

Will a case of sections between the brood-chamber and upper storey act the same as a queen-excluding honey board?

No. We prefer the queen-excluding honey board when sections are placed on the brood-chamber.

After extracting, if I find I have extracted too much thin honey, will it do to evaporate it over the stove?

If your honey is thin when extracted you may ripen it. Allow the thick honey to settle to the bottom of a deep tin. Take the thin top honey, placing it in open vessels, and set in water just below the boiling point. If not too thin, putting in very warm room, in which the sun can shine and raise the temperature, will usually ripen it.

If there is no bottom piece on frames in upper storey, will bees attach combs to frames below?

We think it objectionable not to have a bottom bar on the frame for other reasons. Yes, they will frequently do so unless you use a perforated metal honey board between.

Will lard, pork or molasses barrels do to store extracted honey in if thoroughly cleaned?

We have thoroughly cleansed and scalded molasses barrels and stored honey in them, but usually lost too much by leakage. The pork or lard barrels are decidedly objectionable and not fit for use even after being scalded and thoroughly cleansed. Honey in such barrels would be looked upon with suspicion. After consideration we favor the 60 lb. tins with large screw tops. They are easy to liquify when the honey becomes granulated, easy to handle, of suitable size for selling, and almost any family can do with one. The advantages they have over the barrels give them the preference.

HIS BEST REPORT.

J. W. WHEALY.—As others are sending in their reports I may as well send in mine also. It is not much of a one, but like the old lady's cold "It's the best I've got." I commenced the season with bees in 49 hives, some were good, some very weak and the rest "all grades." I ran 38 for comb honey, and the rest for extracted. I think the extracted ones were rather stronger on the average. The comb honey stocks increased 25 and gathered 600 lbs. of honey. The extracted honey stocks increased one (by division) and gathered 170 lbs., both averaging between 15 and 16 lbs. per hive, spring count. The greater increase of the comb honey stocks was offset by the fact that a number of the swarms were short of stores. I had to feed about 200 lbs., and am afraid that a few of them

are yet rather short of stores. My experience this year is that if the increase be worth the feed, that the cost of raising comb honey is about the same as extracted. Of course another season might give different results. I got some of the D. A. Jones & Co's winter feeders to feed some of the light stocks. I tried three of them and stopped. One swarm refused to go into the business of winter feeding, a second got so excited about it that they used up what they had in the hive as well as what they had in the feeder and then starved. I can't get at the third without exciting three or four swarms on the other side of the passage who are always on the warpath at the least provocation, so I just let them take their chance. It is the first time I have tried winter feeding and I hope the last. I have been frequently asked by beginners "How will I get my bees to swarm." My experience this season enables me to give a better answer than I could have done before. Get a good strong colony of black bees of a good swarming strain. Keep them shut down in the brood-chamber until they begin to hang out, then give a large upper story without comb or fdn. to discourage them, and if they don't fill the bill they will make a very good attempt at it. Of course some will say that they have none of the swarming strain. Well I have, but don't intend to longer than I can replace the queens. If any one wants them he can get them cheap, for if I can't give them away I will kill them. I have always read that when a number of queens came out with a swarm, that swarming was done for that season, but I had some blacks that would send out a fresh batch of queens every day. I thought I would see how long they would keep it up but got tired of it before they did and stopped it.

Kintore, Feb. 6th, 1889.

We are sorry you had such bad luck with your winter feeder. You could not have prepared the food properly. The sugar should be thoroughly incorporated in the honey or water. If you had put a little water in the sugar and brought it to the boil, and as soon as the sugar was melted and enough of the water boiled out so that it would make wax which may be determined by putting a little on ice, and if it is hard enough it will break as soon as it cools, then lift it off the fire, after it gets perfectly cool, just before it gets too stiff adjust the shelves in the feeders and fill it full. This will feed an ordinary colony all winter and a great many have wintered as well with the winter feeder properly arranged, as they would on honey in the comb. We have had some very flattering reports from its use. Where the sugar is not properly dissolved they work out the liquid part allowing the unused to fall to the bottom of the hive, but if properly made no loss occurs.