

from it, and that idea is illustrated right through the investigation. In the experiments for the past year, there was one very interesting point came out. Mr. Shutt, our chemist, has helped us very much by making the critical examinations and measuring the combs made by the bees during the summer, and he found that the bees deposited a very much heavier comb to hold buckwheat honey than to hold clover honey, so that there was a great deal more waste labour with the buckwheat honey than the clover, and, moreover, it sold for a very much lower price.

By Mr. Featherston :

Q. Is it because the buckwheat honey is thinner?—A. Well, no, I would rather say it was thicker, to look at it. It certainly appears thicker, but as to the reason why the bees should make a thicker comb for buckwheat than for clover, we have not found that out. Here is a specimen of the buckwheat honey and of the clover.

By Mr. Cochrane :

Q. Do they make a heavier comb when you furnish the foundation?—A. The foundation is now supplied by all bee-keepers.

Q. But do I understand you that the bees make a heavier comb for the buckwheat with the foundation you supplied?—A. Yes. I said it was waste labour because they had to do more to produce a less valuable kind of honey than they would have had if it had been clover honey. These samples of the combs were prepared by Mr. Shutt, who washed out the honey to find out the exact weight, and carefully weighed it with his delicate scales in the laboratory, where every care was taken to have the experiment accurately carried out.

By Mr. Pridham :

Q. How is the apple blossom as a honey producer?—A. It is very good. It not only produces large quantities of honey, but it is much more attractive to the bees than any other plant at that time of the year.

By Mr. McGregor :

Q. Do you know anything about the new production of honey from sugar?—A. I have heard of it, although I have never seen it. Sugar, undoubtedly, is supplied by some bee-keepers to be stored away by their bees and then sold as honey. I think there is no doubt that it ought not to be allowed. It is an adulteration, look at it in the mildest way you can. If a sufficient quantity of sugar is supplied to the bees, they will carry it straight into their comb, and fill up the comb with it without it being digested or changed in character at all, so that it will merely be sugar deposited in the comb instead of honey. I believe the Bill to prevent adulteration in this way has passed, and that we shall soon have nothing that is adulterated sold in Canada at all. Canada will soon be a synonym for perfect excellence in everything.

WEEDS AS AFFECTING AGRICULTURE,—MOST NOXIOUS SPECIES.

There are just two other subjects which I would like to refer to if I have time, viz., weeds and grasses. I will only speak of them for a few minutes, because it is merely the general subject that I wish to touch on. A great deal of attention has been given during the past summer to the subject of weeds. I had the opportunity last summer of travelling through Manitoba and the North-west, and I was very much struck with the tremendous headway that weeds have made in that part of the country. The farmers, growing the same crop year after year, and that crop, wheat or grain, have allowed the weeds to increase year by year. By alternate husbandry many of the weeds would have been destroyed, but when the same crop is grown year after year, naturally the weeds in those crops will keep on increasing, and the state of infestation by weeds in Manitoba and some parts of the North-west is a most serious matter to-day.