

which have appeared in the various journals, and I think the advice you give in the last issue of the CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL the best I have seen—do your spacing with your eye.

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The magnificent showers we have had this past week have helped on vegetation wonderfully, and you can almost see the growth

OBSERVER.

FOR THE CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL.

Beekeeping as a Pursuit.

IT seems as though the question of hitching the bee-business up with other professions is being agitated beyond all reason, and to the detriment of beekeepers who have made beekeeping a life study, and should now have some protection from slipshod despoilers of prices who keep only a few swarms of bees and sell their honey at the first price offered. This third horse, or fifth wheel to a wagon, commonly known as some other business to run in connection with beekeeping, or beekeeping in connection with other professions is deceptive. If a man cannot make one kind of business pay, two kinds won't better his condition. If his attention is divided, and drawn to the fifth wheel, he will in nine cases out of ten divide profits with the honey buyer in such a way that the specialist will find prices ruined. A man must be a specialist if he would succeed in any direction. You can't drive two nails at one time with one hammer. If you had seen as many non-specialists as I have, and seen them knock prices to pieces as though the whole matter was all children's play, you wouldn't go to the convention and for the want of something else to say, start up some tomfool argument in favor of a business-twin-baby, or some crotched tree that will split down some day no matter how much you prop it up, and the weight that split it will bring down the price of your honey. Honey is a luxury and a tender plant that will bear no fooling with. Most people are ignorant of the mode of its production, and if a man happens to have luck enough to raise a few pounds, and from lack of knowledge of course sells it cheap, people imagine he has any amount on hand, and of course he sets the price. I have had enough trouble with this class of hogging beekeepers. Still by study and persistence, I have got my price for honey, but its up-hill work, and its enough to make an angel declare, when you drive in town with a load of honey as I have, and half a dozen dish-water, two business, bee-boglers, gather at the wagon and swear till they sweat, that I must have fed my bees sugar to get all that honey, for they knew positively that there was no honey in

the flowers this year, for their bees hadn't laid up a pound. Keep on your philanthropic five wheeled changers, go and lecture to every wizen-pated lippy that you can gain audience with. Tell him of the glories of the bee business, and in fifteen years you'll wish they were all in some hot place, or perhaps by that time you'll change your mind and want to save their lives as you do that of the busy bee; by frying them on a hot stovetid along with brimstone.

JOHN F GATES.

Ovid, Erie Co., Pa.

FOR THE CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL.

Spring Session of Oxford Bee-Keeper's Association.

THE meeting of the Oxford B. K. Association called to order at 10 a.m. by Vice-pres. S. T. Pettit and after the routine business of reading minutes &c., a resolution was passed fixing the annual meeting for the 2nd Wednesday in Dec.

The Legislative Grant is to be disposed of as follows: \$10.00 to go towards defraying advertising and \$20 to be expended in giving lectures on foul brood at the Farmers' Institutes throughout the country. Mr. J. E. Frith was appointed to give the lectures.

The afternoon session opened with the President, Wm. Goodger, in the chair. A very interesting letter from Mr. R. F. Holterman was read by the Sec. Mr. H. had just returned from a short trip to A. I. Root's manufacturing establishment at Medina, O. He stated in few words what might be accomplished by stick-to-itiveness in any line. His letter was an apology for not being able to write a paper on location in time for the meeting, but the hints on that subject brought out good healthy questions and answers on such a subject.—"Priority of location".

Bee-keepers who had gone to a great deal of expense and trouble in qualifying for bee-keeping were sometimes crowded out by a host of amateurs and those who are in the habit of getting, all they can without expense. In very many cases our neighbor, the bee-keeper, is not properly considered.

A second question of some importance was well talked up and that was that bee-keeping should go with some other business as it alone was a hazardous one, but it was hard to decide what occupation would go well with it, we having at the meeting a doctor, a school teacher, a carpenter, a mail clerk, several retired men and a goodly number of farm-ers. All had serious objections in uniting other things with bee-keeping.

The third question was that the pasture o