

realising the situation (there was a public roadway on one side of the garden), I requested that the bees should not in any way be disturbed, and requested that a bogey-man, or "scare-crow" should be placed near the hives and moved to a different position from day to day, the object being to make them familiar, at least, with the appearance of a human figure. The desired end was attained, not altogether as I anticipated, but on August 14 the owner writes me:—"Your suggestion to put up a hat and coat in front of hive of ill-tempered bees worked wonderfully. All the bad bees evidently stung the hat, which was covered with stings, and we have had no stings since, although going near the hives."—WILLIAM SOLE, in British Bee Journal.

### Visit From Mr. Thos. W. Cowan

Ed. C. B. J.,—

I must inform you of a very great surprise and pleasure that happened me on the 9th inst. As I was making a display of bees in an observatory hive, together with charts and mounted specimens, showing the anatomy of the honey bee, and its relationship to the floral kingdom, at our first flower show, I was quietly interesting the visitors, to the best of my ability, in the wonders of the honey bee, when, to my great astonishment, one of the visitors introduced himself as T. W. Cowan, the president of the British Bee-keepers' Association. No one but an enthusiastic bee-keeper can for a moment imagine the extreme pleasure I experienced in meeting this gentleman of such world-wide reputation in all that pertains to the honey bee.

Mr. Cowan gave a resume of the interesting features of the honey bee to our Natural History Society, which

the members appreciated very much. I had the pleasure of driving Mr. Cowan out among the few bee-keepers around Victoria, who were very pleased to meet him, and I believe he enjoyed the beautiful surrounding of our city. Mr. Cowan is visiting the Pacific coast for the benefit of his health, and I trust he may long be spared to carry on his interesting and useful work, unfolding to the world the wonders of our industrious little friend, the bee.

The honey crop will be smaller than usual this year, it is none too large at any time, but this season has been very bad, cold and high winds up to July, then followed drought, practically no rain in Victoria since April, only just a sprinkle; the winds are cold and very drying, were it not for constantly watering there would be very few nice gardens in the city, as it is ours is a "city of flowers," but stop the watering and everything would shrivel up. I think the crop will average about 25 lbs., they run from 15 to 35 lbs. per colony, mine have been from 30 to 50 lbs. with the best of management. As I have stated before, this is no bee paradise. I should feel obliged if you will send me by return the schedule of points used by the Ontario Bee-keepers' Association in judging honey exhibits. I was judge at our exhibition last fall and may accept the office just offered this year, but have almost decided to exhibit myself, so have not accepted yet. I would also thank you for the constitution of the Ontario Association as some of my friends are asking me to form an association here, which perhaps I may do later on.

Yours very truly,

E. F. ROBINSON.

Victoria, B. C., Aug. 25, 1902.