

keepers and the object in view. He mentioned the letter of Mr. Thos. Cowan, of England, which had done such good service. He expected no serious difficulty in securing the legislation desired if followed up. After a lengthy discussion, the committee was re-appointed to act as they saw fit in furthering the interests of bee-keepers in this direction. The committee, also Messrs. W. J. Brown and M. B. Holmes received a vote of thanks for their services.

Mr. Allen Pringle, Selby, late superintendent of Ontario honey at the World's Fair, Chicago, gave an address upon

APICULTURE AT THE WORLD'S FAIR.

Mr. Pringle recounted much of interest in connection with the World's Fair. He referred to its triumphs in honey and other lines, and pointed out that the indications were that the time was coming when the United States would not be able to supply its own honey. There were States in which the honey crop was failing year after year. There was, with the exception of that from England and Scotland, and a few states in the Union, no honey equal to Ontario honey. Mr. Pringle related the great difficulties he had encountered in connection with customs formalities, how in selling honey of exhibitors to save expense, he had made a point of personally delivering hundreds of pounds, a duty it is unnecessary to say, he was in no way called upon to perform. The United States imposed a specific duty of twenty cents per gallon on honey imported. In comb honey particularly, it required peculiar arithmetic and guessing, of which the customs had rather the best, making the duty, finally, from two to three cents per pound.

Mr. Pringle had placed the honey which had been on exhibition, and finally sold in Chicago in such a way as to open the greatest demand for Canadian honey. The exhibitors had netted 7 to 8½ cents for extracted, and 13 to 14 cents for comb. Free of duty it would have netted them 8 to 11 cents for extracted and 15 to 17 cents for comb. He thought that the next honey would sell at an advance, because this honey had paved the way for more. Many buyers had come back to him for more Canadian honey, he was proud to say it stood higher in the market than the native product, and brought a higher price. He had been hampered by duties, they had the prejudice of consumers on account of adulteration.

His eyes had been opened in a marked manner whilst in Chicago, upon the question of adulteration. He knew there was but little adulteration in Canada, and

he never dreamed there was as much there. He could only speak of Chicago, and it might not be so bad in the east. The people were reluctant to buy any honey in extracted form out of the shops. He did not, for a moment, say the producers were the offenders, in fact, he thought adulteration by them was very rare. The people still appeared to have confidence in comb honey and in connection with this Mr. Pringle said "and if American bee-keepers are wise, they will endeavor to preserve that confidence by burying that 'sugar honey' project, so promptly and deeply that it will know no resurrection." Under these circumstances the advantages of Ontario would be seen in the United States markets, not only for extracted, but for comb honey, so long as we kept it pure and undefiled. He could take a hundred tons of Canadian honey to Chicago to-morrow and sell it readily at excellent prices to dealers and consumers, but mostly to consumers. In endeavoring to get the best possible prices for exhibitors, the honey was disposed of in the best possible way, to advertise it, and when he got through he had the way open for almost unlimited sales. He found it not advisable to sell to dealers. He took care that every customer who bought honey from him knew that he was buying Ontario honey and they generally came back for more. In his own words he stated, "I tell you, Ontario honey stood high in Chicago when I turned my back on Jackson Park." When people knew they were getting a pure product, they were willing to pay a good price. Prof. Wiley, in an address at Chicago in October last, before the North American Bee-keepers Association, had not allayed the suspicion of the consumers as to adulteration. He had made startling reports upon many samples, from many quarters, of honey analyzed. Prof. Wiley was the analysis for the United States Department of Agriculture, Washington. The bee-keepers of the United States were not altogether satisfied with the reliability of the analyses, but adulteration there was certainly which required no science to unearth.

Mr. Pringle stated that bee-keepers were not to blame for the injury done by Prof. Wiley's original slander on the comb honey, a slander now dying out, but they might be justly held responsible for whatever evil may accrue to them on account of their "sugar honey" speculation or project, as it was apparently born and bred among themselves.

Again Mr. Pringle in his own words states, "Our apiarian exhibit at the