

men who have it in charge. Now we think there is some truth in that sarcastic remark to the extent that many readers could give the publishers and editors suggestions which would be valuable. We therefore ask our readers for criticisms and for suggestions tending to improve the make-up of *The Canadian Bee Journal*, or as to the topics which might be timely and practical. We will appreciate and so far as possible act on such hints. Who will be the first to respond?

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The Poor Season.

The reports of the past season show clearly that the honey crop in almost every part of Canada and the United States, has been much under the average. This may have a tendency to discourage some, and lead to neglect of the faithful occupants of many hives who were ready to gather the coveted sweetness, if it could have been found. The old story is likely to be repeated in that the wise bee-keeper will take extra care to have every colony begin the winter as strong as possible, and not only well provided with stores but protected from damp and cold, and foul air, and in his finding the new year a good one and his profits making up for the former shortage and giving a fair average for both years. On the other hand, the careless or discouraged bee-keeper will neglect his bees and find himself with few and enfeebled colonies and unable to gather and profit by the harvest likely to be provided by nature another year.

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The Philadelphia Convention.

The 30th annual convention of the United States Bee-Keepers' Association held at Philadelphia, September 6th to 9th, seems to have been successful in point of numbers, in attendance, and the character of the papers, and the discussions on them were practical and helpful. We have arranged for the publication of the

papers of most interest to our readers. The Philadelphia Association was, to quote Editor York in *The American Bee Journal*, "untiring in their efforts and lavish in their expenditure of time and money." The record of the social side of the convention in addition to the intellectual bill of fare provided, makes us regret more than ever our inability to attend.

The next meeting will be held in Chicago, at the same time as the gathering of the Grand Army Encampment.


AMERICAN BEE-KEEPERS' CONVENTION HELD AT PHILADELPHIA, SEPTEMBER, 1899.

Possibilities and Difficulties of Bee-Keeping in Cuba, and the effect of our new relation with this island, on our Honey Market.
 — Fred. L. Craycraft

The recent struggle of the Cubans to throw off the Spanish yoke, and which finally culminated through the intervention of the United States, is still fresh in the memories of all, and on account of the close commercial relations which exist between these countries, and the possible annexation of this Island (thus adding another star to our National Ensign), has caused people to observe with interest signs of renewing commercial, agricultural and industrial activity, which will in time cause a profound impression on the American people, benefiting many by opening up new markets for American products, while at the same time others will seriously feel the competition caused by the introduction of products from these countries into our own markets.

This question is one of particular interest to the American honey producer, since heretofore the production of honey in this country has been largely in excess of home consumption, and we know that exportations of honey and wax from the island have been very large, although the almost absolute lack of reliable statistics upon which to base any calculations as to the future exportations of this article, make it a very difficult matter to form any approximate estimate of the import-