

the men, if the honey trade is to prosper; but there are at present thousands of tons of nectar going to waste yearly in the fields of Canada, which we women may have for the taking, if we only have the initiative and perseverance to make it our own. So, come along, let us see how much of it we can gather!

II.

Not long since there arrived through the mail a large package from Mr. P. W. Hodgett's department. On opening it, it proved to be a supply of stationery with the O.B.K.A. stamp upon it, and there among the list of directors in clear black type in the upper right hand corner, "Miss E. Robson, Ilderton," I concluded it must be one of the emoluments of my office, or is it a reminder that I am expected to do some official correspondence? So far my duties have been light, however; being now supplied with stationery with my name upon it they may increase. But joking aside, isn't the fact that the bee-keepers elected a woman to their board of directors proof that they are the most chivalrous and appreciative of men, and eager to give us every opportunity to make good in their chosen business?

III.

The proposed reciprocity treaty is the one question in Canadian politics which has got beyond the range of mere party lines, and Canadians are discussing it with more national feeling than any other question within the memory of a good many of us. The discussion of the political aspect is hardly revelent to these columns, but the possible effect upon the honey market with honey on the free list is a very life question with Canadian bee-keepers. The writer has taken the pains to find out the opinion of many of our leading bee-keepers, men who have the widest knowledge of marketing conditions and they are unanimous in the expression of the opinion that the honey trade in this country has received a

severe and unnecessary blow. We depend entirely on the Western market for the disposal of our surplus honey; in fact it is the western market which has put bee-keeping on a business basis in this country. With the removal of the duty, handicapped as we are by a long freight haul, we shall have little chance of competing with the middle states except at considerably reduced prices, especially as honey averages one to two cents per pound lower there than here. Those who favor the agreement, and our editor is among them, dangle the \$10 million market to the south temptingly before us, but they neglect to tell us that this market is already well supplied with good honey and at prices generally lower than those current here. Then, too, our honey is unknown in these markets nor do we know the markets; it would mean a long and arduous fight to establish ourselves there. Men who have built up one market and who depend on the sale of their honey for their livelihood and that of their families can hardly be blamed if they shrink from undertaking it.

And it is hardly just to say the least, to speak slightly of our own home market even if it is only a market of seven and a half millions, when we say that this same market consumes from 80 to 90 per cent. of our agricultural products and all of our honey.

It may be argued that we have no right to deny the poor man the privilege of buying in a cheaper market; it is hardly to be supposed that bee-keepers go into business from more philanthropic motives than other men. But granted so, the reduction in the retail price by the removal of the duty will hardly be sufficient to make a difference of more than a dollar or two to even the largest consumer, while the reduction of one or two cents makes a big difference in a man's whole crop. But the biscuit manufacturers, who use thousands of pounds

yearly, practically all import will doubtless men don't particularly free honey, but we don't quite see only having our price market jeopardized, chances of having to markets of whose condition, while the biscuit his market secure will from 25 to 32½%.

When the sober opinion of the people at the polls or reciprocity in national the best interests of Canada then the bee-keepers hind any other class present good for the until such time comes good deal of argument that they have not a chance against the present government.

But because of our interest to the tariff it would include that we have an attitude towards the bee-keepers States. The tariff is in the hands of the government in the building up of the present government and so long as we have ers can reasonably claim as justly as any class in

IV.

Have you read Mr. address on co-operation Journal. Evidently he cheap honey.

V.

At the last meeting one of the speakers paid tribute to the value of partner in the business approval with which it have have no doubt that bee-keepers owe much to this cause. It is the