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OSPECTS

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aid, as the bees can only appreciate scent at a limited distance; and even though the antennæ be removed, she can return from any distance to her hive.

October, 1912

M. Bonnier put some branches that had been dipped in syrup at a distance from the colonies, and the next day the foraging bees had discovered them and had begun to fly to and from the syrup to the hive. These bees were marked with a mixture of green powder and tallow.

Other sweetened branches were placed in a parallel direction at a distance of some six yards or so from the first branches, and were visited by field bees, but not by those marked green. The second lot of bees M. Bonnier marked with red. The next day the green-colored bees continued to fly to the first lot of branches, and the redmarked bees to the second, proving that the bees were able to distinguish two directions in a very acute anglein this case the two sides being about 200 yards in length and only six apart at the base.

M. Bonnier believes that bees have a special sense—a sense of direction, such as homing pigeons possess.

THE VALUE OF EXHIBITIONS

At the moment of writing it is difficult to gauge the prospects of an exhibition of honey at the Fruit, Flower and Honey Show to be held in Toronto next month. The elimination of all mention of any such show from the prize list is portent of ill omen. The bee-keeper—at least, the professional—is usually a prosperous individual, and his prosperity comes without much hustling on his part outside his own little circle of labors in the apiary. He succeeds often in spite of himself. He

produces an article which is its own advertisement. In the minds of the general body of the public, honey is an article in which the degrees of comparison do not exist. It is honey, an article standing quite alone among comestibles. Its production is limited. for reasons too well known to bee-keepers to require enumeration. Hence, the necessity for "boosting" honey does not arise, even in this age of clamant advertising. There is also, perhaps, a tendency amon, st bee-keepers to abstain from revealing the mysteries of their craft. A fear exists in the minds of many of them that any ostentatious display of the ease with which the ferocious insect (?) may be subdued would lead to a great influx of amateurs into the ranks of the bee-keeping fraternity, and subsequently to the lowering of the prices of honey. These fears, for our own part, we believe to be unfounded. There is a natural prickly hedge surrounding the profession which very successfully protects bee-keepers from the competition of those who would not take bee-keeping seriously.

In all contests of a friendly nature there is an element which sometimes gets lost sight of—the spirit of emulation, which does so much for the advancement of human affairs. Success is amply rewarded with the laurel sprig or the hand-grip of congratulation. When the merely commercial spirit dominates the actions of exhibitors, the human element becomes deadened, and the value of exhibitions is greatly lessened.

We believe that it should be made possible for the rank and file to take part in these exhibitions; in fact, the small bee-keeper should be borne principally in mind when schedules are being arranged. The mammoth exhibit may serve a useful purpose as a decor-