

### Oxford Bee-Keepers' Association Convention.

Met in the council chambers May 12, 1894. Among those present were Pres. F. A. Gemmell, J. B. Hall, J. E. Frith, Martin Emigh, J. W. Whaley, Doctor Geo. Duncan, John Martin, John Newton, Geo. Budd, E. S. Eaden, Jos. Meadows and R. F. Holtermann. The President, F. A. Gemmell in the chair. After some routine business it was moved by J. W. Whaley seconded by J. B. Hall that the association take THE CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL for the year as a premium for members. All of those present not already members then paid their membership fee.

An interesting and profitable discussion was then opened up by the following question.

"Are those who hive swarms on starters in the broad chamber troubled more with pollen in the sections than if hived on full sheets of foundation or drawn comb?"

J. B. Hall, Woodstock, Ont., suggested that the giving of drawn or partially drawn sections will give pollen in sections more than if only foundation in the sections be given. The bees when they come in from the field would deposit pollen in the sections. If full combs were used no pollen in sections, and very little with full sheets of foundation. With starters there would be more pollen in the sections of course.

Martin Emigh.—I have never noticed much difference, as far as the brood chamber is concerned, but when old sections are used the bees will with starters or foundation below put pollen in these old sections.

Doctor Geo Duncan, Embro—My experience is about the same as Mr. Hall's, only I think there is no difference between drawn comb and full sheets of foundation.

The Pres. Mr. Gemmell, Stratford—I always thought I got more pollen in sections with starters only in the brood chamber, but I sometimes use a bait or last year's drawn section in the supers sometimes one in each row and this may have inclined the bees to store pollen in the bait and then other sections.

J. B. Hall—I only use one bait section in each super and only with the first super placed upon the hive.

Would a shallow frame make any difference from a Langstroth or Quinby frame?

Mr. Hall—Not so long as comb building goes on but when completed, if the frame is shallow there is not room enough for the queen and pollen must go up into the sec-

tions. I have had my best comb honey above the Quinby frame 12 inches deep.

J. W. Whaley, Woodstock—I take my comb honey above drawn comb.

John Newton, Thamesford—If comb in sections is put above starters they will put in pollen. I have at time of living put partially filled sections on and had no bad results. The season however makes a very great difference; last season was a bad one for pollen. The bees stored pollen in my extracting combs

The question was asked, "Would the bees store pollen in sections when the sections placed upon the hive have cells all partially filled with honey?"

The reply that the bees would empty some of the cells in the process of ripening appears to be conclusive.

What injury will it do the extracting combs to have pollen stored in them?

It will make them more susceptible to the attack of moth when out of the hive.

In reply to a question Mr. Hall said he used a queen excluder when hiving a swarm on starters, otherwise not.

In hiving bees on 5 or 6 drawn combs would you put starters or full sheets in the sections.

Mr. Newton—Full sheets.

J. B. Hall—Full sheets every time.

Mr. Emigh—I always use full sheets.

R. F. Holtermann—There is no condition under which I want to use anything but full sheets in sections, by a partial sheet we often get unsightly drone comb.

Upon discussion most of those present thought it was not a good practice to put a small strip of foundation at the bottom of the section to meet the top.

Mr. Holtermann asked if the method of cutting and putting in the foundation had not something to do with the perfect finish of the sections?

Mr. Hall—I fill the sections with foundation so it will just swing in the section that is within one-sixteenth or one-thirty-second of an inch of the side. When so put in, the bees will often attack it before they draw it out.

Contraction or not contraction of the brood chamber for comb honey?

The President asked—What is best, the Heddon shallow body or less frames in the Langstroth?

Mr. Hall—I take the best honey from the deep frames and the number of frames reduced. When the season is good I do not even contract the large brood chamber.

Mr. Holtermann—I tested the shallow brood chamber and favor contraction of the deep frame.

Mr. Emigh—I have contracted but never saw much gain from the system.