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THE CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL.

"The Greatest Possible Good to the Greatest Possible Number."

Vol. VIII, No. 21.

BEETON, ONT., FEBRUARY 1 1893.

WHOLE No. 530



WILLIAM COUSE.
STREETSVILLE.

The subject of this sketch was born in the village of Belwood, in the county of Wellington, Ontario, in Feb., 1859. His father was also born in Ontario, and was of Pennsylvania Dutch descent. On the maternal side Mr. Couse is of Irish extraction. His mother was born in Lower Canada, her parents having settled there at an early period of its history, on their arrival from the north of Ireland. He lived with his parents till he attained his majority, working on the farm in summer and attending the village school in winter. In the spring of 1879 he repaired to Beeton and put himself under the able instruction

of D. A. Jones, with the view of perfecting himself in apicultural knowledge. Here he remained during the summer, returning to the parental home in the fall, where he spent the winter at school. The following spring he returned to Beeton, where he remained that and the succeeding year, working in Mr. Jones' beeyard in the summer and renting and running the Beeton skating rink in winter.

Next year Dr. Thorm, of Streetsville, his brother-in-law, (then a prominent bee-keeper, and president of the O. B. A.) entered into an agreement with him to run his apiary on shares, Mr. Couse getting two-fifths of the honey and one half of the increase. That year the honey crop was a failure. When he had comfortably housed the bees for winter, he went to Galt and undertook the outside work in connection with the flour mill there. Most of the time he was engaged in weighing wheat, and looking after the shipping of flour. In the spring he returned to Streetsville and resumed his former connection with Dr. Thorm, under their old agreement. This turned out a prosperous and profitable season for both partners, resulting in two hundred pounds of honey per colony, and one hundred per cent. increase. On winding up the business of that year he repaired to Toronto and spent the winter attending the Commercial Business College, after which he returned and established an out apiary at Meadowville, himself remaining in Streetsville, engaging a competent man to manage the Meadowville yard. At the close of this season he went back to

Toronto and resumed his college studies and completed the course.

In the spring of 1886 he started on his own account at Meadowville, and had a fair season, putting one hundred and twenty five colonies into the cellar. Mr. Couse was in high spirits. The prospect was bright and he set about maturing his plans for the following season. But Mr. Couse soon realized that "the best laid schemes o' mice, and men gang aft a-glee, and leave us naught but grief and pain for promised joy." A fire originating in the building in which his bees were housed, the entire one hundred and twenty-five colonies went up in the flames.

When his brother beekeepers learned of the disaster that befell him, a scheme was set on foot to repair his loss. A number of them agreed to send him sufficient colonies in the spring to take the place of those destroyed by fire. But Mr. Couse is not the man to put himself under an obligation to his fellows if he can help it. Having heard what was being done, he gratefully but firmly declined any assistance whatever, as he had enough money in the bank to start anew. That spring he bought forty colonies from Mr. Emigh, which increased to one hundred the same season. From then till now Mr. Couse's experience has been that of his fellow beekeepers. Now encouraged by success, and anon disheartened by deferred hopes.

In 1885 Mr. Couse was appointed secretary of the O.B.A., a position which he held with credit to himself and satisfaction to all concerned, till he resigned at their last meeting. He was elected a director for his district in 1898, and is still a member of the Board.

Mr. Couse is active in promoting the best interests of the community where he lives. He is president of the Mechanical Institute. During the winter months he employs his time in buying grain on commission for one of the largest dealers in the country. He is a man of fine presence, genial in his manner, and most obliging in his disposition.

Why is the letter "B" like a hot fire?—
Because it makes oil Boil.

ONTARIO BEEKEEPERS' ASSOCIATION.

DIRECTORS' MEETING.

A meeting of the Directors of the Ontario Beekeepers' Association was held at Walkerton, Ont., on Tuesday, January 10, 1898. Present:—F. A. Gemmill, President; A. Picket, vice-President; W. J. Brown, J. K. Darling, M. B. Holmes, S. Corneil, W. Couse, R. McKnight, F. A. Rose, J. B. Hall, E. A. Jones, D. Chalmers and J. B. Aches.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

Moved by W. J. Brown, seconded by D. Chalmers, that the expenses of the Foul Brood Inspector, incurred in attending the annual meetings, be paid by the association.—Carried.

On motion the following accounts were ordered to be paid, viz.:—Beeton Publishing Co., \$24.50 W. Couse, salary and disbursements, \$67; M. Emigh, salary, \$25.

Moved by J. B. Hall, seconded by J. B. Aches, that the Treasurer be paid his travelling expenses incurred in attending the annual meetings.—Carried.

On motion of Mr. Picket, seconded by W. J. Brown, it was ordered that the auditors be paid \$2 each.

It was moved, seconded and carried, that the accounts of the Directors for disbursements in attending the meeting be paid.

Mr. S. Corneil expressed the opinion that, in order to furnish the members of the association with data as to the progress made from year to year in exterminating foul brood, reports more in detail should be required from the Inspector, and that there is no good reason for keeping cases of the disease secret known only to the Inspector and President, any more than there is for covering up cases of glanders, pneumonia, or hog cholera, among live stock. After some conversation on the subject the following motion was put to the meeting and carried:—

Moved by S. Corneil, seconded by J. B.

Aches, that in the opinion of this Board it is desirable that the report of the Foul Brood Inspector should include the names, locations and P.O. addresses of the owners of apiaries visited, and the condition of those apiaries as to foul brood at the time of the Inspector's visits.

Some further conversation having taken place as to the liability of perpetuating the disease of foul brood by the Inspector carrying the contagion from one yard to another, in the same way that small pox and other infectious diseases may be spread by physicians unless they disinfect their persons, it was moved by J. K. Darling, and seconded by E. A. Jones, that the President instruct the Inspector to disinfect his person, as required by statute, after inspecting foul brood apiaries.—Carried.

The meeting was then adjourned to convene again at the call of the President.

MEETING OF THE ASSOCIATION.

The Thirteenth Annual Meeting of the O.B.K.A. was held in the chamber of the county council, Walkerton, on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, 10th, 11th and 12th instant. A large attendance of members was present, among whom were: F. A. Gemmell, Stratford, president; W. Couse, Streetsville, secretary; R. McKnight, Owen Sound; G. T. Somers, editor CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL, Beeton; Martin Emigh, Holbrook; S. Corneil, Lindsey; J. B. Hall, Woodstock; W. McEvoy, Woodburn; J. E. Aches, Poplar Hill; S. T. Petit, Belmont; Dr. Duncan, Embro; D. Chalmers, Pool; W.H. John Myers, Stratford; W. J. Brown, Chard; F. A. Roe, Belmore; J. K. Darling, Elmont; E. A. Jones, Kertch; J. Alpaugh, St. Thomas; A. Picket, Nassagawaya; W. A. Chrysler, Chatham; C. Edmonson, Brantford; Aaron Shantz, Hayesville and A. E. Sherrington, Archie Tolton, F. X. Ernst, Abraham Rowand, John Harkley and Andrew Rowand all of Walkerton.

