

3. That a dark or deeply colored foundation give a dark and unsightly "fish-bone" in the resulting comb, materially affecting the palatability of the honey and injuring its sale.

4. That, in addition to what has already been said, there appears to be some support to the theory that certain waxes are more easily worked and drawn out by the bees, than others. The results obtained in the experiments with the "foundations in general use" and the "inferior waxes" from the Root mill, would, apparently, lend weight to this view. The facts at our command do not at present allow of any general conclusion being arrived at on this point. There can be no doubt, however, that this factor cannot, in view of the data here given, be of equal importance with that of the weight of wax supplied to the bees in the foundation.

5. That the present experiments give no definite results that would enable us to draw conclusions as to the relative merits, as regards working by the bees, of wax melted at high and low temperatures.

It might be urged from what has already been said, that it would be convenient to supply all the wax necessary for the construction of the comb. There are, however, no facts to support this extreme view. The production of the wax by the bees is a normal function, and its entire cessation might possibly affect the honey yield or lead to a disarrangement of the general health of the bees. There is probably a limit in the amount of wax that can be advantageously furnished as foundation, a limit to be ascertained by future experiments.

### Pure Honey Bill.

(From a report of the annual meeting of the Ontario Bee-Keepers Association in the Rural Canadian by W.F. Clarke, Guelph.)

A resolution of thanks was proposed to those members of the House of Commons who had voted for what its friends choose to call the Pure Honey Bill. A more truthful name would be Anti-Sugar Honey Bill. It was objected that if thanks were voted that branch of the legislature which passed the Bill, censure should be pronounced on the Senate for throwing it out. The Bill was also opposed as needless and useless, putting the association to expense for no possible good and contrary to the principles of sound political economy. But these views did not prevail and the resolution carried. The object of this Bill is to prevent honey being produced by feeding sugar to bees, a practice not likely to prevail, because, even at present low price of sugar,

honey cannot be made from sugar at a profit. Moreover, the manufacture in question is legitimate, there is no deception or adulteration about it, and no legislature has the right to interfere with honest production of any kind whatever.

## BEES AND FLOWERS.

### The Relation of Bees to Horticulture

But few problems have caused more disagreement and been, by some, more difficult to solve, than the proper relations which Bees sustain to Horticulture. Some fruit growers seem to think that the honey bees are detrimental to fruit, while others contend that they are not only a benefit to growing fruit, but are essential to its full development and general prosperity.

Lately several of our most progressive fruit-growers have come out squarely on the side of the bees. Mr. Charles A. Green editor of the "Fruit Grower," published in Rochester, N.Y., after mentioning the experiments made by Prof. Waite, of the Agricultural Department at Washington, which conclusively proved that to many kinds of fruit trees the bees were absolutely essential for fertilizing, remarks thus:

The fruit-growers of the country are greatly indebted to Prof. Waite for the discovery he has made. The lesson is, that the fruit-growers must become interested in the bees, and I do not doubt that, within a few years, it will be a rare thing to find a fruit-grower who does not keep honey-bees—the prime object being to employ the bees in carrying pollen from one blossom to another, from the fields of small fruits, as well as the larger fruits.

Mr. G. M. Doolittle, of Borodino, N.Y., thus states his views concerning the original use of honey:

The first object of honey in the flowers was not as a food or luxury for man, nor even to sustain the life of the bees, but as a means to an end, and that end was, that the fruit, or female blossoms of plants, which could not be possibly fertilized in any other way, might be fertilized through the agency of insects, which would be attracted to these flowers by the tempting and attractive morsels of sweet they spread out before them as a sumptuous feast, while honey as food for the bee and for the use of man came in as a secondary item.