

are very valuable.

The committee on Prof. Cook's address reported as follows:

Resolved by the North American bee-keepers, that we recognize the value of experiments and of experimental stations, and firmly believe that bee-keeping should be greatly aided in each state and province where bee-keeping is a leading or important industry. If the experimental station in such state or province should secure an able apiarist to give his full time and energies to the work of experimentation, and if these apiarists should work together to advance the general apiarian interests. Therefore, we ask that the bee-keepers in such state or province agitate for the recognition of the industry and a money grant to carry out the work, and cease not until the object in view has been accomplished.

Mr. J. W. Pender, of Australia, was then called upon to give some information regarding Australia.

Mr. Pender—I represent the Hunt River District Bee-keepers' Association. It is the only one doing any work. Our membership fee is 60 cents. Our object was to try and introduce the new system of keeping bees. The old system (box hive) was in vogue when the society began. Much work has been done. The American system has been adopted, and the Langstroth hive is in use. We have a fine country for the production of comb honey. For nine months in the year the bees can gather honey. There was no fact in the statement that bees on that account remained idle and did not store surplus. We had mostly black bees, but we are now getting Italians. At one time no bees could be mailed, but now the government permits queens to be transmitted in the post. We are purchasing queens from America.

The sources of honey are white clover, alfalfa, or lucerne. Of these we have thousands of acres. We produce mostly extracted honey. The country is very warm and comb cannot be shipped well. The trees are all gums, hardwood. They are great sources of honey; it is of good quality, and we attempt to grade it.

We have an average of 224 lbs. per colony. One man increased from 17 to 90 colonies, producing 7,000 lbs. of extracted honey in twelve months. Most of the honey is taken in May and June.

Patten Beni apiary took 7,000 lbs. from 30 hives, old stocks besides increase, and the honey that increase produced.

My own Drumfin apiary of 40 colonies yielded in 14 days 16 60-lb. tins. making 960 lbs. A letter at a later date from my son informs me 40 hives have yielded 3,700

lbs., and in another two weeks he expects to extract 2,000 lbs. more. The wholesale price of honey is 8 cents per lb. He had been delegated to see what he could do in London, England. He found what they wanted there was a sweet, mild-flavored honey. The average attendance at their convention was good. The meetings were once in four weeks, during the evening, and parties rode long distances to attend.

A discussion was now taken up upon the subject of "Fixed Spacing and the Prevention of Brace and Burr Combs."

Nine did not care if they had a few burr combs. A large number, however, objected to them.

R. L. Taylor asked if it was desirable to prevent these combs at the expense of space by putting in a heavy top bar. Thirty-three thought it was. He thought if one handled hives and frames much they should be free from brace and burr combs. Queen breeders, for instance, required to handle much. Generally, however, bee-keepers were giving up handling bees in the brood chamber, therefore they could stand brace and burr combs.

Mr. Muth wanted a top bar no thicker than required to keep it from sagging.

A discussion followed upon the V shaped top bar. Quite a number objected to it. Others again did not find them objectionable.

A member favored handling frames frequently, he could obtain better results.

Mr. Taylor admitted that he had used thick and thin top bars with the thick. There were less brace and burr combs, he however objected to the loss of space.

Thirty-nine thought some kind of a honey board necessary between top bars and sections. Fifty-seven thought to the contrary. Mr. Pringle stated a good many bee-keepers used a sheet of metal for a queen excluder.

The president remarked that a great change had taken place in public opinion. The time was when Mr. Heddon made the statement, when a brick could be thrown in the air without coming down, then bee-keepers would dispense with the honey board.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

At the opening of the afternoon session the representatives of the different states and provinces were counted. Only five states had a larger number of representatives than Ontario, the latter having 14.

The discussion on burr and brace combs was continued. Jacob Alpaugh, St. Thomas, Ont., in reply to a question answered a proper bee space was scant one quarter inch between either horizontal or perpendicular surfaces nothing would