

America could exchange with profit and we hope that there will be during the Worlds' Fair at Paris, a great International Bee-keepers' Congress, and that a very full report will be taken of the proceedings and the same translated by each country taking part. The latter could be done by the governments of the various countries.

Wintering.

On the 904th page of the Canadian Bee Journal may be found an interesting and readable article from the pen of Mr. J. D. Evans. At the close of the letter Mr. Evans asks the editor for his opinion on two questions, and as the editor, so far, has failed to answer, I take the liberty of injecting my opinion with the hope that it may be helpful to some.

These are the questions: "Is there any advantage in raising the hives on blocks or simply drawing them back so that they project over the bottom boards, and in the case of a dry cellar which can be warmed to any extent, like mine, are cushions of any use?"

Answering the first question, I would say: that it depends somewhat upon the space between the bottom board and the frames, which, should be not less than one inch with some sort of ladders that the bees can easily pass from the floor, or bottom board to the frames. If the space is much less than one inch it may become choked with dead bees and that would work injury and very likely death to the bees, but if that space be provided for in some other way, then slipping the hive back as practiced by Mr. Evans would be alright for ventilation. But there is another objection to the practice, and it is this: bees very often while on duty not knowing that the door of their dwelling is removed, drop from the combs and are lost.

I may be allowed to say that if river stone is clear it is as good as land stone for building a cellar wall; that is as far as the health of the bees is concerned. If such a thing be possible that the river stone heats more or rather condenses more moisture than land stone why then the air should be relieved of just that much moisture and I hardly think that would work harm unless that artificial heat makes the cellar too dry.

Another thing: my experience compels me to believe that 40° to 42° is a better tem-

perature than 45°, but in that case a warm cushion on the top of every hive is indispensable. The nearer the temperature of the cellar air approaches that of the hive air the less perfect will be automatic ventilation and then the bees will resort to fanning the foul air out of their hives and you have that "contented hum," that indicates discontent and works mischief. It is a mistake to suppose that bees can be wintered any better outside than in a cellar.

With the hope of helping, I am

S. T. PETTIT.

Belmont, Oct. 23rd, 1896.

[We do not like to answer all the questions asked as it often cuts off information which may be imparted by our readers.—Ed]

Reports of the Season.

I regret very much that I was absent during the last session of the N. A. B. A. convention. I must confess it was using you rather mean. I fully intended to be on hand at the finish; but owing to your cutting short the programme, I could not do so. I had special business to attend to at the exhibition in the forenoon. I got through, and hurried back to the place of meeting in the afternoon, and I assure you I was greatly disappointed to find that the convention had pulled up stakes.

I hope the proposed union of the associations will soon be consummated.

I would propose a new scheme in connection with the C. B. J. It is this: have each subscriber send you a short report—written on a post card—every week for six months, to commence with April. The first reports to be how bees have wintered—I mean April and May reports—June and July, prospects of honey crop and August and September, prices of honey.

You send reports to each subscriber every week printed on post cards, either a short summing up of reports, or several from different parts of Canada. We don't need to hear from the U. S. about the crop, as it does not effect our prices, etc. Each subscriber to furnish his own cards—headed weekly reports—and pay say \$1.75 for C. B. J. and reports included, or whatever you require to make it pay.

Wishing you and the C. B. J. success. I am

Yours truly,

R. A. MARRISON.

Inverary, Ont.