

perhaps because steam does not come in contact with the wax. for the extractors are so constructed that the wax runs away from the crude mass slowly, and after leaving it has a chance to leave behind it foreign substances; and last but not least, the melted wax in the moulds remain stationary and as a rule cools very slowly allowing any remaining residue to slowly sink to the bottom and leave the top cake pure. When wax cools rapidly the cake hardens before this separation takes place.

The trouble with the solar wax system at present is that unless a price is paid greater than the average bee-keeper is willing to give, the best solar cannot be procured, and the work cannot be done rapidly. Again, the machine is not turned to the sun as often as it should and it is not placed where the sun's rays have the greatest influence. We have one of Mr. Alpaugh's machines and paid him five dollars for it, and unless manufactured in large quantities it cannot be sold for less money.

We think those having steam for heating purposes, that is through pipes, could likely use a coil of pipe in a solar wax extractor and in that way get just the same results as the rays of the sun.

Those purchasing wax are beginning to discriminate in favor of the best wax. This is right and nothing will tend more rapidly to give us a first class article. Dr. C. C. Miller in *Gleanings* wants to know what the indications are to show "that wax used for containing honey only is whiter than and different from that intended by the bees to become a part of the brood chamber."

We would say one indication would be in the appearance often noted when the bees are allowed to build their own comb.

Facts For Queen Breeders

Written for the Canadian Bee Journal.

We want business bees and mated before shipment.

In the human family we find, occasionally fine specimens of the species—educated fools—that are of no practical use on earth.

And the same rule applies in some degree

to honey bee life. I concluded that it depends upon the queen mother bee breeder, whether the mother bee is simply a thing of beauty or built for business. Lately it seems to be the queen breeders' aim, to produce to the end that he may have a bee of pretty color and of numerous bands and of comely appearance, in other words a prize-winner.

It is not surprising that such a queen may not be an expert layer—or may be only a drone layer. My experience teaches me that if a person wants money-making business bees, he must keep that point in view; culling all drones and imperfect queens of doubtful character, and to send out no Virgin queens, and breeding only those that are most prolific in money making qualities, without so much regard for color, bands, gentleness, etc., etc.

I want bees and want many, for in honey bees there is money. I want no queen breeder to send me Virgin queen unless so ordered.

And so that these requirements are filled, it matters not whether they are pure blood or any fancy strain. Disappointment awaits the honey producer who buys queen for business and gets Virgin queens on the recommendation of others.

My bees do well for me under proper manipulation, and the peculiar conditions they are accustomed to. But transfer them to another climate, different location in another hive, another system, different everything and they might prove unsatisfactory. And this is how I, in some degree account for the oft repeated accusation of misrepresentation on the part of queen breeders. Hence I reiterate, don't depend upon others. Read the Canadian Bee Journal, a paper devoted to the art and science of bee keeping, then let your good sense and experience guide you. Rule your own apiary.

Breeding honey bee queens is a legitimate business, but needs to be studied, built up and taken care of, as a live merchant or manufacturer takes care of his affairs, and keeps up with the times. If you are ahead of the times, sit down and wait for the times to catch up. It is not simple chance or luck, but hard mental work that brings success. And he who thinks otherwise had better look elsewhere for a soft snap.

There is money in the business, of this we have ample proof. There are failures, so there is in every line, especially those Bee Trade Journals, but it is no reason why the honey bee and the honey producer should get off the earth.

The boomer of the five Banded Golden Queens by overshooting his mark and sending out Virgin Queens, and making insane claims for the breed, has done the Italian Bee more harm than good; and if it was not for the cool heads of a few, I