

wholesale, also the size of section, that is one one pound and two pounds, by this I mean a size which is less saleable should bring less per-pound than one readily sold. I hope bee-keepers will take this matter practically in hand and especially for our European market, there will be no difficulty there, in Canada it may require a little exertion.

R. F. HOLTERMANN.

Brantford, Ont.

MICHIGAN STATE CONVENTION.

(Continued.)

Thirdly: Much has been said about the disagreeable character of the odor arising from a colony affected with the disease and it is true that it is sufficiently so but not to a greater extent than many other odors. It is much like that of a poor quality of common glue in a warming pot in preparation for use. The disease would ordinarily run several weeks in a colony before one would be likely to discover it from the odor on opening the hive. Though I have had two colonies so diseased as to be reduced to the strength of weak nuclei yet no odor could be discovered without opening the hive or putting the nose close to the entrance. So do not depend on discovering the disease by the sense of smelling. Fourthly: Generally more or less of the cells containing dead brood have cappings each of which has an opening near its centre and these openings vary in size from one that might have been made with a common pin up to one half as large as the capping itself or even larger, as if the bees, discovering the death of the larvæ while capping the cell, at once interrupted their useless work. Sometimes many dead larvæ will be found in cells on which the work of capping has not even been begun, and on the other hand sometimes a comb full of dead brood will hardly exhibit a cell with an incomplete capping. Cells containing diseased brood and having cappings which are entire may generally be detected by the sunken appearance of the cappings.

As I have said, in May last I discovered the effects of the disease in two of my colonies. I could not believe it was the work of foul brood but determined to keep watch, and did so till I saw them increasing in strength rapidly, one of them casting a swarm and the busy season coming on, when I paid no more attention to them until early in July when the white clover season closed. I had about 3000 sections partly filled with honey and in order to have them finished I selected twenty-seven colonies to do the work and got honey to feed them for the purpose by extracting two or three of the heaviest combs

from each colony in my apiaries. Everything progressed finely for several days till one of my hands called my attention to a colony that seemed not prosperous. On investigation I decided the cause to be foul brood and found that several other colonies had the disease also and that from ten to twenty combs from diseased colonies had been extracted the combs distributed through the apiary and the honey fed to the twenty-seven colonies above mentioned. As the readiest method I proceeded to attempt a cure by the starvation plan and treated fifty colonies or more with very good success so far as yet appears. I do not yet by any means cherish the hope that there will be no new cases. I shall undoubtedly have to continue the struggle for a while yet but I have no doubt of final success.

In closing let me remark. First: That the rapidity with which the disease will destroy a colony depends as much upon the number of combs in the hive as upon the virulence of the disease. A colony on eight combs, attacked by the disease in the spring, will very likely be reduced at the close of the season to a pint or a quart of bees, while one on twenty combs will perhaps cast a swarm and still come through a good colony. Secondly: Honey from infected colonies certainly carries the disease. Of the twenty-seven colonies fed as above twenty-six had the disease well established when I stopped feeding. Thirdly: I venture the opinion that the disease is conveyed only incidentally except by infected honey and by the matter of diseased brood. I did what I would not advise any one to do and that was to put a diseased colony back into its own hive without disinfecting the hive, of course giving the bees, after a course of starvation sound honey, and the disease did not reappear though a considerable amount of brood was reared. Finally: Hiving swarms from diseased colonies on foundation or on empty frames seems to be all that is necessary to free them entirely from the disease.

R. L. TAYLOR.

Mr. Taylor was asked by some one present whether he expected he was rid of the disease? He did not think he was but was of the opinion that he had a big job on his hands.

A gentleman, whose name we did not get, said he was troubled with, what he considered to be, foul brood. He claimed he could, by tasting the honey in a colony tell whether or not they were affected with foul brood, could also tell by carefully examining the cappings with a microscope. On the cappings there