

about them year after year that tends to mar and disturb the interest taken in the product. The judges in making their awards have found this "sameness" a difficulty in deciding between individual exhibits; onlookers are inclined to ask us whether our exhibitors have attained to the height of their ideas of perfection or if they have fallen into a rut. In these times of thrift and enterprise originality and attractiveness goes far towards success and we believe that it would pay exhibitors to give this matter their studious attention and to aim at introducing some new feature each year. This will not only have a bearing upon the general effect but will make the competition for prizes much keener, thus bringing out the individual ideas which alone can make such an exhibit.

Greasy Combs.

J. F. Munday writing in the "Australasian Bee-Keeper" makes a strong plea on behalf of bees that produce greasy looking comb honey, and states what he considers is the cause of this peculiarity, which indeed seems quite reasonable. We, over here, however, prefer the nice white comb and the bees that make it; it may not taste any better nor perhaps as well, but it looks and sells better. We take the following from Mr. Munday's article:—

"What is the cause of this greasy appearance of the honey comb? I think I know. The bees that produce it are remarkable for clinging and clustering on the comb. The heat they engender keeps the wax warm and soft, and the pressure of their feet forces the caps of the comb

right on to the honey in the cells. The caps are thus made perfectly airtight. There is no air left in the cells and the colour of honey in the cells is the colour of the combs, for the thin caps that cover it are nearly transparent. Yes! give me this kind of honey every time either in comb or extracted. The cappings of this kind of comb are tougher than those of the white comb honey. It will therefore keep better. It is not so easily damaged, and I fancy it is more easily uncapped with the knife when extracting, in consequence of the extra toughness of the caps; yet the caps are no thicker; in fact, they appear to be thinner than those of the choicest white comb.

When people who purchase comb honey find that the nicest and best of honey is contained in these greasy looking sections they will buy them fast enough. It is only the best of bees that produce them."

Wants Protection Against Bees.

"Spectator" writing to the Farmers Sun has the following to say upon the above subject: "To the editor of the Sun—In the Sun of Aug. 8, I saw an extract from the Country Gentlemen, to the effect that certain strawberry growers in Kent, England had made a mistake in making a raid on bees and bee-keepers because they thought the bees destroyed the ripe fruit. The writer goes on to say that bees never attack the fruit, but that at blooming time they are highly beneficial in causing fertilization which, without their aid, would not take place. Now, there is no necessity for depending on bees to fertilize strawberries, as there are some very excellent varieties, such as Brandywine and Parker Earle, that have a perfect blossom. I cannot exactly say whether bees attack ripe strawberries or not, but I can