

150 starved to death. There were about 80 colonies in the yard where they had the surplus; the other yards averaged about 50.

Mr. McEvoy—When did you feed them?

Mr. Whiteside—When I had time.

Mr. McEvoy—But about what period?

Mr. Whiteside—About the middle of September.

Mr. McEvoy—Then you started brood rearing?

Mr. Whiteside—It is one thing for the colony to have plenty themselves, and another thing to feed. It makes quite a difference. All that summer they were at starving point. When they got the feed they could eat three meals a day.

Mr. Brown—Is it a general thing throughout the whole Association to feed with sugar syrup. Why not feed honey, their natural food? When I find colonies of bees short of stores I take out the empty combs and replace them with honey. I don't care whether it is warm or cold water, it is not good food for bees.

Mr. Couse—Mr. Brown speaks of feeding back honey. I have had dark honey which I intended to sell, and I fed the bees back with it instead. It granulated, and the bees starved with abundance of honey. They were sealed with honey, ordinary honey.

Mr. Brown—Had it been extracted out of the comb?

Mr. Couse—Yes, I am telling you what I did with honey feeding it back, but I find it granulates.

Mr. Grainger—I have practised Mr. Brown's plan, saving the dark honey for the purpose. I have always been successful in putting back those combs. They are sealed and are just the finest feed for a colony that is weak.

Mr. Switzer—I have seen no sign of granulation. I have had my bees three or four winters now, and feed them

back honey, and they have been all right. I wonder at you having this trouble with the granulated honey.

Mr. Couse—How do you weigh your bees?

Mr. Switzer—I form a sort of string balance and the bees never know they are being weighed. There will hardly a bee come out of the hive.

The President—Mr. Switzer feeds his bees with honey that never granulates, and Mr. Couse finds that the honey granulates. How is that?

Mr. Holtermann—There is a great difference in honey, some is more sealed than others. This report is going out to the country, and I for one think that it is well just to say a word of warning in the direction of feeding back honey. I know apiaries that have been so badly diseased by feeding back honey, when unknown to the one who did it, that I think it is advisable, if feeding back is to be done, to feed back with sugar syrup; and while I see the objection of throwing lots of honey on the market, it is sentiment rather than a practical thing. I think it is better to feed back with syrup rather than honey.

Mr. Baillie—One question I would like to ask Mr. Nolan. Referring to feeding back, he said in September. If a person neglected it and left it till a month later, what would be the consequence?

Mr. Nolan—I do not think it would be a very easy matter to get them to take it then, the nights would be too cool. I think when you feed the syrup in the last part of September or early in October the bees ripen it and the combs become white. In regard to feeding combs of honey, I would rather feed good clover honey in combs if I had them, but we get the clover honey in our extracting combs. As far as