

and wholesome, how cheap and economical, honey really is, they would use it far more largely as an every-day food. How many people realize that five pounds of honey can be obtained for the same money that two pounds of butter costs, and that many children would prefer it to butter, spread on bread. Thirty cents will buy a quart of honey, and it will go farther than two or three quarts of fruit. We should all seek to create a better home market for honey; it can be done.

Your committee have done their best to provide a program, including subjects of live interest and importance to bee-keepers at present, and it is the wish of your officers of 1905 that the most profitable convention that has been called will be the present one.

Mr. R. H. Smith—I was out until a few minutes ago trying to find better accommodation for our meetings. I don't know that I can add very much to what the president has said with regard to the advice to visitors to the city. We are very glad to hear that the honey crop is better this year than it was last year as far as the western part of the province is concerned. There are certain parts east of Toronto, however, where the crop has not been so good. As one of the oldest members of this association I might say that I have attended nearly all the meetings since 1880 and I have always found them profitable, not only with regard to what we can learn about bee-keeping, but we meet with bee-keepers that we don't see at any other time. I find meeting them here is better than hearing them through The Bee Journal. As our president has said, it is the means of taking the bee-keepers in short cuts and letting them know of new methods, and unless we keep the market up to the production the prices are sure to go down. I don't think it is necessary that prices should go down. They

are low enough now. People are only beginning to get acquainted with the value of honey and when it becomes better known it will be more popular, especially if the quality is better. That is one of the things we have to consider. That has been one of the causes why honey has not been used as freely as it should be used. I have heard that if you put a good quality of honey on the table it disappears very quickly, while it is hard to get rid of a second or third-class article. Now the advance in the quality of honey during the last few years has been very marked. I remember about twenty years ago when we got what we consider now second or third class honey, we thought it was first-class honey, both in comb and extracted. So that it is a point for us to consider. I think if you examine the exhibits in the hall you will find that the quality is as good as anything every shown in any exhibition on this side of the line. I hope, Mr. President, that we shall have a profitable meeting and that any who wish to learn anything may not go away disappointed, but will feel that they have benefited by coming here. (Applause.)

The President—As there is some dissatisfaction expressed about the room we are meeting in, I may say that this evening we will hold our meeting in the room immediately below this. The next item on the program is an address by the Minister of Agriculture, but as he could not be here this afternoon, I will call on Prof. Harrison for his address. The Minister of Agriculture will be with us to-morrow afternoon.

Professor. Harrison—Mr. Chairman Ladies and Gentlemen: I am sure it affords me a great deal of pleasure to meet with you her at this time in this very well ventilated hall (Laughter). I usually come before you with