

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

The annual meeting of the Middlesex Bee-keepers' Association was held in London on November 4th. Those present reported a very good season, an average of about 75 pounds per colony spring count, mostly extracted honey. One member reported 228 pounds of extracted from one colony, and 196 sections filled by a single colony. Neither colony offered to swarm.

Mr. R. H. Smith of St. Thomas read an instructive paper on "Shall We Keep More Bees or Manage Those We Have to Better Advantage?" He advocated the latter plan of caring for those we have, rather than increasing the number of colonies and decreasing the amount of surplus per colony.

Mr. F. J. Miller read an interesting paper on "Managing Out-apiaries Without Help." By the use of hives and implements adapted to his system of management he is able to visit each yard every four days. The honey can be extracted at each yard, or taken home to be extracted. He uses the Heddon hive. The colony is examined for queen-cells between the two sections of the hive, the top portion being raised or tipped back by an implement of his own design. If there are signs of swarming the colony is divided.

The subject of raising comb or extracted honey was taken by Mr. D. Languish of Scottsville. What he thought to be of more importance was to have strong colonies, then you can produce either; but he did not like to put sections on towards the close of the honey flow. He would put on an extracting super. Another important point brought out was that strong colonies will ripen honey better than the weak.

An address on "Foul Brood" was given by Mr. F. A. Gemmell, assistant Foul Brood Inspector for Ontario. He considered our foul brood laws very

good, as some of the States had copied from it. The disease was on the decrease. He considered it more dangerous with young bee-keepers, who were more apt to have robbing and spread the disease. A suspected case should be destroyed or treated in a careful manner by shaking them on comb foundation starters. In three or four days shake again on full sheets of foundation. Caging the queen will prevent them swarming out.

Re-forestry was discussed, led by Mr. Robb of St. Thomas. He thought bee-keepers should plant basswood and honey locusts. The sowing of buckwheat for honey alone was not advisable, as it requires a light, warm soil and a moist atmosphere to secrete nectar.

The following officers were appointed for the ensuing year:

President—Morley Pettit, Villa Nova, Ont.

Vice-President—F. J. Miller, London.

Secretary—E. T. Bainard, Lambeth.

BEE-KEEPING IN RUSSIA.

Editor Canadian Bee Journal:

Dear Sir,—Your request for a few notes on bee-keeping in this country to hand a few weeks ago.

We generally take our bees out of the cellar about the middle of April and put them in about the middle of October, practically they are outside six months and inside six months.

About 90 per cent. of the bees around here are in log hives, and the more swarms a Russian peasant gets the better he thinks he is succeeding. The largest log hive I have seen will only hold about seven Dadant frames, so you see there is not much room for surplus. The Dadant hive seems to be the principle moveable frame hive in this country, although there are a great many kinds of hives advertised.

We sell the honey from 10 to 13 cents per 14½ oz, and the supply is gener-