

During the honey-flow, and now we have fewer bees to keep up the strength of the colonies against the normal death rate. Again, the brood is gradually finding its way back to the centre of the brood-nest, where there are many infected cells which were filled with honey during the rush of the honey-flow. These, with element weather and other unnatural surroundings, are conducive to recurrence. Often new pollen is stored on old infected pollen—in the cell—and when this new pollen is exhausted, and no other to be had, the old pollen must be used; hence a recurrence of pickled brood.

Remedies—The best time to effect a cure is during a honey-flow.

Adopting a modified McEvoy plan: Make your stocks strong by uniting; place them upon comb-foundation starters, and cage the queen. After five days remove the starters and make them into wax, and give full sheets of foundation—keeping the queen caged five days longer. This will give time for all infected mature bees to have disappeared before any brood is reared.

Don't try to save infected mature bees by drugs. They are not worth the trouble; yet salicylated sprays,* during a dearth of honey in a field, would in a measure prevent a recurrence, but would not cure the disease. I would not destroy the germ, but prevent their growth, by placing them in an antiseptic medium.

If a cure is contemplated when little honey is coming in, the above modified McEvoy plan should be observed in every detail, and the bees fed with salicylated syrups until the combs are well filled, so that all food may be considered antiseptic by the time brood-rearing begins.

Great care should be taken to melt all old combs and remove starters into wax at once. Do not use a solar extractor, but remove the material at once to hot water or a steam-extractor. Until further investigations shall reveal the longevity of these germs in open air, I shall recommend a thorough disinfection of the hives, frames, etc., by boiling in linseed oil for half an hour. This would not injure hives or fixtures; besides, the high temperature reached would insure thorough disinfection. Careful, practical, and experimental work, coupled with microscopical investigations in the presence of this disease when at its worst, will, I feel confident, discover some practical plan for its successful eradication.

Literary Notes

"Our Feathered Friends" by Elizabeth and Joseph Grinnell, D. C. Heath & Co., Publishers, Boston, Mass. A neat volume of 144 pages for young people. Our readers will recognize Miss Grinnell as being the author of the article "Under the Apple Trees" which appeared in our January issue. Her book is written in much the same style. It has proved to be very popular with schools in the United States and has been especially recommended by many branches of the Audobon Societies which are seeking to develop public sentiment in behalf of the protection of birds. The book develops accurate habits of observation and the spirit of sympathy with bird life.

I have used the Post pen for some time and have had great satisfaction with its use. It never fails or gets cranky. One can at least have clean hands by using the Post, whatever the heart may be.

Ira D. Sankey.

*Sodium salicylate one ounce, water five gallons, sugar forty pounds. Make syrup without heat. Antiseptics prevent germ growth. Disinfectants destroy the life of germs, by actual contact only.