

off by the bees. When in winter quarters as I have described, the bees seem to be perfectly comfortable, with nothing to worry about and nothing to do but just sleep and be happy, and they do not seem to care if summer never comes again. But when the bleak winter is past and April sunshine and showers again gladden the earth they come forth clean, young, healthy and vigorous, and are thus ready and willing to take the very first flow that comes.

Mr. FRITH: With reference to the experiments that are being carried on. The pioneers in bee-keeping have spent thousands of dollars in experimenting and endeavoring to determine the conditions required by nature. You must fulfil the laws of nature, and whether you do it scientifically or inadvertently you must do it. It is only when you satisfy the laws of nature that you are successful. We have machinery that is laid at the disposal of this Association, and if we put our questions and difficulties in proper shape and submit them to the experimental bee department at the farm, it will save us a very great deal of trouble. We have heard from the professor experiments which it would have been impossible for us as individuals to accomplish. If we submit our questions they will deal with them from a scientific standpoint. The machinery is now at our disposal, and we ought to take advantage of it. It should be the object of this Association to devise means of saving expenses to its members, and at a very small expense to each one these experiments can be carried on at Ottawa. There are a great many things to be taken into consideration which a good many of us don't understand.

Mr. PRINGLE: The gist of the whole thing is this: If we would study a few simple laws and know them, they are better than a thousand theories and experiments, for experiments unless properly interpreted in relation to law are worth nothing. I recommend the individual bee-keeper to put his own mental machinery in motion and give the subject a little thought, and many a time he can master the first principles without any help at all. Let us master a few simple laws of nature and then we can interpret the experiments properly.

THIRD DAY—AFTERNOON SESSION.

Upon re-assembling in the afternoon the following report was presented:

REPORT OF AFFILIATED SOCIETIES.

There are twelve societies in affiliation, the most of which had their reports in in due time and have properly accounted for the spending of their grant from the Ontario Bee-keepers' Association. But in a few cases there have been small errors in expending their grants not in accordance with the by-laws, which it is hoped will be taken notice of by the secretaries and officers of affiliated societies present.

The societies report a total number of 174 members, 75 of these being members of the Ontario Bee-keepers' Association.

The total number of colonies reported in spring are 3,801, and in fall 4,853, there being an increase of about 27 per cent., and amount of honey produced being 22,701 lb. of comb, and 69,664 lb. of extracted, or an average of about 6 lb. of comb and 18 lb. of extracted per colony, which is considerably under the average production.

There are a few societies that have not reported as fully as desired, and also their reports have been later coming in than the time set by by-law.

W. COUSE, Secretary.