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contagious. Let us state the case in plain terms, so that he who runs may read. Foul brood is not destructive to the adult bee. In its ignorance it unconsciously feeds the diseased (or poisoned) honey out of a diseased cell to a healthy larva, and thus, in simple language, poisons it. If, on the other hand, it took the honey out of a clean cell, no such result would take place. Now let us take a parallel case: A man has before him two cups of tea. One is poisoned, the other is not. If he drinks of the poisoned cup, death results; if he drinks of the other, no harm results. Now, is there contagion between these two cups of tea? It will be granted there is not. Then we claim, without fear of successful contradiction, that there is no contagion between a diseased cell and a healthy cell in a hive. It is a mere act of deliberately administering the poison or disease in either case. If this be true, then why disinfect? The great object is to remove the diseased honey and larvæ from the hive, so that there remains no diseased honey to feed to the larvæ. But it may be said in reply: "Is there not danger that diseased honey may be dropped from the combs when shaking the bees off? This honey may fly to the sides of the hive, or drop to the bottom board, and remain there, only to break out in disease again." Our reply is, "No." When the bees are shaken from the diseased combs, all honey that is shaken out with them is immediately cleaned up by them, only to be used up on drawing out the starters that are given them. These being removed, and followed with full sheets of foundation, every vestige of the diseased honey is gone, and nothing remains to feed to the larvæ but the new, pure, clean food. We remember some time ago a supposedly distinguished bee-keeper advanced the idea that disinfection was necessary, as in the case of smallpox or scarlet fever. We saw at once that he did not properly understand the spread of the disease or its nature. Yet he is the one, more than any we know of, who has had most to say about foul brood, and has caused no end of strife and no little annoyance to the Ontario Department of Agriculture. We believe he is largely responsible for this idea of disinfection, and, if rumor be true, he is now an applicant for the honor of presiding over the experimental apiary, the organization of which is said to be in contemplation by the Ontario Government. If the Government would avoid future difficulties, it will leave this man at home to busy with square hives and write honest

reports to the agricultural papers. In this matter of disinfection we speak from experience. The writer had some thirty-six hives, all diseased, in 1906. Mr. Davis was engaged to apply the McEvoy cure. Not a single hive body or frame was disinfected. In the summer of 1907 the bees were examined by Mr. James Armstrong, who was then Inspector for Brant. He declared the yard clean. It was largely on his recommendation, therefore, that Mr. Holtermann bought the whole outfit (save two), and we have not heard of any difficulty arising from this source since. The two remained in our possession and were last season increased to four. We will give any man a five-dollar bill for every foul brood cell he finds therein. The bees are open for inspection at any time. We would like to hear from any one who disagrees with us on this matter.

2. Our answer is "No." The Doolittle plan, as described in "Scientific Queen Rearing," is better. Read what Mr. Adams has to say on this question in another column, replying to a somewhat similar question.

3. Mr. O. L. Hershiser is an A1 bee-keeper, and we would accept with confidence anything he says. The spring opens much earlier in the field of Mr. Hershiser's operations than it does in your district, Mr. Jones, and this may account for considerable difference. Possibly if the spring was wet, cold and backward, Mr. Hershiser would do some feeding also. This would depend largely upon locality and the nature and abundance of the flowers for the bees to work upon.

4. About the middle or latter end of clover flow.

5. At the sides no space should be left, other than just enough to let the foundation hang freely. At the bottom it is well to have about a quarter or one-eighth, to allow for any sag that may take place.—Ed.]

FALL REPORT

Bees went into winter quarters around this vicinity with plenty of good honey for winter stores. Our bees had a good fly about two weeks ago. Bees around here are mostly all outdoors, packed in clamps with dry sawdust, and we expect they will come out all right in the spring.

GEO. OTT.

Arkona, Ont., Dec. 21, 1908.