

factories were not very extensive, each one employed not a great number of men, but in the aggregate many millions of people obtained employment from this industry. It brought wealth to their city and their nation.

We imported one hundred million dollars worth of sugar last year, and paid for it with gold, yet we have the land, the climate, the labor, all that is necessary to produce this wealth. We could have retained that money at home and made plenty and peace in many homes that are now in want and despair. I speak these things to show that you have engaged in something that is beneficial to you and to the world; and you are doing much more good than the people who sit on the street corners and talk politics while their wives are waiting at home for the box of blueing which they sent them for. (Laughter.)

I trust that your meeting will be enjoyable and profitable to you; and I extend once again a most cordial welcome to this state.

Pres't. Root then introduced George E. McLean, Chancellor of the Nebraska State University, who said: "Hon. President, ladies and gentlemen of the North American Bee-keepers' Association, it is strange that so orthodox a body as this should reverse the standard chorus of the standard hymn, and have us no longer sing 'Moore To Follow;' Moore having preceded me. But it seems to be sometimes the case that the less is as important as the 'Moore.' We see an example in the little busy bee, which is so big when considered in the light of what it does.

I came for the purpose of bidding welcome to your Bee-keepers' Association. In my early days, in my grandfather's garden in Connecticut, I became acquainted with bees. At that time they saw fit to consecrate me for this occasion. A bee sung me on the tongue, and hence you shall have a honeyed tongue to-night. I come then not to flatter, but simply with that tongue which the bee enlarged for me; and so with that honeyed tongue I come to say welcome, in behalf of the University of Nebraska, welcome to the bee-hive of the State. Whence the Governor comes from, they have electric cars which have on them this motto: "Capital. Penitentiary." There is no line from this place to the Penitentiary. The University is the bee-hive of the state. We have here, when there is hellenness elsewhere, industry and life. A swarm is almost constantly in this great hive. 1587 students in the University last year. People talk of hard times, but our students are here to give proof that the

hard times are possibly a blessing. These times show that the parents and the children of Nebraska have opinions that look higher than dollars, and the people of the State show what they are made of, in sacrificing as they do to have the boys and girls here. Here, like busy bees, they not only gather honey, but carry it home to the hive.

In welcoming you here in behalf of the University, the bee-hive swarming with that which is most precious in the State—youth—I welcome you, as you see to that which is full of sweetness, even in these times of bitterness; that which is full of promise for the future. In giving you this welcome, I wish following one line, which the governor opened up, to emphasize the importance and the diversity of the various forms of our agricultural pursuits. When in Europe I discovered that interest in bee-keeping prevailed. In looking at these, I wondered how great might be the interest in bee-keeping in the United States. I was surprised to find that there was an interest of at least twenty million dollars, nearly, in the products of the apiary; that there is not less than seven million dollars worth of honey and wax yielded every year. I discovered that there are 300,000 people engaged in bee-keeping work. I was especially delighted to learn of the intelligence attending upon this occupation. There are 114 societies and eight journals especially devoted to bee-keeping; and I rejoice that there is one of these journals in the State of Nebraska. When these statistics are set before us we see the real need of fostering this society.

I perceive that it came upon you to advance the hygienic condition of our people by seeing to it that this honey, so excellent as food, should be furnished to the people pure and unadulterated. [Applause]

Then looking forward, as the estimates have been made by authorities on the subject, I discovered that they could increase the industry, with things as they now are in the United States, ten times, and still find support for your bees. The flora is here to support ten times the colonies of bees that are now flying over our forests and fields. And thus your industry is that industry that is called blessed. It is well that many others, as well as members of your industry have called the bee "The blessed bee." It is this insect that teaches us how we may increase the yield of our fruits and grain. And so with the bee comes manifold blessing to the vegetable environment in which she lives; how important this is to your convention. We should all receive an impulse from it. This University, not represented here to-night as I would like to see it because of the many duties