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WHOLE NO.
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Annual Meeting

BEE-KEEPERS'
ASSOCIATION
OF ONTARIO

SECOND DAY. (MORNING SESSION.)

The President, in the chair, called the convention to order and asked Mr. Frank T. Shutt, M. A., F. C. S., chemist of the Experimental Farms, Ottawa, to deliver his address on experiments he had made with uncapped, partially capped, and fully capped honey, to find the percentage of water in each.

Prof. Shutt addressed the convention as follows:

Mr. President and Gentlemen:—Any of you no doubt will remember when I was present at a convention of this Association some few years ago presenting the results of a series of experiments we conducted at the Experimental Farm in connection with foundation comb, that subsequent to that paper there came up the general discussion the question of adulteration, and the probable appearance upon the market of honey in unripe condition. I was naturally asked whether unripe honey could be detected chemically from honey, it being the general supposition that they differed from one another merely in the presence of a larger percentage of water in the

unripe honey. I said at that time that I was not in a position to say what was the normal amount of water as found in the genuine matured honey; I said we had no Canadian data on the subject, and as far as I was aware the European authorities differed widely, for I found some authorities stated 10 and 15 per cent. of water, whereas I found other chemists gave as much as 25 and 30 per cent. of water; and then on the other hand there were those who endeavored to bring together the two and said the proportion of water in honey might vary very largely, and that we should not be surprised at finding a variation of as much as 10 and 15 per cent. That statement I made on that occasion. I said that as far as adulteration of honey was concerned, that was a matter outside of my province altogether, and I made the suggestion that if it was thought by the members of this Association that there was any quantity of honey which was not genuine matured honey upon the market that the question should be referred to the Inland Revenue Department, another branch of the Government service, and that I had no doubt samples would be secured and analyses conducted upon those samples. That suggestion was acted upon and the Inland Revenue made a very wide collection of samples, 180 in all, of which analyses were made by various