

gar is saccharine, whereas honey is a glyucose. The former ferments readily, and has to be turned into glyucose by the action of the saliva or some of the other digestive juices before it can be assimilated. In the case of a healthy stomach saccharine can be dealt with at no great expense to the system; but when the digestive organs have been weakened by disease, and the whole nervous system is extra-sensitive, sugar should be withheld and honey given.

SIMPLICITY IN BEEHIVES

BY GEORGE OTT, ARKONA, ONT.

I have never been a contributor to the Canadian Bee Journal. Nevertheless, I am one of the oldest bee-keepers in Ontario, having kept bees fifty-two years. I commenced keeping bees in the old-fashioned box hives. In the fall of the year we would set out some of the best hives, with plenty of honey to winter over. We would smother with brimstone and get a few pounds of honey, mixed with dead bees, brood and pollen. The combs could not be examined—all was in the dark. Bee-keeping was an unprofitable business. With a good movable frame hive, bee-keeping can be made a profitable business, as well as an interesting business.

As soon as movable frame hives, honey extractors, foundation comb and sections were introduced, I commenced experimenting with them. I tried a good many different styles of movable comb hives. Some of those hives were a damage to me, let alone paying for the right to use them. Some of them were made without a honey-board on the top over the frames, simply a piece of cloth laid over the frames; also the honey box had no bottom. Thus, when my bees

were ready to receive honey-boxes, it was often necessary to use the smoker to quiet the bees when taking off the cloth and putting on the honey-box.

The box having no bottom, the queen would often move up into the honey-box and deposit eggs. Thus, when taking off surplus honey, there would be brood in some of the sections. I was advised to use perforated zinc between the brood chamber and honey-box. This seemed to be unnecessary expense, and was not satisfactory to me. I then made a honey-board for the top of my hive in place of the cloth. I made six holes in my honey-board, each hole three-eighths of an inch wide and three inches long, for the bees to pass up into the honey-box. I also put a bottom in my honey-box with six holes in it, to correspond with the holes in the honey-board on the top of brood hive. I also made a honey-board and put one on each honey-box. When thus arranged, the queen seldom enters the surplus to deposit eggs in the sections. I used no tins for sections to rest on. I simply took four strips of lath three-eighths of an inch thick across the bottom of the honey-box for the sections to rest on. Sometimes those frame hives I first used the comb would break loose and fall off when extracting. I was advised to wire the frames. I tried it for two seasons. I then tried a central stile in the comb frames. This stile I make one-fourth of an inch thick and half an inch wide. The bees build comb much even and straighter than they do on wired frames, and it is done with less expense.

When I first commenced using honey-boxes filled with sections I was often vexed trying to get the bees out of the surplus box. I was recommended to try bee-escapes, and they did

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