

Bee-Keepers' Meeting at Los Angeles, California.

ACCORDING to the *Los Angeles Herald* of the 22nd inst., there was a pleasant little gathering on the 21st, of rural-looking men and women who did not dress in the height of fashion, perhaps, but who held a six hours' meeting and talked nothing but business and good common sense. It was the semi-annual meeting of the Southern California Bee-Keepers' Association, which was called to order by the secretary, Mr. G. W. Brodbeck; and in the absence of Mr. Abbott, president, the chair was filled by Mr. S. G. Corey. After the roll-call, the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. On motion of the secretary, the regular order of business was suspended.

Mr. Cole, of Tropic, stated that he had 215 colonies in good condition last June, and had a fair crop of honey, considering the unfavorable surroundings of the present season. Mr. Corey said he had fed his colonies liberally with sugar and honey.

METHODS OF FEEDING BEES.

One member reported a large crop of honey-comb, which he attributed to two hail storms in June, in the Antelope valley. The relative value of sage and other plants was considered in turn. Great differences are caused by soil and climate, and the welfare of the bee colonies varies accordingly.

A lady member stated that she lost several colonies on account of small ants which drove away the bees. Thus far she has found no adequate cure. Mr. Corey advised the application of coal oil and axle grease around each hive, to be used fresh every two or three days. The secretary spoke of some experiments with crude oil.

INFLUENCE OF CLIMATE.

It was stated that no secretion of honey can be expected when the weather declines below 80 degrees. A visitor recommended caustic soda or lime as a safeguard against ants. All through the eastern states, the spring months were inauspicious for bees, the honey was badly spotted in some localities, and the yield was very small. In the San Bernardino thermal belt, said Mr. Corey, good results have been obtained; also at a place near Murietta. Bee-keepers will do well to govern their industry by the thermometer, as calamitous results are generally produced by a cold wave.

At 2 p.m. the convention reassembled, and after reading and confirmation of the previous minutes, a discussion took place on prospects and results. In the course of this argument it appeared that while the Italian bees did

not cap their honey combs as well, they did more work than the common black variety and produced more honey to the hive. The comb, however, was not so attractive for display and sale. The convention then took up the matter of exhibits at the World's fair.

In this connection, a doubt was expressed as to whether the crop of 1892 would be made available in time for the fair as the crop of this year was not up to the usual standard, and therefore not of a quality to be exhibited there.

Mr. Frank Wiggins, as representative of the chamber of commerce, hoped the matter would not stop there. It was of vital importance, that so important an article of export as honey should not be overlooked in this state's contribution to the national exposition. It was then moved and carried that this association do make an exhibit at the world's fair and that the executive board take charge of the preliminary work.

Mr. Brodbeck offered a resolution, in which the appointment of Dr. Mason, of Ohio, as superintendent of the department of apiary culture, was indorsed, and moved its adoption. The resolution was adopted without a dissenting vote. A committee of three was then appointed, to prepare an exhibit of California's honey-producing plants, at the expense of the association.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

The convention then went into an election of officers to serve for the year next ensuing, with the following results:

President, C. W. Abbott; secretary and treasurer, S. T. Rowley; vice-presidents, W. H. Miller, Los Angeles; Mrs. S. B. Morris, San Bernardino; C. C. Thomas, San Diego; J. E. Pleasants, Orange; W. T. Richardson, Ventura. Executive committee, M. Barrett, Whittier; W. J. Richardson, Santa Paula; E. T. Hart, Los Angeles. Committee on Legislation, Mullen, Barrett, Rowley and Thomas. Committee on finance—Odell, Banister, Housted. Committee on programme—Rowley, Hiller, Mrs. Morris.

THE TROUBLES OF AN INSPECTOR.

Mr. E. T. Hart, bee inspector for this county, made a very sensible speech. He said he had been appointed by the board of supervisors to inspect hives and, while the law gave him no authority to destroy diseased hives, it did require him to call upon the owners of such hives and request them to do so. Sometimes they did so cheerfully, but in most cases he got surly answers, and, on one occasion, a Winchester rifle was produced in order to facilitate his exit.

An old gentleman said he hoped the office of bee inspector would not be abolished, as was