

half-a-dozen Canucks present at the meeting, yet smallness of numbers did not cause them to "hide their light under a bushel." Say, Mr. Editor, if another half-dozen had been present, the powers that be would have been in duty bound to have dubbed the report "International" instead of "National."

A New System of Management.

The most interesting item to the writer in connection with the report we have been commenting upon is the system of management outlined by Mr. Ferris of Wisconsin. Mr. Ferris uses a 14-frame Langstroth hive. As to how he manages, will quote his own words: "This makes a large hive, provide that through the centre with a solid division board which is removable, place a queen in the fall on each side of that division board. I winter two queens in an ordinary swarm of bees in this hive. Then in the spring I work each division up to seven frames full of brood. Then I add on another story, and as each story has a place for the division board, I put in a division board, and in that way I get both sides worked up to an exceedingly strong colony in brood, up to the time when the honey flow begins. At this point I take away both queens, and let them be a few days queenless, and then either give them a ripe queen cell or a queen already mated. In this way you can prevent swarming, I think, as well as in any other way." Mr. Ferris allows the queens free access to all combs till the clover flow, then the young queen freshly introduced is confined to the lower story by a queen-excluder. While the plan requires a lot of work, it seems to the writer one of the best things I have ever read, and with such an enormous force of bees, headed by a young queen, it requires no great stretch of the imagination to believe Mr. Ferris when he says that in poor seasons, when

neighbors were not getting a pound of surplus, he was able to take 200 pounds per colony from stocks treated as described. In the fall the brood nest is again divided with the division board and an extra queen given for wintering.

The Aspinwall Hive.

While nearly all methods so far given to the public re the controlling of swarming are based on some plan of dividing the bees, requeening or other manipulations along that line, Mr. Aspinwall of Michigan has been working in another direction, and now claims to have an absolutely non-swarming hive. The hive is made to take 15 ordinary frames, but only seven are used for wintering. In the spring, as the strength of the colony warrants, combs are given from time to time, until the main honey flow opens. Then all but seven frames of brood are taken away and between each of these frames of brood is placed a slatted dummy $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches wide, as well as one slatted dummy between wall of hive and each outside comb. This entirely fills the 15-frame hive. Section cases holding 36 sections arranged the same as the lower story (only the slatted dummies between each row of sections being $\frac{1}{2}$ -inch instead of $1\frac{1}{2}$) are now given, and when well started another like section case is added. This, briefly, is the hive and management as described by Mr. Aspinwall. Last season, from 35 colonies so treated, Mr. Aspinwall secured an average of 123 pounds per colony, and not one of them offered to swarm. Mr. Aspinwall has been working along this line for a number of years, and feels confident that there is no chance about it, and that his hive will always prevent swarming. While nothing is said as to management in producing extracted honey, we presume swarming would be easier controlled than is the case when producing comb honey, and no diff-

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