

ant when bees are once in the hive. I welcome, therefore, such a disinfectant as naphthaline promises to be, for apparently it is just what is wanted, as it can be used at any time. But I should advise no half measures in dealing with foul brood. Has this question been ever definitely answered? Does the melting temperature of wax, or what other temperature, with certainty destroy the microbes or bacilli of foul brood?—W. Cornwall, in *British Bee Journal*.

[If wax is kept at a temperature of 212° c for four minutes, it is said the microbes are destroyed. In making foundation, wax is kept at this temperature for twenty-four hours.]

We notice from the editor's remarks that four minutes' time is sufficient to destroy the microbes at 212°—the ordinary temperature of boiling water. As our esteemed friend, Mr. Cowan, seldom, if ever, makes a statement unless he is positive of its correctness, we are pleased to know that the time necessary to destroy the microbes has been reduced. We are gradually collecting more light on this subject, and trust that the foul brood scare from comb foundation is quickly passing away.

#### Bacillus Alvei.

BY reading the replies to Query 782, I see that a number of those answering the question, "What is the cause of foul brood?" says *Bacillus Alvei*. Dr. Tinker modifies his a little by speaking of Cheshire as the author of the name, but says it "is, without doubt, the true cause."

Well, I am not going to say that it is not, but if Cheshire is no more correct as to the name of the disease, than he is in his diagnosis of the same, then there is little dependence to be placed on what he says regarding the matter—not enough so for any one to say that foul-brood is caused by *Bacillus Alvei*.

Every person in North America, who has any personal experience with foul-brood, knows that the honey from a foul-broody colony will spread the contagion far and wide, if this honey is placed where the bees have access to it. There is no guess-work about their being "death in the honey," and yet Cheshire says "the popular idea that honey is the means by which it is carried from hive to hive, and that mainly through robbing, is so far in error, that only occasionally and casually can honey convey it from colony to colony."

He also tells us that the egg of the queen contains bacilli, from which it would appear that

the disease must go; for, surely, if these are in the eggs, the larva hatched from these eggs must, of course, be fed upon by these bacilli; hence would die of the disease; yet, the fact remains, that where no foul-brood honey goes no disease goes, or the thousands of colonies cured by the Jones, or more properly, the original Quinby plan of fasting, could never have been cured. Although Jones, Root and many others have proven the fallacy of Cheshire's conclusions regarding foul-brood, yet, as far as I have seen, he has not taken back what he wrote, or even said he might have been mistaken. I wish to impress upon the minds of all that honey from foul broody hives must be scalded, the first thing after being taken from the hive, or from the bees, or there is great danger that your own or your neighbors' bees will carry a little of it off, when, just as sure as effect follows cause, the colony which receives a bee load of this honey, will in due time become extinct from foul-brood, unless the apiarist is on hand to cure it by the fasting plan.—*American Bee Journal*.

Friend Doolittle gets right down to business in this *Bacillus Alvei*. We are surprised at this late date, that any one should maintain that honey is not one of the principal sources of spreading the disease, and that queens that affect colonies would transmit the disease to other colonies by laying eggs that are affected. Now, thousands of queens that affect colonies have been used without transmitting the disease. If the fasting plan cures the disease, what is the use of anybody holding to the theory "that a queen from a diseased colony will transmit the disease through her eggs, or some other way when fasting along with the colony." We fear that science will have to give way to the ordinary methods now in use, whether the cure is done upon scientific principles or not, so long as it is a cure, that is all we need trouble ourselves about, and we feel very much relieved that we are not depending any longer on theory, but practice has given us so much information on this point, that theory or imagination will have to give way to facts as proved by practise.

#### North American Bee-Keepers' Convention.

As previously stated, the meeting of the North American Bee-Keepers' Association will