

with stores, let them have a fly, then tuck them up well.

Why does honey granulate? Answer—Cold weather, none but pure honey will granulate.

If you don't want to increase your stocks, how do you manage them? J. W. Gibson says, pile one hive on top of another, take out the queen-cells, and watch them closely. It was then moved by A. W. Humphries, seconded by F. Atkinson, that market reports in quoting honey be requested to make a distinction between extracted honey and strained honey, extracted honey being free from the taste of the comb, bee bread, dead bees, etc., ranking higher than the strained honey.

Is it positively necessary that a young queen should be put in a hive when dividing? Answer—Yes, if you want to gain twenty days time.

Why not have the next meeting at London?

Because nobody asked us to go there and the bee-keepers in and around that city have not come near us, many not knowing however that ours is the largest Bee-Keepers Association in Canada and that we number nearly 100 members and seldom have less than 75 present at our meetings, and that we include in our membership some of the most prominent and successful bee-keepers in Canada.

Moved by Mr. J. Husband, seconded by Mr. A. Hunt, that the motion *re* next meeting be in Parkhill be amended by striking out Parkhill, and that London be substituted. Motion lost.

Master Byron Aches stepped forward and read a paper for his father, Mr. J. B. Aches, entitled Bee-Keeping and Horticulture as follows.

Bee-keeping and Horticulture. Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen, We have assembled here together at our annual meeting of the Middlesex Bee-Keeper's Association to consider that which pertains to the best interests of our pursuit, and our time is short to consider the important subjects that will be presented. I am here to-day as a member of the Ontario Bee-Keeper's Association to assist as best I can in throwing light upon the subjects brought before us, especially pertaining to bee culture. It is with pleasure I come before you and while the last year of our decade has been discouraging from one point of view, from another we start with most encouraging prospects. The dearth of honey has not only established paying prices, but has been the means of clearing out honey that has been held by dealers for years and to me the prospects were never brighter. Yes, we have reached a crisis in the history of bee-keeping which must be acknowledged to be of national importance. The question no longer remains,

shall we commence at all? or shall those of us, who are already engaged in it continue? I now say without fear of successful contradiction that the possibilities of bee-keeping have never been reached. Need I say less of the agriculturist or horticulturist, like the successful bee-keeper, is an enthusiast. I need not mind any one who plants trees and grows fruit of the pleasure that thrills the soul when nature responds to his intelligence, thought and careful direction. He lives in a world of his own, a land where milk and honey flows—in Middlesex, right here in our own vicinity. He needs no other intoxicant to complete his happiness.

Bee culture like horticulture is one of the fine arts. It requires the skill of a master. It is just as impossible for the thoughtless, brainless clod-hopper to reach the highest round in the ladder propagating fruit as it is for him to enjoy it after it is grown. But after all man's skill in planting after ransacking the earth for improved varieties, after propagating, grafting and hybridizing he must rely mainly on nature's methods of fructification. The favoring winds and industrious bees are needed to fertilize the blooms to insure a harvest of fruit.

As a means of accomplishing this end there is no question but that the bee is of great service to the growers of fruit. No other insect is multiplied in such vast numbers so early in the spring when their agency is so much needed to fertilize the orchards and small fruits. If the wind were the only means of carrying the pollen from flower to flower how often would fertilization fail from too much or too little wind during the brief opportunity when the bursting buds are sighing for the life giving dust from the neighboring flowers, so the bee introduces itself to the horticulturist at once as his friend. The latter should meet it half way and acknowledge its twofold service. It does him a service while on its daily rounds in search of food for itself and young and again by storing up for his benefit the liquid sweets which it does not need itself and which ungathered vanish like the morning dew.

Like the manna which the Israelites ate of, the ungathered portions melted when the sun waxed hot. What then is to hinder these two vocations going hand in hand since each is helpful to the other, they ought at least to be on friendly terms, each furnish inducements for the other to exist. A great deal has been said about bees injuring fruit; some fruit growers have charged that they puncture the ripe grapes, suck the juice and destroy the crop. But from the physical structure of the bee this is shown to be impossible by scientific entomologists. It has