

VICTORIA COUNTY, B. K. A.

Victoria County Bee-Keepers' Association held their annual meeting at Little Britain, on Friday, April 13th. Mr. R. F. Whiteside presided. There was a good attendance of members and others and a very interesting meeting throughout.

Mr. Whiteside gave a practical talk on the detection of contagious diseases among bees, quoting many authorities on these. In the case of pickled brood he advised changing the queen, or giving the brood to vigorous colonies. He thought this disease originated almost every time from chilled brood. For foul brood he advised the carrying out of the McEvey treatment to the letter, or the fire where it is exceedingly bad.

Mr. J. L. Byer gave a very valuable paper on "Spring Management." He considers giving plenty of stores in the fall one of the most essential things in connection with the work.

Mr. Jas. Storey gave a paper on "Swarming, its Troubles and Prevention." In fruit bloom he clips the queen's wings, takes notes of the condition of the colonies, cuts out queen cells from any that may be making preparation for swarming, which generally makes them safe until clover harvest; then he examines the brood nest every eight days, noting condition of hive and when conditions demand he swarms artificially. This course he especially recommended for out yards.

"What Shall We do With Our Honey?" was the subject of a paper by Mr. G. R. Hand. Mr. Hand thinks if every bee-keeper would do his duty in his home market, we would not be able to supply the demand.

A question drawer was conducted covering a variety of subjects.

The idea of organizing each electoral district of the province as a district division of the O. B. K. A., and local association with the director as convenor or chairman, was favorably considered as a means of increasing the influence and usefulness of the provincial association and reaching bee-keepers generally.

Each topic taken up was well and intelligently discussed, and the meeting throughout was a very profitable one.

A. H. Noble, Secy.

HOW MUCH, ANYWAY?

In the February C. B. J., in speaking of the development of the home market I ventured to wonder what would happen if the people in York county should use honey at the rate of two pounds per head per annum. In the March issue, page 54, Mr. Byer, alias York County Bee-keeper, wonders in return, how much they do use, anyway, and instances one house which uses 75,000 lbs. per year. Apparently wonders will never cease. Here are a couple more, since it's my turn. First, I wonder if we are supposed to conclude that the average annual consumption per house in York County is 75,000 lbs. Second, I wonder how much of that 75,000 lbs. that house uses is eaten in York County. I may be mistaken, but I have a strong suspicion that the house in question uses that honey in making cookies, etc., for a family of some six million people, quite a number of whom live outside of York County.

Here's a third little wonder that I didn't notice until just now: I wonder how much over six cents per pound net the producers of that 75,000 pounds of honey received?

In speaking of the consumption of honey in my home market, I had reference only to what was bought and eaten as honey, and took no account of what went out in the form of biscuits, etc., of which probably as large a percentage are used here as anywhere.

I have just been devouring a few pages of the statistical year book of Canada for 1904. It makes no mention of the amount of honey produced, but it gives the number of colonies of bees and it gives the population of Canada, and of the various provinces and counties thereof. York County probably uses as much honey in proportion to population as any other part of the country.