

Foul Brood and the Inspector.

HERE seems to be a misapprehension existing among many people in reference to the foul-brood Inspector's duty. We have just had a long talk with the Assistant-Inspector, who has been treating about fifteen apiaries this season. There are many who imagine that they have the Inspector to pay, and there are others who imagine their bees are to be burned or destroyed whether they are affected or not. All kinds of remarks and imaginations, and various rumours are found to exist. We think it would be wise if our friends who are posted in this matter would explain it to their neighbors, and also write the facts to their local papers, giving all the information possible. We do not know of any places he has visited where the people are not thoroughly well satisfied; in fact some of them are quite willing to pay him for his work. A little notice in each local paper by a bee-keeper in the neighborhood might do a great deal of good. As there are about three months yet to operate it seems to us that there should be every effort made to ferret out all the cases possible, and have them properly attended to. If the Inspector or Sub-Inspector is not too busy, and can spare the time, we think it would be advisable for them to remain right there and assist in the work. Perhaps it would not be possible for the Inspector to do this, as he has so much ground to go over; but we think that the Sub-Inspector should remain in each neighborhood affected with foul-brood, and try to wipe it out if possible before he leaves. There are a great many inexperienced persons who would be quite willing to undertake the case as best they could, but we know how dangerous it is to trifle with a plague, and especially so in a season when there is no honey. The danger from robbers is too great to allow it to be left to inexperienced hands. One party who had foul-brood sold his hives and kept the combs. The party who bought them and put bees in them caught the disease. We sold to one party this year 125 second hand hives at a very low price. We got some of them from various parties, and were not positive about them being clean. We scalded and scrubbed the entire lot with boiling water, and kept them boiling in water for

from ten to twenty minutes. We have frequently known foul-brood to be started by putting bees into hives that had not been properly disinfected. There may be instances where the disease would not start again in such hives; but the cost of disinfecting is so slight and the danger so great that it should never be attempted. Some people seem to think that it is discreditable for them to have foul-brood, and try to suppress the fact. The suppression is the discreditable part of it; and we shall be pleased to assist either privately or publicly with such information as we deem advisable to any one who may have it.

How to Get Good Queens.

WE ARE just in receipt of an inquiry, why it is that the Doolittle queen cups are not a success, as the bees tear them down as quickly as they are put in. They ask, do we think the wax has anything to do with it. Of course you must have good wax. If the cells are made of poor, dirty, adulterated wax, they will be torn down, but when there is no honey coming in, and they are killing off the drones, do not imagine you will have as much success. Put plenty of hatching brood in, and if the colony is not strong, go to some of your strongest colonies, take therefrom frames of combs with bees, be sure you do not get the queen, the better way is to hunt her out first, and set her one side on a comb, then shake down plenty of bees in front of your colony. The old bees will return to the old stand and the young ones run in. If there is no honey coming in, place a feeder on top of the hive, and put food in it two or three times a day, so that they will think there is a great honey crop on, and they will increase so rapidly, that they will imagine they require a great many cells. A properly prepared colony as above, is likely to give you more good cells than half a dozen ordinary or one dozen weak colonies or neuclei. This is the cheapest way to get extra good queens, at least this is one, and you need not be afraid of tearing down the cells, if you make all the conditions right. Bees will always swarm in good weather, or get the swarming fever if there is plenty of