

foundation of the United States Honey Producers Exchange, on January 1888. By having a good corps of reports in each state we are able to tell almost as soon as gathered whether it is a short crop or a heavy one, and by comparing the present with the reports of the past year all the members can obtain quite a clear idea of what the market is going to be, and thereby sell his honey intelligently, and if the crop is a short one at better prices than he otherwise would have been able to obtain. It also posts the commission houses and buyers as to the extent of the honey crop throughout the United States.

One of the largest honey producers in America remarked during the past season that the "Exchange" was the best thing that ever came from a convention of beekeepers. It has already saved many a dollar for a large number if not all of its members, and I believe that if the work is properly carried out in the future it will do more to keep the honey market than anything yet devised. I am fully assured that the New York and Boston Markets started out two cents per pound higher than it would have been had it not been for the "Exchange" and that price would have been sustained if the dealers in the different markets, especially those in the west, where there was a good crop, had sufficient confidence in its reports. It was not the intent of the originators of this plan of gathering to make a corner in the honey market, or raise prices as high as they were some years ago, but that we may obtain better prices in years when there is a scarcity. For instance, there was no honey carried over from 1889, and with a decidedly short crop this year the bulk of choice white comb honey in pound sections could just as well have been sold at twenty as at eighteen cents, had the teachings of the "Exchange" been followed.

The season of 1887 illustrates the other extreme. It was generally reported through the journals that there was a very short crop of honey, and some went so far as to say that they expected honey to sell at 25c per lb., wholesale, before the opening of another season.

It was true that there was very short crops in certain parts of the west, but there was an equally good one in the east, and I know of several beekeepers who held their honey on the substance of these reports until January or February, and then sold it for several cents per pound less than they could have obtained in the fall. It was plain enough that no one was to blame for the condition of affairs. The facts had not been ascertained. That the gathering of statistics is a great boon to the progressive beekeeper and that the exchange is a move in

the right direction, I think but very few, if any, at this convention will deny.

But as I am writing this I cannot but think of the much broader field of usefulness and the room for improvement that is open on every hand as soon as it has sufficient funds to carry out the work. I shall not feel entirely satisfied until the Exchange reports shall be in the hands of every intelligent beekeeper in the country and has a separate report in pounds of honey produced and the number of colonies, from at least one of the most progressive beekeepers in each county in the several states.

GEO. H. KINCKERBOCKER.

A. I. Root—In reply to a question re exchange, said the reply was sent out to those who sent in their dollar. He thought the replies were not as good as those in *Gleanings*.

Mr. Heddon—Is the private report \$1.00 better than the Bee Journal?

Prof. Cook—Thought one report was about the same as the other, only *Gleanings* broader.

Mr. Walker—Thought there should be a great many more reporters to get statistics.

Prof. Cook—In reply to a question, said the break-joint honey board and thick top bars gave us less brace combs; he preferred the honey board to the thick top bars.

Doctor Mason—I used honey boards and top bars in hives this year, and never had more satisfaction in taking honey.

Geo. E. Hilton—I have used the zinc honey board.

Mr. Heddon—Related how he had tried with between 200 and 300 colonies the break-joint honey board and not break-joint, and he found with break-joint board he had no brace combs, and without break-joint he had brace combs.

A. I. Root—Said he thought the seven-eighth inch top bar was the best.

(To be concluded next issue.)

CLUBBING LIST.

We will club the CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL with any of the publications below at the prices quoted in the last column:

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The Canadian Bee Journal.....	\$.75	
and American Bee Journal (w).....	1.75	\$1.60
Gleanings in Bee Culture (s-m).....	1.75	1.60
Beekeepers' Review (m).....	1.25	1.15
Beekeepers' Guide (m).....	1.25	1.15
Apiculturist (m).....	1.50	1.35
Beekeepers' Advance (m).....	1.25	1.15