

Hundred of persons from all parts of Canada and the United States were interested spectators, and plied question after question, chief among which was "won't they sting you?" The reply of the attendant invariably was the picking up of a handful of bees and shaking them on the out-stretched hand of the questioner, whenever he or she could be induced to hold their hand out. Of course, the enquirer was assured that we had no guarantee that the bees would not sting; that it depended largely upon their humor, but with proper handling and manipulation, the chances were very much reduced. It is a most surprising fact that, notwithstanding the constant handling of the bees for five or six hours every day, for two weeks, not one of the spectators got stung. One gentleman, who was a "doubting Thomas," and who had experienced considerable trouble in handling his bees at home, insisted that we had something on our hands or had done something to quiet the bees. He declared that he did not think it was possible for him to handle them as we were doing. He was immediately invited inside with the assurance that he would be perfectly safe. He came in and was soon convinced. The bees were just as gentle with him as with ourselves. He was a beginner and had had very little experience.

Mr. R. F. Holtermann gave a lecture each afternoon on the natural history of the bee, in addition to answering all enquiries and giving all the information he could to those who sought it.

We had the privilege, while there, of meeting with some of the prominent bee-keepers of the country, and enjoyed their acquaintance very much.

Mr. McEvoy we found to be a quiet, plain, unassuming, gentlemanly man, who, at no little trouble, described to us the nature of foul brood. Our chat with Mr. McEvoy was very profitable indeed. Another man whose acquaintance we appreciated was Mr. C. W. Post. He gave us a detailed description of his method of keeping a record of his queens and swarms. We also met Mr. Alpaugh, whose conversation we enjoyed very much. Also Mr. Hall, of Woodstock, who, on coming up to us when showing a frame of bees to a few interested persons, reached out his hand, caught up a handful and asked, "What are they, flies?" He is quite a joker. On the whole, the exhibit was quite a success and no doubt the management will have it repeated next year.

ACCURACY.

How Essential it is to the Bee-
Keeper's Success.

—J. E. CRANE.

(The Bee-Keepers' Review.)

What I shall say in this paper is largely for the benefit of beginners, or those of small experience in keeping bees, and something that they might not otherwise learn except in that school which is proverbially expensive. There may be some who are older that can read it with benefit.

Few things, including bee stings, are more provoking or trying to the temper than a set of hives which vary in size, or the different parts of which are ill-fitting, or poorly made.

The large number of manufactures who make a specialty of making bee-keepers' supplies render it very much easier to get well made hives and other fixtures than was the case twenty years ago. Still, there are many who do not care to pay large freight bills, and who have mills near at hand doing work of a similar character, and would prefer to have their work done near at home. To such let me say that before making a large number of hives, make a careful study of hives and find out accurately just what you want, or is best adapted to your work or business. If you propose to produce extracted honey, your hives may be quite different from what would be required for comb honey. Make out a bill of pieces for hives and fixtures. Make out an agreement that each and every piece shall be got out accurately from well seasoned lumber without the variation of an eighth of an inch; one-sixteenth of an inch would be better. Then put them together so that every part will fit accurately with no loose joints or leaky roofs. Let the frames be made square, not even a little diamond shape, or the bees may stick one end to the end of the hive with propolis, and at the other end build a "bit" of comb between. See that the space between the top of the frames and the honey board is just right, and will stay so. If the top bars are too light they may sag, and thus while the space is one fourth inch at the ends, it may be one-half inch in the middle when the frames are filled with honey. See that just the right space is given at the ends of frames; for, if too much is