

account of them and they had from two to three hundred hands employed. I never knew of it myself until a year after. I heard of it and I spoke to the proprietor about it. He said yes it was the case but he did not say anything about it because he knew it was not my fault. He said he knew it was the nature of the bees to collect sweets after the honey flow had ceased and the doors and windows of the factory should have been screened. That man is at one extreme; there are not many like that. I found another man who approached me one day. I had a yard of bees about 30 or 40 miles north. He wanted to know when I was going to take them home. I told him about the first of August, which would be in about ten days. He said they were a terrible nuisance to him and did great damage. I told him I was sorry to hear it and if they were I would pay him for it. I asked him what they were doing? He said they were around his watering trough drinking the water out of the watering trough. I told him he could place a piece of cotton over that. He wouldn't do that; he would come down there four or five times a day with a broom to annoy me. I got a couple of salt barrels and filled them with water and they all immediately commenced drinking out of the barrels. It is easy enough for us to guard against these things. Wherever we have our bees located we should do all in our power to prevent our bees becoming a nuisance to any one.

Mr. John Newton: I agree with the facts you have given. Especially when you come to small villages; we must try to live peaceably with our neighbors and we have to sweeten them up a little. I know when I lived in the centre of our village the lady who lived next to me complained that she could not go outside the

door without the bees being after her. I didn't know what to do at first. I didn't want to move. So I used to hand her a section of honey now and again. Then she could not manage to hoe her potatoes and I came to the conclusion that I had better get up an hour earlier in the morning and hoe them for her. We got on splendidly ever afterwards. I wasn't married then. (Laughter)

As to the watering trough, I can remember very well when I was west of St. Thomas there, we got along splendidly; they could cultivate their corn in a big field right next to where the bees were and they never had any complaint. The year after I went away the gentlemen who took care of the bees seemed to be one of these men who are forever rubbing people the wrong way and ruffling their feathers, and the outcome of it was that the farmer said when he took his binder out he had to take hold of it and draw it down the lane before he dared put his horses on it.

Another cause of nuisance is allowing old comb to lie around. I think every bee-keeper ought to take every precaution to prevent the bees, as far as possible, sipping at other things while there is no honey in the fields for them to get.

With regard to fruit, I do not think bees will puncture fruit until it is so ripe that it is almost dropping off and wasting, and I think a fruit grower who does not pick his fruit until it is so far gone that the bees touch it, does not know very much about fruit.

Mr. Darling: I think there was something in the Canadian Bee Journal two or three months ago about the fruit question. One man said he thought there ought to be a law framed that nobody should be permitted to keep bees unless he sowed bee feed.

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