President Gemmell having taken the

chair, the reading of the minutes of the last meeting was proceeded with, after which Mayor Klein was introduced, and expressed his pleasure in welcoming to Walkerton the Ontario Beekeeper's Association.

A vote of thanks to his worship, the Mayor, having been passed, it was moved by J. B. Hall, seconded by S. T. Pettit, that each person sending extracted honey to Chicago be requested to send a part of it granulated and in glass.—Carried.

Moved by S. T. Pettit, seconded by M. B. Holmes, that the term *linden*, instead of *basswood*, be used for naming honey when exhibited at Chicago.

The Treasurer, M. Emigh, read his report, showing a balance on hand of \$2.08. The Secretary also read his report showing amount of fees collected and paid to the Treasurer.

It was then moved, seconded and resolved, that the reports of the Secretary and Treasurer be adopted as presented, except that the report of the Treasurer show membership fees, \$231, and affiliation fees, \$50, instead of fees, \$281.

The meeting then adjourned till 7.30 p.m.

EVENING SESSION.

On the meeting being called to order at 7.30 p.m., the President read his address relating to the business of the association and other matters, which caused some discussion. The following is the text of the President's address:—

THE PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS.

The president's address, as a matter of course, is a thing that is looked for at all, or nearly all, organized association meetings. True, their general make up differs widely, in many instances does not embrace all that properly belongs to such an address; and this being my initial one, will doubtless be found no exception to the above. Therefore, I trust any apparent inconsistencies or flagrant omissions may be received with due consideration. While regretting the small representation of ladies present, I am, nevertheless, gratified at the large number of apiarists here assembled. This, however, was what I expected, as I know from past experience

that Bruce and its adjoining counties contain many enthusiastic and enterprising beekeepers. Having resided within a few miles of Walkerton, its county town, for about ten years, I know whereof I speak.

It has, nevertheless, occurred to me that the suggestion made by myself some little time since, to the effect that advertising in the local papers, as well as in the CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL, has helped in a measure to bring out some who had no other means of knowing the date of such meeting. In



F. A. GEMMELL.

fact, it appears to me, our past gatherings have lacked numbers, and consequently suffered from want of enthusiasm on this very account.

Having said this much by way of introduction, I will pass on to some of the more important matters my address is supposed to touch upon in connection with the pursuit. Therefore, I may state it has been quite a bonanza to myself as well as to a large majority of beekeepers especially in the western portion of the Province, that, notwithstanding our grave fears of another poor season, on account of the late backward spring, our hives have been more than realized in having a crop above the average; and indeed in some of the more favored localities, we have had about the

best season ever remembered, thereby to some extent reassuring those who have of late been concluding that successful apiculture was going to become - what we soon hope to see the McKinley bill, - a thing of the past.

I must confess, however, that in numerous instances difficulties have presented themselves, and it did really seem to me that the honey producer of the future was not only to be a great lover of his calling, but, in addition, one who must be possessed of considerable resolution and perseverance to continue it, as no sooner has one obstacle been disposed of than others have presented themselves. Hence, after securing the much needed legislation in regard to foul brood, the spraying of fruit trees, etc., we now stand face to face with others. Yes, plain sailing, it appears, does not yet seem to be our good fortune, and our united efforts must still continue the good work of suggesting the best means with which to deal with poor prices, the expected honey misrepresentation, and lastly, the most serious of all, the comb sugar honey fraud.

Now, gentlemen, it is not my intention to enlarge upon these topics here. These I shall leave for other and wiser heads to wrestle with; suffice it to say, for the present, that in regard to the first, I think many of the beekeepers are in a great measure to blame for the present state of affairs, the result principally of too great anxiety to dispose of the crop in the early part of the season, under the impression that it will be a drug on the market. An instance has been brought under my notice in which a producer disposed of several thousand pounds of A 1 extracted honey at about five and a half cents per pound, and a quantity of the dark article at a trifle over one and a half cents per pound. As to the remedy in such cases, it is rather difficult to suggest one; at the same time, I think, the suggestion made by Mr. Holtermann that honey should by some means be quoted regularly in the market reports, the same as butter, eggs and other products, and thus brought constantly and more prominently before the public.

The adulterated extracted honey misrepresentation, which rather unfortunately has crept into one of our most widely circulated family newspapers, through the rather indiscreet article furnished by my friend, Prof. Clarke, over the *nom de plume* of Firehimbak, is one that seemed of such a serious character that I cannot pass it unnoticed, believing as I do that little of any such is sold in Canada, and this certainly not by producers, the low price of the article not favoring such a practice

The last grievance already mentioned, viz., the sugar comb honey fraud, had its origin in the neighboring republic of Uncle Sam, and first saw the light of day in the *Review*, published at Flint, Mich., by Mr. W. Z. Hutchinson: but as this gentleman is present with us, I shall not attempt any explanation in regard to it, knowing all will be pleased to more fully learn his views and assist in devising a remedy. As I understand, no one is more anxious than himself to see it corrected, I will, under the circumstances, only add, that I regret its appearance at present, in the hope that a return of good crops would have silenced forever such a proposition or suggestion, and further, that many of the local or county associations have deemed all of the matters referred to of such vital importance to the welfare of our fast growing industry as to pass resolutions and appoint delegates to bring them prominently before this association with a view of securing such stringent legislation as may be thought beneficial and advisable in order to prohibit the production, manufacture, importation, or sale of any or all of them. Among the local associations I might mention Oxford county, which I believe took the first step, as it generally does in such matters, followed by Perth, Listowel, and Middlesex. There were no doubt others; but I mention these particularly on account of having attended all of them. Whatever action therefore is taken, if any, it seems to me that it would appear with much better grace coming from the beekeepers themselves at a time when such reports are in their infancy, instead of waiting until the public look so distrustfully on us that we, as a last resort and possibly when too late, commence doing what should have been done before.

