

Mr. R. McKnight, Owen Sound, said he was present to learn, and the majority of bee-keepers in the assemblage were also there as knowledge-seekers; was glad to see that the majority present were young men; had noticed the same on the Exhibition grounds; get the young men interested and the calling was sure to succeed. Wintering in its broad sense means a sufficient supply of food of the right kind, and the kind of receptacle used to winter bees in; did not know anything of the value of sugar syrup as a feed for wintering purposes—there are many who do winter entirely on sugar syrup stores and who are eminently successful; was of the belief that the question of substitution of sugar syrup stores in place of honey for wintering led consumers to the belief that the honey was adulterated also: he felt that if the bees were fed sufficient in the fall to carry them through till the first honey flow of the next season, that there must of necessity be a certain amount of sugar syrup in the first extracting, which would give it flavor of sufficient strength to be easily detected. As a matter of policy he felt that honey should be used, and outside of this he thought it the best, anyway. During three years he had lost none through imperfect wintering—had lost a few this spring through robbing. As the greater number of bee-keepers were so in a small way, he thought the best system of outdoor or clamp wintering was what should be explained. Wintered six outside last winter, set them up near the fence and covered them over with roof, packed over and around with pea-straw. A neighbor wintered twenty out of doors and some indoors; those outside wintered equally as well as those inside; lost one out of the twenty: he used an outer case and packed with sawdust; put sawdust around and left top-story on and packed it with sawdust. If one could afford it the best place for wintering is a bee-house.

Mr. Webster used cushions over his frames, as an experiment he had made a number eight inches thick of cork dust, and put ventilators through the cushions; could not find that it made any difference. He thought that a good many lost more bees than would pay

for a good bee house; he had been unfortunate with the rest, but he was bound to go on and he felt that in future he would succeed.

Mr. S. Corneil, Lindsay, uses woolen quilts; last winter he had packed 40 colonies in 20 cases of two each; packed with cork dust, and in some instances so much was put in that it covered the top for a few inches around; after a hard frost, had noticed in the apiary that this layer around the edge of the cushions, was frozen hard, the moisture of the hive having come up through the quilt; had always advocated woolen quilts and was as much in favor of them as ever. The cost of quilts was about 18 cents each.

Mr. McKnight said he was probably the first one who had advocated cork dust as a packing, had tried it and sawdust and chaff; found that the chaff became mouldy and solid and emitted a disagreeable odor; found sawdust always damp in spring, while cork dust was just as light and dry as when put in in the fall.

Mr. Webster endorsed the opinion of Mr. McKnight.

Mr. Corneil stated that cork dust could be obtained right in the city if a sufficient quantity was needed. It was cheap too, and a splendid thing.

The President gave his experience. He had spent so much in trying to keep bees, that he had estimated that his honey cost him \$1.00 per pound: this was before he had got much knowledge of the business. Before he had built a bee house he wintered in common hemlock sawdust—got it in July and kept it in an old hen house—with good roof, but single boarded. In November he set the hives in it, covered them all over, and put in a tube leading from entrances to door of house. They all came through in splendid shape; set them away just as he had taken them from their summer stands.

Rev. W. F. Clarke, Speedside, Ont., stated that he had kept bees for 21 years, and was therefore of full age in bee-keeping; he explained his reason for adopting and believing in the hibernation theory of which he was the father. Nature's system was always to give perpendicular ventilation, and believed that point to be the pivot upon which successful wintering was to turn. He ex-