

sold as "Swiss Honey" neither of these varieties is difficult of detection but it is otherwise in cases of an admixture of invert sugar, a substance produced by the action of dilute acids on cane sugar. This sort of adulteration has long been known especially on the continent of Europe, where the product is sold under such names as "Turkish Honey", "Table Honey", and "Prepared Honey." Not unfrequently it is more honestly termed "Sugar Honey" or "Artificial Honey" (Kunst honig) and some of it is said to have come from America, in comb made from paraffine and labelled as "Prime American Honey." Its manufacture has increased greatly during the last ten years. It is prepared with such skill as to baffle the efforts of German chemists to distinguish it from the genuine article, although both the German and Belgian Governments have sought by every means to protect the producers of pure honey. A recent memoir, emanating from the Imperial Health Bureau, acknowledges that the trade in this artificial honey is very considerable and that the addition of invert-sugar to genuine honey cannot be detected.

Whether it is likely that the last mentioned variety of spurious honey is sold in Canada, I am unable to state. I doubt whether invert-sugar is manufactured in Canada and certainly it is not imported under that name. There is however a considerable importation of honey itself which is given in the Trade and Navigation Table as follows:—

Honey in Comb or and Imitations Thereof	Entered for Home Consumption for Fiscal Year Ended	
	1902 June 30th	1903 June 30th
From Great Britain.....	31,856	6,209
British West Indies.....	18,754	
Austro-Hungary.....	6,571	
China.....	320	51,789
Germany.....	3,559	
United states.....	85,451	62,606
Total.....	146,511	120,604

It would seem quite possible that some of this imported honey, upon which a duty of three cents per lb. has to be paid may be of a spurious character."

These we are sure will be somewhat surprising facts and figures for Canadian Bee-Keepers who are grumbling about the price of honey and the "glutted home market." Looking up the Trade and Navigation report of the Dominion for the four months ending October 30th, 1903. We find there was imported,

From Great Britain	1,478 lbs
United States	19,292
British West Indies.....	10,150
Other Countries	288
Total.....	31,208 lbs

The quantity is not great but it shows very plainly that we are not occupying all of our home market. The import from Great Britain was valued at \$59.00 or 4c per pound, that from the United States \$2.202, nearly 11½c, that from British West Indies at \$353, slightly over 3c per pound.

Duty 3c per pound, less one third preferential on British and Colonial imports.

We do not doubt the ability of the West Indies to supply a cheap and pure honey that may compete with our lower grades for manufacturing purposes but what is this which Great Britain is sending us? It may of course be a foreign product transhipped, we do not know. When laid down at our ports with freight and duty added the price cannot be much lower than our best grades at present.