

## EARLY SPRING INSPECTION

## Mr. McEvoy Discusses the Question and Submits U. S. Inspectors' Opinions

In the C.B.J. for March, 1909, Mr. Chalmers asks if I shook bees off diseased combs on Friday evening, which evening by the day of the week would I give them their second shaking? Tuesday evening is the evening. When I shake the bees off the diseased combs on Friday evening I want them to remain on the starters Saturday, Sunday, Monday and Tuesday. Four full days is the time that I always advocated, because I found that where colonies were in a horrid state with foul brood, that anything less than four full days on the starters before I shook the bees the second time did not cure every case. I am very thankful to Mr. Chalmers for calling my attention to this, as I did not intend to have the little combs made out of starters during the four days taken out in less time. In that same article it will be seen in two places what I meant. I said, "Let them build comb for four days," and in the line below it I repeated it by saying, "The bees will make the starters in comb during the four days." Mr. Chalmers asks another question, and says that he has some nice combs which have been over foul brood colonies, but they are wet, and how are they to be made dry. If these are white combs and **never had any brood** in, wash them out well with a spray pump and then put them in the extractor and extract the water out and hang them up until dry, and then use them on any colonies you wish. If any of the white combs have pollen in, it does not matter. After these white combs have been washed out and hung up until dry, I will stake my life that they cannot give foul brood to any colony. I have had many thousands of nice white combs saved and used. Where any white combs had brood in them, make all such into wax, because in some dark cell a dried crust of foul brood might not be seen by

the bee-keeper, and if missed it would give the disease as soon as that cell was filled with honey and the honey from that cell fed to the brood. Any person with fair eyesight can easily see if a white comb ever had brood reared in it. Mr. Chalmers, like Messrs. F. A. Gemmill, J. B. Hall and myself, uses plenty of upright wires in wiring his foundation into the frames, and has a choice lot of perfect combs. Every super full of white combs properly wired is worth two dollars, and why should they be destroyed if they never had brood in?

At the Brant Bee-keepers' Convention, which was held January 28 and 29, I read a paper, asking "What shall be done with foul brood colonies found near valuable apiaries in early spring?" I will here quote the following lines from my article, which are as follows:

"The most disease is spread from apiary to apiary in early spring through bees robbing diseased colonies. And to attempt to cure early in the spring, so as to prevent the spread of the disease just then, would be too costly. What then? Get all your neighbors diseased colonies destroyed? Oh, my, no! This would not be a neighborly act, and should not be done where people are willing to cure. Well, what then? Allow these diseased colonies to stay there until curing time in the honey season, and let your bees go and rob some of these foul brood colonies and cost you the loss of hundreds of dollars? Would that be right? No, positively No! Now there is an easy, safe and profitable way out of this state of affairs, and that is, get these colonies inspected early in spring, and if found to be diseased and near fine sound apiaries, have the inspector help to move these diseased colonies to a place of safe distance from all bees and leave them there until cured."

Just as soon as I finished reading my paper, Mr. Sibbald and Mr. Byer very sternly opposed me. Mr. Sibbald said that the disease could not be told in early spring. I replied that I could easily tell it then. Mr. Byer said that the cell would be full of honey then, and that the disease could not be seen. Mr. Sibbald said that he would not allow any

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man to inspect spring. I told expected apiaries in early spring inspector could ing in early spr the way Mr. Sib was pleading to inspected in early colonies moved a valuable apiaries ruined through t apiaries robbing of their diseased on Mr. Sibbald a would rather hav left near his api moved a safe dist I pressed him for "Be honest, now would you rather imies left near you or moved away?" answer my questio more was said jus noon this was bre Anguish, Lambeth, pection, and his m Mr. Fearman, Yorl Mr. Howard, Lync Gainsville, all spoke ner, urging early twice to the Preside but he did not. have the inspection the 15th of May and and at any time b dates by applying fo was considered to r the one moved by M Mr. Anguish's motio Mr. Craig's was put When the Canadii February came to h Craig's resolution w: stood it, and then r not press Mr. Angui could have been carr early inspection. Sinc en to Mr. N. E. Fr.