

nificent display of Canadian honey, exhibited by twenty-seven members of the Ontario Association, was inspected, their being about forty tons of comb and extracted honey."

The report of the convention held after the luncheon will appear in next issue of the JOURNAL, space will not permit of it in this issue.

Read at the Indianapolis Convention.
FOUL BROOD.

THIS much hackneyed subject has appeared on the programmes of every bee-keepers' convention, county, State or National—so far as my information extends—for the past twenty-five years, or since the first organization of bee-keepers on this continent. Like all unsolved, yet important problems in apiculture, it will not "down" until the whole round of experimenting has been completed, and not even then, unless the necessary means for its cure have been discovered and successfully applied. To this noble element, in the mental "make up," characteristic of Americans, we owe the grand triumphs in science, art, and invention, which, in the aggregate, places the United States far in the "lead" of all nations on the globe. Were it not for this untiring disposition on the part of our apiarists, to seek out and correct the evils which have beset our chosen pursuit, and to render available all discoveries and appliances, both scientific and mechanical, bee-keeping would to-day be where our fathers left it thirty years ago.

In this headlong rush of improvement, as might be expected, mistakes are often made, good things are condemned, and bad ones showed into prominence; yet through the agency of a few patient and careful investigators, assisted by the great corrector—time—the truth finally emerges from the confused mass of clashing opinions all the brighter for having passed the fiery ordeal.

The subject under consideration forms no exception to this general method of treatment, but rather stands as its chief representative. Scores of theories have from time to time been propounded, all confirmed by some and exploded by others, and still our "little pets" continue to be starved, boiled and burned,

It is the purpose of this essay to suggest that probably the true theory and radical cure of foul brood has already been discovered and confirmed, but either through prejudice or faulty experiment, a suspicion of "humbug" has been cast upon it, and so, many suffering apiarists failed to avail themselves of its kindly aid. I refer to what is known as the "phenol cure"

advanced by Mr. Cheshire, of England, the details of whose extensive experiments are familiar to most apiarists. I will not detain you by attempting to enlighten you as to what foul brood is, its appearance and indescribable yet never-to-be-mistaken odor, etc., but I will recite my own personal experience and final complete triumph over it, leaving others to judge the value of the method employed.

In October, 1885, I took charge of an apiary in Cuba, numbering nearly 400 colonies in two-story hives, situated on the side of a hill and completely protected by wide, high sheds from sun and rain. The utmost cleanliness and good order prevailed in all its appointments. The high and dry country and delicious climate left nothing in outward appearance to suggest disease, and yet I found nearly 100 colonies afflicted with foul brood, fifty of which were very bad indeed. The then superintendent had for some time been boiling hives and frames, burning combs and starving the bees, but had about given up in despair, saying that he believed the disease would continue to increase until the whole apiary would be utterly destroyed. I suggested that now would be a fitting opportunity of testing the phenol cure, but I was assured that this cure had been thoroughly tested and found wanting; that its originator was either a humbug, or that his bees had a different kind of foul brood.

That phenol had been used with a lavish hand was attested by numerous empty bottles bearing that label, and by others of larger size containing the liquid mixed ready for use, but that Mr. Cheshire was a humbug I could not tolerate for a moment, and the idea of two distinct kinds of real foul brood was certainly very doubtful. However, I determined on entering on my duties as "new superintendent," to give the formula of Mr. Cheshire a full and fair trial, and if successful to wait sufficient time for the disease to reappear, if it would, before giving my experience to the bee-keeping public. I procured several bottles of pure phenol crystals, dissolved them by placing the bottles in hot water, and put one small measure full of the liquid into a tin pail, then with the same measure I added 499 parts of the mixture composed of $\frac{1}{2}$ pure honey and $\frac{3}{4}$ water, and made a plain mark on the inside of the pail as high up from the bottom as the liquid came, and so had a correct measure by which I could make feed rapidly.

When heated to 150°, Fahr., the bees would eat it with avidity. I placed well filled combs of this feed in open hives in all the infected places, and besides visited the bad cases reg-