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ED. C.B.J.

by an Ontario

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Danzenbaker all a matter of

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your order for ds, Bill Head, Hurley Print- anteed.

REPORTS ON FOUL BROOD

[Read by our Provincial Inspectors at O.B.K.A.]

Inspector Byer's Report

As you doubtless are aware, most of the appointments were made late in the season this year, and it was impossible to take up any regular line of work; that is, to make any thorough inspection. The result is, I only went on special calls where I was sent by the Department. I put in about twenty days; of that eight days were spent in Northumberland County. I visited some fifty apiaries in the Counties of York, Durham and Ontario, and I only found nine apiaries with genuine foul brood. Out in Northumberland County there were eight yards that I found black brood in. According to what appeared in the Bee Journal, Mr. Anguish seemed to think there was not as much as I said. I wish to say that with us here to-day is Mr. Chisholm, of Wellbridge, and I believe he will back up what I have said with emphasis. Mr. House thinks I have not made it quite strong enough. In black brood we have a very serious menace to the industry in Canada. Mr. House told me he regarded ordinary foul brood as simply nothing as compared with black brood. I am not trying to exaggerate, but, on the other hand, I don't think we should minimize. If that outbreak of black brood is not stamped out some of the would-be scoffers will be sorry. In Northumberland County they hardly know what to do with it.

Inspector Wm. McEvoy's Report

During the past season I inspected sixty-three apiaries, and several of these I inspected the second time. I found dead brood in every apiary, and in many apiaries I found a great deal of dead brood in every colony. I was astonished at the mistakes that were made and the reports that were sent to the papers. When will bee-keepers learn to tell the different kinds of dead brood in every age and form from each other?

I did not find much of the real serpent (foul brood), but I found large quantities of starved brood. This class of dead brood was found in very many localities in the Provinces of Ontario, Quebec and Nova Scotia, and also in very many parts of the United States.

With so many apiaries in this condition, and the alarmists holding up death's head and the cross-bones," it frightened the bee-keepers, and caused many to worry a great deal over their bees, and then many samples of dead brood were mailed to me. I answered all these letters of enquiry very promptly and saved the most of the bee-keepers from any further worry.

There never was a time when things needed clearing up so much as now, but before going into this I will give some of my experiments and discoveries.

In 1875, when foul brood broke out in my apiary, I did not know what to do to get rid of the disease. I wrote to the best bee-keepers for advice, and all advised me to burn every hive of bees that I found the disease in. I did not want to destroy any colony if I could by any means save it, so I went in to do my best to cure if possible.

Everything that I did at first ended in failure. I then took all the combs out of several brood chambers and filled them with white combs that never had brood in, thinking that this might result in cure. All these would have ended in failure if I had not made one very important discovery, and that was the testing of the honey and finding it to be diseased. One colony that I had taken all the combs out of, and had given it a full set of dry white combs, became a little restless, and, thinking that something might have happened to the queen, I carefully spread the combs without disturbing the bees very much, so as to find the queen sooner. I found her all right, and I also found that the bees in the short space of time had stored a little honey in these white combs. I extracted what little honey I could get and fed it