

Reflections

... from the Editor's Desk

Creamed Honey

In this issue our correspondent "Curious" returns to the forum and persists with his awkward inquiry for a definition of "creamed honey." As we start towards answering the question we suggest that the general understanding of a creamed honey is a granulated honey soft enough that it is easily spreadable and hard enough that it will not pour from the container. This consistency may be obtained either by accident or by design but in either case the producer apparently feels justified in applying the term "creamed" to his product. There are several different circumstances which may induce this spread-

able condition, for example (a) when the honey is stored at a sufficiently high temperature, (b) when it contains a fairly high percentage of water, and (c) when it is stirred sufficiently either during the process of granulation or subsequently. It would appear that in these instances the honey crystals are separated from each other (a) by a proportion of liquid honey, (b) by water, or a solution of honey and water, and (c) by air spaces.

If these suppositions are correct then under any of the conditions mentioned the honey will be likely to deteriorate within a relatively short time. Perhaps somebody will devise a creaming process which involves neither the introduction nor the application of anything injurious to the honey, and incidentally, as "Curious" suggests, perhaps he will explain the physical changes which take place. In the meantime we can offer our "spreadable" honeys to the consumer and call them what we will, but for a

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but I think we should have a definition of the word creamed before honey is packed and sold as such.

Yours, etc.,

"CURIOUS,"

CORRESPONDENCE

TO THE EDITOR

Sir,—An Indian by the name of Rimal Raha, who calls himself a bee expert, is anxious to come to New Zealand and work for a beekeeper. He wishes to learn the trade more thoroughly and, I think, ultimately return to India and establish himself more firmly in the industry.

I believe Mr Raha has a family of four and would need housing. His address is Kalimpong, Darjeeling, India.

I am wondering if you would mind inserting a note in the next edition of your journal mentioning this man. I understand he is of good character and was recommended to me by the Queensland Beekeepers' Association.

—Yours, etc.,

WALWORTH INDUSTRIES LTD.,

L. A. Furness,
Managing Director.

Creamed Honey

TO THE EDITOR

Sir,—I have been awaiting (apparently in vain) some response to my letter which appeared in your February issue. Beekeepers are pretty voluble on most subjects—why the silence about creamed honey? Is this "creaming" such a secret process, or can it be that the creamers don't really know what they are doing and so can't tell me? I may say, sir, that I have inspected a variety of honeys sold as creamed, and they differ markedly. No doubt the public likes its honey spreadable,

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c/o. The Editor.