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CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL

PUBLISHED MONTHLY.

NEW SERIES
VOL. II, No. 5.

BRANTFORD, ONT., NOV., 1894.

WHOLE No.
357.

Brethren all over the Dominion will rejoice to hear that the next convention of the North American Bee-keepers' Victory Association will be held in the City of Toronto, Canada. It has only met in Canada twice during the last twenty-five years, once at Toronto and once at Brantford, and from the attendance at these conventions our American brethren call us a convention going people. The editor of the CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL was the only Canadian present. The trip of some 2200 miles was long, tedious and expensive, but we have always profited by these meetings. The first one we attended was at Rochester, N. Y., in 1881; followed by Detroit, 1885; Chicago, 1887; Columbus, 1888; Brantford, 1889; Albany, 1891; Washington, 1892; Chicago 1893, and St. Joseph in 1894; and we have gained much valuable information in open convention and in private conversation with bee-keepers from all parts of the American continent. But we also went for the benefit of Canadian Bee-keepers. The distance being so great we feared no other Canadians would be present, and knowing that other places would urge their claims for the next convention, we felt the chances for Toronto or Canada would be very slim. It proved as we expected, and Nebraska sent a carload or thereabouts 250 or more miles, a united force intending to take the convention to Lincoln, Nebraska. Brother L. D. Stilson, Editor *Newbraska Bee - Keeper*, York, Neb., urged the claims of that state and read letters from the Mayor and coun-

cil, the Bee-keepers' Association, University and College and other institutions promising everything but the ground upon which the city stands. The claims of Buffalo, N. Y. were urged but they had no representative who spoke by word of mouth for them. The battle raged warmly but in a friendly way. Nebraska's weak point was its being too close to St. Joseph, and we have to thank many leading men taking the part of Canada. The vote was about to be taken when the Canadian representative pledged himself to do all in his power to help Nebraska the following year should the convention vote for Toronto. Friend Stilson, who felt all along he had powerful backing in that carload of bee-keepers, with great generosity of heart jumped up and withdrew in favor of Toronto, so surprised was everyone and we may say so pleased that he was cheered again and again by his own followers, showing their approval in particular. Canadians will not fail to do well by Nebraska and friend Stilson. We do not mind the expense, and although the matter of subscriptions come under the "Strictly Business" we think we are quite justified in reminding those subscribers who are in arrears that to print a paper such as the CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL and to make the outlays we do to promote the interests of bee-keepers, requires money constantly. The one who reads this copy of the BEE JOURNAL, if in arrears, is not the only one, so please do not fail to send your subscription, \$1.00, in at once if due. The tendency for subscribers to fall in arrears, and requiring a reminder is one of the unpleasant

hings about publishing a paper. A subscriber thinks the sum is small and that so small a sum can wait, but the unfortunate thing about it is there are lots more think just as you do and the publishers are kept out of a large sum of money. Read "Strictly Business" and send your money at once. The books close Dec. 1st, any in arrears remitting before that time we will credit at the rate of one dollar per annum.

* * *

The past season being unfavorable for bee-keepers, and for other reasons we did not expect a very large attendance at St. Joseph, Mo., but the attendance was very fair. The meeting was harmonious and yet there was freedom of thought and expression making the sessions interesting. If we may be allowed to stretch matters a little we would say some inclined to almost all discussion and question drawer, others favored long and valuable papers, some wanted solid business without a smile, others favored a great deal of fun, and between the varied ideas there was a pretty generous giving in all around and everyone made the best of it. Amongst the old acquaintances there was Doctor C. C. Miller, Marengo, Ills.; Emerson T. Abbott, St. Joseph, Mo.; C. P. Dadant, Hamilton, Ills., A. I. Root, Medina, Ohio, Editor Gleanings in Bee Culture; G. W. York, 56 5th Avenue. Chicago, Ills., Editor American Bee Journal; W. Z. Hutchinson, Editor Bee-keepers' Review, Flint, Mich.; J. T. Calvert, Medina, Ohio; J. VanDeusen, Sprout Brook, N. Y.; E. Whitcomb, Friend, Nebraska. Amongst the many new acquaintances we made that of L. D. Stilson, Editor Nebraska Bee-Keeper, York, Neb., and R. B. Leahy, Editor Progressive Bee-Keeper, Higginsville, Mo. President Abbott did his utmost to make matters pleasant for the delegates at the Commercial Club Rooms.

* * *

No one can attend Fairs and Exhibitions from year to year and fail to recognize the importance of clearer prize

Judging at lists and better methods in Fairs. judging. We do not desire to single out Toronto by any means as lacking in management. in fact Toronto is probably better than any other Exhibition, but let us take the list at the first section. Best display of 100 lbs. of extracted granulated honey in glass. Here only display is mentioned and one year the judges would rule they had no right to even examine the honey, the next lot of judges tested the honey as to quality. Now on the one hand it appears to be obvious that the quality should be an important point, on the other hand quality is never mentioned and therefore it cannot be considered unless the judges create a new prize list which no judge has a right to do.

Then comes section two "Best display of 500 lbs. of liquid extracted honey, of which not less than 250 lbs, must be in glass, quality to be considered." Here again judges from year to year and even the judges appointed the same year rule vastly differently. Some claim display should count most, others quality. Again take the honey itself, no score card has been recognized in comb and extracted honey. The following is a score card on cheese:

SCORE CARD FOR CHEESE.

Cheese will be judged on the following points, the figures set opposite indicating the maximum per cent., the total of all such maximums being 100.

Flavor	45
Quality and Texture.....	30
Color	15
Finish.....	10

Total..... 100

..... Exhibitor

No.....

Flavor.....
Quality and Texture.....	..
Color.....
Finish.....

Total.....

The judges have to fill out these cards all over the country and the dairy-men

would not be satisfied to leave it to the judgment of individual judges as to what proportion should be allowed for flavor, quality and texture, color and finish. The judge too has to be very careful to do just and careful work, he has to give in a way a reason for his decision.

The sooner bee-keepers and Exhibition Associations lift themselves out of the old rules the better. We mentioned this over a year ago and mention it again hoping that something may be done.

*

It is pleasing to notice the growing tendency in the direction of a Canadian export trade. We have heard

The Export of quite a number of shipments at what may be considered a good wholesale price. To help this cause along we will give the names of parties who have applied for exportation purposes to the firm of Gould, Shapley & Muir. We know nothing of the financial standing of these parties, as a matter of business every bee-keeper will require satisfactory evidence as to that. The following are the names and addresses: T. Musgrave, Rock Ledge, Blackrock, Cork, Ireland; C. McCallum, 81 King st., East Toronto; R. D. Great, New York Life Building Room, 515 Place D'Armes Square, Montreal, Que.

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Brother York of the *American Bee Journal* has for some time made a pleasing addition to his journal in the way of "Our Doctor's Hints." The contributions are by F. L. Peiro, M. D. We are pleased to note that the doctor dwells upon the importance of observing rules of health.

**

During the absence of the editor *Gleanings in Bee Culture* came to this office, and in it a good half tone of E. R. Root. Root, associate editor of that Journal. The game was played during the absence of Ernest. We

have frequently met Ernest Root and we believe he has the warm personal esteem of those who know him best. Canadians will be pleased to hear that he will perhaps be with us at the next annual meeting of the Ontario Bee-keepers' Association.

**

It is not too early to think about the next annual meeting of the Ontario Bee-keepers' Association. It will be held at Stratford and there is every promise of a large convention especially from Perth, Listowel, Lambton, Oxford, Simcoe, Walkerville and Brant Associations.

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Upon returning home from the North American Bee-Keeper's Convention and turning over the back numbers of the *British Bee Journal*, we find a series of articles by Henry W. Brice, Thornton Heath, England upon "Queen Rearing." It contains many points in our opinion so original and so valuable, we intend to publish them in the *CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL*.

**

We regret to see from the *British Bee Journal* that Mr. Cheshire died on the 16th of September, while undergoing an operation for a painful internal malady from which he had suffered for some time. Mr. Cheshire was particularly well-known for his scientific work upon the honey bee. He will be a loss to bee-keeper's throughout the world.

