

will accomplish something. I admit we should be careful, but I am still of the view that we should work in that direction.

Mr. F. A. Gemmel: Is it that honey should not be allowed to be sold unless it has a certain specific gravity?

Mr. Holtermann: Just as it is with regard to certain other products; there is in the Dominion Statutes Act which allows the Department of Inland Revenue by order in Council, to see that there shall not be beyond a certain percentage of certain ingredients in certain things; that covers not only honey but foods generally. What we want is that the percentage of water shall be limited in honey and let us fix it at such a rate that unless a person puts upon the market something which is absolutely good he will not come up to that law.

Mr. Gemmell—The only way would be to class it.

Mr. Holtermann—We had better keep it on the safe side.

Mr. J. D. Evans—Unless there is some very great evil arising in this connection I think we ought to go slow and I am a little afraid it would give consumers the idea that the bee-keepers' were mixing water with their honey and if that idea gets abroad it will probably injure the sales of honey. How many of the members of the association find this practiced to any great extent? Let us find that out, and if it is not a subject that is worth taking up, and if it is not injuring the sale of honey at the present time I think I would go very slow in taking any action for fear we create another suspicion as to the honey we produce.

Mr. J. B. Hall—I find in my apiary, I do not know how it is in others, that some colonies of bees will not give heavy honey, I am speaking now of comb honey, not extracted; the extracted would be under our own control. Some races of bees will not give heavy honey, and how are we to get over this difficulty. As far as the percentage of water in our honey is concerned I am afraid we shall have to kill a lot of our bees. I do not know but what it is better that we should kill them, but I find such a difference in stocks of bees sitting alongside of each other, feeding in the same field, we suppose from the same food, one gives a heavy smooth oily production and the other is a very thin watery production. One will keep, but the other will not, and one while new is just as fine flavor as the other, but it deteriorates. It is rather a difficult matter for us to get over.

Mr. Holtermann—Does Mr. Hall ever find that the product that he speaks of is

as thin as some of that which he finds upon the market? I am admitting that there is a great difference in the ripeness of honey; that is, one class of bees will ripen honey and it will not have anything like the specific gravity, while the percentage of water will be much more than in another. But I am talking of an article which goes beyond that, and which has a great deal more water in it, and it is that article we want to try and prohibit.

Mr. Hall—That is what we commonly term green. The trouble is to get the specific gravity of water into the green honey. I do not know what percentage of water there is in this honey which I have spoken about but I know it is not as thick as I would like it.

Mr. Holtermann—The proposition is not all to deal with comb honey. We have with us Professor Shutt, from the Dominion Experimental Farm, and I think he is on our programme. Perhaps you would like to hear a few words from him upon that subject as he is a chemist.

The President—Would this afternoon or this evening suit you best, Professor Shutt?

Professor Shutt—Mr. President, it makes very little difference to me. I have not come prepared to speak of the question of honey because I understand Pro. MacFarlane, the Analyst of the Inland Revenue Department has been paying special attention to that subject and will be here either to-morrow or next day to specially treat on that subject, and under those circumstances I really do not know whether I should intrench on his ground. I came particularly to speak on the subject that we have been investigating, the question of the utility of various brands of foundation, and if it is suitable for you this evening it will be quite as convenient for me to speak then as this afternoon, or this afternoon as this evening.

The President—The reason I asked the question is because we are getting programmes printed and we have you down for this evening, and you can have the whole evening to yourself if you wish it, but if it will accommodate you to speak this afternoon instead of this evening we would vary the programme.

Professor Shutt—I have to leave to-morrow morning. Perhaps we might leave the programme just as you have it for this evening.

The President—As far as the discussion on this subject is concerned we shall be glad to hear the suggestions you may have to give us as well as any other person in the Association.

Professor Shutt—I am taking the place