As this paper is now considerably longer than I at first anticipated it would be, I will, in as brief a manner as possible, touch on a few other subjects. As, however, I am not certain that the matter of affiliation with the North American Association will be discussed at this meeting, I am prompted in the event of its being so, to say that I hope, after all has been said and done, we will, as Canadian beekeepers, as far as possible, dispense with any personal feelings and continue our fraternal good will towards our American brothers, to many of whom we owe much of our knowledge of apiculture. As I know from conversation with some of the officers that the desire is prevalent in so far as they are concerned that any barrier at present existing between us may be removed, I trust this condition may soon be brought about.

As to the very important matter of sending our honey to Chicago, it would be almost out of place on my part to say anything thereon, as most of you, if not all, are already aware that Mr. Allen Pringle, late president of this association, has been appointed to that charge and will give you all the necessary information. No one I am sure, could be more fitted for the position, consequently I will say nothing more concerning him or his work.

I suppose it would on the other hand, look a little irregular were I not, before concluding, to refer to what has been done respecting foul brood as most of you are doubtless aware of the great interest I have always taken in regard to it from its first agitation until the present time. I may, therefore, here mention, that at the request of Mr. H. Hermann, who is the secretary of the Ontario Agricultural and Experimental Union, I, in company with Mr. William McEvoy, our efficient foul brood inspector, and Mr. Abner Pickett, the vice-president of this association, attended a meeting at Guelph Agricultural College on the 22nd December last in order to hear a paper by Prof. McKnight of Toronto on this plague, from a scientific standpoint, and am therefore pleased to be able to inform you that while the professor and Mr. McEvoy may not agree as to its origin, still so little difference exists regarding it otherwise that I conclude I am quite safe in saying that our inspector is to all intents and purposes sufficiently scientific to treat the disease in a practical and successful manner, and more effectively than anyone else has yet done. I learn also that Prof. McKenzie intends, during the coming season of 1893, to still further carry on other experiments of importance to the pursuit, and these will also be given the public in due course. I need add nothing more than to say that unless my worthy predecessor, Mr. Pringle, who was not only amazed at the extent of the disease, I, on the other hand, was prepared for all, yea, even more, than it has been the duty of the committee to reveal; and in this, I regret to say, I have not been disappointed. I therefore need only further assure you that Mr. McEvoy has done efficient work during the past season, and I trust our hopes may soon be realized in that I little, if any, of the scourge may be found a menace to the pursuit, which, when compared with all the other evils, surpasses them all.

While thanking those who were kind enough to place me in the position I now occupy, I may say that I have endeavored to honestly carry out the duties entrusted to me, and especially in regard to faith-

tully instructing the inspector when and where to proceed on his duties, a thing by the way I think my predecessor knows is not so easily and satisfactorily done in all cases. Finally, should this paper prove of value in assisting those present in overcoming some of the difficulties referred to. I shall feel amply repaid for the attention you have given me, and will only add that I trust you may all have a prosperous season during the coming summer of 1893.

F. A. GEMMELL.

Mr. McEvoy read a paper on "How I prepare my Bees for Winter, and care for them in Spring."

The discussion on the ever interesting subjects of wintering and springing bees lasted till the time for adjournment.

HOW I PREPARE BEES FOR WINTER, AND CARE FOR THEM IN SPRING."

BY WILLIAM MCEVOY.

With me, the most and most important part of the work is done in the honey season. I keep every colony very strong in bees, and some days before the honey season closes, I stop taking honey, so as to have the combs in the top storeys sealed over nicely for winter stores. Then, about the first of October, I remove the top storeys with their sealed combs to a room arranged for the purpose. I then remove the combs out of every brood chamber and then bring out the sealed combs that I took out of the top storeys, and place six of them in each brood chamber, with division boards on each side of them. Then, about the middle of October, I pack each colony in a winter case on the summer stand, with four inches of leaves on each side, and six inches on top. Before packing, I put in a bridge which has an entrance in it three-eighths scant by three inches, and I never let the entrance get blocked up with snow in winter. When packing, I always take the covers off the brood chambers and put the leaves on the cloth that covers the frames, and then place the lid or cover of the hive on top of the leaves. By having the leaves between the bees and hive lids, the heat will be kept in, all dampness will escape, and then the brood chambers will be kept dry at all times. In warm evenings in spring I take out the division boards and give each colony its full set of combs. The combs that I put in in spring will have more or less honey in them. I then let every colony alone until the fruit bloom is over, unless the weather has been unfavorable during fruit bloom. Between fruit bloom

and clover I see that there is plenty of unsealed honey in the combs; if not, I feed in the evenings until there is, because the larva is never as well fed when all the unsealed stores are used up. In favorable weather the bees will gather abundance from fruit bloom and dandelions to feed the brood well and keep a large quantity of unsealed honey on hand. Then, right in the middle of it all, we sometimes get a frost followed by rainy weather, which cuts off the honey flow so suddenly that the bees have to use up the unsealed stores at once to feed the larva. Then, when the unsealed is used up and no honey coming in, and with a large quantity of larva to feed, the bees will not at such times uncup the sealed stores fast enough to keep pace with the large amount of larva that needs feeding. Then, if the weather keeps backward after that, so that the bees get little or no honey, they will begin to drag out some of the larva; and a little later on we will find dead brood (starved brood). The larva that is lost at such times is the very life blood of the honey business. I always save over plenty of honey in the combs for spring, and then, between fruit bloom and clover, if the season is unfavorable, I go to work in the evenings and fairly boom the colonies. I do not disturb or feed any colonies in early spring. About the first of June I unpack my bees and store the leaves away in a building until the fall. After the packing is taken out, I raise the winter case up half an inch in front, and then keep these winter cases on all summer to shade the colonies from the great heat that we sometimes get from the sun in summer. I have wintered all my bees in these cases since 1875, with the exception of some colonies that I put in a good cellar to test which was the best place to winter. I prize the winter cases very much, as they are very valuable for guarding the bees against the winter frosts and summer sun. With strong colonies crowded on six combs of early, well ripened sealed stores of the best quality, and well packed with leaves on the summer stands, I can bring all colonies into spring becoming in bees, unless some one gets queenless.

Wm. McEvoy.

Woodburn, Jan. 6th, 1893.

SECOND DAY.

The president called the meeting to order at 9 a.m., there being about fifty beekeepers present.

The matter of the reports of affiliated societies was discussed, the reports received not being satisfactory.

Moved by J. E. Frith, seconded by J. B. Hall, that the Secretary of this association get up blank forms for the affiliated societies to report their finances upon, and that the forms for general report have two columns added, so that there can be a report of how many colonies put into winter quarters, and how wintered.—Carried.

Mr. J. K. Darling read his paper, "Why is it?" bringing out many interesting points, and causing a profitable discussion.

