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## ANNUAL MEETING OF ONTARIO BEE-KEEPERS' ASSOCIATION

(Continued from Page 225).

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and gentlemen: I think I can promise you I will not take up many minutes of your time to-night. I have come to the meeting to listen to your discussions and hear what you have to say rather than to give you any information or enlighten you. The Minister and myself make a practise, as far as possible, of attending all conventions, especially when we are invited; some, times we are not, but as a rule we receive invitations. We do this that we may keep track of the work that is being done by the Associations working in harmony with our operations and that we may meet the men concerned. You can find out a great deal more about the working of an association by coming and sitting here and listening than by reading their reports or listening to delegations. The remark has been made in our department more than once, I suppose in looking over your reports, putting them through the press and so on, that the members of this association appear to be living up to their business. There is a good deal of honey in it as well as a good deal of the sting of the bee. (Laughter) And it is well that the two are mixed, or rather that some of the stinging ques-

tions and remarks are afterward soothed over by the sweetness of the honey. I am very glad indeed through these discussions which become more or less heated the members do not forget themselves but that more or less of what we call gentlemanly treatment is found to wind them up. It augers well for an association to have active, live, wide-awake members if you do not carry your discussions to too great length. I am sure nothing but good will result from keen, close criticism of these questions, the one we had up this afternoon and the foul brood question which is coming up to-night.

Before I make any further remarks I would like to refer to one question we have under consideration at the present time. Your secretary has somewhere a letter from the Minister of Agriculture. He called me in just before he was leaving for Chicago to attend the Live Stock Fair there, knowing I was coming down here, to tell me he had written, not a letter of invitation exactly, but making a suggestion and hoped you would fall in with it perhaps. An explanation might be in place. You are quite well aware we have for the last three or four years been carrying out at Guelph and been developing there a live stock institution which has become the greatest educational fair held on the American Continent. I don't think that is putting it too strongly; it is what the