

Very much pleased, Mr. Editor, to note that the adventures of that "Handy" man of Fenelon Falls and your humble scribe should attract the interest of our good friend in his Notes (page 260). I hasten to assure him that his presence would have been welcome, invited or not, as the "three-is-a-crowd" saying don't apply when one goes fishing.

Father Quinby used to say that when farmers began to complain of dry weather, then was the time that nectar was coming in freely. Perhaps so in Mr. Quinby's time, but in the writer's experience warm weather and moisture is the combination that has always turned the trick when big crops were secured. Dry weather this season cut our crop from alsike in half, and at date of writing (August 3) it looks as though the extremely dry and hot weather would knock out all chances of getting any nectar from the buckwheat around us. Rain in the near future may make a change, but it will have to come inside of ten days to do much good to the buckwheat, which is being wilted and forced into blossom prematurely.

#### WAX FROM SUGAR CANE

The "West India Committee Circular" states that application has been made for a patent for a process of extracting wax from the sugar cane. It seems that the rind of the cane contains a certain proportion of wax which has hitherto been lost with the refuse. By the new process this wax is now recovered from the filter refuse and turned to commercial uses, being very similar in its characteristics to beeswax or Carnauba wax, which can be used for precisely the same purposes. The wax, which resembles that now used very largely for making cylinders for so-called talking machines, is exceedingly hard and capable of taking a high polish. It is understood that many factories in Java will this year be using this process.

#### THE MECCA OF VISITORS

The success of the Process Building at the Canadian National Exhibition, Toronto, has been phenomenal, because it shows, not only the method of making various articles, for wear, for domestic use, for ornamental purposes, and so on, but also the latest inventions for manufacturing purposes. There is not a more interesting or absorbing display on the grounds than these exhibits in the Process Building afford. This building is unique to the Canadian National Exhibition of Toronto. No such structure exists at any other fair. It is the Mecca or centre of attraction for every visitor, and in order that all may have an opportunity to witness these operations and the marvelous creations of human ingenuity, the processes continue from 9 to 12 in the morning, 2 to 6 in the afternoon, and 7 to 10 in the evening. Admission, as to all the other buildings on the grounds, is absolutely free.

#### NEW BALLOON ACT FOR THE FAIR

Prof. Hutchinson, the renowned balloonist engaged for the Central Canada Fair, has a new act calculated to thrill any visitor to the fair. Prof. Hutchinson calls it his "sixtuple parachute drop," and consists in reaching the ground by means of six separate drops from as many parachutes. The balloon has to ascend 1,200 feet to permit of the daring aeronaut performing this act. Prof. Hutchinson has nearly 3,000 ascents to his credit.

The grand old man of American letterpress, Edward Everett Hale, has several appreciative studies in the Book News Monthly for August. Dr. Hale's own son writes one of the articles. Colonel Thomas Wentworth Higginson and W. de W. staffe add their tributes to the author of "The Man Without a Country."

Wednesday, Aug. 12, is the last day for receiving apiarian entries at Toronto Fair.

#### BEE-KEEPING

[Ontario Department of Agriculture Bulletin]

The information reported has been questions sent to bee-keepers of Ontario, 15th, 1908. When fairly well received, there were those who did not receive them. Until a general interest in the matter to answer it will be impossible for the Department of Agriculture to curate a report.

Of the reports received, 100 per cent. answered. The percentage is perhaps more than reported in the same report. That while the honey crop is flourishing conditions in the past two years have changed, and that many cases were wiped out. The census report of 1907 shows a total of 116,403 colonies. In the present year must be 13 per cent. to 15 per cent. in 1907 and 1908. The loss tends to keep the quality of honey, and many bees left show attention, as the surplus honey is above sources of disease. Very little disease is the percentage of every case the attack was occurring in only on the 1st of the inst.