

CAPPINGS.

FROM A VARIETY OF COMBS.

Spread the Information.

THE following we clip from the *Daily Globe* of Thursday, July 24, as a sample of article, of what we would like to see in every paper of the province. Let all who receive Bulletins take them to the local newspaper men, and have them make extracts therefrom:—

"Beekeeping in Ontario has become an industry of such importance that last session the Legislature passed an act for the suppression of the disease known as 'foul brood,' and this has been followed by the issue of a pamphlet on the same subject by the Ontario Bureau of Industries. The pamphlet contains, besides the act referred to, a paper by D. A. Jones, of Beeton; a paper by Mr. William McEvoy, of Woodburn, and some introductory remarks by Mr. Allen C. Pringle, president of the Ontario Beekeepers' Association. Between Mr. McEvoy and Mr. Jones there are some differences of opinion, which, however, do not leave the beekeeper in doubt either as to the nature of the disease or the means to get rid of it. One of these differences of opinion is as to the cause of the disease: Mr. McEvoy says that the rotting of uncared-for brood is the real and only cause of foul brood. Mr. Jones thinks that chilled, neglected, over-heated and drowned brood are evils distinct from foul brood, though he expresses the belief that one case of foul brood was caused by the drowning of the brood. In the face of these conflicting opinions Mr. Pringle's advice is very simple and practical. He says in effect:—"Be on the safe side, avoid all possible causes, and as far as may be avoid using brood which from any cause is dead or decaying." Both authorities agree that the honey is the medium through which the spores or microbes which cause the disease are transmitted, and that any successful plan of treatment must involve the complete removal of all infected honey, whether in the honey sac of the bees or elsewhere, before healthy, untainted brood can be produced. Both agree also that the combs containing the foul brood cannot be used again, but must be destroyed. The Ontario act requires that where the disease is of the virulent or malignant type all colonies so affected, together with the hives occupied by them and the contents of such hives, and all tainted appurtenance that cannot be disinfected," shall be destroyed by fire, but that in ordinary cases and in the incipient stages of the disease milder measures may be used. In such cases Mr. Jones recommends fasting, that is to say, the starving of the bee until all the honey in the sac is exhausted. "If the bees are shaken out of a foul-broody colony into a clean hive, and allowed to remain there until the honey is consumed in their bodies, the disease will never return; in other words, placing the bees in a new home without honey in their abdomens may be looked upon as a sure cure." There is a difference of opinion as to

the necessity for disinfecting the hive. Here again Mr. Pringle recommends the safe course. Disinfection can at least do no harm, it may do good. We do not pretend to give in this article the details of the various measures of prevention and cure described by Mr. Jones and Mr. McEvoy, but any beekeeper may obtain the bulletin by applying to the Bureau of Industry."

BEES KILLED BY SALT WATER.

A wasp or bee swallowed may be killed before it can do harm by taking a spoonful of common salt dissolved in water. It kills the insect and cures the sting. Salt at all times is the best cure for external stings; sweet oil, pounded mallows or onions, or powdered chalk made in to a paste with water, are also efficacious.—Cor. in B. B. J.

DOES THE SHAKING OF BEES OFF FRAMES OF BROOD ON WHICH QUEEN-CELLS ARE BUILT INJURE THE QUEENS IN ANY WAY.

G. M. Doolittle answers a correspondent through *Gleanings* on this subject as follows:—

A correspondent wishes to know "if it will answer to shake the bees off the frame of brood having queen-cells upon it, if it is wished to save the cells for use." No, not by any means. Very many have been the number of queens killed or injured for all time by this plan of getting the bees off the cells. If the cells are only just capped over, such shaking dislodges the royal larva from the royal jelly, throwing the larva to the bottom with such force that it is either killed outright, or, in failing to get back, dies where it is. If further advanced, such shaking deforms the queen by her having crippled wings or legs, or, what is more often the case, the queen has a dent in her abdomen, certain segments of which are dented inward or the whole flattened or curved. While this last is not as bad as to have the wings deformed, yet it is a very rare case where a queen with a deformed abdomen proves to be a really good queen. Such queens generally become fertile and lay quite well for a time, so are of some value; but those whose wings are crippled are worse than no queen at all, for they never become fertile, while they stand in the way of our successfully introducing a laying queen. In case such crippled-wing queens are of the German or hybrid race, they are very hard to find, and the parties who have ordered queens for supposed queenless colonies having such crippled queens, and lost them in trying to introduce them, can be numbered by the score, if not by the hundreds. No one should attempt to introduce a queen to any colony unless he takes away the reigning queen at the time he puts in the new one, without first trying the colony with unsealed brood to see if they are really queenless. If they build queen-cells on this brood he can know that they have no queen; if not, then he may know that, if he tried to introduce a queen to that hive without first finding and taking out that which the bees are reverencing as a queen, he will be certain of losing