

enough interest in the matter, in asking the Government to properly establish an apianian department at Ottawa or not to establish it. Write at once to the Hon. Sydney Fisher, Minister of Agriculture, Ottawa, and to your M. P., no matter what side of politics he is on. In justice to everyone I will add that Mr. McKnight and some of the members of the Oxford Bee-Keeper's Association advocated the appointment of Mr. John Newton, Thamesford. We left the room before the vote took place, so everyone would feel free to vote as he saw fit in our absence, and we are told seven was the total vote for Mr. Newton. There is, of course, the entire Dominion to select from. State if you wish who you think would best serve the interests of bee-keepers in this position, or leave this part of the question out entirely, but act at once in the matter of writing, and induce everyone else you can to write also.

* * *

Thousands and tens of thousands of dollars have directly been lost to the Province of Ontario alone, by Bee-Keeping Requires to be Understood. having had the idea circulated

by certain influential men, that bee-keeping required neither skill, experience, study or time. When we take the Dominion at large, the sum is much increased, and the province of Quebec will furnish a large portion of this. We say nothing of the benefit the fruit grower would have derived from the keeping of bees. Through the non-development of the industry we are allowing other countries to establish themselves in the world's honey markets; another indirect loss. We have had even the Dominion Government against us. The Dominion Experimental farm has been established for many years, and bee-keeping at first received no recognition. Some four or five years ago, however, bees were added to the list of agricultural branches. But how was it done? No experienced apiarist was appointed, but men were put in

charge of it who had absolutely no practical experience as bee-keepers, were known to no one as successful bee-keepers. The bees under their charge were added to their former duties, which were supposed to take their entire time, the one as Dominion Entomologist, the other as farm foreman. It may be argued that these men have done their work well. Prof. Fletcher is known as one of the most competent Entomologists of this continent; he is a gentleman in the highest and truest sense of the word. We believe everyone, irrespective of party believes this. Mr. Fixter may be quite as competent in his department, although in his position he is less known, as he comes less in contact with the public. The fact, however, remains, that past Governments have by their action, been endorsing the statement which has been so injurious, that it requires neither experience nor skill to keep bees. Nay, it has gone even a step farther: it has actually set itself up as believing that these very men can instruct others in the way of keeping bees. That is how the lamentable error crept in the Dominion Experimental Farm reports, of advocating heavy foundation for sections because the least percentage of wax was added. They simply did not see the practical side, that it was of much greater value to get up the reputation of comb honey and not have a heavy piece of wax as a base to the comb. Every industry must largely fight its own battles, and bee-keepers will be no exception. The Dairyman, live stock men, poultry men and the fruit men have fought for a place and development, and are now developing their industries. As far as the Dominion Government is concerned it has, up to the present, done us infinitely more harm than good. Because we require no cold storage to market our produce, is it just that we receive no help? If bee-keepers are satisfied then the value of the honey bee to the fruit grower will be looked on as secondary, and honey is to continue to be looked upon as a luxury,