**

The *Daily Globe*, Toronto, August 25th, devotes nearly two full pages to the *Bee-Keeping Industry in Ontario*. This is a new departure pleasing to readers of the *Globe* and to bee-keepers. The benefits derived from such a movement must be far-reaching not the least being that the public are attracted and

are taught the value of honey as food. It is to be regretted that only one firm aided the movement by advertising in connection with the article when many were solicited. *Gleanings in Bee Culture*, *The American Bee Journal* and *The Review* have commented favorably upon the article.

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Scarcely a month passes without either receiving cash with an advertisement or asking for terms from those Advertising, desiring space for advertising of such a nature that we do not wish to insert them in the CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL. The temptation is doubtless sometimes strong to accept such and ease our conscience by saying we are not responsible for the actions of those who advertise with us. Whilst this is true, we feel that to do full justice to our readers and those whose ads we accept, the appearance of such should be a guarantee to our readers and we have made it a point to refuse anything which we considered of a doubtful nature. Our advertisers receive benefit from this, the reputation of those who patronize our columns is enhanced, and our readers are thereby benefited.

Correspondence.

CHICAGO, Oct. 18th, 1894.

We herewith hand you quotations of our to-day's honey market. "Comb Honey that is fancy white and in one pound sections, sells at 15 cents, number two white sells at 13 cents, Buckwheat Honey at 10 cents. With cooler weather, demand improving, and our stock on hand at the present time extremely light. Extracted honey selling at from 5½ to 7 cents per pound, depending upon quality or style of package Bees-wax 28 cents. We will make liberal advances on consignments and render prompt sales."

Respectfully yours,

S. T. FISH & Co.

A DIVINE GROWTH.

Religion is no leaf of faded green,
Or flower of vanished fragrance, pressed between
The pages of a Bible; but from seeds
Of love it springeth, watered by good deeds.

—J. T. Trowbridge.

Twenty-Fifth Annual Meeting of the North American Bee- Keepers' Association.

The twenty-fifth annual meeting of the above association opened at the Commercial Club Rooms, St. Joseph, Mo., U. S. at 11 a. m., on Wednesday, Oct. 10th. The president, Emerson T. Abbott, St. Joseph in the chair.

The following delegates were present during the meetings: A. Y. Baldwin, DeKalb, Ill.; Frank Benton, Washington, D. C.; Ralph Benton, Washington, D. C.; Charles D. Durall, Spencerville, Ind.; N. Arnold, Burlingame, Kan.; J. C. Knoll, Glenwood Park, Neb.; R. F. Holtermann, Brantford, Canada; Dr. T. J. Conry, Florence, Kan.; John Weir, Carman, Mo.; E. C. Larch, Savannah, Mo.; J. VanDeusen, Sprout Brook, N. Y.; Louis R. Leighton, Omaha; Mrs. Lydia T. Leighton, Omaha; F. H. Richardson, Laclede, Mo.; W. Z. Hutchinson, Flint, Mich.; E. F. Quigley, Unionville, Mo.; Dr. C. C. Miller, Marengo, Ill.; C. F. Thomas, Dorchester, Neb.; John Schumacher, Weston, Mo.; H. E. Bliss, West Winfield, N. Y.; B. Fredenburg, Auburn, Neb.; T. J. Rimmer, Richmond, Mo.; M. H. Mandelbaum, Chicago; C. C. Clemens, Kansas City; R. H. Holmes, Shoreham, Vermont; D. B. Abbott, Overbrook, Kan.; Hon. C. Grim, Jefferson, Wis.; Col. T. H. Strickler, Solomon City, Kan.; T. Frank King, Sandover, Md.; George W. York, Chicago; J. H. Brown, Rochester, N. Y.; W. L. Kemp, Farmington, P. A.; W. S. Hart, Hawks Park, Fla.; J. T. Calvert, Medina, Ohio; A. I. Root, Medina, O.; A. V. Hagarman, Brenner, Kan.; E. F. Abbott, St. Joseph, Mo.; Mrs. J. M. Mill, Miami, Mo.; H. Martin, Ashland, Mo.; E. B. Gladdish, Higginsville, Mo.; P. C. Gress, Atchison, Kan.; Mrs. Thomas Strawbridge, Ottawa, Kan.; E. L. Carrington, Maryville, Mo.; C. F. Lane, Lexington, Mo.; H. G. Barker, Lincoln, Neb.; William James, Pleasant Hill, Neb.; L. D. Stilson, York, Neb.; E. Whitecomb, Friend, Neb.; H. E. Heath, Lincoln, Neb.; Mrs. E. Whitecomb, Friend, Neb.; Mrs. L. D. Stilson, York, Neb.; W. L. Porter, Denver, Col.; D. E. Barker, St. Joseph; G. W. Shock, Falls City, Neb.; W. H. Dancer, Lamoni, Iowa; C. P. Padant, Hamilton, Ill.; Ford Gordon, Adams, Mo.; E. K. Terry, Burlingame, Kan.; Dr. F. L. Pierce, Chicago; L. L. Alspaugh, Auburn, Neb.; J. W. Blodgett, Empire Prairie,

Mo.; Mrs. M. E. Fredenburg, Johnson, Neb.; C. E. Parks, Watertown, Wis.; Mrs. S. E. Sherman, Salado, Texas; H. J. Newberry, Topeka, Kan.; F. G. Hopkins, St. Joseph; Mrs. S. H. Larch, Savannak; Miss Lulu Williams, Sedalia, Mo.; R. B. Leahy, Higginsville, Mo.; Miss E. A. Conry, Florence, Kan.; J. R. Milne, Elm Grove, Mo.; J. T. Van Perton, Linn, Kan.; Paul M. Francis, Mulberry, Mo.

The president appointed the following a committee on the revision of the constitution and by-laws: Messrs. G. W. York, A. I. Root, Doctor Miller, W. Z. Hutchinson and Frank Benton.

This was followed by a paper

PROFITS IN BEE-KEEPING

by J. W. Rouse, Mexico, Mo.: I will not attempt an estimate of all the profits to be obtained in keeping bees, but will refer merely to one phase of the question. I take the position that it pays any fruit grower to keep a few bees even should no honey ever be obtained from them. Many bee-keepers do not advise others to undertake the keeping of bees for the reason that so many beginners will not study up how to care for the bees nor attend to them properly, and so make failures. While this is true in many instances so far as honey is concerned there is also very many instances of failures in all avocations of life. The bees are very great aids in the proper fertilizing of fruit blossoms, and while in favorable seasons a few bees may accomplish much in a considerable territory, in an unfavorable season, such as a cool or wet time during fruit bloom, it may be only those blossoms that are near where bees are kept that receive any benefit from the latter.

A. I. Root, Medina, O.—I have read many reports and much correspondence and it made me feel sad to see the poor reports for the season. Some, of course, claim that nothing at present pays. He felt bee-keepers in the United States should hang on for better seasons. Sometimes he questioned himself was it the fault of the season or of bee-keepers, those the most enthusiastic appeared to do fairly well. Did we lack enthusiasm and faith?

Hon. C. Grimm, Jefferson, Wis., U. S.—I admit there is not the profit in bee-keeping there was when modern bee-keeping was first being introduced and an Italian colony in the movable frame hive sold for \$25 and extracted honey sold at a high figure. My brother at his death left \$50,000 made out of bee-keeping. Bees at their present price in the spring was low so was honey, but he did not feel discouraged.

R. F. Holtermann, Brantford, Ont.—

Owing to competition and the skill which some have, it is more difficult to make large profits from bee-keeping, but we winter with greater certainty and knowledge and produce for less money. I think failure is in part due to seasons and in part to the bee-keeper. Take the past season, owing to the cold and wet following beautiful weather there was much brood in the hive and bees stimulated during that time appeared to have a very decided advantage when the honey flow came. The queens in other hives stopped laying and in some cases even the drones were killed and brood destroyed. Now as a rule I do not favor stimulative feeding but in this case it appeared to pay well. Bee-keeping is something in which no cast iron rules can be laid down, but everyone must to certain extent do their own thinking.

A. I. Root.—Mr. Boardman, of New York state, had this season given stimulative feeding and thought that under certain conditions it would pay well to do so.

