

industry take sufficient interest in the matter to furnish us with the necessary data. In the first place it will be necessary to have a special corps of correspondents made up entirely from those actually engaged in bee-keeping. To secure such a list of reliable men, we should have to depend upon the officers of various Bee-Keepers' Associations. Our regular correspondents who furnish us with monthly crops reports are made up in the main of ordinary farmers, and but few would be able to give reliable information relative to the present condition of apiculture; therefore, what we desire, and must have, if a reliable report is to be made, is a list of intelligent bee-keepers one in every county where the industry is of any comparative importance. So far we have been able to secure such a list from the State of Iowa only, with the promise of a list from Wisconsin. Can you, from among the members of your society, furnish me such a corps, or give me the names of prominent men in each State who could do so?

I would also be under obligations if you and the fellow members of your committee would kindly give me the points, which, in your opinion, such an investigation should cover, and the queries which you would consider it advisable to put.

Trusting that you will give me all the assistance in your power in order that a full and correct report on the progress of this growing industry may be made, I am,

Very respectfully,

J. R. DODGE, Statistician.

This committee, as representatives of the "North American Bee-Keepers' Society," are now corresponding with one another for the purpose of formulating a plan to be followed by the different societies, in order to comply with the above request of the United States Statistician. They will endeavor to give him "the points," the "queries," etc., but many difficulties present themselves.

For the Canadian Bee Journal.

Welland County Bee-Keepers.

THE Welland County Bee-Keepers' Association was organised in the Town Hall, Ridgeway, on Monday, Feb. 20th.

Owing to the heavy rains during the day and the flooded state of the roads, many who had signified their intention of being present were prevented from doing so and the attendance was very much smaller than it would otherwise have been under more favorable conditions.

The following persons were enrolled as members:

Messrs. H. J. Herber, F. Miller, N. Miller, Chippawa; Joseph Sherk, Netherby; D. A. McKinney, Brookfield; R. Richardson, Pt. Colborne; H. Johnstone, Stone Quarry; Mrs. J. N. Fullmer, Messrs. C. H. Mathews, N. Brewster, M.D., J. F. Dunn, Ridgeway.

A courteous letter regretting inability to be present was read from Prof. Snider.

Mr. H. J. Herber was elected President, C. H. Mathews Vice-President, J. F. Dunn Sec. Treas.

The different methods of wintering bees were pretty thoroughly discussed by those present.

Mr. Herber winters in a clamp packed in sawdust in a barn with entrances so arranged that bees can fly.

Mr. C. H. Mathews winters his bees in a clamp out doors. Hives packed in sawdust and forest leaves. Honey boards off. Bees are in good condition.

Messrs. McFinney, Sherk and Miller winter on summer stand.

Mr. H. Johnston winters in double-walled sawdust packed hives, places sawdust cushions over brood nest, fills super with corncobs. His bees winter well.

A member asked the question "Do bees seek out a home before swarming?"

Jos. Sherk thought not.

R. Richardson thought they did.

H. J. Herber thought they did not and gave some excellent reasons why he thought so. A member said that Mr. B. Troup, of Bertie township, had observed a few bees cleaning out a cavity in a decayed tree and the next day a swarm issued from a neighboring yard and took possession. The Secretary thought that no proof that bees seek a home previous to swarming. A small colony may have taken possession of the cavity on the day the few bees were seen cleaning it out and the swarm which issued the following day united with them.

Several members described their method of preventing increase. Hiving swarms and emptying supers filled with comb honey. Discussion on minor topics occupied the balance of the time after which it was decided to hold the next meeting in the town of Welland on Monday, May 7th, 1888.

From the British Bee Journal.

BEE-KEEPING IN MALTA.

YOU ask me in your number of 5th January for any particulars of bee-keeping in Malta. At present I believe I am the only frame hive owner in the island, unless the Rev. Fathers at the Jesuit College have