

tion to the local government regarding the suppression of foul brood, no time should be lost in doing so, if the bill is to come before the coming session. It will be well, too, if every bee keeper could see the representative for his constituency, or write him, explaining what is desired. This will enable the members to understand what is wanted and will materially assist in obtaining the desired legislation. We anticipate no trouble in securing the passage of a bill (if too much is not asked) even without this assistance, but if, when the question comes before the House, a majority of the members understand the matter, how much more intelligently will they be able to discuss the matter.

Hamilton Central Fair Association has selected the following gentlemen as judges on honey: Wm McEvoy, Woodburn; L. Mulloch, Watertown; and Robert Patterson, Lynden. These names are to be submitted to the Canadian Fair Association and if there approved will be recommended to managers generally.

Thick Top Bars.

WILL THEY DO AWAY WITH BRACE COMBS?

SOME of our bee-keeping friends seem to incline to the belief that we should give more depth to our top-bars, and of course many of our new beginners may imagine that there is a large field open for experimenting in that direction. We believe we have gone over the ground pretty thoroughly—at least to our entire satisfaction, but there may be something that we have overlooked—but in all the experiments that we have tried we never could see any advantage in having them more than three-quarters of an inch deep. For some time we have been constructing our top-bars about that depth and width. There are many things to be said in favor of and against the various styles and shapes of top-bars, and it would not be very difficult, perhaps, for some of our best writers to convince the amateur that his particular theory was correct, but we had very much more benefit resulting from properly constructed honey boards than from any special design of top-bars, and we should not advise anyone contemplating a change, to make it ex-

pecting that he was going to reap great results from the change. It is true that if certain conditions are desired, and we work properly to carry out that object we may do it to a certain extent. If we put our top-bars too close together we will have more brace combs and if we put them too far apart we will have more brace combs; we find it difficult to prevent brace combs by either the construction or manipulation of the top-bars and we may just as well disabuse our minds of the idea that by giving the top-bar question a great deal of study that we may think up something by which we may be able to do away with the honey board. We are fully convinced that the queen excluding honey board has come to stay and we know of no arrangement for the prevention of brace combs that can be compared to it. In fact it may be said to be a perfect cure for the brace comb trouble if properly constructed and properly adjusted. There are many other things of more importance financially to the average bee-keeper than the present discussion. Those who run exclusively for extracted honey are not so much interested as are those who work for comb honey. Even for extracted honey it is nice not to have the top-bars covered with brace combs, but when it comes to comb honey, only those who have had the sad experience of brace combs and who has not, can appreciate the great advantage to be derived from any system that will give us comb honey absolutely free from them and as free from propolis as possible.

Suppose that some of our friends that are satisfied on the top-bar question, will turn their attention to devise some means by which we can prevent bees, or rather induce the bees not to put any propolis on the sections. If this matter receives due attention the coming season, no doubt great strides may be made in the direction of preventing the sections from being daubed with propolis. One thing that will assist is to have double slotted sections, and be sure the sections are slotted sufficiently deep, so that the comb will be sealed down over the edge of the section. This covers the wood and prevents the use of propolis or part of it at least. The sections must be slotted deeper if with separator, and in ordering sections the