F. H. Richardson, Laclede, Mo.—I think stimulative feeding will sometimes pay and sometimes not. I have 169 acres of land besides my beehives. I have strong faith in bee-keeping.

Frank Benton, Washington, D. C.—I think stimulative feeding very important whenever the bees cannot gather stores from natural sources, and there is yet hope for the bees breed through stimulation being able to take part in the honey flow. The race of bees made a difference, some required less stimulation than others.

Mr. Richardson.—I think there is too much attention paid to color, we ought to look after other desirable qualities more.

Pres. Abbott.—A very light color shows a sport, we want a true type, sports are constitutionally weak.

Doctor C. C. Miller, Marengo, Ills.—Suppose you have pure Italians and nothing else in the vicinity, what is the tendency?

Pres. Abbott.—They incline to become lighter but they are distinctly marked.

Mr. Richardson.—A breeder of these light colored bees told me they were too short-lived. That would bear out the idea that they are constitutionally weak and sports.

Mr. Holtermann was asked why he objected to stimulative feeding as a rule.

Mr. Holtermann.—Because the queen will generally lay as fast as the bees of the hive are able to take care of the brood. If bees are unduly stimulated before young bees begin to hatch the old bees continue to get fewer in number and the brood may get chilled. To feed after honey flows, say in

the fall, to have young bees go into winter quarters I consider a great mistake. Nature or providence has regulated this matter. The bees cease gathering and the queens cease laying because the hive during that condition loses but little vitality, the bees remain quiet and do not wear themselves out. Begin to feed them and they are excited, begin to wear and brood rearing begins to keep up the vigor of the hive. You will likely be out the cost of the feed and your labor.

At this stage the president of the Commercial Club gave a very pleasing address of welcome to the delegates. Dr. Miller replied in a very pleasing manner.

APICULTURE IN GERMANY.

It is with pleasure that I accede to the request to prepare article for the convention in St. Joseph, Mo., and I select, of course, the subject which has been suggested as one about which information is required. Although this subject is such a prolific one that I might write volumes on it, I will nevertheless make my article as short as possible.

The keeping of bees in Germany is very old. Records which show this reach back 400 years before the Christian era. The bold mariner Pytheas, of Massilia (Marseilles), a contemporary of Alexander the Great, records in history that on the north coast of Germania on the banks of the River Elms, he had found honey used in the preparation of mead. Junius states that before the battle of Arbalo against the Cherusker (11 B. C.) a large swarm of bees settled on the cord and shaft of a lance in front of the tent of the camp-prefect, Hostilius Rutilius, in the camp of Drusus. Moreover, Peinius records the finding in north Germany of a honey comb eight feet long taken from a log hive, that is, a hive hewn out of a tree trunk. He tells how the old Germans followed the keeping of bees in forests and in gardens, in living trees in which a lodgment for the bees was hewn out, or in hives which they had cut from the trees and placed near their dwellings. Especially the Slavic laws prove that already in the fifth century of the Christian era, covered as well as uncovered bee-houses existed.

The greatest development that apiculture has ever had in Germany occurred in the so-called middle ages. This began, however, with the introduction of Christianity, from which time on the consumption of wax in the shape of candles and tapers constantly increased. The information which has become available to us through the writings left by the monasteries and churches proves through the records of taxes for honey and wax which had to be met annually by the

peasants, that bee-keeping yielded enormous returns. Thus it came about in the middle ages that the trade in honey, wax and mead reached its highest prosperity. Great quantities of the products of bee-keeping were exported by way of Hamburg and other seaports to Spain, Constantinople, Syria and Palestine. This flourishing of apiculture was greatly aided by the great attention paid to it by princes and owners of great estates. The so-called *zeidler* societies were founded. These were composed of those who were engaged in the care of bees, and also such as were engaged in collecting and straining honey and clarifying wax, and were called *zeidler*. These *zeidler* societies formed closely allied branch associations, which were given special rights and privileges. The strictest laws protected them. Only skillful bee-keepers were accepted as members. They elected judges (*Starosten*) and elders from their own numbers. The forests were divided off into districts, and each district was under a *zeidler*, while several districts form a society which in most instances managed large numbers of colonies. The Upper Lusatian *Zeidler* society, for example, had 7,000 colonies. The *zeidler* system was especially flourishing in the Marg of Brandenburg. It was developed on a similarly extensive scale in the so-called royal apiary in the Bavarian forests in the vicinity of Nuremberg. In the year 1538 the value of two colonies was the same as that of a cow.

But, unfortunately, from this time on, apiculture in Germany went down hill at a great rate. On account of the Reformation the price of wax decreased greatly, for the glittering lights in most of the churches were extinguished. But what contributed most to the downfall of apiculture in Germany was the fearful thirty years' war which raged on account of religion, after the close of which, in 1648, three-fourths of the inhabitants of Germany and 80 per cent. of the cattle had been destroyed, and one-third of the cultivated land laid waste. Only gradually, very slowly, people thought of apiculture again. During this time conditions had also greatly changed. People had learned to replace wax with substitutes, and honey with cane and beet sugar, etc.; the mead breweries which had cost so much had disappeared, the forests had been decimated, and, through intensive culture, many of the honey-producing weeds were exterminated. The belief that bee-keeping was no longer profitable gained ground rapidly. To awaken even a degree of interest in it again required great and persistent efforts. In this men like Nikol Jacob in Silesia, Schirach in Saxony, who first practiced the artificial increase of colonies, Reim Spitz-

ner and Christ were notable. Christ invented the magazine hive which consisted of several boxes placed one upon another.

After the thirty years' war apiculture made exceptional progress on the north German plains, as, for example, at the mouths of the Elms, the Weser and the Elbe, and especially in that portion which to-day is included in the Province of Hanover and the adjoining lands, where endless areas, covered with *Erica Vulgaris*, and here and there buckwheat, offered to the bees a good autumn harvest. Here bees were kept, and are still kept to-day, in the round, bell-shaped straw hives. The method followed is a very rational one. The colonies, through feeding, are urged to give off numerous natural swarms, and if, for example, 50 colonies increase to 150, of these 10 are sulphured in the fall. In good years for honey these yield about 3,700 pounds of honey and 50 pounds of wax. The returns are obtained mainly by irrigating. Even though in many other localities in Germany bees were kept in straw hives, this is of little moment. Box and long hives have nearly disappeared. Housing bees in living trees is no longer followed.

Apiculture in Germany did not again receive a general impulse until Dr. Dzierzon came forward in 1818 with his discovery of the movable-comb hive, which appeared in the bee journal founded in Eichstaedt, Bavaria, founded not long before this by Von Berlepsch. But when the latter, with bag and baggage, went over into Dzierzon's camp and other prominent bee-keepers followed him, the new system gained ground constantly, especially after the invention of comb foundation and that of honey-extractor were ad led, and the itinerant convention of the German and Austro-Hungarian bee-keepers came into existence. The first one of these conventions was held in Arnstadt in 1859, and the thirty-ninth in September of this year in Vienna. These conventions are always accompanied by apiarian exhibitions. The apiarian societies which are scattered all over Germany have had the greatest influence upon the spread and elevation of apiculture. We have in the first place the separate societies which are made up of members of a given locality. These societies meet monthly, half-yearly or yearly. A number of these societies form, in the several lands or provinces of a state, so-called central associations. Nearly all of the central associations, that of the kingdoms of Bavaria and Wurtemberg excepted, have banded themselves together to form a German Central association which numbers about 20,000 to 30,000 members. The German Central society, by the side of the German-Austro-Hungarian itinerant asso-

