at all." Friend Hutchinson must be something of a hypnotist to devine the minds of his readers like that. Certain it is, that I as one of the "rank and file" must plead