

I think we need to support each other in every way. I think one of the best ways you can support the bee industry is through the "Journal." Support your journals. If you have anything to advertise, advertise it. You have got to keep supporting these papers until they can support themselves. Support your own journals first, and then, if you can do so, take one or more of the American journals.

Now, as to the Department. In some ways the Department can aid you. You will remember, two years ago, Mr. Monteith, the Minister of Agriculture, attended your meeting in Toronto and talked over matters as to how the Department could co-operate with you more closely than in the past. At that time the foul brood inspection work was taken off your hands and placed in the hands of the Department. Last year the Minister appeared before you again and made various suggestions for the extension of the inspection by the division of the country into six sections, instead of having one inspector for the whole Province. This will be put into operation this year, and we, of course, solicit your support in the work of this coming season. We can do nothing without the co-operation of the bee-keepers themselves.

Our first work has been to gain as much information about the industry as possible. We knew nothing about it in the Department. We had a few statistics, but outside of that we knew very little. The first thing we have done is to make a list of all the bee-keepers in the Province. We are endeavoring now to make this list complete. When we do we can distribute our literature direct. There are many bee-keepers who are not reached through the local and Provincial Associations, and we hope to distribute literature in respect to foul brood, and

the annual reports if necessary. We wish to get these men interested in the industry, and we hope by distributing our circulars in reference to foul brood to be able to make better progress in the suppression of the disease. From reports in the past, it is doing a great deal of damage, and we are not aware whether it has been got down to normal again.

The report for 1901 was that there were in Ontario 116,000 hives, while in 1891 there were 146,000 hives. You notice there a decrease of 30,000 in ten years. If such a decrease had taken place in any other industry the Department would, of course, have been anxious to know the reason. Had it been any other industry, we would have endeavored to have remedied it at once by holding conventions and distributing literature and by sending out speakers. For instance, last year we were anxious to find out about the horse industry in the Province, and the Government has been spending a great deal in finding out how the industry stood. The Government is anxious to do as much for any industry; they are promising double the amount of money this year for the suppression of foul brood. Now that this work has been taken over by the Department, with the co-operation of the bee-keepers, we are going to work together far better than in the past.

There is no doubt that you have an industry in which there is much profit. It seems to me that by working together through local associations and annual conventions and the Department, that there will be no trouble about the markets. I was talking with Mr. Laing just before the meeting, and he asked me why it was that years ago honey was up in price and eggs were 10 cents, and other things in proportion. Now eggs are away up and