

I just leave space enough for the drip to run into, and that is all that is seen.

Mr. Alpaugh—As I am the inventor of that extractor, probably I can say a little something about it. If you run honey through, it time and again, without cleaning your screen or pan, it is going to color your honey more or less. That is one thing you have got to do, keep the pan and screen perfectly clean, because every time you melt there is a kind of dark sediment or matter there; the next day that will heat up again and honey passing over that will become discolored. Another thing, you want your pan just as short as it can be made to catch the drip, so as not to allow it to pass over the dark metal that is under the screen. When I first made them I made them too long and I have eventually shortened them up, and maybe those that some of the members have are still too long.

I think Mr. Newton has given us a fine paper and something that may be of benefit. There is one thing in keeping everything clean round about your place; have a place for extracting in that your bees cannot get into and buzz around when you are working, and drop into the cans when you are filling them out of the tank and so on.

I called on a store keeper in St. Thomas once to sell him some honey and I was only asking eight cents wholesale. "Oh!" said he, "I bought some honey the other day at seven." I said I would like, out of curiosity, to see the quality of it. He brought out a can (he hadn't opened them himself, he had just got them the day before,) and when I looked in I couldn't see the honey for drowned bees: it was literally covered on top of the can with drowned bees. There is one exhibition of carelessness in putting honey on the market in that state; that would disgust any consumer; they wouldn't think of looking at honey if they always got it like that. With regard to putting the extracting combs back, I have done both ways; I have kept them off till evening, which I always do in robbing time, if there is any inclination to rob. If I am scant of supers I put them back when extracting. If I have plenty I take two top stories off each hive, or three off the small ones. I believe it is better to leave them off till evening. If you do not put them back they will go on with their work just as soon as you close the hive, and they can do this work at night when they cannot gather.

In a discussion re using a honey knife dipped in hot water or dry, the majority preferred to use the knife dry.

Mr. J. B. Hall followed with a paper entitled

Harvesting Comb Honey.

This is the heading sent to me by your Secretary. I do not fully understand its meaning, and I think it might have been given to a more competent person as I am very apt to be termed a "Back Number." But at the risk of everything, I will make a few statements of facts as I find them in the apiary.

1st. For the production or harvesting honey, be it comb or extracted, we must have bees, and for producing comb honey in sections the right strain of bees must be kept. By the right strain I mean bees that are great gatherers and are not afraid to leave the brood nest to store it; that will fill the brood combs to the top bar with brood; that will build combs without the use of brace combs; that will fill the sections to the wood all around, and are not afraid to cap it when full. The above qualities can be and are kept, but it requires constant culling out of undesirable stock.

2nd. The hive has not much to do with the securing of a large and choice crop of section honey. I do not want a small hive, except the bees swarm, in that case I want it contracted for seven days. Our friends, the manufacturers and patentees, tell us great things about the choice of dwellings for our bees, and most likely say what they think is true, but we must not forget that they are making their bread and butter, not from the production of honey, and we must take their advice with a deal of caution.

3rd. See that the bees have an abundance of stores to last them until the main honey flow, and be sure and do this in September and give them a good letting alone until fruit bloom. This is the right time to unite any stocks that will not be strong enough for the honey flow, always keeping the best of the queens when uniting.

4th. Fill the sections with suitable foundation. Here again it becomes us to be very cautious, and it will be well that we read the report given to the Ontario Association at Toronto in 1896 of experiments made at the Dominion Experimental Farm, Ottawa, and you will see that the foundation that is lauded so profusely, and told us, by those interested, that we make a great mistake if we do not use the patent or other makes. Do not use tough foundation as the bees will not accept or work it out as readily as that which is more brittle. Perhaps they cannot get