ciation, but independently, holds every two years a great convention with an exhibition. The last one was held in 1893, in Heildelberg. All of the separate central associations receive subventions from the state. The Mark association, for example, to which I belong, and which is composed of 83 separate individual societies, having about 1680 members, receives yearly about \$300. Other societies more, and others less. Every member of an association receives at a reduced rate, the official organ of the society. The Hannoverian Centralblatt, organ of the Hanover Central association, is most widely distributed among the members of societies, the editions being 13,000 numbers. It appears monthly and costs to members of the society 24 cents yearly. In addition to these official organs, numerous other bee journals are published. Besides these journals—there are about sixteen of them—besides the multitude of other apiarian publications which are poured forth annually, and aside from the activity of the societies, the so-called bee-keepers' schools work for the elevation of apiculture, as, for example, the bee-keepers' school under the protectorate of the Archduchess of Baden, which is located at Eberbach on the Neckar, where several courses are given every summer, many ladies also attending; also the bee-keepers' school of Pastor Weygandt. Notwithstanding all these extraordinary exertions, the elevation of apiculture in Germany proceeds only slowly. Indeed, it has even gone backwards in the last twenty years, but it is now on the increase, especially the method with movable combs. In the year 1883 the number of colonies of bees was 1,911,797, so that there were 3.5 hives per square kilometer, and for every 100 inhabitants 1.2 hives. Of these 193 were movable comb hives. According to the last census, in 1892, there were 2,034,479 colonies, that is 3.8 hives per square kilometer, or for every 100 inhabitants 4.1 hives, 31 of which were movable comb hives. Unfortunately, no exact figures concerning the honey yield of these colonies are at my command, but it may be fairly estimated that in what are called good honey years, the honey harvest reaches 82,000,000 pounds and the wax harvest 1,000,000 pounds. It should be noted here that in Germany very little comb honey is produced, there being for the greater part no market for it. From the hives with fixed combs the best honey that is obtained is what is called run honey, and it approaches extracted honey very nearly in quality. The crushed combs are placed in a sieve or a trough and the honey permitted to run off. What remains is gently heated and strained. Extracted honey and run

honey are sold on the average of 25 cents per pound, the strained honey 12 to 13 cents per pound. Comb honey and extracted are the same in price. The honey is extracted chiefly from fruit-bloom, rape, esparcette, acacia or honey-locust, linden, corn flower, buckwheat and heather.

So far as the hives are concerned in which bees are kept in Germany, the bell-shaped straw hives are most widely used. The few log or box hives or other hives with immovable combs are not worth consideration. The confusion in the construction of hives with movable combs is infinitely greater in Germany than in America. The great majority of these hives are built cupboard like, with several stories one above another which open at the sides where the gables are placed, or from the back end. The frames in these hives, quite in contrast to those in American hives, are placed with the longer dimension perpendicular. The full sized German standard frame does not differ greatly as regards its contents from the Langstroth frame. American hives have been but little introduced, or not at all here. Among the German hives most preferred are the Dzierzson twin hive, the Beriepsch hive, the four-story upright hives, the Dathe hive, the Albert hive, and the hive which I use, the Bergenstuelper.

Whether, notwithstanding the great exertions which are constantly being made for the elevation and spread of apiculture in Germany, it will ever be brought up to the point it reached in the 13th, 14th and 15th centuries of our era, is still a great question. The many flowers growing wild in those times have disappeared because of improved methods in the management of meadows, forests and fields. But in return many other honey producing plants have become naturalized with us, so that the lack has been made up again. We Germans entertain the hope that constant progress will mark the course of apiculture, and this so much the more since we can profit by the valuable investigations of bee-keepers in our lands, and not the least among these are to be counted those of our brother bee-keepers in America, who so nobly stand far in the lead in progressive apiculture. God grant it. With a sincere wish and with hearty greetings from Germany, I present to the honorable body of North American bee-keepers, my profound respect as one of your honorary members.

A resolution was submitted through a letter by G. M. Doolittle, Borodino, N. Y.—Resolved that there is more money in the management than there is in the bees or races of bees.

Mr. Doolittle suggested that a debate

take place, those present dividing equally and taking opposite sides. This was no done however but a vote was taken, management winning the day. A member pointed out that such a vote was hardly just; in discussion many valuable points might be brought out, but it would not be fair to say resolved that there is more money in the management than there is in the cows upon a dairy farm. Both were very important factors.

The evening was taken up by an address of welcome by Mayor Sheppard, responded to by G. W. York and R. F. Holtermann. T. B. Terry, the world renowned agriculturist of Hudson, Ohio, gave a valuable address. Doctor Miller and some local talent sang in a very pleasing manner, and an enjoyable evening was spent.

THURSDAY MORNING.

President in the chair. Some objected to selling other men's honey, and thought when a man got through selling his own, he should stop.

C. P. Dadaat—We often handle other men's honey after disposing of our own, and we find the plan works very well. Of course, we handle only such honey as we feel justified in putting our stamp upon, and our customers require nothing else as a guarantee.

President Abbott—I have for years made it a practice to handle more than my own honey, and as with Mr. Dadant, my customers ask no questions but take it for granted that the honey is all right if I handle it. Establish a reputation for good honey and ask a good price, and you will have no difficulty in selling honey at a good price. I sell extracted at 15 cents per pound.

Dr. Miller—Some bee-keepers have more honey than they can well dispose of at home, and others less, the relations varying from season to season, and I think it is well for bee-keepers to supply one another. As to price, after all, the supply and demand must regulate the price, and bee-keepers must be regulated by this. Some years ago I spent some time with daily papers, particularly in Chicago, in regard to quotations on honey, and these quotations were almost all wrong. I think, however, good work has been done by putting in honey quotations. Now, as to commission men, find out something about the man you are going to deal with. If he is selling on commission, the honey is your property, and if he does not make returns, the offence is very different to non-payment of goods purchased. Never take a man's note on honey you have sent him to sell on commission. It then becomes an ordinary debt.

C. P. Dadant—First, find if the man is good; second, find the probable price; third, fix your price.

QUESTION DRAWER.

What is the best honey package?

L. D. Stilson—We use only glass packages of different design. I like the Muth Jar.

John Calvert—In regard to the granulation of honey, I would say there is a great difference as to the granulation of honey. Californian honey often does not granulate for years.

A member—I used a tin pail for years but now use glass entirely. A glass jar labelled answers well. We offer 5 cents for the jar, but it is rarely returned.

Mrs. Strawbridge—I use the quart Mason jar and find it answers well.

Mrs. Miller, Meama, Mo.—I use in tins from the 60 pound tin down to the half-gallon pail. In glass the half-pint to one-half gallon self sealer.

WHAT IS BEE PARALYSIS?

A. I. Root—I think I was one of the first to mention this disease. Changing the queen often cures the disease, yet some believe to the contrary.

Doctor Miller—My bees had the disease and I painted my barn red, a mineral red, mark you, and the disease was stopped. I doubt if the reports of cure have been cured owing to the treatment. The cure had perhaps as much to do with the treatment as painting my barn red had to do with curing my bees.

C. P. Dadant.—Is there any difference between the disease and constipation?

Quite a discussion followed, some putting the cause down to one thing and some to another.

E. L. Carrington.—I have had some trouble with the disease. The symptoms in my first colony came on in the spring, the queen appeared to be all that could be desired but the symptoms were there. The disease next spring appeared in the colony having the old queen. I changed the queen and the disease was cured. I know it was no poison for it was the only one with these symptoms in the apiary of 100 colonies. I have had the disease in the apiary since and I find changing the queen always cures the disease.

W. L. Porter, Denver, Col.—I am anxious to secure light upon this important subject. We have a disease similar to the one under discussion. The symptoms appear in the spring of the year, the bees tremble and begin to die off, they lie on their sides and tremble in bunches. These men cannot account for the cases. Last spring I had a case. The prevailing winds from the

smelting works are towards the country where the most cases are found; it may be poisonous vapors.

C. P. Dadant.—We have had a similar disease many a time, it appears in spring and runs into summer, it may be a bacillus but I think it is a contagious constipation. I feel sure it is not poison, we had the disease long before spraying came into use.

Frank Benton.—We have had a sample at the department of Agriculture, Washington. The honey is not poisonous but it had a peculiar odor.

A Member.—Sometimes a colony will show slight symptoms of the disease in spring but it is not genuine and will cure itself.

When bees have been neglected will it do to feed in the cellar?

Pres. Abbott—Yes, make a cake of granulated sugar two inches thick and put on top of the combs, the bees will winter all right. I know this is not generally accepted but I know it is correct. I winter on summer stands.

SPRING DWINDLING, ITS REMEDY AND PREVENTION.

