

next Nov., (C. B. J. page 52). Like any other innovation it will no doubt bring out different opinions on the matter. Believe the idea is O. K. though, and aside from the reasons given in editorial notes, it would, it seems to me have a tendency to show off the industry to a greater magnitude. However am not any too sanguine that enough interest can be stimulated into the Co. Associations to take the matter up in time, organization and other incidentals, necessary to carry the thing through to a successful issue. But I don't want to discourage you Mr. Ed., keep the matter booming and if York Co. gets the bumper crop we are not expecting, we will likely try and do our little share of the work.

WHO SHALL RIPEN THE HONEY? THE
BEEMAN OR HIS BEES?

Mr. Alexander, of N. Y. who recently contributed that remarkable article to the "Review" in which such radical views were given re the question of overstocking has in June issue of the same journal another debateable subject attributed to him, Mr. Alexander takes the view formerly held by quite a number of apiarists, that we can ripen the honey quite as well as the bees. It is too much work to uncap all the combs and besides a "great deal more honey can be taken if we do not allow the bees to seal the honey before extracting". If Mr. Alexander's article on overstocking was liable (as expressed by some) to do harm to the industry, to my mind this latter article ten times more so. Granted that some can extract honey before it is sealed, and keep it from fermenting, on the other hand there are others who can not do so. I think I will be backed up by the most practical producers when I say that no single circumstance has done so much to injure the extracted honey market as the practice of placing

unripe honey before the consuming public. In justice to Mr. Alexander, be it said that he cautions apiarists not to attempt to ripen honey artificially unless they have the proper facilities for so doing, that's the point, the great majority have not these facilities, but the temptation to "get so much more honey", induce them to take chances with the inevitable result that we all are familiar with. With extra sets of extracting combs nearly if not quite as much honey can be secured as though we extracted before sealing, and when it comes to a question of quality, have yet to taste the artificially ripened article that could in any way compare with that ripened in nature's way.

TRUE OR FALSE ECONOMY

We hear it repeatedly said that bee-keepers should never invest more in the bees than what they bring in, in other words "make them pay their way as they go". While this advice is good in general, like all other rules it has its exceptions; am reminded of a little incident in my own experience a few years ago, in the early spring I felt quite sure that an investment in certain fixtures necessary for the bees was almost imperative. One great difficulty was in the way, viz. lack of available cash; after considerable thought the necessary amount was secured. At the end of the honey season found that I was not only able to meet the debt but had on hand about 200% profit for the investment. Editor Hutchinson sums the matter up briefly and well in last number of the "Review" when he says that "economy does not always mean the saving of money—some times it means the spending of money".

PROSPECTS FOR HONEY CROPS

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