

I would advocate examining colonies in spring if we have reason to believe or double the sufficiency of their stores, or if the indications are they are very weak or queenless. If weak, it may be an advantage to contract the brood-chamber and make them very snug. If the apiarist insists upon giving them help he should take a card of brood with bees by tapping, permitting all old bees to fly off, then dump the young bees in front of the weak hive when the young will run in and the old bees remaining fly away.

In conclusion let me say. Let us aim at conducting bee-keeping at a less expenditure of capital and labor and produce only the best article, ripe honey, and we will have an important point in view.

The reversible hive is not here excepted; it may prove a worse feature than any heretofore, especially in the hands of a novice.

VOTES OF THANKS.

The thanks of the meeting were, on motion, voted to the Mayor and corporation for the use of the Council Chamber, also to the President for his address, and to Mr. R. F. Holtermann for his paper.

THE NEXT MEETING.

The Association then adjourned to meet again on Thursday, Sept. 1st, '87, in Guelph, at 10 a.m.

THE O. B. K. A. COMMISSIONERS AT THE COLONIAL.

(Continued.)

Time passed. The close of the Exhibition drew nigh. Day by day the number of visitors diminished. The 10th of November opened wet and dismal. The day was a dreary one throughout. The closing, like the opening day of such exhibitions, generally brings large crowds. This was an exception to the general rule. The weather was so unpropitious that few people presented themselves at the gates. Time dragged its weary length along till 10 p.m. struck, when the electric lights went out to be lighted no more. The Colonial and Indian Exhibition was closed. The great "Colinderies" was a thing of the past. No exhibition ever before held in London proved so great a financial success. For six months and ten days there passed through its gates and wandered through its courts an average of 41,000 people daily. All the school children of the metropolis, at one time or another, headed by their teachers, paraded through its varied departments and looked upon the best object lesson of the empire's greatness it was possible for

them to behold. The people of Great Britain from Land's End to John O' Groat's House and those of the sister Ireland from Cape Clear to Fair Head, were privileged to witness samples of the industrial products of that "Greater Britain" beyond the seas, that at once astonished and delighted them. Some there were who looked upon what they saw with the gravest apprehensions. The producing classes of Britain could not help feeling that the competition in things here represented was only in its infancy. The evidence was clear that this competition must greatly increase in the near future, and they felt that to be able to hold their own against it is only problematical. Even to such the exhibition was of great service, for to be forewarned is to be forearmed.

The morning of the 11th found nearly all the employees, constables and caretakers gone, therefore the gates were closed at 4 o'clock p.m. The work of taking down, packing and removing the goods began. Three weeks were allowed for this work. The whole place soon presented a scene of bustle and disorder. The courts were crowded with packing-cases, and everyone looked as if anxious to get away. Stock was now taken of what honey remained on hand, when it was found that 7,000 pounds were still on the shelves. How and where to dispose of this was the question to be settled. Small orders kept coming in from people in the city and country, but no dealer appeared anxious to touch the rag end of the stock. The best samples of comb honey remained still in stock. The poorest was sold off at retail whilst the rush of visitors lasted. It was hoped the better lots would sell most readily to the trade at the close of the show. It was feared the poorer samples would find no purchasers then. It was well this practice was followed, for it was found at the end that the best of it had deteriorated from exposure to the weather. It was necessary for one of the party to remain in the building. The remaining two assumed the new roll of "drummers"—made up their samples and went out to canvass the city grocers. They continued this work for nearly the whole time they were permitted to remain in possession of the building, and succeeded in disposing of about half the remaining stock. The balance had to be disposed of at once for the building was about to be pulled down. Several offers were made for the remnant still remaining, but none were accepted, as long as there was an opportunity to sell or a prospect of doing better. At length the "fort" could be held no longer and the balance was closed out at a price, however unsatisfactory, was the best that was offered. It may be here stated that every dealer to whom