WHY IS IT?

By J. K. DARLING.

Mr. President, ladies and gentlemen:—When requested by the Secretary to prepare a paper for this meeting I did not know what to say in reply. My experience is not sufficient to warrant me in choosing a subject relating to apiculture and treating it as it ought to be treated. I thought I could not do better than note a few of the difficulties that I have met from time to time, some of which I have partly well overcome, while others remain as obstinate as ever. The object of this paper is not to show what little I know about beekeeping, but rather to string together a few of the difficulties that are more or less annoying to the majority of beekeepers, especially those who have not had experience enough to help themselves over these sand bars in the stream they have decided to float upon. I say "help themselves," for it is when a man is not able to help himself and has to depend on the information he gets from the books and periodicals devoted to apiculture, that his real troubles begin.

Why is it that the instruction given in this manner so often proves partially if not wholly useless to the novice who is trying to carve his way as a beekeeper?

Why is it that men like E. R. France aver that they can reduce swarming to a minimum and obtain large crops of honey by caging or removing the queen for a time during the honey flow? Whilst, if this plan was tried on by a novice, nine times out of ten he would have not only no swarms, but also a lot of sulky bees that would do nothing for him or themselves either, and would ball their queen when returned or when let loose if she had been caged on top of the frames.

Why is it that others, like G. M. Doolittle (a very great misnomer, I think), declare that there is no way that they can get as good crops as by natural swarming? Yet, if a novice tries to follow their plan, he would be likely to have more swarms than honey.

Why is it that the majority of writers advise keeping the queens doing their level best?—Professor Cook going so far as to advise having laying queens ready to put in a hive after it has swarmed, so that no time be lost, while the experience of a great number of beekeepers shows that a larger quantity of honey is stored when there is no brood to feed for ten to fifteen days, than there is when the colony is kept raising bees that may be good for nothing except to consume the stores that have been laid up for winter use.

Why is it that some of those very prolific queens sometimes prove to be the poorest stock a man has in his yard?

I remember one such case in my own yard some years since. There was one colony,—a prime swarm,—that pleased me very much; *always at it*, and when I would lift the sheet off the frames everything appeared lovely. In a short time I began extracting, and took a lot of honey from other colonies; but when I came to my favorite, what did I find? Twelve "Jones" frames solid with brood, with a little honey along the top bar; not ten pounds of honey in the hive. Everything was converted into brood, and that in July, when it was not wanted in anything like that quantity.

Why is it that some writers will tell you to "crowd" the bees below in order to drive them into the sections (is this not the advice generally given to the inexperienced)? And yet, if the "crowding" is done by some other than the writers, they swarm,—that is, the bees swarm and not the writers, and the game is up. While at the same time these very writers, if asked how to prevent swarming, would say, "Give plenty of room."

Will the veterans stand up and be catechised on this point for the benefit of the order?

Why is it that some men claim to make a success of hiving on starters, and allowing the bees to build their own combs, and advise others to do the same, while nine out of ten would have their brood nests filled with drone comb and their colonies ruined?

Why is it that tiering up is practised successfully by a great many beekeepers, and yet there are hundreds who cannot induce their bees to do anything above the brood nest; at least a majority of their colonies prefer cooling themselves on the piazza instead of filling the vacancy above their sleeping apartments?

Why is it that some can manage to get fine sections without queen excluders, while the majority of us would have brood and pollen in the sections, *galore*, unless we confined her majesty in her proper quarters?

In short, Why is it that so much of the

instruction given is not plain enough to be grasped by the mind of the average amateur or novice, and turned to practical account at once?

It may be that the object for which we are working makes a difference, and the advice that would be suitable at one time would not do for another. If that is so, why is it that the different results are not stated?

I do not wish to intimate that the statements are not correct, far from it. I believe they are not only correct, but in nearly every case the advice is given with a desire to help, and I cannot understand it unless there is a lack somewhere,—some trifling act overlooked or some little preparation forgotten. And yet on these very little things has hinged the success or failure of the experiment.

For instance, one of our best writers has taken for his motto "Keep all colonies strong." Very good,—extremely so in the honey season—and still it would be quite interesting to know how many of us have found that very strong colonies are not the best for wintering.

Again, there are some supply dealers who do a very good business in foundation mills, and give instructions to their customers how to handle their wax. All very good as far as it goes: but if the purchaser tries to do his work in a comfortable room he will be ready to return the machine, and sell his wax for anything he can get, until he finds out that all instructions are useless unless carried out in a room where the thermometer registers somewhere from 98° to 110°.

Now, Mr. President, and bee-keeping friends, I leave this with you. If this paper should prompt questions and draw out answers that will throw light on some of the difficulties above mentioned, and help some of us over the sand banks into smooth water I shall be satisfied. It will then have accomplished the purpose for which it was written.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

At the afternoon meeting it was moved by W. McEvoy, seconded by Dr. Duncan, that the questions in Mr. Darling's paper be handed to the editor of the C.B.J., and that he be requested to send them out to prominent beekeepers, and have their replies published.

A question drawer was opened, and the questions discussed for some time.

Mr. McEvoy, Foul Brood Inspector read his report.

Moved by R. McKnight, seconded by J. B. Hall, that the Inspector's report be

adopted and filed, and engrossed in the minutes.

SYNOPSIS OF INSPECTOR'S REPORT.

According to the Inspector's report, operations were begun on the 11th May, and finished on the 4th November. During the season one hundred and eighty-four apiaries were visited in the counties of Essex, Kent, Huddersfield, Wentworth, Oxford, Middlesex, Lambton, Perth, Waterloo, Wellington, Hamilton, York, Hastings and Lanark, and in the cities of Hamilton, Guelph, Stratford and London. In these places, he thinks, there were not less than one thousand cases of foul brood. In one locality he found an apiary of fifteen colonies badly diseased, and the colonies built every way, so that they could not be moved. There he got a good beekeeper to buy up and cure. He found a strong desire among beekeepers in almost every locality to get rid of the disease, and when he was appointed Inspector he fully expected to get every foul brood colony cured without burning a single hive. Those with whom he had the greatest difficulty were individuals owning but a few colonies, and who had consequently but little at stake. The burning of a few diseased colonies, thus owned, would be of comparatively little consequence compared with the injury inflicted upon large and important apiaries by infection. A case of this kind occurred at Woodstock, where Mr. Coventry had a large and very fine apiary which cost him a good deal of money. One of this gentleman's neighbors bought a few colonies of bees that were affected with foul brood, and placed them in the neighborhood of Mr. Coventry's apiary. The few foul brood colonies soon died. Then Mr. Coventry's bees robbed the foul brood hives and got the disease. Mr. Coventry was very busy at the time, and having a dread lest the disease should spread through the whole apiary, he had twenty-two colonies that were affected by it burned up. I was sorry to hear this, for the reason that all these colonies might have been cured. In most foul brood localities which I visited, the beekeepers having foul brood in their apiaries complained bitterly against others having foul brood colonies which their bees had robbed, and so got the disease. In some localities the feeling ran very high on account of the heavy losses which had occurred from the disease. I am glad to say that things have now assumed a much better aspect, and that bee-yards that were once very foul are now in fine condition. I burned one colony in Woodstock, seven in Stratford, and three in the county of York, between Newmarket and Aurora.

