

pected to take an interest in the Association before knowing its work and objects. He advised that the full reports of the convention be sent to them, with a request to co-operate.

Some difficulty had been experienced in Manitoba with hives of bees dying, due to a foul or chilled brood. It was felt that there should be some inspection. It was unanimously resolved: "To recommend to the Manitoba government the appointment of an experienced bee-keeper, to visit different apiaries in the province and at the same time, if possible, inspect all incoming hives of bees."

Bee-keeping in Alberta.

The first paper by Ira W. Russell consisted of an account of his experience in bee-keeping in the Lacombe district, Alberta. In 1902 he started, but the first year proved a failure. He concluded that Alberta was not suited to bee-keeping. He made no effort to feed the bees, simply putting them in his cellar. They pulled through, and he assigned the failure to the wet season. He placed those left out in summer stands. The result was about 100 pounds of honey that season. He had now four colonies. The next season they produced 300 pounds of honey, and sent out one swarm. Mr. Russell pronounced the honey as white as the white clover honey of Iowa and of exceedingly fine flavor. He did not know what plants the bees obtained nectar from. He had noticed considerable sweet amise seed there.

Rev. R. A. Rutledge of St. Charles delivered an enthusiastic address on his experience in bee-keeping. Ill-health had caused him to leave the ministry and take up bee-keeping. His first experience led him to believe that it was not possible in this country. The experience of the late Mr. Duncan of Dominion City encouraged him, however, and he finally succeeded. His bees had paid their own way from the

first. His hives averaged about 100 pounds. He had now 44 hives. So far this year he had averaged 200% for his labor. His bees this year had averaged 75 pounds and had given 50% increase.

A motion was passed granting the secretary-treasurer, Mr. Gellay, \$25 for his services.

Among the Bees in the Spring

By G. M. Doolittle, Borodino, N.Y.

The first thing to be done in the spring is to get each hive or colony in as good shape as possible for the comfort and prosperity of the bees. As soon as spring fairly opens I go over all the hives in the apiary, and, to do this intelligently, I begin on one side of the yard and open the first hive. If the bees have wintered well I may find that the colony has brood in three or four combs, while the sealed honey along the top-bars of the frames, and more still in the combs next the outside of the hive, tells me that they have an abundance of stores, so that all this colony needs is to see that the hive is made as tight and comfortable, as possible, except the entrance, which should be about 3 inches long by $\frac{3}{4}$ deep. When thus fixed a little stone is placed on top in the center of the cover, which tells me that the colony is a good one and needs no further looking after till the fruit-trees bloom.

The next two or three colonies prove about the same as the first, so are marked the same. The fourth or fifth colony may prove to be only a fair one, with some dead bees on the bottom-board, which are either removed or a clean board substituted. As they have brood in two or three