

in the bee cellar and hear this contented hum. Then February comes the colony begins to grow, and keeps growing till March. As far as keeping them in until the 16th of May, I have kept them in until the second of May, which was a mistake. Two years ago I put out some twenty hives on the first of March, and the reason I did not put out more was because it turned out too cold, and they could not fly, and they did not fly again for some time. The thermometer went down to 10 below zero, and those bees were in hives  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch thick with no protection whatever, and those in that hive were the best in the apiary when the honey season commenced.

Mr. Frith—Have any of you been in Mr. Hall's cellar? If not you had better take the train with Mr. Hall to see the bees, you will never get as clear an impression as you would if you had just come over and see them.

Mr. Pettit—I want to re-assert that every hive of bees that winter as they should winter, do not make a noise, and when they begin to make a noise there is something a little off.

Mr. Hall—He is perfectly right, "those that have no music in their soul cannot appreciate the tune." There was a gentleman in my cellar this winter, and I said to listen to this hive, and I said you hear something, and he said "Yes I hear something just as if it was wind in the trees a long way off." He could hear it, but others could not.

Mr. Holtermann—I generally think I winter my bees pretty well. Mr. Couse and I were up to the house last night, and saw the way the bees clustered. I followed as closely as I could Mr. Pettit's method of wintering, and I have been in Mr. Pettit's cellar. And last year towards spring I thought I would slip up and see how he wintered his bees, and the way the slats were laid on the cellar floor he could not remove bees, and there were very few. I think Mr. Pettit winters his bees a little better than I do. Mr. Pettit said, "do you hear the hum?" Yes I do. "Oh yes," he says, "it is coming near spring."

Mr. Darling—I want to say this with regard to that contented hum, I have heard Mr. Hall, and Mr. Pettit, and I have read Mr. Dolittle's articles; I believe Mr. Hall is correct. I do not bring my bees out in the spring just as I would like to. My cellar is dry, the air is pure and clean. I go into my cellar and put my ear to the hive but I can hear nothing, but bye and bye I come to a hive and you can hear a little sound. I have 140 stacks of bees in the cellar now, I never expect to see the day when I will

have 150 stacks and they will all be quiet at once. I will go down to the cellar another time and hear another hive that was making a noise the day before, part of the time they are making a noise, and part of the time they are not.

A Member—I go into my cellar often, and as Mr. Darling has said, I have never yet been able to get them in all parts of the cellar quiet, but where I find the noise this week I find it next week, I find it right along, there is something in the circulation of the air. Those that are in the most favorable position in the cellar are the ones I find are still.

Mr. Couse—At a former part of our meeting there was some discussion in regard to approaching the Government, or having our Dominion Government take some steps to export honey to the Old Country, to what they call their Produce Stations. I believe a resolution from this Association would have some effect in having this done, and I think right now it might be shortly discussed, and a resolution passed to have them to do so, and if you think fit to have a Committee appointed to write them or see them, or in some other way approach them, it would be a good thing.

Mr. Pettit—I will second that, and I think it is of much importance because I noticed in the Press a short time ago that a leading bee-keeper had a thousand tons on hand. (Great laughter).

Mr. Hall—It will do no harm if this Association asked the Canadian Government to include in its exhibits Canadian honey.

Mr. Holtermann—The Ontario Government is sending comb and extract honey to the Imperial Institute, this is a Dominion matter, and those who have followed the question will know this, that the present Minister of Agriculture proposes sending slaughtered animals over in cold storage, and depots are to be established in different parts of Great Britain in which this meat is to be sold. Prof Robertson told me they proposed handling this meat in May, and that he could not undertake to handle any other product for two or three months. I tried to get a definite promise out of Prof. Robertson, and he said he would not make any definite promise at present as some difficulty not at present seen might prevent, and I think a resolution from this Association would add weight. Motion carried.

### Oppression.

"Did you ever feel that oppressive something which comes on one in a deep coal mine?"

"No, but I've felt it in paying coal bills."