Woodburn, Jan 9th. 1893.

Moved by S. T. Pettit, seconded by J. K. Darling, that, whereas applying the names "honey" or "sugar honey" to sugar syrup fed to bees, and stored by them in combs, and the production or sale thereof, is fraud upon the people and injurious to the bee-keeping industry, by injuring the sale of honey in our own markets, and in the markets of the world, therefore to it resolved by the Ontario Beekeeper's Association, now in convention assembled, that it is expedient, through the influence of the beekeepers of Canada, to secure such legislation as will prohibit the importation, production and sale of the fraudulent article called sugar honey, in Canada.—Carried.

Moved by Mr. Sherrington, seconded by Wm. McEvoy, that Messrs. Pettit, Frith and Darling be a committee to approach the Dominion Parliament to have such legislation as would be desirable.—Carried.

The election of officers resulted as follows:—

F. A. Gannell, re-elected, President.

A. Pickel, re-elected, Vice-President

DIRECTORS.—W. J. Brown, Chard P.O., district No. 1; J. K. Darling, Almonte P.O., district No. 2; M. B. Holmes, Athens P.O., district No. 3; A. Pringle Selby P.O., district No. 4; S. Corneil, Lindsay P.O., district No. 5; W. Couse, Streetsville P.O., district No. 6; D. Chalmers, Poole P.O., district No. 7; F. A. Rose, Balmoral P.O., district No. 8; J. B. Hall, Woodstock P.O., district No. 9; R. McKnight, Owen Sound P.O., district No. 10; Jno Myers, Stratford P.O., district No. 11; E. A. Jones, Kertch P.O., district No. 12; R. H. Smith, Bracebridge P.O., district No. 13.

FOUL BROOD INSPECTORS:—W. McEvoy, Inspector, Woodburn P.O.; S. Bray, sub-Inspector, Alliston P.O.

It was unanimously resolved that the next annual meeting be held at Lindsay.

R. F. Whiteside, Little Britain, and Thos. J. Webster, Oakwood, were appointed auditors.

The meeting adjourned till 7 30 p.m.

EVENING SESSION.

After the meeting was called to order the

Secretary read the report of the directors, which was adopted.

Mr. Corneil read his paper on Testing the Specific Gravity of Honey, and Selling Honey by Weight.

Mr. Clement, of Walkerton, being asked to address the meeting, responded at once in a very humorous style. His experience in beekeeping was delivered with all the assurance of one who had probably forgotten more about the subject than the other members of the convention had ever been advised of. He thought there was a great similarity between the operations of the miller and the beekeeper, both being devised in some particulars to cheat the public—in the case of the millers by mixing pea-meal etc., with their flour, and on that of the beekeepers by selling sugar for honey. Mr. Clement's remarks created a good deal of hearty laughter, and at their conclusion it was moved by J. B. Hall, and seconded by Wm. McEvoy, that Mr. Clement be a life member of the association, which was carried unanimously.

Questions from the question drawer engaged the attention of the meeting for some time.

Mr. Sinclair, M.P.P., of Walkerton, addressed the meeting, after which he received a hearty vote of thanks.

Meeting adjourned till 9 a.m. to-morrow.

THIRD DAY.

A communication from H. E. Hall, Toronto, advocating the repeal of the Foul Brood Act, was presented. After part of it was read it was moved by S. T. Pettit, seconded by J. K. Darling, that the communication be tabled for four years.—Carried.

On motion the President was appointed a delegate to the Industrial Exhibition Association, and J. B. Hall a delegate to the Western Fair Association.

Mr. McKnight was appointed as delegate to the Central Farmers' Institute.

Moved by R. McKnight, seconded by W. Couse, that Messrs. Corneil, Darling, Pringle and the mover, be a committee to ask the railway companies for better freight rates on honey. Carried.

Moved by E. A. Jones, seconded by M.

B. Holmes, that each member of the association receive THE CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL as a bonus for 1893. Carried.

The president, secretary, and J. B. Hall were appointed an executive committee.

Moved, seconded and carried, that the salaries of the secretary and treasurer be the same as last year, and until a change be desired. Carried.

After passing votes of thanks for the use of hall, etc., the meeting adjourned to meet again at Lindsay on the first Tuesday after the 8th January, 1894.

DIRECTORS' MEETING.

Members present: F. A. Gemmell, president; A. Picket, vice-president; directors, Brown, Darling, Holmes, Cornsil, Chalmers, Hall, Myers, Couse, Jones, Rose and McKnight.

Moved by W. Couse, seconded by J. B. Hall, that S. Cornsil be appointed secretary. Carried.

Moved by W. Couse, seconded by D. Chalmers, that M. Emigh be appointed treasurer. Carried.

Moved by A. Picket, seconded by R. McKnight, that the sum of \$200 be appropriated for distribution among the affiliated societies; no society to receive over \$20. Carried.

Moved by A. Picket, seconded by E. A. Jones, that the sum of \$25 be granted to the Toronto Industrial Exhibition Association, and the sum of \$10 to the Western Fair Association. Carried.

FOR THE CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL.

THE WALKERTON CONVENTION.

The Walkerton Convention was among the best of our Ontario meetings. The ranks were well filled up, but a few of our good men were conspicuous by their absence. We missed Pringle and Clarke who are moving influences wherever they are. The staid editor of the *Review* graced the meeting with his presence.—Hutchinson is a handsome man, and as sensible as he is good looking. He would pass for a Canadian anywhere. We hope to meet him at our future gatherings.

One of the features of the meeting was

the comparatively few papers read. A long array of such on the programme has a chilling effect rather than a stimulating one. The few read were well gotten up and to the point. The "Why is it" paper of Mr. Darling supplied food for thought and material for discussion for a whole session, and then it was not exhausted.

