

months. There is only one queen in a hive. If many of these young queens hatch at the same time, as soon as one hatches she begins to look around for these queen cells and begins to tear them down. If five or six hatch at the same time, they go around the cells until they meet, and then they have a royal combat, and it is only the strongest and most active that survive in the hive, and in that way we get the survival of the fittest. It takes twenty-one days to develop the worker bee. The worker bee has the instinct to carry on the work of the hive.

Now, after these few rambling remarks will conclude. If they will lead us to study a little more some of the habits of the bee, and if some of the citizens who are present will understand better how to handle honey when they buy it, I will feel that that the few works I have spoken have not been entirely in vain.

Chairman—I am sure those of our citizens who are here will agree with me when I say that the remarks of Mr. Holtermann have been instructive. I knew the bee was rather a warm insect to handle, but as to how it despoiled the honey and gathered it I did not understand. The next time the bee-keepers have a meeting in Brantford, if they want to have a large gathering, they ought to have a few small pots of honey around to give away free, and there is no doubt you will have the house crowded.

After the Telephone City Quartette rendered another song Mr. McKnight moved that the best thanks of the meeting be tendered to the mayor and the quartette for their attendance, which was carried.

The meeting was brought to a close by the singing of "God Save the Queen."

The members attending the convention were then entertained to a supper by the newly-elected President, R. F. Holtermann.

Friday, 17th January.

Meeting opened at 9 a. m.

The President, R. F. Holtermann, in the chair.

Mr. McKnight discussed the financial position of the association, spending nearly half an hour's time without any benefit to those present or the association.

Mr. Hall contended that the Association was in a good financial position.

Moved by Mr. Pettit, seconded by Mr. Gemmell, that Messrs. Heise and Evans be on the Revising Committee. Carried.

Mr. F. A. Gemmell, of Stratford, who was to have read a paper, apologised for not being able to do so, as he had not been able to prepare one on account of sickness in his family.

SOME EXPERIMENTS BY R. L. TAYLOR, OF LAPEER, MICH.

It is an encouragement to the experimenter that an experiment conducted for one purpose is often found to open up other avenues of investigation and throw light upon other points than the one particularly under consideration. An experiment made last autumn, partly to determine the results that would follow an attempt to produce comb honey by feeding under circumstances which were in violation of most of the generally-accepted canons on that subject, is a case in point. The unusual character of the season as indicated by an almost total absence of swarming, as well as of the honey flow from white clover and linden, made it necessary to use desperate measures in order to make at all some of the experiments for which plans had been made, and in this case I was compelled to use syrup made from granulated sugar. The syrup was made by boiling together equal quantities of sugar and water. It was reduced in weight in making by evaporation, so that on the average the sugar and water from which the sugar was made exceeded the weight of the syrup by 14.65 per cent. Making use of this fact we find that 122½ pounds fed to colony No. 1; 78½ into that fed No. 2, and 73 into that fed No. 3. Now, assuming that the bees in handling it would reduce the syrup to a weight equal to that of the sugar from which it was made, we find by subtracting the increased weight of the supers and the brood chamber in each case from the weight of the sugar used in making the feed for that particular colony, that during the 30 odd days of the continuance of the experiment, colony No. 1 totally consumed 53 13/16 pounds of sugar, No. 2, 11 6/16 pounds, No. 3, 19 11/16 pounds. (See accompanying table). But probably the weight of the syrup could not be reduced nearly so much, and if we assume that one pound of sugar would make 1½ pounds of well-cured syrup, which would likely be nearly correct? We see that colony No. 1 consumed during the time stated, disregarding fractions, the large quantity of 8½ pounds; No. 2, 31 pounds, and No. 3, 38 pounds.

During most of the time there was a moderate flow from fall flowers to the extent that the stronger colonies of the apiary gained in weight from 20 to 30 pounds. The colonies employed in the experiment, owing to the feeding, undoubtedly, did not gather so large a quantity as they would have otherwise, and likely on account of different dispositions, gave different degrees of attention to the nectar in the flowers. This seems the more pro-