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THE COLONIAL EXHIBIT.

WING to the death of the sister of our respected Secretary-Treasurer—W. Couse, Meadowvale, we are unable to furnish the official minutes of the special meeting of the Ontario Bee-Keepers Association held in Toronto on the 12th, in this week's JOURNAL. We shall have them for next week. In the meantime we may say that the whole matter has been arranged amicably with the Ontario representatives and in a week or two full particulars as to the mode of procedure in the getting up of the display will be published. Committees for the active prosecution of the work were appointed and full particulars will be forthcoming as soon as the plans of the committees are completed.

QUEEN REARING.

NEW FACTS REGARDING THE BUSINESS.

THE rearing of superior queens has been much neglected in the past, but is now attracting more attention from the fact that this is one of the great factors in the building up of good colonies. Who has not noted the superiority of some colonies over others in wintering, handling, comb-building, brooding, gathering honey etc.; these, and many other qualities are all inherited from the parents, and upon the superiority of the drone and queen depends the value of the colony. Many are under the impression that as good queens can be raised in small nuclei as in large and strong colonies; others imagine that by simply removing a queen from an ordinary colony and allowing it to start queen cells, that the queens so raised are as good as any. Queens raised in that way are usually from old larvæ that have been fed a worker bees, perhaps half the time that elapses between hatching and capping.

It is well known that bees are short-lived while queens live for years; so in proportion to the time that the larva is fed as a worker bee before the bees commence feeding it for a queen, in the same proportion is the age of the queen reduced and her usefulness impaired.

Again there are those who think that queens raised under the swarming impulse in the ordinary way of natural swarming are superior to queens raised by queenless colonies. Nature's methods have been improved on in many ways and we are enabled to secure much better results than by following the trodden paths in regard to queen rearing.

The following plan if properly prosecuted will give these superior queens; when hatched the queens are usually much stronger, are considerably larger and better developed, become fertile and commence laying at least one-third (and more in unfavorable weather) sooner and their progeny will be stronger, will be more vigorous and better honey gatherers. We select the colony from which we wish to breed, and prepare it by taking hatching brood from other colonies in the yard being careful not to take any having uncapped brood, or if they have, to so arrange the time for starting queen cells that any of this brood will be capped over before such time, placing it in the hive where queens are to be raised. Another way of preparing them is to examine the combs and leave the suitable ones in the hives, removing the others and replacing them with combs such as before described. When the colony is made as strong as possible with brood we further strengthen it by adding bees. We spread a cloth or newspaper on the ground in front of the hive having it extend six or eight feet in front of entrance, then take combs from any hives in the yard that may have young bees in them and while going toward the hive to shake them down, we tap the frames gently, causing most of the old bees to leave the comb and return to their own hives; then standing in front of the cloth or paper about six feet from the entrance of the hive commence shaking off the young bees, holding the frame up two or three feet from the cloth to allow the remaining old ones to return; in this way we continue shaking down young bees until we have enough. Leaving them a short time the