"How I Winter my Bees," by Mr. McEvoy, was also a good paper. The discussion that followed it brought out one of the marked characteristics of our bee keepers. It was clear that most of those who spoke to this paper had their own yards and their own methods in their minds' eyes, and did not get very far away from them. In some respects we are narrow and contracted in our notions. Man's mind should be like the sensitive plate in a camera, receiving the scattered rays of information thrown upon it through the lenses of judgment and discrimination, leaving a correct and symmetrical picture of the subject presented to them.

A breezy discussion followed the introduction of a resolution sent up from the Oxford Association for endorsement by the Ontario. It denounced the production and importation of Cook's Honey, and asked the beekeepers of Canada to unite as one man in crushing the hydra-headed monster before he is born. (His many headed majesty is said to consist of cane sugar, beet sugar, glucose, bug juice and black strap molasses). The weapon agreed upon for this purpose is an Act of Parliament, by which he is to be thrashed out of existence before he comes to life. If by any chance he should survive, he is to be met at the Customs House and be made crawl back into his lair.

The weather was cold, but the room was comfortable, and the meeting on the whole a warm, spicy, pleasant and fraternal one. May we have many such in future.

WHAT MR. CLEMENT THOUGHT OF IT.

Some witty press writer (we think it must be Mr. Clement, of Walkerton) gives the following review of the convention's accessories to the *Hanover Post*. Those who attended the Convention will not soon

forget the amusing remarks of our Walkerton friend, and the roars of laughter provoked by his *badinage*. We observe by the way he refers to the "bright young man" of the C.B.J. that he still cultivates his peculiar style of joking; but we expect to get even with him some of these fine days:—

Last week we had our town filled with the Bee Breeders' Association. They were all farmers and came here from all parts of Ontario and Michigan. I do not think our town ever had such a fine lot of intelligent looking gentlemen, some eighty or ninety in all. They held a three days session in our County Council chamber. The first day they came to Walkerton several farmers came in and wanted to know if our High Court was going on. I told them it was not, and they said they saw a half a dozen judges on the street and twenty or thirty fine looking lawyers from Toronto. What makes those bee men so much smarter-looking than the general run of our farmers? Is it because they have been run down and stung by their bees? No. All the farmers ought to make just such an appearance. To do so the first start is to get lots of good reading matter, newspapers and bee books: get your mind fed up on such, and I assure you ninety out of one hundred will have just as good an appearance on our streets as judges and lawyers. Of course we have some few farmers that are so very economical and dull they only purchase \$20 or \$30 worth of necessaries in a whole year, and in getting that much they try to beat the seller out of what little he is making. How niggardly they are, and how very easy it is to tell them when you meet them. Well, I am not getting along very fast with the bee men. While in our town they held a good many meetings. The editor of the BEE JOURNAL lives in Beeton, in the County of Simcoe. What a bright young man he is; his mark is made for lots of future useful and profitable business, and I am sure the Bee Association ought to be proud of him. Our local bee men are quite a lot; they compare well with those strangers, and I am sure they are doing as much in the honey enterprise; but what wisdom they exchanged with each other, and what a lasting benefit it will be to all! The next January meeting will be held in Lindsay. How our farmers are being woke up the last few years. The counties of Grey and Bruce compare well with the old parts of Ontario. Their cattle, sheep, pork, apples, grain and honey are to day feeding other nations. In time our Ontario will be loaded with gold and wealth.

FOR THE CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL.

LOCAL ASSOCIATIONS.

SIR,—If the gentleman in Alexandria, who sent the letter to brother Gouse of Streetsville, intimating his desire to form a local association in his locality, would give his wishes a reasonable share of publicity through the local press and otherwise, and name a day and place any time during the months of February or March next, and at the same time communicate with me, letting me know when and where he would propose to hold the meeting, he will find me there willing to help him in every possible way. He only expresses my desire to form a local beekeepers' association in this district (No. 7): and I have every confidence that a local association can be formed that will be second to none in Ontario. I would then urge on friend C. to strike when the iron is hot, and he will be surprised to see what a long pull, a strong pull and a pull altogether will do.

W. J. BROWN.

Chard, Ont., Jan. 20th, 1893.

FOR THE CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL.

CHOP STUFF.

They are now riding another hobby at Medina. It is a bicycle this time.

The southern beekeepers have been complaining that our bee literature is not always applicable in their climate. With the new departure, as recently incorporated in the A.B.J., their wants will now be supplied.

In England beekeepers are men of rank. It is not uncommon to notice, at the close of an article, that the writer signs his name with the addition of some such initials as F.R.S., F.G.S., or F.R.M.S. Then, too, we notice advertisements like the following:—"Extracted honey from the Right Hon. Lord Hentley's Bee Farm." Canadian beekeepers have no lords or knights in their midst; but they can now boast of having a "Rev. Professor." We hope the editor is not going to close

those biographical articles without giving us one of Uncle John F.; and be sure that the negative exactly represents him after dinner. He can write sense as well as nonsense.

The Gallup hive is a round board, the size of the hive, with a strip three by seven-eighths sawed from the under edges, in order to allow a frame, the exact size of the hive, which is rebated at the corners to fit in. This forms the hive cover, and its advocates claim for it superiority over all other covers in times of feeding. But if feeding has to be done, can it not be done equally as well by the use of a super or half storey, and thus do away with the extra expense and extra material in forming the cover. Not long ago certain writers in *Gleanings* advised a cover made of a single board a little larger than the hive, with strips about three inches wide, and a little longer than the width of the hive, with sawed kerfs in to allow them to fit into the end of the cover, and thus prevent it from warping. But the hot summer's sun proves to be stronger than the strips, consequently they split and the cover warps. Cleats nailed on either the top or bottom of a plain board is better than this, but even then they will warp.

I have come to the conclusion that there is no better cover than I now use. It is flat, and the exact size of the hive, with strips one half inch and two and a half inches nailed to the sides and ends, and rebated at the corners. It fits snugly over the hive, and prevents robbers from intruding from under the cover. The covers require not only to be robber proof, but to be water proof also. Even in the summer it is not pleasant to go to a hive after a heavy rain and find the propolis cloths covered with water; but in summer the dampness is not likely to result in any great disaster. As winter approaches, it is necessary that the beehives and combs be dry. I have noticed many using covers made of two narrow pieces of board with strips of tin nailed over the joint; but water will even soak under this. It may be a

little more expensive to purchase covers wide enough to fit over a hive, but the extra cost will be money spent in the right direction.

J. R. KITCHIN.

Weidman, Jan., 1893.

FOR THE CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL.
OLLA PODRIDA.

BY O. FITZALWYN WILKINS.