A. I. Root.—Give a good cake of sugar in spring.

Pres. Abbott.—Winter your bees on sugar and they will not spring dwindle.

A Member.—Water your bees, keep a constant supply within their reach and they will not spring dwindle.

R. F. Holtermann.—If bees are not properly wintered and come out low in vitality, they readily succumb to the least adverse circumstances and the colony dwindles. Winter your bees with the least loss of vitality and you will not be troubled with spring dwindling. To do this not one but several items must be taken into consideration.

What can this convention do to prevent foul brood?

Nothing!

Are we bee-keepers receiving fair rates on bees, honey and bee-keepers' supplies?

John Calvert.—We have been trying to get the classification of freight rates reduced and are working hard in this direction. The rate is too high. In barrels honey is third class, in cans second class while syrup is 5th class. The classification, the value, the risk and the bulk are considered. We are in hopes of getting better rates.

Doctor Miller.—This matter is of interest to bee-keepers all along the line in supplies as well as honey.

It was moved by Doctor Miller, seconded by R. F. Holtermann and carried that a committee be appointed to act.

The following were appointed: Doctor Miller, C. P. Dadant and Mr. Whitcomb, Nebraska.

AFTERNOON.

The next place of meeting and election of officers was next taken in hand, resulting as follows:

Toronto, Canada, the next place of meeting.

Pres., R. F. Holtermann, Brantford, Ont.; Vice-Pres., L. D. Stilson, York, Nebraska; Secy., W. Z. Hutchinson, Flint, Mich.; Treas., John T. Calvert, Medina, Ohio.

QUESTION DRAWER.

Is paper a good winter packing?

A. I. Root. — Yes.

C. P. Dadant. — Yes, providing you remove it in time.

(TO BE CONTINUED.)

The Kingston and Ottawa Exhibition.

At Kingston the exhibit of honey, bees and bee-keepers' supplies was not large. The Gould, Shapley & Muir Co. (Ltd.) had about 250 pounds of comb honey and the same quantity of extracted in glass, also a pretty full hive of bee-keepers' supplies. Mr. H. Baiden, Portsmouth had a few jars of extracted honey and two twelve-section crates of comb honey, the quality of which was very good. Mr. Baiden also showed an Italian Queen with a frame of bees and brood. There was one other small lot of extracted honey. The exhibitor's name we did not manage to get. Unfortunately the honey exhibit was under a wing of the main building with the dairy products, and being so situated, the number of visitors was comparatively small. The officials connected with the fair were kind and courteous and as far as treatment is concerned deserve well of those who exhibited. The prize list is, however, very small and gives but little encouragement.

REV. T. J. SPRATT.

For many years I have heard of the Rev. T. J. Spratt on Wolfe Island. As a bee-keeper in one way and another he has been heard of. When roaming the streets of Kingston I saw some good comb honey in one of the leading stores and as is my habit, I entered and priced it. The dealer in explaining the merits of the article mentioned that it came from "Father Spratt on the Island." I then and there resolved to visit the apiary and taking the boat at 6.30 a. m. on a beautiful morning, I landed at the Island about 7 o'clock. The reception I got was one of the kindest and we were soon talking bees. I took notes,

but I am ashamed to confess that in some way during my wanderings for the next few weeks, it was mislaid, but there remains a very distinct recollection of some of the important points. Father Spratt has about 100 colonies in the Richardson hive. He has kept bees for twenty years, and for many years he has been very successful in wintering. During spring and winter an outer case is used for protection, with a good cushion on top. A wood honey board is used with a hole and stop to act as a ventilator. During winter a tube is used, open at one side and the tin so shaped that when lying on the honey board, the board forms one side and the tin the other three, giving a complete tube about one inch by three-eighths inches for the escape of air and moisture. The tube lies flat upon the honey board, covering the hole in the honey board. When the tube reaches the side of the hive it is turned up at right angles and follows the side of the super. The cushion resting on the tube keeps it in place. It would not be a difficult matter to believe that such a system of ventilation might have very decided advantages. In the apiary comb honey only is produced, and a very fine lot there was in the honey house, all of which has been sold since, and I know where more first-class honey is wanted. Full sheets of foundation are used in the sections and frames. This spring stimulative feeding was resorted to during the long continued wet and cool weather. Black bees are the favorites, and I must confess the apiary was the blackest I ever saw, only one colony showing traces of Italian. With the exception of the apiary of Father Spratt there are but few bees kept upon the Island.

(To be continued.)

Convention Notices.

LAMBTON BEE-KEEPERS' ASSOCIATION.

The annual meeting of the Lambton Beekeepers' Association will be held in the village of Wyoming on Saturday, Nov 24th, 1894. Leading bee-keepers of the county are expected to be present. also R. F. Holtermann, Brantford, Ont. A profitable meeting is expected.

J. R. KITCHIN.

Weidmann, Ont. Secretary

ONTARIO BEE-KEEPERS' ASSOCIATION.

The annual meeting of the Ontario Beekeepers' Association will be held at Stratford on Tuesday, 15th day of January, 1895. Further particulars later.

Wm. COUSE, Secretary.

Annual Meeting of the Prescott Bee-Keepers' Association.

The second annual meeting of the Prescott Bee-Keepers' Association took place at Plantagenet on October 15th. After the roll call and general business had been transacted, the president, W. J. Brown, Chard, delivered the following address.

PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS.

In meeting together again in our annual convention we naturally look not only back

changes in bee-culture have been greater during the last half century than during the previous five thousand years. Since the time when Samson robbed the bees of their honey long ago without smoke or be-veil there has been considerable improvements made, but if Samson had no smoker or veil he had lots of strength if that served him anything in such a work; and some one did eat of the honey and that is what we would do ourselves.

And now brother bee-keepers and friends it is only necessary for me to give an ac-



APIARY OF W. J. BROWN, CHARD.

over the past year to see what has been done, but we look forward to the coming year to see if possible what will be done or at any rate what we desire to be; for we are not always able to compass our desires or realize our anticipations and if we are worthy citizens of this progressive age we will make every year an improvement on its predecessor, not only in the matter of bee-keeping but in every other matter as well. We ought therefore to be better apiarists than we were last year and better men and citizens in every way. It is sometimes said that there are nothing but changes. Now while there are certainly many changes there is something besides changes. Bee-keepers being an exceptional lot I think, changing for the better. But I must not moralize too much. The

count of my official work for the past year. I have carried out as far as lay in my power the work for the best interest of our association. We have several papers to be brought before this meeting, some of them of much importance to you all.

I must congratulate you on a fairly good season, though nothing extra. I think the county of Prescott has had a fairly good crop as far as I could learn. In the work of an association the greatest amount lies with the secretary, and I think he has not been idle on your behalf, and his balance sheet, though small, will be in your favor. A few members have been added to the list while a few of the old members have severed their connection. The premium to members will be such as our finances will permit and the question of sending a delegate to the

annual meeting of the Ontario Bee-Keepers' Association will require to be taken up as well as the place selected for our own annual meeting. As far as I could learn the last meeting, held at my residence on the 9th of June last, was appreciated by all.

An important question for your consideration is to see if anything can be done to secure through the Farmers' Institutes a man who can address the bee-keepers and teach them in both languages, French and English. In conclusion I wish you a pleasant and profitable meeting.

Several other papers were read from prominent bee-keepers which contained many excellent points in regard to bee-keeping and bee-appliances of which there was a good display.

The election of officers resulted as follows: Pres., W. J. Brown, Chard, Ont.; Vice-Pres., C Rivers, Alford, Ont.; Secy. Treas., Jos. Charbonneau, Plantagenet; Directors, Messrs D. Brown, J. Charbonneau and Jas. Dickson.

The next meeting will be the second Monday in October, 1895.

Jos. CHARBONNEAU, Secy.

Making Syrup by Percolation.

