

might misunderstand you. You have emphasized very strongly the danger of using an old cage, but you have said nothing about the bees. Would you be careful to transfer the bees with the queen?

Mr. France—It has been practiced, but those bees have fulfilled their mission for which they were sent, being good escorts of the queen. They have safely delivered their queen, and there is a great deal of danger lying in the honey-sacs of those bees, and they might as well be put into the stove with the old cage.

A Member—Is it necessary to burn anything to cure foul brood?

Mr. France—No, but it is often desirable economy.

A Member—Is there any danger of buying or using combs from strangers?

Mr. France—There have been many cases in Wisconsin where that was the means of contracting disease.

A Member—Is there any danger of buying second hand honey-cans, barrels, or other packages, that have once had honey in them?

Mr. France—Yes, and I want to say that second hand goods of any kind are poor things to store honey in.

A Member—Supposing the honey-comb is filled with honey, and it has had disease in it, will those disease-germs propagate themselves in the honey?

Mr. France—No, not until that honey has been transferred in the comb.

A Member—Will pickled brood or black brood produce foul brood?

Mr. France—I have never known it to do so. They are distinct and separate germs. Small-pox will not produce diphtheria or scarlet fever.

Mr. Moore—What causes foul brood in the beginning?

Mr. France—I know of a case where we have no positive proof of its being contagious. As to the real cause of what produced it I am unable to say, because in almost every case under my own observation I could trace it back to something else. I know this much, foul brood was brought here from Europe, and here from one state to another until it is a wonder to me now there is any place that is not occupied with the disease.

A Member—Is there any authentication of foul brood coming from anything-but foul brood?

Mr. France—Not that I know of; and yet I say there must be a cause?

Dr. Miller—I think it is an old theory. I certainly have been one who has held to it very strenuously that without the microbe there could be no foul brood. Have you at any time understood that without the microbe there will be no foul brood?

Mr. France—No sir.

Dr. Miller—I have held that until the last week or so. I was very much surprised to find in one of the Belgian journals that a very careful examination was made by Dr. Lambotte, who is, as I understand it, a very able bacteriologist. He went to work and examined it, and I confess to you it is very hard for me to believe there is any truth in it, and yet I believe the investigations were thoroughly made. He found that the *Bacillus alvei* was nothing more nor less than another microbe. The first thing he noticed was its great similarity to another rather commonly known microbe, and then he made very careful tests and decided it was exactly the same thing; that under certain circumstances this microbe, the *bacillus vulgaris mesentericus*, would have such changes made in it as to produce foul brood; and that it was the same bacillus under a little different condition. My own impression