DEAR EDITOR,—I guess I require to attend school again and receive some instruction in penmanship, because your compositor seems unable to decipher my chirography which, like a Philadelphia lawyer's is illegible by the time it becomes cold.

In the last No. (20) of the C.B.J. he has made me say "Olla Podrida" twice, whereas it should have been Olla Podrida. On the next page, (336) in my remarks concerning the paralysis, I am made to say "I concluded to introduce queens from undoubtedly healthy, high-bred colonies." Now, if I used the words "high-bred," I presume I was thinking of a certain bee-keeper, who (ignorantly) uses the words hybrid and "high-bred" indiscriminately. My dictionary informs me that "hybrid" means, a mongrel, an animal or plant produced from the mixture of two species; and high-bred means thorough-bred, or pure-blooded. Now, if your professor of "The art preservative of all arts," will kindly re-read my article, I think he will learn that the diseased bees were those which were "high-bred," thorough bred or pure-blooded; therefore, I decapitated their queens and introduced others from healthy hybrid colonies, whose workers were marked by one yellow band only—the majority being entirely black; otherwise I would have been uncertain of the result of my experiment.

FOR THE CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL.

NEW BEEKEEPING PATENTS.

The following is a list of patents issued to January 17th. 1893, from the United States Patent Office, Washington, D.C.:—
Bee Escape, R. Porter, Lewiston, Ill.
Bee Hive, W. G. Stewart, Ireland, Ind.

For THE CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL.

FIRE IN THE BEE CELLAR.

By C. H. DIMMERN.

In Canada, perhaps, more than in the United States, the successful wintering of bees is a problem of the highest importance. In all northern countries, in my opinion, the cellar must be generally depended on to surely accomplish this desirable object. But there is a great difference in cellars, as I have discovered in recent years; and I thought perhaps a little of that experience might be of interest to our cousins across the border.

When I first commenced bee keeping I had but few colonies, and almost invariably wintered them successfully in the house cellar, and I thought I had forever settled that point. My cellar had a cement bottom, and was plastered on sides and ceiling, with a six inch hole in bottom of chimney for ventilation. The bee room was separated by a partition from the vegetable room, and was but fourteen by sixteen feet in size. The room over head was almost constantly heated, and there was no trouble in keeping it warm and dry, and it is not strange that the bees usually wintered well in it. In time, however, it became too small to hold the increasing number of colonies, and as I intended building a honey house I decided to build a bee cellar under it, where it would be much handier to the apiary.

I had been reading Doolittle a good deal, and concluded he must be right about no ventilation being necessary, and made no provision for any. In justice to Doolittle, however, I overlooked the fact that his cave cellar was covered with four to six feet of earth, and the temperature would not go below 45°. I soon found that my new cellar was too damp; and, without a fire overhead, the mercury would drop to 35° in a cold snap. The bees became very uneasy; dead bees and mould covered everything, and, it is needless to say that the bees came out in bad shape. The next season the cellar was cemented and plastered, but the result was not much better,

and in connection with the honey dew stores, my losses were greater than ever before.

I now turned my attention to providing some means for fire and ventilation for the cellar. I had seen oil stoves recommended, but I object to these, as they create no ventilation and burn up the life preserving properties of the air. A stove heats up too quickly, and throws out too intense a heat, and is too soon cold again. I finally decided to build a brick furnace, using the front doors and grate of an old cook stove. The walls are eight inches thick, and when heated, hold heat a long time.

Now, when a cold snap comes along, a fire is started in the furnace; and, to make it last a long time, some good big pieces of coal are put in, and the air slides are left open which ventilates the cellar thoroughly. The air is soon dry, fresh and warm, and the bees seem to winter perfectly, but very few came out to die on the floor, though I have several times run the temperature up to 65°.

I believe that the quality of food has more to do with good wintering than any other one thing; but temperature, ventilation and moisture come in as important factors. The other conditions can be easily secured, but nothing but fire will enable us to regulate temperature, which is a very important matter.

Rock Island, Ill.

For THE CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL.

AFTER DINNER THOUGHTS.

By JOHN F. GATES.

As I indulge in catlike slumbers in this old arm chair after partaking in plenitude of the delicious viands which my wife has prepared for the sustenance of this six feet two inch body of mine, my thoughts seem less mixed and more settled than they have been for some time past. The business end of life's battle for 1892 has been reached, and victory has crowned our untiring efforts.

o o o

The smoke is clearing away, and a little

picking up, a little more settling and organizing, and my work for 1892 will have gone on record. Plenty gathered in and ready for winter. Yes, but not ready for idleness; no man can afford to be idle. "Enough," at present, does not mean that we should indulge in the sin of idleness, for the silly young cricket accustomed to sing, Through the fine summer months of gay summer and spring,
Began to complain when he found that at home
His cupboard was empty, and winter had come.

Yes, I feel more rested, and as some thoughts flit across my mental horizon, I will try to catch them and send them to you.

o o o

Of late years I have had a severe yearning to see Canada. I love its people as I do my own countrymen. I have thought I might come this fall and enjoy a fulness of buckwheat cakes with Brother Pringle, with (oh!) some of his honey on them. I would like to walk right into the C.B. J. office, and see Brother D. A. Jones. Of course I'd fetch my old rifle along, and do some hunting; but there it is,—as usual, I don't see how I can come this fall.

o o o

Friend Wilkins desires to see the C.B.J. published every week. While I am possessed of this same desire, I know full well the enormous expense of a weekly Journal, and am convinced that a safe course would be for the Journal to follow its present course until assured of success if published weekly. While a weekly journal is rather to be chosen than those of less frequent issue, yet, watch yourself, and see if you don't feel a keen interest in your other journals, and if they are not always filled to the brim with reading that catches your eyes. So we get the worth of the money we pay for any respectable journal with discredit to none. No, Friend Wilkins, the C.B.J. has no stigma resting upon it for surrendering its birthright as a weekly Journal, for it has never surrendered such right. It is pressing on toward that goal manfully, and I presume the best thing you and I can do to hasten its speed is to

obtain all the subscribers to it that we can.

o o o

I think it was in the A.B.J. that I saw a receipt for keeping down increase of colonies of bees. It told us to take the old colony to a new stand as soon as it had swarmed, hiving its swarm where it stood. After forty-eight hours, return the old colony to its old stand and dump its swarm back into it. I tried this plan thoroughly the past season, and can say without fear of successful contradiction, that it didn't work well with me.

o o o

Brother Miller speaks well when he says the cellar is the place for bees in winter. That is a home-made decision which I arrived at years ago. I have wintered bees upchambers and in bee house (built wrong, of course), on summer stands, and in many ways, until I was forced to do the right way and winter them in the cellar.

