

except from descriptions in the journals, and not a single sample had been sent to the "British Bee Journal" office for diagnosis. Last year, however, we began receiving from time to time specimens of dead brood differing in a marked degree from any we had previously seen in this country, and which corresponded in nearly every particular with the description given of black brood, and they at once reminded us of that we saw in California.

Black brood is of quite recent occurrence here, and we naturally hesitate to accept the statement defining it as "European foul brood," or the assertion of Dr. White, that it is caused by *Bacillus alvei*. To say the least, it is quite possible that Dr. White has made a mistake, just as others have done, and has cultivated one of the numerous saprophytic bacteria found in bees. It appears to us that the most important test has been omitted, and until that has been made successfully our judgment must be suspended. The test we allude to is to prove that the disease can be reproduced in healthy larvae from a pure culture of Dr. White's *Bacillus* larvae, showing the characteristic symptoms of foul brood—that is, the ropiness and odor. We know that this was done by Mr. Cheshire with *Bacillus alvei*, but we cannot see that Dr. White has hitherto been able to reproduce the disease with his microbe. Until this has been done the investigations and the conclusions arrived at are of little value so far as solving the question is concerned."

Honey is especially recommended as likely to be beneficial in cases of dyspepsia, rheumatism, asthma, hoarseness, shortness of breath, and all affections of the chest, consumptive people are known to have derived great benefit from its continued use, and it is said to have been recently often used as a substitute for cod liver oil with very satisfactory results.

BEGINNING BEE-KEEPING.

April is about the best month to buy a stock*. The risk of winter being over, all that remains is to bring the stock to full strength in time for the honey flow, which is sure to come, be it early or late. The stock may throw off a swarm, which will give a little surplus. In selecting a stock, one that has swarmed last season is to be preferred, for the queen will be in her prime. The combs should be well and evenly built out, with brood evenly deposited on five or six frames. If healthy, the larvae will be plump and of a pearly whiteness, and, when quite young, lying curled up in the cells much in the form of a C. Capped brood should be evenly sealed over, without being punctured or indented in any way. If the brood presents any other appearance clear out from that apiary as you would from a mad dog, and disinfect your clothes and wash your hands with carbolic soap before going on another visit. Foul brood being largely on the increase, it would be well, when in doubt, to get advice before deciding to purchase.—*Irish Bee Journal*. [*A month later would be better in this climate. The rest of the advice is sound and applicable everywhere.—Ed.]

From the remotest times honey has been valued as a wholesome and nourishing food and the habitual use of it generally regarded as highly conducive to health. So thoroughly were its valuable properties appreciated that it is mentioned by old writers, along with flour and milk, as one of the necessities of life.

But it is not only as a palatable and nourishing food that honey has become so highly appreciated, it is now generally acknowledged to be a really valuable medicine.

Helpful Ex

(By E. D. T.)

Last spring our bees were wintered in the open and were taken out of the hives the last week of March. They were put out as soon as the ground was above the frost. Their winter quarters were not so good as they should have been. On April 15th, but have no results when they were taken out as the frost is out. The hives have no ventilation. The bees are removed and the hives are quite damp. The hives have no roof and the rains seem to be getting in. Then, we think it is better to remove them in April and May to get them into condition for the honey flow.

To Remove Bees With no Annoyance Flying Bees

As soon as the time comes for removing the bees from their stands, and the weather is such that the bees will be suitable for removal, we go to a yard or a field, and throw the hives into this yard, or into a field, or enough so that the bees can fly from the hives and fly from the hives just at night, when the bees can't fly, then remove the balance of the bees. Leave the bees in the hives, when they will be wintered in their hives, and their summer stands. A single bee fly