

along that we need a large membership. And that will mean a full treasury—a consummation devoutly to be wished. War is expensive. It costs in cash and energy to fight the battles against wrong. But it pays in the end. The one stupendous evil that needs the aid of every bee-keeper in this land in order to its overthrow, is the giant of adulteration. Not only the adulteration of honey in the city markets, but the adulteration of almost every food product known to-day. In order to a successful suppression of this great evil, all organizations must unite, and bring to bear upon those in authority all the influence possible, so that laws already enacted for the suppression of adulteration shall be rigidly enforced; and that new laws shall be passed where such are not now upon the statute books.

Some one has said that the way to secure a national enactment against adulteration of food products is, first, to enforce the State or local laws against this growing evil. I think there is sound sense in this suggestion. In Illinois we have a strong law against the adulteration of foods and medicines. But so far I have heard of no attempt at its enforcement. Now, had we sufficient funds at our command. In the treasury of the United States Bee-Keepers' Union, I should suggest that we at once begin the prosecution of one of the leading adulterators of honey in Chicago. Could a single clear conviction be secured, with the subsequent heavy fines and term of imprisonment imposed, I have no doubt it would have a most wholesome effect not only upon the price and demand of pure honey in Chicago, but throughout the surrounding country as well. And thus, no doubt, other States might be encouraged to begin the enforcement or passage of similar laws, the result of which would be appreciated by a pure-food loving people—a people who are daily suffering from the evil effects of the consumption of the deleterious and disease-producing substances used in forming the miserable compounds put upon the market to-day.

Then, it seems to me that this Union should devise and carry out some scheme by which the public may become better acquainted with the merits of the product of the apiary. Too few people are aware of the real value of honey as a food. Too many look upon it as a medicine, and to be taken in homeopathic doses. Outside of the overthrow of adulteration, I believe there is no other subject that equals in importance to bee-keepers the widening of the demand, or the table use, of honey. For years I have been satisfied

that were the honey product properly distributed the price realized by the producer would be more satisfactory—more proportionate to the cost of production.

This, of course, will naturally lead to a discussion of co-operation in marketing—a great subject! It has been very plainly hinted to me that I am one who opposed this Union taking up that line of work. Fellow bee-keepers, co-operation in the marketing of honey means much more than most of us have yet thought. If we seemingly are unable to secure a large membership in our Union, when the fee is only \$1.00 annually, how could we expect that very many would unite and hold out an agreement to dispose of their whole crops of honey through this or any other organization? The great trouble would be, I fear, that just enough would remain out to so weaken the effect of the Union's effort along the line of co-operative marketing that failure would be the result. But perhaps by a thorough system of grading, and the establishment of a high standard of purity and quality of the product put on the market through the Union, a demand could be developed sufficiently large so as to take all the best honey that the Union could control or obtain. In that case, success could be assured.

But I am quite willing to leave this whole subject to the wise counsels of the Union's membership—it is too difficult for one small brain to solve satisfactorily.

In conclusion, I desire to express my sincere appreciation of the confidence reposed in me, and the honor conferred upon me, by my re-election to the presidency of this Union at its meeting in Buffalo last year. With a full realization of my inability to do justice to the requirements of the office, yet I have ever endeavored to do what I could to hold up the Union in its grand mission in the interest of bee-keepers; and I trust that I may soon be permitted to welcome my worthy successor, into whose strong hands I will gladly place the work and responsibility that accompanies the presidential office.

Faithfully yours,

GEORGE W. YORK.

Chicago, Ill., Sept. 1, 1898.

The following are a few of the papers read at the convention;—

Best Size of Hive for Use in the Apiary.

Dr. Mason has given me an exceedingly broad and interesting subject, but as I and every one who cared to say anything on this subject have recently had our say, I will treat it as briefly and concisely as possible. "For use in the Apiary," this