

[Mr. Smith's article came just in time to secure insertion in the present number of *THE CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL*. We think there is no one in the bee department who has been at the Toronto Industrial Exhibition for as many years, with a honey exhibit, as we have, and no one who has had more at stake, or gone to greater expense. That there has been a great diversity of opinions, more or less diverging, in regard to the interpretation of the prize list, is certain. We do not think it well to go as far as Mr. Deadman outlines in his article in the December number, and if his article is understood, we do not think he asks it; but the article is likely to bring good results. We have lately been called upon to justify the Ontario Bee-Keepers giving \$25.00 as prize money to the Toronto Exhibition, and we were able to do so on the ground that it was given for the largest, neatest and most attractive exhibit, and therefore drew attention to the exhibit of honey and the bee-keeping industry. It is very much to be desired that there should be a large display of honey put up in an attractive manner. Such demands the presence of the exhibitor in person, and therefore a considerable outlay of time and expense, and a good deal of risk run. For this there must be a considerable hope of reward. We do not think it fair to decide upon the space for each exhibitor by lot. Last year we were all in a new building, and the ones who had exhibited the longest got first choice, but otherwise choice is given in rotation, and no one has any material advantage. What we mean is that if we were in the same building next year, those who were away from the doors would next year have spaces next the doors. By lot, a man might have the best or the worst space for years running. In the largest and best variety of domestic uses to which honey may be put, etc. Here is a section which requires solid good sense and experience in the judges. It is not fair to count the greatest number, neither does the list read thus; it also says *best*. Neither is it fair that honey alone should be used. The bulk of honey used in foods to-day is

used by bakers, tobaccoists, vinegar manufacturers and meat curers. To use honey alone would debar most cakes, whilst a little honey adds much to the virtues of the cake—if cake has any virtues. The intention is to educate the people to the use of honey; the idea is not that honey shall be cheaper, but that, properly used, it is better.

We intend, as a member of the Board of the Toronto Industrial Exhibition, to recommend a change. Probably, the ten best varieties of domestic uses to which honey may be put, etc., etc. This would probably cover the ground better for the present. Putting stress on varieties, brought out all the possible uses, and had its educational value for the time being. Where quality and display are to be considered, there should be a distinct understanding as to what per centage each shall count. To change the quality of honey in the various exhibits would be one of the best ways of changing the present designs and the monotony of exhibit which has been the rule from year to year. The award on 500 lbs. of comb honey should not be decreased we think. There should be an award on comb and extracted honey, quality alone considered. We have claimed this for years. We think the awards on assortment of glass, etc., would be better given for something else; there is no value in this award. We think the silver and bronze medal, to the exhibitor taking the largest number of first prizes for honey, could be used to better advantage; it is to a certain extent a repetition; but this will require careful consideration. It is our intention to urge that an award be given to beekeepers upon an exhibit which has never yet been made at Toronto, and which will create an interest in honey and bees which has never been before, and which is likely to give us a crowd of interested visitors of the best class.

In the matter of prize money, Toronto has allowed Detroit to give a better prize list. The total list should be increased at least \$150.00, and the privilege, under certain restrictions, granted of cutting comb honey, for samples. We think this will be granted.—[Ed.]

[Later. The above was written just a year ago, but reached us too late to appear in the purpose last year. Since that many changes have been made. The article will however be of use.]