

ly have put the members in a position to know the situation as it is. So far as controlling the output goes, we know that it is a very difficult matter because there are so many small producers throughout the country and they can put their honey on the market at any price they like and it is hard to get them to join in. The first and greatest thing for the honey exchange to do is to give us an idea of the crop and the probable price and the grading rules. This would be an excellent thing. I mentioned criticism. I am not blaming anybody, I suppose the best that could be done was done this year, but the grading rules and the prices we got came too late for the most of us.

The President: Would you suggest a workable amount of capital?

Mr. Pettit: That is a point I have in my mind. We can't do anything without money, The honey exchange could not be expected to do anything this year with the money they had. The only way I see the honey exchange could handle the honey would be to form a stock company as has been done elsewhere. This dollar membership fee that has been given in would merely help to gather statistics, as was done in a small way this year.

Mr. Couse: Mr. Chairman, and gentlemen, I felt a year ago on being appointed on that committee you were giving us something to do that you didn't know how to do yourselves so we felt a great responsibility in taking hold of it. The moment I was placed upon that committee I didn't see daylight through it. I can tell you I met Mr. Sibbald on several occasions through the summer. We spent a few hours trying to think what we could do. I always felt a weak point in this, we were doing anything from the simple fact that we were not incorporated We

were not responsible to any member nor any member responsible to us. They could do as they pleased and we could do as we pleased. That is a weak position to be in. My own idea is crop reports can be got as they were got this year, which I think was a considerable benefit to the members of the exchange. I might say along with the grading rules Committee we spent quite an interesting time in Woodstock for half a day. It wasn't any idle time there; we didn't go there to spend our time foolishly at all. We were all busy. I felt every member was trying to do something for your interests. I am satisfied they were. They had a hard road to pull. We found that there was a good crop of honey in the country and a good crop of fruit. We felt we must reduce prices a little. We felt that we would not go over 7½ cents for honey; around 7 cents was pretty near what it ought to be and we were pretty near right. I think you will find the thing has been carried out pretty near to the Committee's idea. They got all reasonable reports; they knew pretty well the situation and I think that kind of thing is useful to bee-keepers. I think it can be done more extensively and if this Association does not wish to form a joint-stock Company my opinion is they can only go as far as making reports and giving them to the members. I am satisfied that some day there will be an incorporated Company formed to handle honey and I am satisfied it will be a great benefit to the country, because once you can supply large orders for honey from other places, carload lots, you will do business. Supposing we were to quote honey in the Old Country. Why, we are not anybody until we are incorporated. We could not refer them to any bank or concern or to anybody. When you