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## WOMAN'S DEPARTMENT

CONDUCTED By

Miss Ethel Robson, Ilderton, Ont.

Last month the copy for this department was in too late for publication, and this month there practically isn't any; next month I hope to have something really interesting to tell you, as I'm going down to speak on "Bee-keeping for Women" to the Apiculture Club at Macdonald College, P.Q. Just now I am on an Institute trip through the counties of Lanark and Renfrew, but up t) the present I haven't fallen in with many people who are interested in beekeeping, although the natural conditions ir many parts are very favorable. Clover basswood and buckwheat are in abundance-all that is needed are the bees and the bee-keepers. Mr. Harkness, my colleague, the Farmers Institute delegate, is also an enthusiastic bee-keeper, and together we ought to make some impression. He is one of those rare men who have combined farming and apiculture, and has made a success of both; but then he is an except onal man in many ways. He is also a firm believer in the value of the plot of land devoted to the farm garden, and you and I know how seldom that is true of the Ontario farmer. His garden is usually the most neglected looking spot on the farm.

In our county we have no buckwheat, but Mr. Harkness comes from a buckwheat county and he tells me that he rarely has to feed his bees for winter. Now, last fall I used nearly a ton of sugar. It makes me somewhat envious. He grows a good deal of buckwheat himself, and with the neighboring farmers, finds it useful as a cleaning crop and likewise very profitable. A good many run their land for pasture or an early hay crop. They then plough it under

and sow buckwheat, thus securing two crops in the one season off the same land. I'll have to talk it up to the farmers at home. It certainly looks like a good investment all round.

My colleague is also one of those who took part in the closing discussion at the O.B.K. convention re an exhibit of honey at the next horticultural show. He is anxious to have his county make an exhibit, but as Dundas has no association he wanted the matter left with the district representatives. Now Middlesex has an association but no representative, and it would surely be in keeping with spirit of the motion district representatives to take matter in hand where there is no association. The main thing is to get the counties to put up a creditable By the way, why does not every county have a district representative? Surely it ought to be of inestimable value to have the advice of a trained man, and the cost is very trifling when divided amongst all. It's worth thinking about even if we are only beekeepers.

Now, of course you are laying your plans to come to the district convention in London. Mr. Anguish has been indefatigable in his efforts to secure a good programme and the indications are that he has succeeded. It will surely pay you to be there.

ETHEL ROBSON.

No other man's experience is as good for you as your own. Some one else can only point the way. You must travel it yourself to really know.—W. Z. Hutchinson in "Advanced Bee Culture."