

waited upon the minister at the appointed time armed with a bill embodying what we desired in the way of legislation to aid in suppressing foul brood which I was startled to hear at the annual meeting, was so prevalent in Western Ontario.

We fully presented our case to Mr. Drury and read our Bill, which in its main provisions was accepted by him. We are likely to obtain all that it would be reasonable or fair to ask. As to compensation or partial compensation to the victims of destroyed colonies of diseased bees we had some hopes of securing such either from the municipality or provincial treasury, and had provisions made for that in the bill, but finding it would be utterly useless to ask the Government either to pay itself or compel municipalities to pay we abandoned that contention. The minister agreed, however, that we should be made a fairly liberal grant to pay inspector and deputy inspector. The powers we asked for with which to invest the inspectors and our association are to be granted. Some of these in relation to the duties of the inspector and which we had incorporated in the bill Mr. Drury suggested might be delegated to the O. B. K. A. by incorporating a clause in the bill conferring such powers on the society. Of course we were only too glad to consent to this arrangement as it virtually leaves in our hands options and powers instead of being bound hand and foot by statute which we could not vary to suit changed conditions, Mr. Drury suggested that I take the bill and make these minor changes and report to him again which I did, and as everything was apparently satisfactory it is to be made a government measure and of course will scarcely fail to go through. And in order to diminish the opposition which it may encounter in the house and also to better enable the members generally to understand what they are about in voting for such a bill, I have taken the trouble to enlighten some of them on the foul brood question, and the member for Lennox, especially, himself a practical bee-keeper, will speak to the question and no doubt give his fellow members some light on the subject.

The bill is already reported to the House and will soon be in print, when Mr. Drury has promised to send me a proof, a copy of which I may send to the C. B. J. if desired. Being the delegate from the O. B. K. A. to the

#### PERMANENT CENTRAL FARMERS' INSTITUTE

I spent three days at the convention attending every session but one. I have not much to report from the bee-keepers stand point, while from the farmers' standpoint I might report a great deal which is very encouraging.

I prepared a paper for the convention on bee culture as a branch of agriculture but it was not read owing to the fact that it had not been placed on the program according to the Rules of order and procedure." This was no fault of mine as when I was elected delegate it was too late to get the paper in. I was not, however, aware of that fact till I went to the meeting. My predecessor might have attended to that had he known about it. I shall, however, take time by the forelock this year and prepare the way for the delegate next year whoever he may be.

But although I was unable to get in any direct work for bee culture, in the Institute I got in some indirect on agricultural lines, for the more prosperous the latter the more prosperous the former will be.

The institute on the whole this year did excellent work. One significant fact, which amounted to a sign of the times in Ontario husbandry was most conspicuous. This was the determination evinced there to sink party politics in the interests of the farmer instead of sinking the interests of the farmer in party politics as the farmer has been foolishly doing.

ALLEN PRINGLE.

Selby, Ont.

We are glad to have so good a report from President Pringle regarding the foul brood legislation. As we receive the proofs of all bills submitted to the House, the moment they are ready, we shall on the first opportunity, publish the bill submitted in full. The suggestions made by the Hon. Mr. Drury, that the motive power of enforcing the bill when it becomes law be delegated to the O. B. K. A. is in accord with our own suggestions, to Mr. Gemmill, viz, that the appointment of inspectors be left in the hands of the association.

For The Canadian Bee Journal.

#### Destroying Surplus Bees.

IN your issue of the 29th of Jan. I noticed an article on destroying surplus bees, from the pen of Mr Geo. Wood, of Monticello, and as he invited discussion of the question, perhaps you will allow me to say word or two on the subject. It is quite evident friend W. is successful in wintering bees, as he expects to have to destroy a good number of colonies each year hereafter.

To my mind it is a very unprofitable way of doing business, at least with so small a number of colonies as he destroyed last fall. Just think of it; only fifteen colonies, and yet if it had been fifty or one-hundred, which is likely to be