

Great care should be exercised to keep all infected material away from other bees until it can be completely destroyed or the combs rendered into wax. Wax from diseased colonies should be rendered by some means in which high heating is used, and not with a solar wax extractor. The honey from a diseased colony should be diluted to prevent burning, and then thoroughly sterilized by hard boiling for at least half an hour if it is to be fed back to the bees. If the hive is again used, it should be very thoroughly cleaned, and special care should be taken that no infected honey or comb be left in the hive.

It is frequently necessary to repeat the treatment by shaking the bees onto fresh foundation in new frames after four or five days. The bee-keeper or inspector must determine whether this is necessary, but when there is any doubt it is safer to repeat the operation rather than run the risk of re-infection. If repeated, the first new combs should be destroyed. To prevent the bees from deserting the strips of foundation the queen may be caged in the hive or a queen-excluding zinc put at the entrance.

Treatment With Bee Escape.—The shaking treatment may be modified so that instead of shaking the bees from the combs the hive is moved from its stand, and in its place a clean hive with frames and foundation is set. The queen is at once transferred to the new hive, and the field bees fly there when they next return from the field. The infected hive is then placed on top or close beside the clean hive and a bee escape placed over the entrance of the hive containing disease, so that the younger bees and those which later emerge from the cells may leave the hive, but cannot return. They therefore join the colony in the new hive.

Fall Treatment.—If it is desirable to treat a colony so late in the fall that

it would be impossible for the bees to prepare for winter, the treatment may be modified by shaking the bees onto combs with plenty of honey for winter. This will be satisfactory only after brood rearing has entirely ceased. In such cases disease rarely re-appears.

In the Western States, where American foul brood is particularly virulent, it is desirable thoroughly to disinfect the hive by burning the inside or by chemical means before using it again. This is not always practiced in the Eastern States, where the disease is much milder. Some persons recommend boiling the hives or disinfecting them with some reliable disinfectant such as carbolic acid or corrosive sublimate. It is usually not profitable to save frames because of their comparatively small value, but if desired they may be disinfected. Great care should be exercised in cleaning any apparatus. It does not pay to treat very weak colonies. They should either be destroyed at once or several weak ones be united to make one which is strong enough to build up.

Recently some new cures have been advocated in the bee journals, particularly for European foul brood, with a view to saving combs from infected colonies. The cautious bee-keeper will hardly experiment with such methods, especially when the disease is just starting in his locality or apiary, but will eradicate the disease at once by means already well tried.

In all cases care should be exercised that the bee-keeper may not himself spread the infection by handling healthy colonies before thoroughly disinfecting his hands, hive tools, and even smoker. Since it takes but a very small amount of infected material to start disease in a previously healthy colony, it is evident that too much care can not be taken. In no case should honey from unknown sources be used for feeding bees. Care should also