THE CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL

consumers of honey, but would not have thought of it otherwise. Bees are there in observation hives. Perhaps some implements used in the production of honey, such as honey extractors, are shown. In this connection the demonstration of live bees is of value. A colony of bees in a regular working hive fitted for the production of extracted honey or comb honey, is shown to the exhibition visitors. The bees are handled by an expert in a way which causes the amazement of the on-lookers, and while attention is drawn by this handling of the bees, the lecturer explains something of the life, history and habits of bees, how they build their combs, how they gather the honey, how they carry it to the combs, how the honey is taken out of the combs by means of the extractor, how the empty combs are returned to the hive to be refilled. These and many other interesting points of information with reference to honey production, enlighten the prospective consumers and answer many of the questions which arise in their mind.

The display of honey and bees at the exhibitions are also an education to the many men and women who have a few hives of bees but are not giving them proper attention. There is room for valuable work to be done by competent persons at all the exhibitions right along this line in the matter of treatment of disease, the proper ripening and handling of honey, the proper method of selling honey, and the necessity for realizing its real market value. All these points in which the small bee-keeper has such a direct influence on the business of the specialist, could be handled in daily lectures at the exhibitions to the great benefit of the specialist.

These points with reference to the great exhibitions and the bee-keeper have come to me from my experience at the Toronto and London exhibitions during the season just past, and point to

November, 1910

some practical propositions in reference to this work. First, it is evident that the great majority of bee-keepers in Ontario. do not patronize the exhibitions by setting up displays. We find a few men from year to year and that number seems to be growing fewer. This is much to be regretted when we consider the great advertising value of this work. I am not prepared to say why this condition has come about or to propose a remedy. I feel that the exhibitors themselves on one hand, and the exhibition directors on the other, having this matter immediately in hand, are in a ketter position to speak than myself. For my part I must state candidly, that considering the price I have been able to get for honey without exhibiting, the expense of setting up displays, and the prizes which are offered for these displays. I have never felt that it would pay me in dollars and cents to go to the exhibition. although as a beekeeper I am satisfied that I have profited by the work of others. I suppose it is poor policy for me to say this, considering the benefit that these displays are at the exhibition to the honey market. Thousands of people pass in and out and admire the honey, and while they may not buy from the exhibitor, because they did not want to be bothered carrying the parcel home, they are far more apt to telephone the grocer for some honey the next day, than though they had not seen this beautiful display of honey or heard the interesting lecture on the habits of bees.

It is to be regretted that there has been some dissatisfaction by some exhibitors with the directors of Toronto Fair, with reference to the location of the space, the arrangement of prizes, etc. I am not prepared to say that there are not two sides to the question. For example, if the honey people paid as many hundred dollars for their space as the candy people, I am sure there would be no discrimination against them

November, 1910

in favor of the cane directors are hard I and the Exhibition proposition. We mu act accordingly. I do more than raise do it with a full se it is easier to raise settle it.

I believe this Ass point a commission whole matter of s bees at the exhibitio thing cannot^{*} be don ducements to bee-kee plays at the country the great exhibitions prices are advancing but no more rapidly of goods. The matt one which bee-keepe neglecting almost ent aggressive in this an to the front.

Now, in reference t of live bees given by and London. There icism of the fact that located at the entra building. I may say both ways, as it w would have been ar the honey men to h them. At the same at the expense of th tural College, and bei able stand near the (not having any suita honey exhibit, I ac offered me.

At the London Exh only representative o was given a good star the building where the then there was no sig to indicate that hone side.

The interest taken these demonstrations 1

330