

it at prices not fairly profitable to growers. A fair medium price will, it is believed, give the honey a good permanent place in this market, and pay best all round in the long run. Every effort is also being made to sell in such packages as will suit the needs of small and large purchasers. The crates received from Canada have been unpacked, and the honey placed in smaller boxes, and in bottles of all sizes. Samples of the various honeys are also offered gratis when suitable occasion offers. So that, as a delegate puts it, "every man, woman, and child may say that they have tasted Canadian honey." The cultivation of the bee is rapidly extending in Ontario. Farmers have lately, it seems, entered largely into the raising of clover seed for exportation to this country. The clover provides excellent material for the bees to work upon, and the bee-keeping farmer may reap a two-fold benefit, for not only will his yield of honey become a fairly profitable one, but even the quantity of his seed will be increased. The bees carry the pollen and make the fertilisation of the clover blossom a greater certainty. And no nutriment is, it is claimed, in this way lost to the clover itself, for the flower will reproduce the nectarine almost immediately."

FOR THE CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL.

### HONEY AND APIARIAN SUPPLIES.

SOME HINTS TO THE PROVINCIAL AND WESTERN  
FAIR DIRECTORS.

THE exhibitions, fairs and shows are again about over for another season, and those interested cannot fail to see that the department for honey and apiarian supplies in our leading shows is better represented this year than formerly. The Toronto Industrial Exhibition has been the means of doing much of this. When Mr. D. A. Jones, some years ago, first prompted the directors to make such a new departure, they warmly responded to his efforts and the idea has developed until to-day Toronto has a separate building for honey and apiarian supplies: the judges appointed are men who understand their work and are appointed solely for judging this class. Not so, however, at the Provincial and Western Fairs. At the Provincial this year the judges were entirely incompetent to do their work. I heard such remarks pass their lips as "honey and wax extractors—why is that not all the same thing?" "Bee-hives! Yes, yes. Every one has the bee-hive, but they are all upon the same principle." I believe these judges had no other class to judge, and it is a piece of presumption for such to accept a position which they frankly admit they are incompetent to fill. At the Western Fair, the judges had a great many other things to judge and in some classes they were, doubtless, well competent to decide; under these circumstances we can hardly censure them for looking

upon the apiarian department as of less importance compared with their specialty, cheese, butter, etc. The result was that only one practical bee-keeper was amongst them. My object here is not to censure judges or condemn decisions, but to point out that the day has passed where anything but a thoroughly practical prize list with competent judges in this department can satisfy. These exhibitions to be of use must be in advance of the general public and an educator, not several years behind the spirit of the times. Judging cheese, butter, bread, and many other products and strained honey or box comb honey may have gone together very well at one time, but not now when strained and box honey are replaced by extracted and section honey, and where modern apiarian appliances are exhibited. The country fairs are often even worse. I have seen broken pieces of comb in a pan take the prize from beautiful sections. There is no desire to manifest dis-satisfaction with decisions given at the fairs. I make special reference to my desire being to have matters to which I refer remedied to the satisfaction of all parties, those having prizes awarded justly or not, are dis-satisfied. The exhibition loses interest when all might be remedied. There are many able and disinterested bee-keepers who would act as judges if called on. If the Western Fair committee would do as Toronto does, and the Provincial since incorporation will have to do viz., have two members from the Ontario Bee-keepers' Association on their committee, and these appointed by the association, (O. B. K. A.) it would, doubtless, be an excellent movement.

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What Friend Holtermann has said of judging is perfectly true. At London there was sufficient work to occupy three competent judges in the honey and apiarian supply department a whole day. In fact, in point of quantity of goods exhibited, the Western fell little short of Toronto. With the exception of Mr. W. H. Weston, who was a practical man, and whose decisions in the majority of instances gave satisfaction, the judges knew little or nothing about honey and less about supplies. To show that the directors did not fully realize the importance of the honey department, the following may be instanced: Representatives of the two principal exhibits in supplies called at the office of the association to enquire whether or not *practical* men had been chosen as judges for this department,