

WOMAN'S DEPARTMENT

CONDUCTED BY

Miss Ethel Robson, Ilderton, Ont.

Up to the present this department has received no letters from our women readers. Better things are hoped for next month. Our women are reminded that this department stands for something more than a discussion of ways and means of bee-keeping. The men can do that 'ad infinitum'; we want it to be an expression of economic endeavor of our Canadian women.

The benefits of protection about the bee-yard are very evident in the spring, when the wind outside is blowing quite a gale it is possible to open and look into a hive in my sheltered, sunny yard, a benefit greatly appreciated this spring when bright days have been so rare; then too, with the trees to break the wind, there is no drifting when the bees come out for their first flight. But during the winter the snow piled up high over some of the packing-cases, over this came a crust of sleet. I loosened up the snow, but found it too hard to remove much of it. Fresh storms filled up the openings again. As they remained closed for some time I felt a little anxious, but now that the snow is gone the bees do not seem to have suffered from their close confinement.

On going over my hives this spring, I found two dead from lack of stores. Now there does not seem to me to be any real excuse for a bee-keeper having his bees starve, consequently I felt somewhat disgusted with myself. However, all good bee-keepers take a special pride in getting their bees safely through the winter. When I find my professional pride touched by such a failure, I conclude it to be an encouraging sign that

I am becoming a really practical bee-keeper.

In spite of all that Dr. Miller has to say about the rewards of bee-keeping, my sympathy goes out to a young friend who chafes against staying at home to help his father with the bees. But then Dr. Miller qualifies his statement by "the one that has the proper taste for it." That's just it. Bee-keeping and a bit of philosophy go hand in hand; and a growing boy isn't usually a philosopher. Instead he is keen and eager to try his strength in the great world of action. And much as I love my bees, I'm able to understand the fascination of sleek and shining horses, stables warm with the breath of feeding cattle, fields yellow with ripening grain, and all the joy and glory of subduing and planting the earth.

That feeder described by Mr. McIntyre in the March Bee Journal looks good to me; in fact it would be hard to improve on. Up to the present, I have had no regular feeders, but think it will not be very long before I have some of that style, unless someone will show me something better.

The bees had their first flight this spring on a Monday. Of course the clothes on the line suffered. Isn't it wonderful how often they seem to come out for a cleansing flight on wash day? To-day, April 10th, they are flying again, so mother has been hustling the clothes in.

Here is a little information from our member at Ottawa. For the year ending March 31st, 1910, honey imported

April, 1911.

in the comb or otherwise thereof, is as follows:

Great Britain, 46,562 cents per lb.

Australia, 1,643 lbs., lb.

British West Indies, duty, 2 cents per lb.

Hong Kong, 972 lbs., lb.

New Zealand, 560 lbs., cents per lb.

Austria Hungary, 5 cents per lb.

China, 292 lbs., dut

France, 174 lbs., dut

Hawaii, 2,400 lbs., dut

United States, 156,4 cents per lb.

Total duty collected \$9,296.38.

Exported to Great exported to United States

If reciprocity passes omitted from all these duty.

Co-operation, we are about a great deal later most unanimous approval. At first thought this way the way is practically successful carrying out, however, sober second that it may be the result of the study of the question of the actual survey of the actual who would look beneath practical situation is

—difficulties which must be before the co-operative be a success. In this point one main difficulty touched mainly to make my point of markets. It was general at the convention that posed arrangement, all were to have a free hand much of their crop as from the Association.