

carry home many pleasing recollections of his trip.

Mr. Allen Pringle was then called on by the chairman and he expressed his pleasure at being present. He was just recovering from the most severe illness of his life, and he had strained a point to be present. He had been grievously disappointed that he had been unable to receive Mr. Cowan, after extending the invitation and having him (Mr. C.) go so much out of his way to accept it. He felt that there was room for much improvement in our own association. It was a good thing to encourage everybody to keep bees, though there were those who were inclined to keep the art within the select few. As to our stage of advancement as bee-keepers, he felt that Canada was equal to Britain, in fact, she was, in his opinion, equal to any country in the world. After some further remarks by Mr. Pringle, he was followed by the Rev. W. F. Clarke, who said: "It affords me great pleasure to join with my fellow bee-keepers of the Province of Ontario, in welcoming our visitors from the mother-land, and from remoter Norway. I am especially glad to have the opportunity of uniting in expressions of esteem and gratitude with which we all regard our friend,—for such he has truly proved himself,—Mr. T. W. Cowan. We have learned from our commissioners to the Colonial and Indian Exhibition, with what unwearied kindness he labored to promote their personal comfort and the success of their mission to England, and we all say from our very hearts, "Thanks, a thousand thanks." I would have liked the inscription on the cane to have recorded our gratitude, but though the engraver has done wonders with the space at his disposal, it was not possible to include all of which we wish our little present to remind him. Let me emphasize our thanks as the very first things he is to remember when he picks up or looks at his 'walking stick,' which we all hope he may live to carry for many, many, happy, useful years. Mr. Cowan's address is fruitful of points on which I should like to touch, did time permit. I think we may take a leaf or two out of English apiculture to advantage. The plan of sending round experts to give private instruction and public lectures on practical bee-keeping, is one that we shall

be wise to copy. Our English brethren we have heard, do not encourage making a specialty of bee-keeping. They believe in spreading it all over the country, and interesting the masses and the millions in keeping bees. So do I. During all the years that I have been at work in the promotion of this pursuit both by tongue and pen, I have sought to popularize it, and especially to induce farmers to go into it on a limited scale, in connection with other branches of husbandry. Bee-keeping is a branch of agriculture, and bees belong properly to the live-stock of the farm. I believe too that the logic of events will bring round this state of things. Our specialists have suffered much during the two bad seasons just passed, and must surely begin to see that it is not wise to put all their eggs into one basket. Moreover, in large apiaries, it is terrible when foul brood breaks out, and it is far less likely to spread when bees are kept in small apiaries widely scattered. This kind of bee-keeping also renders it far less easy to over-stock a bee-range. Our American brethren, some of them at least, are inclined to invoke the protection of law on behalf of specialists but it does seem a rather hard thing to forbid people from going into this fascinating pursuit in a small way because a monopolist has acquired exclusive territorial rights. I cannot think this style of bee-keeping likely to be that of the future but rather that the English method in this particular will become increasingly prevalent. With best respects and kindest wishes on behalf of our visitors I beg to conclude these few imperfect remarks.

Some remarks were then made by Messrs. Jones, Corneil, McKnight, Clendenning and Emigh, all expressive of their pleasure at meeting Messrs. Cowan and Young.

COMMERCIAL UNION.

Mr. Pringle had stated in his former remarks that he desired to move a resolution and at this stage he was requested to do so. The resolution we give as follows:

Whereas, Apiculture in Canada is rapidly developing into an important and productive industry, and is not only, to a large extent, practically connected with Agriculture, but is legitimately a part of it, and

Whereas, every Canadian industry, large or