

Thoughts and ...Comments ON CURRENT TOPICS

By a York County Bee Keeper.

COMPETITION VERSUS ORGANIZATION

We have become so accustomed to hearing it said, that "competition is the life of trade," that it requires quite a stretch of the imagination to think anything to the contrary. The Bee-Keepers' Review, for November, is largely made up of opinion and ideas, contributed and editorial, bearing on the question of commercial organization.

In a lengthy and forcible article contributed by Mr. Daggit of New York, notice the following remarks concerning competition: "Over production is due to competition, People are now beginning to see competition in its true light. Instead of being a blessing, it is nothing more than a necessary evil, to be curtailed and restricted. As society advances in development, competition will be eliminated altogether. It means every man trying to get the best of another—one at another's throat. It develops greed, selfishness and dishonesty, and the end of the road is ruin; sometimes mental and physical ruin, and not infrequently moral ruin. It must be supplemented by something better and it will be." While these statements may be a little too radical for the most of us to swallow in their entirety, still there is no doubt a lot of truth in the author's opinions.

AFTERMATH OF THE BARRIE MEETING.

It seems too bad that little personal spites and grievances sometimes find a place for overflowing, in our con-

ventions. Disagreeable occurrences like this have a tendency to undo the very work the Association is, or at least should be trying to perform.

A splendid address was that by Prof. Shutt and he deserves the appreciation and thanks of every beekeeper in Canada for the interest taken in their work. However, it is a difficult proposition, that of establishing a specific gravity test, as a standard for grading extracted honey. So many conflicting circumstances, such as difference in seasons, etc., etc., come in for consideration, that I am afraid we will never be able to say with certainty, that honey shall weigh so many pounds, no less to the gallon.

Mr. Creelman likewise gave us an excellent talk, and by the way, methinks it might be well for us to take into consideration, some of the very plain facts thrown out. Even the most enthusiastic member of the O.B.K.A. will be forced to admit, that as compared with the progress of sister organizations, our Association is to a certain extent a back number. anyone comparing our annual reports for the past five years, cannot fail to notice a great deal of sameness in the discussions of the different meetings. Whilst questions such as size of hive, methods of wintering, and a host of others, will quite properly, continue to be discussed at future meetings, I cannot help but think that these deeper problems concerning our business, will receive more attention than they have in times past. Mr. Creelman criticized our methods of electing officers, and his suggestion, that we would facilitate business if we would adopt the plan of appointing a nominating committee, should at least have our consideration.

A prominent member of the Association, facetiously remarked that such matters would have been simplified