

tion is an exotic, a transplanted seedling, whose home is upon the arid plains of old-world industry.

It is as an expedient that we find Co-operation welcomed in new and rich countries like ours, for we recognize in the movement certain economic principles which make for success in the more materialistic departments of the business of life. Before dealing with more practical issues, I would like to lay stress upon the importance of our remembering the living principle that animates and is essential to the system.

The old Hindoo maxim has it that: "For one man to do good to another is good for both, but for one man to do ill to another is bad for both." The divine injunction commands us to "love our neighbor." From the earliest times there appears to have been a universal acceptance of the idea (the mother idea of human thought we may call it), that it is right for man to live doing his neighbor as little harm as possible. The history of human progress is the history of man's conscious striving to overcome the predatory tendencies of his nature.

Journals of the class to which Bee Journals belong are not the proper mediums for sermonizing, and we do not wish to dwell upon this part of the subject longer than is necessary. We would however, earnestly ask bee-keepers, before launching their Co-operative association to consider whether it is not possible to keep before them the ideals of those thinkers and workers who have made Co-operation practicable and successful. Plato, Sir Thomas More, Bacon, Campanella, Harrington, Robert Owen—these are the men who have contributed chiefly to the volume of world-improving ideas and made Co-operation possible.

In last month's issue, Mr. Hurley gave us an eminently sane and practical article on the subject with which we are dealing, outlining a scheme for putting into effect the expressed desire of a large

number of bee-keepers who advocate Co-operative methods in the marketing of their produce. We do not suppose for one moment that the scheme will meet with universal acceptance. We do feel, however, that it is necessary to have before us for discussion some definite plan.

To what extent is it possible for bee-keepers to co-operate? Should the rules of the association prohibit private dealing in honey on the part of its members? Should the association accept from members only the best grades of honey, or should it take just what the members care to place with the manager? Out of these and many other equally important questions will arise much discussion and possibly no little trouble. A year or so back the C. B. J. printed several papers on the subject of grading honey, one correspondent going so far as to state that here the difficulties were so great as to make it impossible even to start an association. Unanimity at the commencement of a discussion generally betokens general ignorance or apathy. It would be indeed most unfortunate if general concurrence in any proposed plan of Co-operative action resulted from either. Our readers, therefore, will doubtless, consider it their duty to put on their "thinking-caps" and revolve in their minds the pros and cons of the matter.

The question: "Why should bee-keepers co-operate" needs but brief consideration. It is pretty generally conceded that whilst in some parts there is an abundant crop, in others there may be a corresponding scarcity. There is also, undoubtedly a growing tendency at the present time on the part of great commercial concerns by "combined" capital to "corner" supplies of every description, and we believe the time is coming when a definite stand need to be made against the aggressive encroachments of such concerns. Co-operation among producers is possibly the only means of encountering successfully the co-operation of the

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