Ovid Erie Co., Pa.

Frank Benton says Carniolan bees are of a dark steel-gray, with a whitish ring at the lower edge of each segment of the abdomen. They are rather larger than either the Blacks or Italians. The queens are of a dark copper color. There may be other markings, but they are exceptional. The dark Carniolans are more gentle than those that show the admixture of the yellow blood. He did not think them any better workers than the Italians, but they were more prolific. They are very gentle; if they are otherwise, it shows that they are not pure. He preferred them in their purity, but if a cross is to be made, he would use Carniolan instead of Italian blood.

Why is Cupid like poverty?—Because he drives people to the union.

Which is the most modest piece of furniture?—The clock; for it always covers its face with its hands, and runs itself down, however good its works may be.

Who were the first astronomers?—The stars; they first studied the heavens.

What length should a young lady's dress be worn?—A little above two feet.

What are the three comparisons of a lawyer?—First he gets on, then he gets honour, and then he gets honest.

THE
Canadian Bee Journal,

ISSUED 1ST AND 15TH OF EACH MONTH.
G. T. SOMERS - MANAGER.

DEVOTED EXCLUSIVELY TO THE INTERESTS OF
 THE HONEY PRODUCER

ONE DOLLAR PER ANNUM IN ADVANCE.

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6 months...	6 00	9 00	15 00	25 00	40 00
12 months...	10 00	15 00	25 00	40 00	75 00

CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL.

EDITORIAL.

The Goold, Shapeley & Muir Co. (limited), Brantford, with a capital of \$100,000, have obtained their charter. They manufacture farm and domestic supplies.

We have been compelled to hold over to next issue the conclusion of the report of the North American Beekeepers' Convention at Washington. We may say the same of the concluding portion of the article from the *British Bee Journal* on the Science of Beekeeping.

We have an advertisement in another column from Mr. C. A. Ouellette, manufacturer of apiarian supplies, who has recently bought out the business formerly carried on at the same place by Mr. Smith. The position is an excellent one so far as facilities go for shipping goods, being situated on the lines of the Canadian Pacific, Grand Trunk, and Michigan Central railways. These facilities, in addition to those offered by the Dominion, Canadian and United States express compan-

ies enable him to offer more prompt shipment at better rates than any other manufacturer in Canada.

o o o
 Upon the principle that an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure, the O.B.A. is taking time by the forelock, and appointed a deputation to proceed to Ottawa to ask for Dominion legislation against the use of sugar or other foreign matter in combination with comb or extracted honey for use or sale, and for prohibition of the importation of adulterated honey in any form. It is not anticipated that so far as the Province of Ontario is concerned such legislation is necessary at present, as it is not contended that the practice of honey adulteration is yet in operation here. But it is in use elsewhere, and, so far as we know, to a very considerable extent. The point aimed at by our beekeepers is to take all necessary preliminary steps to prohibit not only its importation but its manufacture.

QUESTION DRAWER.

What is the advantage of brood frames having double top-bars with bee space between? In working the bees for comb honey, are the section boxes kept clean by that method without the necessity of a honey board?—E.S.G., Halifax, N.S.

Will others who have had experience in this line let us hear from them?

I understand that in comb honey production a queen-excluding honey board is necessary only when a new swarm has been hived on empty frames with starters only (say, contracted to four or five L frames for the first week), and a crate of sections given immediately. Am I right?—E.S.G., Halifax, N.S.

We prefer to use queen-excluding honey board, either if comb or extracted honey in second storeys. It confines the queen to the brood chamber, which is very desirable during that season.

DEAR SIR,—Will you please answer in your JOURNAL whether forest leaves are as good as chaff for packing bees in a clamp. Last year I lost a number of hives by doing so, and decided not to use them again until I saw that some one recommended them in *Gleanings*?—Yours truly, C.M.N., South London.

We have had as good reports from forest leaves as from chaff; but we think either, if the leaves are in good condition, would be all right. Our own preference would be in favor of chaff.

I would like, if some of our beekeeping friends would let me know through the BEE JOURNAL, how to erect the best kind of summer stands for the hives, of which I keep a few. I saw it advised in the JOURNAL to get 2x4 inch scantling and nail cross pieces the right distance apart to set them on, but don't like that, as it is hard to keep them clean from grass and weeds between the boxes, the scantling being in the way of cutting the grass?—Yours respectfully, G.G.McK., North Nation Mills.

We use inch boards four inches wide and about eight inches longer than the hive, cutting the projection off on a slope and nailing a board on the front. This makes a sloping entrance for the bees to climb up if they should alight on the ground before reaching the hive. There is also a three-inch piece nailed on the back end which gives a space for air under the hives.

SIR,—I have been trying to make foundation, but find it impossible, as it sticks to the dipping board and cracks. Kindly give me a remedy that will prevent the same?—READER.

Dipping boards must be soaked in water until they are wet through. We usually soak them for a day or more, if possible, before dipping, and always keep them in the water when not in use. During the dipping season, sponge off quickly all loose matter on the board before dipping; then dip your board in wax before any spot becomes dry. If there are any knots or pitchy spots upon the board that will not

soak in the water, the board must not be used, nor must there be any grease spots, as any grease, pitch or other material may prevent the freest saturation. When ready, dip your board into the wax and continue the dipping until the hot wax is about half an inch thick. Leave the wax on for about ten to twenty minutes; then cut or scrape it around the edge of the board and remove the two sheets which are too thick for ordinary use, but were so made to heat the board thoroughly. Now, if your wax is of the right temperature, you can commence dipping; if your wax is too cool it will curdle on the board; if too hot, it will crack. The room should not be lower in temperature than from seventy to eighty degrees, a higher temperature even is better. The cracking is caused by too rapid cooling, either from the low temperature of the board or the greater heat of the wax. Either difficulty may be remedied by raising or lowering the temperature of either. When dipping and turning the board end for end, the lap should be sufficient to keep the sheet an even thickness; otherwise it may crack in the centre, even when the other conditions are perfect.

What is the easiest and simplest way of feeding bees in winter?—SUBSCRIBER.

Feed them in the fall so that they will need no winter feeding. I devised a winter feeder some years ago that I think fills the bill. It is illustrated in the back numbers of the C. B. J. It prevents leakage, and enables the bees to utilize their heat to keep the food warm; as they cluster under it compactly, they are less liable to have dysentery. The food is the same as that now used for shipping queens. The Benton or other good food for shipping queens may be used.