

to-day would not be good bee pasture in time to come. A good illustration was presented by beekeepers of Woodstock vicinity. The cow bylaws of the town and surrounding townships prohibiting the running at large of cattle, allowed a large proportion of the white clover to be smothered out by grass and weeds, and the demand for basswood lumber in the furniture factories has destroyed nearly all the basswood pasture for bees, hence beekeeping in the vicinity of Woodstock was practically at an end.

A paper on Comb Honey was read next by the S.-c. from Mr. Wm. Couse, and a good one it was for it caused a panoramic review of producing, preparing for market, selling, what kind would sell, how much would be smashed in shipment, cleanliness, kind of bees to produce good marketable honey and the sort of fellow to carry on the whole business. Cheers.

Vice-President S. T. Pettit of Belmont, read a more than ordinarily good paper on brace and burr-combs. He clearly and definitely described their uses and gave some practical methods of getting, or rather keeping rid of them. His ideal bee-spaces in every part of a hive should be as near  $\frac{5}{16}$  of an inch as it is possible to get them. If all hives had exactly  $\frac{5}{16}$  in bee-spaces there would be no burr-combs. To get and keep rid of brace-combs the hive should be firm and solid, that is to the bees. These brace-combs are built for the purpose of security and are to the manipulator a great source of annoyance, hence combs &c. should be so arranged as to be firm. Mr. Pettit was asked a good number of questions on the subject, all of which were answered in a concise and practical way.

Some one asked why some bees made so much neater comb honey than others. Everything that some men do is neat and tidy, so with bees, some queens produce neat working bees and store bees should be reared for the producing of neat comb-honey.

A paper on foul brood and why we needed legislation was next read by the secretary, J. E. Frith, which was followed up by a long and interesting talk from F. A. Germmill, of Stratford, to whom the beekeepers of Ontario owe much as one of the principal movers in securing legislation on foul brood. The subject of foul brood interests every body in this vicinity, as several members of this association have had a good deal to do with it and some flourishing apiaries have suffered not a little from the disease in times past.

Mr. D. Anguish, sec. of Brant Association, being introduced, gave an interesting account of how the bee-men and bee-women of Brant County were progressing and of the fair pros-

pects for the coming season. A vote of thanks was tendered Mr. Anguish and he was requested to convey our greeting to the Brant Ass.

1890's prospectus was then discussed. Beekeepers of Oxford are in good spirits as to the season now upon us. There had been very few winter losses and foul brood had apparently disappeared from the infected localities, and all things considered, a good and prosperous year is looked forward to.

A vote of thanks was heartily given to all contributors and a resolution that the paper on foul brood be published was unanimously carried.

An adjournment to meet in December ended one of the most enthusiastic and profitable meetings it has been Oxford Association's lot to enjoy.

J. E. FRITH,  
Secretary.

#### Queen Rearing in Relation to Hybernation and Winter Dysentery.

ON May 16th, 1889, page 40. (See C. B. J. for July 10th, page 353.) I touched on this subject, but for want of time I could not do full justice to it, and I promised to deal with it as soon as I could. The article was reprinted across the Atlantic, and caused some stir in America. Mr. James Hedden, whom I quoted as being the champion of the pollen theory, had a laugh at me, saying that he reared nearly all his queens by the natural (?) method in full colonies under the swarming instinct," and implied that I did not know what I was writing about. This is his mode of rearing queens: He lets the stocks swarm, then he places the swarms in a new hive, and sets it on the stand of the old stock so as to get more than a fair share of the bees from the old stock. This is placed behind the swarm with the entrance facing the opposite way. He then daily moves it round until at the week's end the entrances of both hives are one way and close together. When the bees are at full work he takes the old stock away to a fresh stand, so that all the bees which are out in the fields, and those that are working, fly to the old stand, and, not finding it, unite with the swarm. The result is that the old stock is so depleted of bees, they at once lose the desire to swarm a second time, and the first queen that hatches destroys the rest. This is known as Hedden's system of preventing after-swarmings but let us consider the result.

A HALLAMSHIRE BEEKEEPER.  
(To be continued.)