

shipped in this way, the other changes can be studied out by reference to classification books, and we hope for more in the future. We do not want to find fault, and we do not want to strike at anyone, but did the Ontario Bee-Keepers' Association not act in an unbusiness-like way in this matter. Mr. McKnight if he held it to be true, had a perfect right to report bee-keepers had no grievance, and as far as we know, he had no desire for reappointment, but did the association not make a serious mistake when they reappointed such a man. From a sentimental standpoint such may have been allright, but we want more of good hardheaded business principles. Large committees selected to please and recognize someone, will not likely further the industry's best interest. Select the men who are in their position and through their experience and connections most likely to secure the point you desire and your work is likely to be done in the quickest time. If we have done, and are doing this well and good, if not, let us do so to a greater extent in the future, and select the most suitable men no matter how great our personal dislike may be, that is business. The man who esteems it a great honor to be put upon a committee to do certain work and desires it for that reason, can have had but few honors and deserves even less. If he thinks he can do good service, let him accept and be thankful that he has the opportunity of doing good. If he is not the best available man, and we must make some allowance for human nature, or if he is not able to devote the necessary time, it is his duty to resign and let the more available and suitable man take the place. In selecting the men to do work, it must be remembered we are not all alike, a man may be useful in one line of work and of no use whatever in another. We would like our readers to remember, we are not attacking Mr. McKnight, he was not even in the room when reappointed. The object is for us to weigh our past actions and see if we can better them in the future.

Why We Fail.

A. R. McRAE.

I promised you at the close of my last letter to contribute something to the Canadian Bee Journal but owing to a very bad attack of La Grippe I have not been able to write. In this letter I will try and give a few general terms about wintering. I was glad to see the December number of the journal. I am anxious to learn and I hope to ask questions and hope to hear from other bee-keepers. The long winter months is a long night for the industrious bee, through which they should sleep, in fact they have in our country one night and one day, where we, who are less active have 365 nights and days in the year. Many readers of the Canadian Bee Journal will admit that our bees often get worse usage than the darkies did down South in the time of slavery. I will tell you a true story about my neighbor, who, thinking I was getting along so well with bees the last two years, decided to change from the box to movable frame hive and try his luck. He asked me for help and I gave him every help in my power; I loaned him books and papers and helped him to transfer his bees early in June last. The other day I made an inspection and found that my adopted family were in a sad condition. All had perished but one hive—eaten up by moths, two starved to death for want of honey, and another well lined with snow and frost. The bees were put up in a dark room that was sometimes cold and sometimes warmed by a stove from the room below. He had put cushions on the hives and took it for granted they would swarm in the morning, but alas they died before they passed the midnight hour. Say, is it any wonder that so many Canadians fail in bee-keeping? Is it any wonder that we find so many poor farmers in Canada; no economy, no industry, carelessness marks their work. In the fall they unhitch and leave their farm implements in the field till they are wanted in the spring. The winter rigs are turned up against the fence in the barnyard until they are wanted the following winter. For the same reason some do not prosper in bee-keeping.

I am pleased to tell you that my own bees all appear to be enjoying good health. They went into winter quarters with abundance of stores, and I keep my cellar as near 45° as possible, but sometimes in cold weather it gets down to 42°. I want someone to tell me how far bee hives should be