

relation of Canadian Bee Keepers to the North American Bee Keepers Association, beg leave to report:

That the North American Bee-Keepers' Association (as its name implies) was originally founded on an International basis; the United States and Canada being parties to, and partners in the organization. For upwards of twenty years, and until a very recent period, this International character has been maintained, notwithstanding the manifestation of a disposition on the part of some United States bee-keepers, to regard and speak of it as a National Institution. This feeling took definite and formal shape, at the annual meeting held at Keokuk, Iowa, last year when a proposal to incorporate the Association under the State laws of Illinois was made and agreed to.

The delegates from this Association, present at that meeting met the proposal with earnest remonstrance, emphatic protest and firm opposition, but in spite of their efforts, a Committee was appointed to incorporate the body with head quarters at Chicago. One of your delegates was named as a member of that committee, but from what subsequently transpired, he was led to believe that those with whom he was associated cared little for his opinion on the subject. Moreover, we have reasons for believing that the official report of the Keokuk meeting in the matter of the protests made by your representatives there is largely characterized by a *suppressio veri*. That communications sent by them to two leading Bee Papers in the United States, discussing the subject, were not published, and that the great mass of bee-keepers within the jurisdiction of the Association were denied the information necessary to a full and proper consideration of the matter, and of the means of arriving at a discrete and just decision, as to the effect of incorporation if carried out as proposed. A few weeks ago it was announced in the A. B. J. that incorporation had been effected. No particulars were then given. At the annual meeting held a month ago in Albany, N. Y., the report of the Incorporation Committee (which report had never been submitted to your representative on the Committee, and who was present at the meeting) was presented and adopted. In brevity and *naivette* it is an official curiosity. No information is vouchsafed as to the terms and conditions of incorporation. The bald statement is, that "The Association is incorporated under the State laws of Illinois," that "the fees are paid and the Certificate in the hands of the Secretary." Not a word is said as to its probable effect in the other States of the Union, or

here in Canada, but it embraces the important announcement that the incorporators are the "Life members residents of the United States." The life members resident in Canada are quietly ignored. Before the final adoption of this report, one of your representatives at the Albany meeting asked if "Incorporation as now effected did not localize the jurisdiction of the Association and make it an Illinois Institution," and was answered that "the Association was now local, but its influence would be National." When he put the question in another form, he was told "It was necessary to incorporate under a state law, but the organization would be National in its character."

Your Committee is not in a position to express an opinion on the future "influence" of the Association, or to closely scrutinize its character; nor is it within its province to inquire what particular relationship it bears to the bee-keepers of the United States resident outside the limits of Illinois, but it has come to the conclusion that Canada has no rights under the new state of things, and that it was not intended she should. This is amply clear from the fact that her life members are not among the incorporators, and that the widest character and influence claimed for it, by the promoters, are "National" and not international.

Your Committee considers the changed nature of the Association is no mere innovation, but a complete revolution in the ground work and nature of the Institution, as it was heretofore constituted. Before, it was broad and International, now, it is local, with but a declared National influence, and your Committee look upon this change of organization as a gross violation of an existing compact deliberately carried into effect in the face of the vigorous protests of your representatives.

Your Committee are unanimously of opinion that the only course open to the bee-keepers of Canada, consistent with independence, self-respect and National dignity, is to retire from a position which has become, through no fault of theirs, anomalous if not humiliating, and therefore recommend that the Ontario Bee-Keepers Association do not continue in affiliation with the so called North American Bee-Keepers Association.

Your Committee have no hesitation in expressing the belief that the bee-keepers of Canada regret the circumstance that compells the severance of ties which have pleasantly existed for more than a score of years, and in their name we tender to the great body of American Bee-Keepers, which it believes are not responsible, the assurance of our continued fraternal good will,