

melted down. I boil that hour before I begin to when I skim it off the top and then pour it into some dishpan, and keep boiling. I did this in one and then began to look muddy. I took the sack out and other kettle and heated the same sack over a fire, skimming as long as I was in the shape of wax, and then poured it off into a basin of water. Then I turned in and built a fire and burned it out, but you have not destroyed all the wax. I thought of what was said by Mr. Dadant, and tried the wax or rendering of those solar extractors. I don't use one of them because I don't know where there is any wax. After you have boiled the wax, you can't believe you could get it out of it. After it had lain in a fire there and it didn't seem to indicate a gelatinous substance in it.

I would like to make some of that plan of churning the wax. I fixed my melting apparatus so that I had it so that I was in the frames and boil it so as to churn it up and then the wax out of it there, but it didn't work for me; I didn't get a half to a ten pounds of that wax, and mostly all of it had gotten to a point where it was too heavy. The weight of the slumgum is heavier than the wax and it sinks to the bottom of the tank. I tried and I ran the slumgum out, and while it looked as if it was nothing else in it, I

pressed it out and I got more wax than I skimmed out before.

Mr. Hall—Mr. President, I thought I hadn't anything to say, but after Dr. Bohrer began to talk I see that his method of rendering wax has been almost identical with my method. During the last two or three years I have talked with a few who have had wax presses, and I began to think I ought to have a wax press, and I ordered one to be built for me for this fall's use. I don't know whether it has been built or not. The only difference between Dr. Bohrer's method and mine was, he said he put his dry combs into hot water. My method has been to put the combs, all broken up as finely as I could break them, into a barrel and keep it in water, some times a week or two weeks and frequently as long as three weeks, and pour the water off occasionally, and it would be as black as ink, especially these old combs, and my way was to soak up the cocoons with water so that they couldn't absorb any of the wax, and in that way cause the wax to rise to the top of the water in place of being absorbed in the cocoons.

Dr. Bohrer—You wouldn't do that with foul brood combs.

Mr. Hall—I had no foul brood combs, thank goodness. What difference it would make I don't know, except the water that would drain off would have to be dumped into a place where it would be impossible for the bees to get it.

Mr. Darby—I just wanted to add a few words to what Dr. Phillips said in reference to this method of wax rendering. I have heard these discussions at different times, and they nearly always end pretty much in the same old way. I realize the fact that our methods of rendering wax are too slow, as the doctor has said. I don't like spending five dollars' worth of time getting two dollars and a half worth of wax, and then it is a mussy, unsatisfactory thing any-

way, and I think in these discussions these agitations should stimulate someone to work out a better and more speedy plan.

Mr. Ramer—I have had a little experience in melting up wax the last few years. I have tried the wax press and the solar wax extractor and I never got much satisfaction out of that, but I believe that the simplest and cheapest method that I have lit upon is that—I think I got it from A. B. C.—to take an old boiler and make a couple of pieces of slat work, one to lay in the bottom and the other on top of the sack—take a course sack. I never bother with my wax; as I get little bits I squeeze them up in a bunch; with an old comb that has been taken off the hives, squeeze it in a bunch and throw it in the sack. I tried the method of soaking, once, but I don't think that amounts to anything. I put it in the boiler, and it will soon boil all to pieces, and then I take something like a churn-dasher and churn that good, and work it and skim it off; and if you don't fill the sack too full, you can take hold of the end of that sack with something and get your wax all into a little bunch and work it, press it and churn it out. That way I have worked out at the rate of six pounds an hour, and I think I got nearly all of the wax, and the process is cheap and not a long one. That is the way I have proceeded to take out all my wax, and the process is cheap and not a long one. That is the way I have proceeded to take out all my wax in the last two or three years.

Mr. France—Just one word on this wax business. With the solar wax extractor, slumgum, if from a diseased apiary, is full of the disease, and if thrown out will spread the disease galore so that if you use the solar extractor beware of the product. I have had several instances in our state where the melting of diseased material has been the source of neighbor's bees coming there and getting the disease.