In addition to what has been said in recent issues of Gleanings I am not able to speak with authority, as to the non-candy-ing of syrup when made by this process, but viewing it from the stand-point of a druggist I know that syrup made in this way is a very superior article and when once the apparatus is in shape there is certainly an economy of time excepting when feeding for winter, when you would have to go to the trouble of warming it up before it could be fed. For opening or stimulative feeding it would be grand, as all that is necessary would be to stir it with hot water. In the summer time we generally make our medicinal syrup by percolation. As it is not on such a large scale as would be required for bee-keepers I find that the prescribed quantity of water (one-half by weight) will not dissolve all the sugar but it may be different when a large quantity is made at once. If you want to make certain that your percolator is doing its work thoroughly you could weigh your sugar and half as much water should be sufficient. If less than half as much is required then you have a thicker syrup than ordinary. Dr. Beal stated that you cannot have it too thick. From what I know of syrup made by percolation I am inclined to give it a trial when required for feeding purposes. In doing so, however, we lose the benefit

that may come from the boiling of the water.

S. A. DEADMAN,

Brussels, Ont.

Personal.

Mrs. James Young, Carrying Place has sold her large house in town and the large grounds surrounding it to Mr. Post the famous bee-keeper of the Carrying place.

Mr. Post, we understand, purposes coming to his Trenton residence before Nov. 1st. A contingent of his bees has already arrived in town. The Courier will welcome Mr. Post and family to Trenton. Bees as every naturalist knows are a universal benefit to the agriculturist and specially to the horticulturist and floriculturist.—Trenton Courier.

Mr. B. O. Lott, of Anson, and party leave for a deer hunt on Oct. 30th, and the editor of THE CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL received an invitation to join the party. The trip to the North American Convention at St. Joseph, Mo., took so much time and money that the editor will have to remain at home.

Mr. D. E. Merrill, of the Falconer Manufacturing Co. and editor of the American Bee-Keeper, N. Y., paid Canada and the Toronto Industrial Exhibition a visit.

What Others Say.

THE CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL is a well edited and very helpful paper, the editorials being full of practical suggestions.—Kansas Farmer.

ANSON, Ont., Oct. 5th, 1894.

My bees did very well at Wellers Bay I extracted over 3,000 pounds of buckwheat honey besides saving over 150 sealed combs for spring feeding. The bees also gathered enough for winter stores. B. O. LOTT.

I think your Bee Journal is just fine.

ALEX. GODFELLOW.

Macville, Ont., Oct. 8th, 1894.

Continuous advertising, even if it be only a small announcement, pays the advertiser the best in the long run. Spasmodic advertising, like "spasms" of any kind, is unsatisfactory. To secure the very best results, year in and year out, you must keep your name and business before the public. Only by so doing can you hope to keep from being forgotten when the time comes that your would-be customers wish to purchase what they want.—American Bee Journal.

Queen Rearing.

THE RESULT OF THREE YEARS' EXPERIMENTAL WORK.

Henry Alley, now over thirty years ago, was the first to point out that the then methods of raising queens were not satisfactory, and gave the bee world a new system of doing so by cutting worker-cells containing eggs and very young larvae, and giving same to queenless stocks having no unsealed brood to raise queens from. This was a marked step in advance, quickly followed by others on the same lines, and, after careful experiment, I am bound to say good queens can be raised by his method. Dr. C. C. Miller was, I believe, the first to transfer of eggs and larvae to naturally-built embryo queen-cells, but it was reserved to Mr. Doolittle to perfect the method which has proved, in the hands of others as well as mine, to be most satisfactory, and to produce the finest results. It is his method—with some slight modifications of my own—that I propose to lay before your readers. No doubt it entails a lot of work, and requires an amount of care which, to some minds, may seem unnecessary with so small an object in view as the raising of a queen-bee, but when we consider what may be the result of working out a plan by which a superior race of so useful an insect as the honey bee may be obtained, it is, to my mind, worth twenty times the trouble and care required. It must also be borne in mind that once the routine of the work is learnt, and the requirements fully grasped, it comes as easy to carry out the necessary manipulations as the ordinary handling of a bar-frame hive. If the eyesight be good and the fingers deft, the task becomes easy, and to me, all-absorbing. It is certain that when our advancing bee-keepers have tested the qualities of the queens raised by scientific methods, they will abandon rule of thumb queens thenceforth.

In carrying out the work about to be described I have largely had to take into account the difference in the climate of this country and of America, and the uncertain character of the weather here during the swarming season, which, as we know to our cost, is often very bad. The difference must also be noted in the date of harvesting here and there, besides the length of the honey-flow, &c. In this way we must watch for the time when the bees first evince a desire to supersede their queen, and, above all things, to be ready to take full advantage of this desire at once, for should the weather suddenly change for the worse, and the honey-flow stop, steps must be taken to preserve queens in process of being

raised, by giving the bees an equivalent to the bountiful supply they were enjoying, or our beautiful queen-cells, queens, and all will disappear as if by magic, and nothing but a bare stick will be left.

In beginning the practical work of queen raising, the first necessary is a full colony of bees, with super on over excluder zinc, and having a laying queen below, bees working hard in super, honey coming in fast, and drones on the wing. These conditions fulfilled, all is ready for a start by preparing your frame, to which the artificial cups are fixed beforehand. If the supers used are shallow-frame ones, a shallow frame is prepared; if the standard size is adopted, use a standard frame of comb free from brood; or a frame of foundation may be used, though I prefer a built-out comb with a little honey in it. Cut the comb in half horizontally, remove the lower half, then take an ordinary top bar of a frame and cut it so as to fit between the side bars of the frame, close up to underside of the cut comb. Fix it in its place with a $\frac{3}{4}$ in. brad at each end, then take the portion of comb removed and cut a piece out of the centre along the now top edge 7 in. long and $1\frac{1}{2}$ in. deep; fix the half-comb so cut back under the inserted bar, so as to leave room in the centre for the cells to be built down; or, if preferred, the original comb may be cut so that the bar is made to fit in and take out, and so save removing any comb except that portion which is necessary to give room for the bar to fit in, and the cells extended downwards. Mr. Doolittle prefers the latter plan, but, using as I do the shallow frame, I prefer the fixed centre bar, with an easily removable bottom bar.

The next operation is to prepare the wax cups. Here again I have slightly departed from the Doolittle plan, because I have succeeded better by so doing. Take a few ounces of pure beeswax that has never been overheated; place same in a small but deep tin vessel (a small milk-can will do if clean) add 2 oz. of distilled water and a pinch of salt; heat slowly until the wax is all melted but keep the temperature as low as possible. It will, however, be necessary to have your "dippers" ready beforehand. And now comes the question of size. This caused me considerable delay, and only after careful observation did I find that the bees were not so particular on this point as myself, provided the cells were not made too large nor too small. By careful measurement I found that the interior of natural embryo queen-cells were very nearly the same size as ordinary drone-cells (new), but they must not be much larger; if they are the bees will build a division in the centre and spoil them by making two of one. On the

other, if the cells are made much smaller they will remove them altogether. But some of your readers will probably say, "Bees transform ordinary worker-cells into queen-cells." True, but if you watched the process you would find that long before the grub is inconvenienced by the smallness of the cell, the bees have enlarged the mouth thereof and extended the same so as to make a three-part formed queen-cell of it on the top of what remains of the worker-cell. By watching still more closely we find that the young grub is completely floated out of the worker-cell, and its fast-growing little form soon fills the royal compartment, the upper part of the chamber (i. e., the worker-cell portion) becoming the store-house for the abundant food supplied at this stage. What is required, therefore, is a small rounded stick, made to fit nicely into an ordinary drone-cell. Having prepared such a stick, take a sharp knife and so cut the dipping end that that the base of the cell when formed is what is known as a natural base; three upward cuts on the end of the "dipper" will do this. It may be another fancy of mine, perhaps, but I find in the use of cups made on cell formers, so cut that the royal food when placed therein with the young grub on top is held much better in position than if the cell is flat-bottomed; for should the weather be warm, and consequently a very high temperature within the hive when the cells are given, the food liquifies, and the weight of the larva causes it to slip from its position and come sliding down the side of the cell. When this happens, it is promptly removed by the bees, for such a state of affairs never comes about in nature. It is best to make two or three "dippers" at first; by doing so much time is saved in having to wait while the wax on one dipper sets, but going on with another or two while the first is cooling, and so on alternately. Now place the dipping ends of your "formers" or "dippers" in a little salt and water that they may get thoroughly wet; this helps to facilitate removal of the artificial queen-cells when made.

