

expanse of rich pasture lands await the flocks and herds, while its millions of acres of fertile prairie are covered with rich, honey-producing flowers, awaiting the coming of the little honey bee to gather its sweet nectar and store it for the future needs of itself and that of mankind. Now, the point I wish to draw your attention to is this: That it is our duty, as members of this Bee-keepers' Association of Manitoba, to use every means to encourage the cultivation of this industry, which offers such great possibilities. I think there is no industry that is so interesting, instructive and fascinating as apiculture. And it should receive a good deal more attention, especially from the farmers, who could keep a few hives at very little cost or trouble.

During the convention there will be some matters of importance brought before you for your consideration. Among them I might mention the securing of legislation similar to that of Ontario, the publication and distribution of our annual report, the question of representation on the Exhibition Board, so that this Association may be placed on equal footing with similar societies. Also to take steps to stop the importation and sale of adulterated honey in this province, and to make apiculture a study at the Agricultural College, and the appointment of an inspector of apiaries by the government.

In conclusion, I would like to say that it was with a feeling of very deep regret we learned of the death of Mr. James Duncan of Emerson. He was a true friend of the bees, and an earnest worker in this society. He was one of the founders, and never tired of working for the good of this Association. He has lived a good and honorable life, and has now gone to his reward. It should remind us that ere long we, too, will be called hence.

I wish to thank you for the hearing you have given me, and also for the

honor you did me in electing me your vice-president for the past year, and I trust that you will assist in making this convention a success.

Secretary's Report.

The report of Thomas Gelley, secretary-treasurer, showed the Association to be in excellent shape. The receipts for the year were \$141.10, including \$100 government grant and \$17 membership fees. The expenditure had been \$10, leaving a balance on hand of \$131.10. The Association, after negotiating with the Winnipeg Industrial Exhibition Board, had failed to secure a representative on that board, as the charter did not permit them to appoint any more. The Association had not seen any benefit to be gained by holding a special exhibit of honey at last year's fair, considering the cost and the poor results to be obtained. Mr. Gelley, in his report, strongly recommended the offering of some premium as an inducement to new members to join, such as Root's A. B. C., Langstroth on the Honey Bee, a bee journal, a tested Italian queen, or some printed advice to beginners, compiled by experienced members of the Association, each member receiving such a premium to be obliged to report to the secretary of the Association, annually, the number of hives he has and give detailed information regarding their condition, development and production. He also suggested the appointment of an experienced and capable person to visit and inspect the different apiaries in the province.

Want More Members.

After full discussion the following motion was unanimously passed: "That the Bee-keepers' Association offer some premium to induce new members to join." Last year there were but 17 paid members, whereas about 250 persons were known to keep bees in the province. Rev. H. G. Gunn pointed out that these 250 people could not be ex-