

believe that Mr. Pringle's appointment will give very general satisfaction; and as evidence of the fact, we are glad to be able to give our readers in this issue of the BEE JOURNAL the substantial opinion of Mr. Holtermann of Brantford, who cordially approves of the appointment. The Napanee *Beaver* in referring to the fact says: "Canada raises the finest honey in the world, as was demonstrated at the International Exhibition held in London, and we understand the Canadian exhibit at Chicago will be the grandest we have ever displayed. The management of the department has been placed in efficient hands."

Since writing the above, we learn that Mr. Pringle has accepted the appointment which has been so deservedly conferred upon him, and we are quite sure that no better thing could be done. He is in every respect the right man in the right place; few are better advised than he is in regard to the duties that will devolve upon him; none will be more active in their discharge; and it is safe to say that all who may have occasion to seek either his assistance or advice will have both administered to them in the most thorough and satisfactory manner possible.

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We are pleased to notice from a private letter of our esteemed friend, Mrs. Jennie Atchley, that she has it in contemplation to rear queens on an isolated island in the Gulf of Mexico, eighteen miles from shore. We are glad to know that this is being done, as the effect of it will be to test the value of drones reared from fertile workers as well as drones from unt fertile queens, and carry on many other experiments which will be both very interesting and instructive to many. This proposal of hers reminds us of our own experiments on an isolated island in Georgian Bay, where we found that rearing queens on small islands was very expensive. Bees taken from our apiaries at Beeton and allowed a fly on these islands did not seem to understand that there could be such a large body of water surrounding so small a piece of land or rock, as it might be more properly termed, there being more rock than land usually. If the weather were calm and the water perfectly smooth, as it almost always

was in some of the bays that were surrounded by rocks, the bees would alight upon the water in thousands. Frequently the water was as smooth as a mirror. We found the loss from this source very great. There being no bee pasture either on the islands we have mentioned, we were forced to feed them with barrels of sugar every year to keep them from starving. We hope that the island Mrs. Jennie Atchley has selected will have plenty of pasture, and be large enough to prevent great loss from bees falling in the water. Then, again, we found on small islands a very much greater loss of queens. The larger the island the less the percentage of loss of queens in mating; the smaller the island the greater the loss. We recollect on one occasion taking some queens and a lot of very fine drones out to an island without any timber on it, the bare rock rising up from the water and having a little hollow in the centre about 20 x 30 feet where we could place our hives without having them blown over by the wind. The loss was so great from both drones and queens at this point that we were forced to abandon it. Although the weather was very favorable for their mating, the loss was more than ten times greater than on some of our other islands. Now we do not hesitate to say that it is impossible for her to raise queens on this isolated island that she has selected for anything like the price that she could raise them for on shore; so we hope our bee-friends will be willing to pay her a remunerative price for her island-mated queens, as the experiments she proposes to make are for the benefit of all and each should bear his fair share of the expense. Then again, she can describe to us so clearly all of her experiments that we may understand them as thoroughly as if we had accomplished them ourselves. Anyone who possesses such rare talent in that direction is invaluable as a writer for a Journal.

Very Encouraging.



R. LEVI MOSS writes us as follows:—"Enclosed you will find \$1 for the C.B.J. to renew my subscription for another year. I like the C. B. J. splendidly, and am very much interested in the articles on