

**COMB HONEY vs. EXTRACTED**

I am well pleased with the Canadian Bee Journal, and I hope you will have health to continue to make it profitable to us all. I have been keeping bees a great many years and there is a lot about bees that I know, but there is a whole lot I do not know.

I take several journals and study them very closely, to see if there is anything I can add to my system of managing, as I am always trying to improve.

I tried producing comb honey some few years ago, by the old system of putting supers on and trying to coax the bees up by putting bait sections in, and all other methods, but failed and gave it up; but continued to study the nature of our pets, to find out what I could do with them, in the way of forcing them to build fancy comb honey. I have succeeded so far, both in producing fancy honey, and having the right style of a hive to do it with. We want, for producing fancy comb honey, a large colony of bees and a small hive, or a hive we can make small any time, whenever the honey flow demands it.

I intend to go to Brantford Convention, and I will give you my method of producing comb honey, in my humble way, if desired.

In reference to your remarks on page 374 Canadian Bee Journal, about comb and extracted honey; which is the best? I will leave that to the consumer. It is all a matter of taste, something like the Indian about his Mrs.; or the man that kissed the cow.

You say that there is no food value in wax, as it is difficult to digest. I will admit that; but

how much wax is there in all anyone would eat. Then you say that the wax must first melt in the stomach. For my part, I think that is where the unhealthy part comes in with your customers—heating them up so hot to melt the wax. The bees make wax to store honey in. That is true. But what is nicer on the most elaborate table (or the most humble, either, if it comes to that) than a nice dish filled with a fancy piece of comb honey, to tempt the eye as well as the stomach.

You say that it is more profitable to produce extracted honey.

It may be to you and a majority of bee-keepers, but for my part I know I can make more money producing comb honey. I can get as much per colony, and nearly double the price.

D. ANGUISH.

[Glad to hear from you, friend Anguish. If more of us would realize that, notwithstanding what we know, there is a lot more to learn, the bee-keeping industry would improve, and we would not hear so much about winter losses. Your idea of a small hive for producing comb honey is correct, and we are pleased to learn that you have made it a success. We will be very pleased to see you in Brantford, at the coming district convention. In reference to comb honey vs. extracted, would say that if your trade demands comb honey, by all means supply it. The public must be supplied with what it wants.—ED.]

INDEX FOR VOL. 15, 1907.—Accompanying this issue will be found an Index to Volume 15, which closed with our December number.

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