

had to fight this in the past and have been able to do so with some degree of comfort, but recently this has become a more difficult task. Difficult, because those calling themselves Bee-keepers have suggested methods of adulteration which did not even suggest themselves to the honey consumer. The method of adulteration has first assumed one guise and then another, at one time to fill unfinished sections, again to give a bye product to be called that untruthful name "sugar honey", again its use is suggested to keep extracted honey from granulating when fed back, but the trail of the serpent, gentlemen, is over it all and if we compromise with principle, you may be sure we will suffer as Bee-keepers. There is but one course, the honest uncompromising, Bee-keepers must show themselves to the public as in no way countenancing the fraud. To him such a suggestion must be a crime against morality. He must show that in no way will he support such an idea or support a man be hoking or peasant who has lost all sense of right to such an extent as to refuse to see the evil of such a suggestion.

Failing this, he must have the stigma rest upon him, that is, he openly supports or secretly winks at and supports adulteration, and as soon as Canadian Bee-keepers do this, they must say good-bye not only to an enlarged home market but a large proportion to the market they now have. They must say good-bye to the foreign market within their reach. There are only two paths, the honorable and upright, yet uncompromising, the one which will lead our bee-keepers, yes, gentlemen, our nation, still higher in the moral scale or, the downward. Our markets are peculiarly interesting to bee-keepers. Anything influencing them for weal or woe must increase or diminish the profits to be derived from bee-keeping. It will not be here wise to mention the lowest figure at which first-class honey has changed hands during the last few years, but I am safe in saying that there are numbers of bee-keepers who will be willing to sell their crop in bulk free of all expense at six cents per pound. That as the methods of production improve, in other words the cost of production decreases and through experience the risks are lessened in any calling, competition must reduce the price. Yet aside from this the uncertainty of a market has tended to depreciate the value of honey in Canada. Those selling have been beaten down in price, often through misrepresentation as to what others are selling at. If there was a standing offer of six cents per pound nett for our surplus honey, it would be a great relief to our country. Before touching on foreign markets, let me say

that our home market is not developed as it could be by united effort on our part to produce a well ripened honey, and bring honey more prominently before the public. I could not help thinking when Prof. Robertson was delivering a lecture on Cheese and Butter as a food, how much could be done for bee-keepers by placing the value of honey as a food before the public. Could we not do good by uniting more in bringing this matter before our Country? Next we allow too small a margin to the retailer 10 cents per pound is not too much for honey, in fact the price is low, if any cutting has to be done let us allow the retailer more, this will be a step in the right direction.

I have during the past year paid special attention to the foreign markets. Dr. Montague, M. P. for Haldimand, finds the imports of honey to Great Britain about ten million pounds per year. We during 1893 exported to Great Britain only 10,855 pounds, and less than 17,000 pounds altogether, and imported 28,699 pounds; this latter was brought in at British Columbia. After urging that the government at British Columbia do something to assist bee-keepers in opening a foreign market, and reminding them that Ontario contained over 10,000 bee-keepers, they secured for me particulars in connection with the British market, and I have a promise that if the Experimental Dairy products are again shipped to Europe, a trial shipment, under government auspices, will also be made of Canadian honey; also that when Prof. Robertson goes to Europe he will not only endeavor to secure an opening for our honey, but draw attention throughout Britain to Canadian honey. Also the government are going to see what they can do with our honey in Germany. In recent correspondence with the department of Trade and Commerce they gave the prices realized on honey from various countries; there are also the names of firms no doubt of the highest standing. They are herewith appended, and should any of you feel inclined in the meantime to enter into correspondence with them direct, you can do so. I know of a number of small shipments of Canadian honey this season netting 7 cents per pound. Buckwheat honey sells there to good advantage, netting nearly 7 cents per pound. Messrs. C. A. Slater & Co., of 19 Old Hall street, London, Eng., wish to correspond with those having Canadian honey. Messrs. Cross & Blackwell, Ltd., of Soho Square, London, England, says: "We have no knowledge of the value of honey from Canada. There is considerable demand in this country for pure honey which