

justable copper joins the broken wire. When the swarm issues the weight on springs is lightened and the hive and copper at side raises and sets up the current ringing the electric bell in a heavy flow the adjustable piece of copper will require to be set twice a day but during the bulk of the season a colony gains or loses very slowly and very little setting will be required. This device will be cheap and simple. I feel sure it will assist many in bee-keeping. On the farm the electric bell can be placed in the kitchen and the good housewife need trouble her head no more "if the bees are swarming." She knows the alarm will sound. It will be a convenience in many ways. It is my impression that beekeeping will yet be vastly simplified and there are changes and progress to be made undreamed of.

The World's Columbian Exposition:—Mr. Nicholas Awrey M.P.P. Com. for Ontario of the above Exposition has taken in hand the work of preparing a honey exhibit. Only a hundred lbs of comb and fifty lbs of extracted can be sent of each kind of honey. This gives everyone a chance to make a first class exhibit at a small expense and every beekeeper in Ontario should send something. We are all of course anxious to beat everyone else besides that we are interested in the development of one country and should show the world that Canada. (or Ontario) is a first class honey producing land and this will do much to prove her a land in which it is safe to live and to invest money in. Let us do our best to help one another and help our commissioner in this matter. Mere self interest should be laid aside old differences if any forgotten and the welfare of the honey industry and the Province looked at.

R. F. HOLTERMANN,
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July 5th. '92.

Notes By The Way.

AS we are just at the beginning of the honey harvest, I thought I must pen a few notes in addition to those of last week, trusting I am not filling the place of more important matter. Well, as usual, it's the weather, and that is nondescript; first it rains and then it blows, and then both come together with fitful gleams of sunshine occasionally; no opportunity of storing honey for the busy bees, and but little to cheer the heart of the bee-keeper, yet we hope on, and trust, after Whit—or shall I say Wetsuntide—is passed that we may get a spell of fine warm weather. Last year we had unsettled weather at Whitsuntide; and now, though it is some weeks later, we are experiencing similar

weather. The dull days and frosty nights have retarded swarming. I have only had four swarms, where I expected forty, but all we want is warm weather, and then all would go merry as wedding bells. As new hands are always taking up with beekeeping who probably do not read up past bee history, permit me to remind readers of the wants of our bees. The first and most important is water; it must make a great difference to a colony of bees if water is supplied near the hive than if they have to forage the neighborhood in quest of it. In country places where ponds or brooks are near, the bees will have a constant supply; but in suburban districts, where water-butts are the only places they can get a supply from, it is imperative that a supply be given near the hives; a very good fountain is a small barrel with a leaking tap; also the drops of water to fall on a slanting board or on a house flannel, or a shallow pan, with moss or spent tea leaves, to prevent bees drowning while drinking. I should add a barrel will require a lid, or piece of sacking over the top, or bees will get drowned. Weeds near hives should be kept cleared off, and as a preventive of another crop, sprinkle salt on the ground around the hives; this answers a double purpose, as bees require a portion of saline extract which prevents the 'nameless' disease in bees.

Extended alighting boards are also a great help to bees returning heavy laden, even in the best of bee weather. How much more so when the poor bees have battled with the rough chilling winds? With slanting boards reaching from the ground and top end with two nails partly driven in, making a fair joint with edge of alighting-board, many bees returning will fall on the boards and run up into the hive, which otherwise would have fallen on the ground.—
B. B. J.

Bees Destroying Birds.

THE California Blue Jay frequently helps himself to a breakfast in the apiary, no doubt first attracted to the spot by the imperfect or dead brood thrown out of the hive by the bees, but in time the Jay discovers that worker bees are palatable morsels, and after the first taste of honey from that source it will perch on top of the hives and destroy large numbers of worker bees. It would be doing the fruit grower and bee-keeper both a service if the Blue Jay was driven out of California. When peaches and apricots are ripening the Jay swoops down on the fruit driving his beak into the finest specimens and gashing them so that linnets, hornets, wasps and bees have as