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beekeepers of a county who prepare an exhibit for which no prizes are to be offered? Is it not time our committee got busy and gave some information to the public before it is too late and another opportunity passes.

The Fair management also appears to have made a muddle of the poultry Department this year. Formerly an entrance fee of 25 cents per bird was charged, and so was it announced in the prize list this year. However, a notice was sent out that the entrance fee would be 50 cents per bird. This brought forth a strong protest with the threat that the exhibitors would stay away. This startled the management and the order was rescinded, but alas, too late, with the result that the poultry exhibit was one thousand birds short of former exhibits.

The National Exhibition was originally built up as an agricultural show. That agriculture is taking a second place to manufactures is a fact that is slowly revealing itself. Apart from the exhibits of the provincial governments—which are all that can be desired—individual exhibits of farm produce are declining. This is much to be regretted. This is what the *Globe* says in the same article from which we have already quoted.

It may be surprising to many to learn that the Canadian National Exhibition now in progress in Toronto, which was primarily an agricultural event, is gradually slipping from the farmers of this country, yet an investigation of the facts in connection with the 1912 exhibits of farm stock and products would seem to prove as much. There is such a falling off in the number of entries and the quality of a good deal that is exhibited is far below "Exhibition" standard, that the careful observer is given some food for thought. When a prominent citizen of Toronto was told of this disappointing aspect of the present Exhibition, he at once remarked: "Something's wrong." And he is about right.

If the first exhibition in one of the first agricultural countries of the world is to become largely an industrial exposi-

tion, there is indeed something radically wrong, and it is high time that our farmers realized the fact. On minor points the management of the Exhibition may be at fault, but in the main, it is the farmers who are to blame for the poor showing this year, and the general lack of appreciation that seems evident in the rural communities. It is certainly not the Exhibition's fault that hundreds of dollars in prizes are not awarded this year, for there have been no entries to take the money. This occurs every year at the Toronto Fair, but on no previous occasion has there been so much to go back into the Exhibition treasury. The excuse is made that crops are backward in Ontario and that this is responsible for the few exhibits. According to the last Government bulletin, issued less than two weeks before the opening of the Exhibition, the condition of the crops on the whole is well up to the average of other years.

Fewer Exhibits in Nearly Every Class

It was after several hours spent viewing the various exhibits in the agricultural classes that I became convinced that something was wrong. I commented upon it to Mr. Percy Rogers, Treasurer of the Canadian National Exhibition Association, and he pointed to the state of the crops. He was kind enough, however, to allow me access to the Exhibition's entry books. Not aware that it was the custom to have prize money unchallenged, I was surprised and shocked at the number of uncoveted prizes enumerated in the books. The exhibits in nearly every class of live stock are fewer than last year, and the same is true of the various classes of farm products. In very few cases have the judges had any difficulty in making awards, and in a large number the prizes have gone by default. The case of the honey exhibits is perhaps the most astounding.

In the garden and field roots departments the same paucity of exhibits impresses one. For seed onions, tomatoes and celery, for instance, seven prizes ranging from \$10 to \$1 are offered, and in the onion class but three entries appear, in the tomato class the same number and the whole \$34 offered in the celery goes back to the Exhibition. In sugar beets, carrots and mangel wurzels four prizes—\$3, \$2, \$1.50 and \$1—were placed in the judge's keeping. There are altogether ten classes included. Of these there are five where each exhibitor