Having everything in readiness for this part of the operation, we commence making our cells by dipping each "former" alternately in the heated wax, making the first dip the deepest. I dip mine five-eighths of an inch the first time, and a little less every time afterwards. The dipping continues until the wax-cell and dipper together very much resemble a large fusee-match. The cell cups are then set to cool, when they can be removed with a little care. I have experimented with cells made deeper, and

with others not so deep, as mentioned above, but find the depth stated to be the best. — HENRY W. BRICE, Thornton Heath, Surrey.

Selection in Breeding—Personal Experience.

— C. Theilmann.

I am pleased with the improvements of THE CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL and the practical suggestions in the editorials, especially the last one on page 316 on "Selection for Breeding." You are correct when you say: "The advantage of such a system is obvious." So far, I have not experimented any in the line that you describe, but while I was crating and packing my honey from this season I made up my mind (when ever I came to a case in which the combs were all perfectly attached to the sections and every cell sealed perfectly to the wood all around) that I would mark all colonies which made such perfect work and breed from them if other qualities about them would be acceptable, notwithstanding what color they would have. There is nothing more pleasing for a comb honey producer, after he received a crop of honey then to see the sections capped even and snow white and the edges perfectly sealed to the wood all around and every cell nicely capped over.

I had quite a number of supers this season which hold 23 sections without separators. (I have no use for separators) in which every section, rather every comb was built and sealed perfectly in every sense. I am sorry that I did not mark the hives from which they came to breed from such good qualities. My experiments in other directions lead me to believe that we can breed such quality as we desire. I have for many years marked and bred from colonies that wintered best and had perfectly clean combs in the spring and which consumed but little stores compared with other desirable traits. With this selection every year, I have lost but few colonies in wintering the past 8 or 9 years, and I only lost 5 colonies the past 3 winters with over 300 colonies in cellars.

It seems to me that too much stress is put on color by our queen breeders, regardless of the good qualities. I am on the other side. I want the qualities which brings in the dollars and cents. I don't keep bees for pleasure alone.

The season here was not very good, no clover honey at all, my bees were in a

starving condition when Linden opened which yielded honey steadily for 21 days, but it took 4 or 5 days for the bees to fill the empty combs in the brood chamber and the last 3 or 4 days there was only a few hours morning and evening that there was honey. But by skilfull and timely attention in keeping the forces together, I got about 7000 lbs of combs and 500 lbs of extracted all linden honey; and from 200 colonies I have sold all the comb to one firm and I got a fair price. It was a very fine lot.

After linden bloom my bees did not make their living; they got lighter in stores until within 10 days they have filled up the brood chamber pretty good for winter on golden rod. I did not expect this at all, as nearly everything is dried up. We had not more rain for two months than would lay the dust. It is the biggest drought since 38 years, or since Minnesota was settled.

C. THEILMANN,
Theilmanton, Minn., U. S.

Disposing of the Honey Crop.

Page upon page has been written on the subject of marketing honey, for all realize that unless it is well sold, there is no profit or just remuneration for the labor and skill involved in its production.

A successful marketing of honey presupposes its good quality, and suitable condition for proper and satisfactory handling. Possessing these two very important factors, the honey is then ready to seek the much desired customer.

Upon what market shall it be placed? Aye, that's the question! Shall it be disposed of in the home market—probably among the producer's friends and neighbors—or shall it be shipped to the nearest large city to find purchasers? Both ways have their advantages. So much depends upon the producer himself, that what might be best for one bee-keeper would be all wrong for another equally successful in honey-production.

Each producer, of course, desires to realize the most money possible for his crop. Upon that point all will agree. But how about the city market for such an object? The city honey commission merchant, as a rule, if he does any business at all, is an overworked or overcrowded man. Imagine if you please, 100 different lots of honey, being shipped to him from various parts of the country, in different conditions, and all coming so as to be in stock at the same time. Now it will be utterly impossible for him to give to each shipment equal attention, and some of them must of necessity be

neglected, or await their turns. In the meantime, some of shippers may notify him to hold their honey for a certain price. Then, of course, the honey of those who do not give any definite instructions as to price will be sold first, and probably at a lower figure. By that time the market is practically supplied, and the balance of the honey in the commission merchant's hands must be held, or the price lowered in order to at all effect sales. Thus it will be readily seen that at best selling through a city commission firm must often be quite unsatisfactory, especially as there is so much to risk in shipping honey, lest the combs be broken down and thus be ruined, or the extracted honey packages may leak, and in that way cause loss.

I fully believe that the best solution of the question will be found in the home market, where the producer can personally look after the details of the work; and although unable to do the actual retailing himself, he can so supervise it as to realize the largest proceeds from the sale of his crop of honey.

Of course, it requires a good talker to sell honey, as well as anything else that has merit which needs to be shown to the desired purchasers. But as nearly everybody likes to eat honey, it should not be such a difficult task to dispose of some in nearly every home visited.

As to the price to be asked, certainly the city market quotations should not govern, for, as I have shown, that market may have become overstocked, and for the time being the price lowered to such an extent that there could be no profit whatever to the producer.

It has been suggested that unless a good price be asked, it will not be secured. And there is more truth than poetry in that hint. Though if the price asked is too high, there will also be less sales, and consequently less money obtained, but more honey left on the producer's hands. It seems to me that comb honey, in most home markets, should bring not less than 20 cents per single section, or 6 section for \$1.00. Extracted honey should retail, per single pound, at 15 cents or 8 pounds for \$1.00. These prices certainly are high, and yet probably large enough to sufficiently reward any reasonable producer in a fair honey season.

There is much in education in this matter of the price of honey, as well as to its constant use in the family. By starting out *rightly*, a better price can be secured and maintained, and also more sales be made, while if there is a wrong beginning, it will be well nigh impossible to correct it later on. By all means study the consumer's

ability to pay, supply a pure article of honey, put up in an attractive form and there will be little trouble about future orders after the first purchase is made and used.

I think that bee-keepers who have a home market well worked up often make a very great mistake when they allow themselves to get out of honey for sale at any time of the year; for if a regular customer can get no more honey from the producer who has been supplying him, he will likely apply to the grocery store where he may be supplied with a mixed article at a less price, and also correspondingly inferior in quality, though it may, after a time, give partial satisfaction. The result will be that the next time the honest producer wishes to sell that customer more honey, he will expect to furnish it at very nearly "store prices," for a superior article. To avoid such an unfortunate condition of things, I would always have honey on hand, even if it be necessary to get it from a bee-keeper at a distance, but always being assured of his honesty and reliability.

I am sure that the home market for honey has undreamed of possibilities for successful development, and the wideawake, progressive twentieth century honey-producers will find it a veritable gold-mine in exchange for their pure, golden honey—nectar fit for the gods, and hungry humanity's best food and medicine.

GEORGE W. YORK.

Chicago, Ill.

THE BEE-KEEPERS' PARLIAMENT.

Comb Honey.

BEE-KEEPER'S PARLIAMENT FOR AUGUST.

Suppose your comb honey is yet on the hive, there is just where I keep it until I am ready to dispose of it. My reasons are the bees ripen it much better on the hive than I can in the honey house and protect it better from the moths and ants. When turning up I take note of those colonies that propolize the least: those are the ones I pile the completed supers on from ten to fifteen a hive or as high as my house will admit. I take the honey from all best bees honey and I do not use any bee-escapes or smoke to spoil my comb honey. Here it is left until a day or two before crating. The honey for home use is never taken from

the hive only as wanted for the table and we use honey one and two years old. Artificial ripening of honey is detrimental to the production of a first-class article. When crating, the supers are placed on the racks in the honey house 12 inches apart so that the next tiers of supers directly over the vacant space and so on as high as I wish generally from 50 to 100 at a time. The side of the house is of wire screen with an opening at the top, generally it is only a few moments until the bees have left the supers and we can begin scraping sections

JOHN COLLINS.

July 2nd, 1894.

Elsinore Cal.

AWARDS AT THE WESTERN FAIR, LONDON.

Honey and Apiary Department.

