

a mouthful of bee-bread, which might sicken them on honey all their lives. It is by no means vile; the bee has her uses for it, but where can we find the man who counts it palatable, and I have no hesitation in saying, that if starting sections between brood-chambers is practised, bee-bread will be stored in them and sealed over with the honey. Who can deny it?

D. CHALMERS.

The customary votes of thanks were passed to the Mayor and City Council for the use of the City Hall, to the railway authorities for reduced rates, and to the newspaper reporters (Mail especially) for their report of the convention. It was moved by R. McKnight, seconded by F. Malcolm and resolved that a special vote of thanks be tendered the officials of the C. P. R. freight department for their able and willing assistance while the honey was being prepared for shipment to England. The usual fee to the janitor was ordered to be paid and a special fee of \$25 to the Sec. Treas. for his large increase of work in connection with the Colonial Exhibit.

The Secretary's report was then read, showing a balance of about \$28 in hand.

The Rev. Dr. Wild, who had been listening attentively for some time, was introduced by R. McKnight as an eminent divine in horticulture. Dr. Wild was well received and expressed his pleasure at being present. He hoped their future efforts would be as successful as they could wish. He would not detain them as he was engaged to create a little honey preparatory to a honeymoon at 4 o'clock, so that they would understand that he was in the same line of business.

The general meeting then adjourned and a meeting of the directors was called to order by the President. On motion, W. Couse, Meadowvale, Ont., was re-elected Sec. Treas. A committee was appointed in furtherance of the resolution passed at the general meeting respecting foul brood, in the persons of the President, Vice-Pres. and F. H. Macpherson. R. McKnight and M. Emigh were appointed to represent the association on the Industrial Exhibition board and to carry out the resolution, as passed by the association, respecting the internal arrangement of the honey building.

It was decided to continue the *Rural Canadian* to those of the members who desired it.

For the Canadian Bee Journal.

PROCREATIVE POWERS OF VARIOUS DRONES.

PROF. A. J. Cook, in answer to my query No. 116, referring to "the procreative powers of various drones," in the C. B. J., page 692, says: "The active sperm cells indicate that such drones are good. I can't see how his (Swinson's) experience can prove to the contrary." For the benefit of Prof. Cook and other readers of the C. B. J., I will give my experiments and trials of such drones as were referred to in the query and leave them to their own conclusions.

During the past three years I have made bee-culture—the practical part of it—rather a *special study* during the entire season; making during that time many practical tests in the rearing of bees, queens and drones. The season here lasts from April 1st to Nov. 1st. And from April 20th to Oct. 1st, or thereabouts, there isn't an interval of more than two weeks, and these two occur about the middle of June, but that bees are gathering honey from some source in sufficient quantities to supply all needed food day by day. And again, there seldom occurs an interval of more than ten days at any time during winter but what bees take a fly out; usually there isn't more than two or three days at any one time, but they do fly out during winter; that we have three or four days at a time in December, January and February, our coldest months, that are as warm as *any days* in April or May. Such being the existing circumstances here, and after November 1st there isn't a drone to be found in any colony of bees that has a queen properly fecundated; few can be found as late as Oct. 15th, so I have usually had from Nov. 1st to March 1st (I have never seen a drone hatched out in a hive having a queen properly fecundated, prior to March 1st; they are seldom hatched before March 10th or 15th and then only in a few of the strongest colonies) in which to test the three kinds of drones referred to in my query No. 116, and I have had them and queens reared and flying in my apiaries during December, January, February and March, for the express purpose of trying the drones as mentioned. During each of the three past years, at times, too, when I had hundreds of such drones in several hives about the apiaries; that the drones did fly in countless numbers I know, for I saw them, and in one or two instances I have seen the queens leave their hives also, only to return to them unfertilized, remain for fifteen or eighteen days longer and then be missing. I have had many of these queens to remain in their hives for thirty to forty days from the time they were hatched out, and then disappear with-