

Mr. A. M. ROSS, of Goderich, wished to know the cause and cure of the rot in the fruit of the plum. He had suffered much from this rot during the past season, much more than from the curculio, and deemed the rot a far more serious obstacle to the successful culture of the plum than the little tick.

Mr. SAUNDERS, of London, had also suffered severely from this rotting of the fruit, but could not suggest any remedy.

Mr. DORTCH, of Windsor, had taken pains to have all the rotting plums carefully gathered and thrown on the ground, and then covered them and the ground under the plum trees with quicklime, also dusting quicklime freely through the tops of the trees, and thought he had in this way been successful in putting a stop to all further spread of the disease. He believed that this rotting was caused by minute fungi fastening on the fruit and developing there, and that the quicklime destroyed the fungus. The rot could not have been caused by the weather, for there had been no rain there for three months.

Mr. MILLS, of Hamilton, thought that the rot was not caused by a fungus, but that the rot having begun, and the state of the atmosphere being favourable to the growth of this fungus, it found in the rotting portion of the plum a favourable place for its growth and development. He thought the rot was caused by warmth and moisture occurring at a certain stage of the growth of the plum, and when this did not occur at that particular stage the rot did not occur, hence the plums in some seasons escape the rot altogether.

Mr. ROSS said that last season was very wet, and the fruit on only two of his plum trees was affected by the rot, and these were shaded by other trees; this year the rot spread from those affected last year to the trees adjacent, while the trees in another part of his garden wholly escaped; hence he thinks that the rot is infectious in some way, and that if once introduced, if no way of stopping it can be discovered, it will continue to spread until the fruit on all the trees in the vicinity is affected.

Mr. W. H. BOULTON, of Toronto, said that the fruit on trees standing in the open ground in his garden was not affected, but on trees at the south side of a board fence the plums had rotted very considerably.

Mr. ARNOLD, of Paris, believed it to be an infectious fungus, which under favourable conditions grew upon the fruit, causing it to rot.

Mr. SAUNDERS, of London, asked why some of the plums on his trees should be rotten and others near not at all affected, if the cause of the rot be an infectious fungus?

Mr. ARNOLD replied that he had not observed such a state of things, but that the rot spread to the plums adjacent.

Mr. MILLS, of Hamilton, did not think that the rot is caused by fungi; and that the reason why some plums on the tree escaped while others rot is in the difference in the texture of the skin of different plums on the same tree, and that those having a skin whose texture resists the influences of moisture and heat escape the rot.

[NOTE BY THE HORTICULTURAL EDITOR.—Gentlemen in this discussion made use of the term "infectious fungi;" but they did not mean to be understood as using that term in the usual sense of the word, "infectious." Fungi increase by means of minute spores, which are perfected under favourable conditions in a very short time, and in countless

millions. These spores are very minute, float in the air, and are carried about by the lightest current, and these falling on a surface suited to their growth, under conditions of moisture and heat favourable to their germination, soon develop into a perfect plant, again perfecting its spores, to be in turn carried by currents of air and deposited upon some spot where they may germinate and perfect themselves.]

The President announced that the next order of business was the discussion of the subject of fruit culture in its relations to the farming interests of the Province.

Mr. MILLS stated that as the hour was getting late, now half-past nine, he would move that the discussion of this subject be postponed, and that the meeting do now adjourn.

This motion was carried, and the Association adjourned, to meet in the City of Hamilton, at the call of the President.

Ontario Beekeepers' Association.

ANNUAL MEETING.

The annual meeting of the Ontario Beekeepers' Association was held in Victoria Hall, Toronto, on the 5th. The meeting having been called to order by Rev. W. F. Clarke, President of the Association, the minutes of the last meeting were then read by the Secretary and approved, after which a few very appropriate and interesting remarks were made by the President. The meeting then proceeded to the discussion of the following questions:—Is there any danger of stocks having too much honey for wintering well? It was decided that there is not. What is the true principle of ventilating stocks in the winter, and how may it be secured? After a somewhat lengthy discussion it was decided that the true principle of ventilation consists in retaining the heat, but allowing the moisture to escape. In what respect are the Italian bees superior to the black bees? After a pleasant discussion it was decided that they were more prolific, more inclined to swarm early, hardier and better honey gatherers.

The officers were then appointed for the ensuing year as follows:—Rev. W. F. Clarke, President, re-elected; J. H. Thomas, Vice-President; A. C. Attwood, Secretary and Treasurer; Executive Committee—H. M. Thomas, D. A. Jones, G. Bennett, B. Losee, D. M. Beckie.

The meeting was then adjourned, to meet again on Thursday evening in Victoria Hall, Melinda street.

SECOND DAY.

In the absence of the President the meeting on Thursday evening was called to order by the Vice-President. The meeting proceeded to discuss the following questions:—

Which is the most profitable way of disposing of late or weak stocks? It was decided it was best to take them up.

The opinion was generally expressed that the honey extractor was likely to come into general use among bee-keepers.

After considerable discussion it was decided that it was doubtful whether artificial impregnation could be reduced to successful practice.

After much discussion it was unanimously decided that in ordinary seasons it is unsafe to take honey from the body of the hive later than the first of July.

No decision was arrived at on the question, What is the best plan to prevent swarming?

Have any cases of foul-brood been dis-

covered? It was answered that four cases had been observed.

Do queens mate more than once, and are queens ever partially impregnated? After some discussion it was decided in the affirmative.

The meeting then adjourned, to meet again at the time and place of the next Provincial Fair.

Quebec Provincial Exhibition.

Montreal was favoured with superb weather for the grand attractions of the Show week, and it was fortunate that the great boat race at Lachine did not take place till after the principal days of the Agricultural Exhibition; otherwise it is to be feared that on an occasion of such peculiar interest, aquatic sports would have robbed agriculture of a very large proportion of her votaries, and the crowds that thronged the Show grounds at the base of Mount Royal would have been found on the river side at Lachine. As it happened, there was ample opportunity on Tuesday and Wednesday (Sept. 13th and 14th), for the public to view the very excellent Exhibition with which the Quebec Board of Agriculture have inaugurated the new Fair Grounds at Montreal. These grounds are situated north-west of the city, and comprise an oblong area of about 21 acres. The land was but recently purchased, and was in a very rough condition. The preparatory work of draining and leveling has been done, the whole has been fenced in a substantial manner, and temporary structures have been erected for the Exhibition. These will be replaced by more permanent buildings for future shows. The horse sheds occupy one side of the grounds, along its whole length; and a similar row of covered stalls have been provided for cattle on the opposite side. In the centre of the ground is a building forming three sides of a square, for the Industrial department; south of this long sheds have been erected for sheep and poultry, and to the back similar structures were set apart for swine.

On the whole the exhibition of the present year compared very favourably with that of 1868, and in some respects showed marked improvement. Taking the live stock in the order of the Prize List, the Horses claim precedence, and this class was well filled. There were altogether a large number of entries, (nearly 200,) and many animals of superior merit. The competition was mostly confined to stallions, which were consequently in great force. The principal breeds represented were Clyde, Percheron, Normandy, Suffolk and Canadian. Among the first there were some splendid specimens of great weight and power, and well calculated to give a good frame and muscular development to the agricultural horse. The Percherons seem to be coming into favour in the Province, and might with advantage be introduced into Ontario. They are powerfully built, mostly grey in colour, of good size and great strength, with a marked do-