The Ontario Beekeepers' Association have kindly donated \$10 towards honey sections.

Honey, best display of comb and extracted, and wax, etc., arranged in the most attractive manner, the product of the exhibitor, 1, John Newton, Thamesford; 2, Byron Aches, Poplar Hill; 3, Wm. Coleman, Birr.

Honey, display comb in most marketable shape, product of one apiarist in 1894, 200 lbs., 1, John Newton, Thamesford; 2, Byron Aches, Poplar Hill; 3, Wm. Coleman, Birr.

Honey, display and quality extracted, in most marketable shape, product of one apiarist in 1894, 200 lbs., 1, Byron Aches, Poplar Hill; 2, John Newton, Thamesford; 3, Wm. Coleman, Birr.

Honey, comb, 20 lbs., quality to govern 1, Wm. Coleman, Birr; 2, Byron Aches, Poplar Hill; 3, John Newton, Thamesford

Honey, extracted, 40 lbs., in glass, quality to govern, 1, Byron Aches, Poplar Hill; 2, John Newton, Thamesford; 3, Wm. Coleman, Birr.

Honey, best granulated, in glass, 20 lbs., 1, Wm. Goodger & Son, Woodstock; 2, Byron Aches, Poplar Hill; 3, John Newton, Thamesford.

Honey, crate comb, 20 lbs., in best shape for shipping and retailing, 1, John Newton, Thamesford; Byron Aches, Poplar Hill; 1, Wm. Goodger & Son, Woodstock.

Display of Queens, to be put up in such shape as to be readily seen by visitors, 1, Byron Aches, Poplar Hill; 2, John Newton, Thamesford.

Beeswax, 10 lbs., 1, John Newton, Thamesford; 2, Wm. Coleman, Birr; 3, Wm. A. Chrysler, Chatham.

Comb foundation for surplus honey, 1, John Newton, Thamesford; 2, Wm. A. Chrysler, Chatham; 3, Wm. Coleman, Birr.

Comb foundation for brood chambers, 1, W. A. Chrysler, Chatham; 2, John Newton, Thamesford; 3, Wm. Coleman, Birr.

Honey vinegar, 2 gallons, 1, Byron Aches, Poplar Hill; 2, Wm. Coleman, Birr; 3, Mr. John Rudd, South London.

Display of Apiarian supplies, and appliances, Mrs. John Rudd, London.

FIRST STEPS IN.....BEE-KEEPING.

KEEPING EVERLASTINGLY AT IT
BRINGS SUCCESS.

QUESTIONS SENT IN BEARING UPON FIRST STEPS
IN BEE-KEEPING WILL BE ANSWERED IN THIS
DEPARTMENT BY THE EDITOR.

October has been a beautiful month and has given every opportunity to bee-keepers to get their bees in proper shape for winter. Some have been foolish enough to be careless about preparing bees for winter. They argue that bees have not paid very well this year and they will not spend any more money and time with their bees. Such a decision is of course foolish, if you do not care to keep the bees any longer, do not destroy them or allow them to consume some honey during the early portion of winter only to perish of starvation before spring. Destroy them now, or keep all of them for winter and sell them in the spring of the year. Some who have prepared their bees may be inclined to say, "Let the bees perish if it is the owner's desire; it will make the prospects for the survivors the better," but we do not think this, and would urge everyone to care for their bees. The next season may be one of the best ever known.

If the bees have been neglected, they can yet be saved. Take granulated sugar and add enough water to melt the sugar by heating. Put in your water first and when boiling add the sugar in a pan; line the pan with paper and on the paper pour the hot syrup. A cake one and one-half or two inches thick is about right. Owing to the paper between the pan and sugar, the cake drops out readily, when it can be placed over the frames, this will answer very well in case of emergency. The cloth goes over and then the packing. If outside wintering is intended, bees should be packed before this. If the bees are to be wintered indoors, the

question may be asked, when shall they be taken in? The date is as hard to fix as it is to give you the date upon which to put on your overcoat and mitts. It depends upon the weather. Put in your bees as soon after you think they have had their last flight as possible. When they will have no more flights, they are better inside. Carry your bees very quietly; it should not be necessary to close the entrance. Instructions have already been given in recent numbers of THE CANADIAN JOURNAL as to how to place the hives in the cellar. Disturb the bees as little as possible. Last year our bees were placed in winter quarters along about Nov. 23rd. It is not likely there will be much variation from this.

QUESTION.

I have an order for extracted honey in liquid state. Some of mine is granulated in glass and some in a can. Will you kindly let me know if it will injure honey to heat it. If sealed while hot, how long before it will candy again, and how hot should it be made.

ANSWER.

If honey is carefully heated after granulating it will not injure the flavor any. A convenient way to liquify honey in glass is to unscrew the tops, take a vessel with a flat bottom and put it upon the back of the stove with sufficient water to nearly immerse the shortest vessel. When all are in place, a board should be put between the bottom of the vessel and the jars. Heat gently and never allow the water to come to a boil. I believe the honey is decidedly more liable to scorch if heated when sealed, but when removed from the stove, sealing immediately will be likely to keep liquid much longer. With honey in tin, all the above applies. Some have attempted to explain why honey granulates and the process,—the "Why and the Wherefore"—but I have yet to see a satisfactory and full explanation of the granulation of honey. Why, it granulates in certain cases and not at all in others, and so forth.

Some of the Coming Items of Interest

Amongst other items of interest the next number of the CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL will contain articles by Wm. McEvoy, subject, The Result of Caring for or Neglecting bees in Spring; Chr. F. Muth & Sons, Sales of Honey (the sole ship-ment of 187 barrels). How it is Done.

I note with pleasure the great improvement in the Canadian Bee Journal. I hope your efforts may be rewarded.

Clapperton, Ont. F. C. MATTHEWS.



Strictly Business

Not having inflicted anything upon the long-suffering and patient readers for two months, I will have a little something to say this month on "Strictly business" matters.

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It takes \$\$\$\$ to make most things go and the C. B. J. is no exception to the rule. We are sparing no reasonable expense to make it attractive and helpful and request our friends whose subscriptions have not been renewed to send in their dollars very promptly. Who will be the first to respond?

.

The premium offers for renewals, made within one month after the subscription falls due, are still in force. We send either a fire mat or a portfolio as may be chosen. We will also give either a cash premium or both a fire mat and a portfolio for a new subscriber and the Journal will be sent until December 1895, or 15 months for \$1. (For new subscribers only.) You can do your friends a good turn, can help us and get a commission or premium yourself by inducing one or more to become readers. We will gladly send sample copies if you ask for them.

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Subscriptions to the above papers can be credited from whatever date you wish, but in case the papers we club with the subscription must not be in arrears. As nearly every reader can subscribe for one or more of the above papers to advantage, the above is a rare opportunity of securing the CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL at a very low price. To any one in Canada sending us three new subscribers to the CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL at one dollar each per year, we will send, post paid, one of our new \$1.00 smokers.

For the first time in his literary career Jerome K. Jerome is about to write directly for an American audience. This work consists of a series of papers similar in vein to his "Idle Thoughts of an Idle Fellow," but addressed to American girls and women. The articles will begin shortly in *The Ladies' Home Journal*, which periodical will print the entire series.

Mrs. Partington, a pious old lady, happened in at a Christian Endeavour meeting. She was much impressed by the young people's earnestness, and especially pleased with the singing. She said: "Oh, I do love to hear 'em sing! They sing with such venom!—Utica Observer.

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CONVENTION PHOTOGRAPHS.

The members of the St. Joseph Convention gathered upon the Court House steps and were photographed in a body. The size of the picture is 8x10 inches, and is excellent for a group of this character. There is not a face that would not be instantly recognized. Each person wears a number, and most of the numbers show, and a printed list accompanying the picture gives both the names and the numbers. If you would like a look at the leading bee-keepers of the country, particularly those of the West; also to see seven editors all standing in a line, send 75 cents, and the picture will be sent securely packed, postage paid, and if you are not ENTIRELY SATISFIED with it you may send it back, and the money will be refunded. For \$1.50 this picture will be furnished, and THE REVIEW sent from now to the end of 1895.

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