

self and Mrs. Cowan, and the present moment found him unable to express his feelings. He felt that British bee-keepers would accept the souvenir and address as a mark of esteem to themselves. Until now he had had no idea of the extent of Canada's resources; in 1862 Canada had sent a fair exhibition to England, but that of last year had been a great improvement. He was very much struck with the products he had here seen on exhibit, particularly was he pleased with that of the Great North-west. In the Honey Department he found a magnificent display of honey; the exhibits were made by but few exhibitors but on a large scale.

Speaking of the British Bee-keepers' Association, he explained that it was a philanthropic society whose desire was to get as many cottagers and others in moderate circumstances into the business—they wanted everybody to keep bees—the society was formed as a means of bettering the condition of the working classes. The Association distributed thousands of circulars explaining the uses of honey as food. The Canadian commissioners did a great deal last year in popularising honey among the masses. The Canadian system of selling "honey on a stick" did not commend itself to him. England would not copy us in that respect. The B. B. K. A. endeavored to get as much wealth and as many great people in their ranks as possible. The President of the Association was the Baroness Burdette Coutts, a lady far famed for her philanthropy and liberality. The Vice-Presidents were members of the Royal Family, as a rule. The head centre of the Society was in London, and the counties were generally taken as districts. The Lord-Lieutenants of the counties were generally chosen as presidents of the county associations. Each of the branch societies were represented in the London Association by two delegates, and there were at present forty-two branches. The head association meets once every quarter, when all the business relating to the outside branches was considered. The counties were again divided into sub-districts, and over these were appointed advisers. All the shows are held under the auspices and rules of the head association. When branch associations are to be organised,

lecturers are sent out to explain the advantages of bee-keeping, and circulars are distributed explaining "how bee-keeping may be commenced" and the cost. After the local association is formed and they make a report, showing that their new organization is in good standing—the central board receives the application and if everything is satisfactory the new society is taken in and "affiliated." Experts are appointed by the central board in three classes—a third class expert is usually a good practical bee-keeper; a second class must be further advanced, while the examination of a first-class expert was very severe, and required a thoroughly practical and theoretical as well as scientific knowledge of the business. The duties of the experts are to visit each fall and spring all the bee-keepers in the district for which they are appointed—this is all done free of charge. The time allotted to each bee-keeper is three-quarters of an hour; if more time is requested by the owner of the bees, a small extra fee is charged.

Before closing, he said that he desired to say that the Ontario Commissioners did their work wonderfully well. Britons had tried to do their duty, but failed, because they could not entice them to leave their work. The delegates said their object was to sell honey, and sell it they did. He (Mr. Cowan) would return to England with very pleasant recollections of his visit. He had one weakness, and that was to possess a walking-stick; from any countries he was visiting, and he had just been suggesting to Mrs. Cowan that he should have to get one before returning. There was nothing he would have preferred more, and the stick would always remind him of the happy time they had spent in Canada, and it would be handed down to future generations as an article of much worth.

Amidst much applause, Mr. Cowan sat down, and was followed by Mr. Young, who begged to be excused from more than expressing his heartfelt thanks to the association for his kindly reception. He assured those present, that should any of them ever visit Norway, he and his brother bee-keepers would be only too glad to show them their hospitality. He would never forget his visit to Canada, and he would