

the first question was: "Is it advisable to give prizes at agl. societies for best bred bees?" Mr. Blake thought it was. The president was of the same opinion. Others rather opposed it on the ground that there was danger of people getting stung. Mr. Kitchen said that breeders of thoroughbred cattle endeavored to secure the best, and received prizes on the same, that our industry was a rising one, and would compare favorably with any others, and that it was to our interests to keep the best, but did not know as it was necessary to exhibit a full colony for the purpose of testing their purity. Mrs. Brown then explained her way of showing bees, she secured a pane of glass and had the tinsmith put a frame around it, with a back to it, and a space between to contain the bees. How to decide on the purity of Italian bees was discussed at a considerable length. An article from Dr. E. Gallup was read on the point, also one by Mrs. Jennie Atchely. It was considered very difficult to decide on the purity of a colony. Color and shape were about the best guide. Mr. Mowbray was of the opinion that Italian drones should show the yellow marks. It was the opinion of some that very many queens sold by breeders were mismated. "How to prevent second swarms" was a question asked. The secretary allowed them to alight, then go through the hive and tear down all queen cells and return the swarm. "In what way would you handle honey to secure extra bright extracted." It was not known that there was any particular way; though there might be some difference as to color in different localities. Along with other things the subject of wintering was gone into pretty deeply. Mr. Blake knew a man who wintered outdoors and fed his bees with liquid honey the entire winter through. His plan was to have a frame in the hive to contain the honey, and at the same time allow free access to it. A hole was made down through the cushion and a funnel passed through to the frame, which allowed him to feed everyday if necessary. Mr. Carothers had fed sugar syrup, and his bees all rushed out of the hive and died. Mr. Kitchen wanted no sugar syrup or liquid honey fed to his bees late in the fall of the year. He had had experience in that direction which he paid well for. He was in favor of absorbants. Miss Skeoch was experimenting some in wintering and would report in the spring. Mrs. Armstrong had made a pair of tongs for handling frames and was confident that if all bee-keepers had once used a pair they would never do without them. The members, some of them who had a long distance to go, began to get anxious to get home, so the secretary

was authorized to write a vote of thanks and hand it to the landlord for his generosity. The next meeting will be held in the town of Petrolea on May the 19th, next.

J. R. KITCHIN,
Weidmann.

Wintering Bees on Summer Stands.

To the Editor of The Canadian Bee Journal.

It was a problem to me when I first began to winter some of my bees outside as to how I could keep the snow from the entrance, which should be done no one will question. I have leaned a board against the front of the hive, but this is only partial protection. Last winter I did this, and used hay to stuff in the opening at the ends. It did fairly well, but after days of snow, so that hives nearly three feet high were covered with drifts of it, so that none were to be seen, I thought best to dig holes in front of them, so that one could move around easily in it. I cleaned out the entrance and then placed a covering over the hole in the snow. This left a large air space about two feet wide three feet long and nearly four feet deep. No amount of snow and blow could do any injury then, and when the warm days of spring came these holes were uncovered and the bees actually took a fly, and the hives covered with snow, but of course the front was cleared away well. This year I have the protection in front as before and the ends protected also with boards so that no matter how much snow (and we have had from two to three feet already) there will always be an air space in front of every entrance. My experience is that with an air space in front this way, being covered with snow is no objection. If, however, the snow should become covered with a crust of ice I think it would be as well to break it, if it remained this way very long. I have had good success with those wintered as above, so much so that I am wintering less in the cellar every year. This winter however bids fair to be a hard one.

G. A. DEADMAN,
Brussels, Ont.

An old woman walked into a bank the other day in Inverness, threw down her deposit-book, and said she wished to draw all her money. Having got it, she retired to a corner of the room and counted it. She then marched up to the teller and exclaimed, Ay, that'll do, ma man; jist pit it back again. I only wanted to see if it was a'right."---*Dundee News.*