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What is the remedy? As respects the dissemination of foul brood, spring-time is by far the most critical time of the year, therefore the "first aid" must be early and thorough inspection.

R. L. TAYLOR.

Lapeer, Mich., March 24, 1909.

Inspector W. D. Wright's Opinion

To permit robbing among bees at any time is reprehensible, and doubly so when any danger from foul brood exists. Of course, bees are more inclined to rob extensively early in the season than at any other time, and all weak colonies are then in danger of despoliation by the inhabitants of more populous colonies in the same and neighboring apiaries. This danger exists from the time of their first flight until they commence gathering honey from the fields, often a period of one or two months; and, furthermore, where foul brood is prevalent in a locality, there will be more damage done to the surrounding apiaries from this early robbing, if permitted, than from any other source, or at any other time.

This foul brood honey brought in by the robbers will be stored in healthy colonies just in time to be dealt out by the nurse bees to the young larvæ, thus propagating the disease by wholesale, as there is more brood reared at this season than later, and foul brood is usually more in evidence the fore part of the season. Therefore, I deem it highly essential that in such territory the foul brood inspector be on the alert to forestall as far as possible all robbing from such diseased apiaries.

W. D. WRIGHT.

Altamont, N.Y.

Mr. Gemmill's Opinion

I was not an attendant at the last bee convention held in Brantford, as circumstances would not permit of my doing so. I have since learned of some of the proceedings, and was greatly surprised that an effort had been made on the part of some of the members to have the early

and late inspection of apiaries abolished, and the inspection of diseased apiaries only take place during summer, while a honey flow is in progress. This, to my mind, seemed very unreasonable, and I think my interest in foul brood matters always has been, and still is, for the benefit of the pursuit and those engaged in it.

At present, nevertheless, I feel it my duty to state that to abolish the early and late inspection of diseased or suspected apiaries, in order to secure the safety of healthy apiaries in such localities, when properly done by competent inspectors, would be a great blow to the foul brood law as it has heretofore existed. I am well aware of the fact that in the past colonies known to have been diseased by their owners were moved as early as end of March and planted almost within a stone's throw of a perfectly sound apiary, thereby causing an immense amount of loss before steps were taken to remedy the evil. This same has occurred in the fall of the year.

Now before concluding this subject I may as well mention the fact that at this present writing an apiary which a short time ago was badly diseased is about to be—if it has not already been—moved to within several hundred feet from my present location near London, and I am not aware that the owner of this apiary has a certificate that it is free from disease.

I certainly feel that Mr. McEvoy's suggestion in favor of early and late inspection is a good one under many circumstances, and that Mr. Chalmers, along with the others who supported Mr. McEvoy's contention, deserve the thanks of the bee-keepers at large for urging that even diseased colonies should be removed to a safe distance and cured during a honey flow or by artificial means, or later on properly placed on solid sealed (not partly sealed) stores, and cured for winter.

F. A. GEMMILL.

London, Ont.