

attached the alcohol lamp is lit and the formalin is vaporized and spreads throughout the hive. This means of disinfecting the hives was used; and the wax of the comb that was placed in it was several years old, judging from the looks of it, and contained dead larvæ, foul brood, and also a certain number of capped cells, so that probably all the conditions were present which would be met with in a bad case of foul brood. After the gas had spread through the hive and the smell of the gas, could be noticed issuing at the hole at the top, this top hole was closed and almost immediately afterwards the formalin apparatus was disconnected and that lower opening plugged up, and it was kept there from one to four hours at the end of that time the hive or box was opened and the combs taken out and a careful examination made not only of the capped cells but also of the foul brood cells and also certain marked cells which contained honey and also spores of the foul brood bacillus. In not a single instance did foul brood germs grow from these combs after they were treated. And since then I have performed the experiment all these separate times with three half dozen distinct combs and with the same success, and in each case the germs were killed, whether they were in dead larvæ, whether they were in honey, or whether they were in capped cells.

Now, it is well known that formalin under slight pressure has a great deal of penetrating power, and that probably accounts for the disinfecting action.

I think that this method would be quite practiceable in an ordinary way, especially so when one considers the small cost of the apparatus which could be easily manufactured;

or any of the apparatus which are at present manufactured for the disinfection of rooms in hospitals are quite applicable for this disinfection of combs.

One word in connection with the remarks I made at your last meeting. At that time I told you that we had in the laboratory at Guelph a large number of small pieces of glass which had been spread some years ago with foul brood spores, in order to find out how long they would live when deprived of food and all conditions essential for growth and exposed to dryness. They are in semi-darkness, that is to say in a drawer which is occasionally opened and shut; and I usually take one of these glass plates out at six months intervals to see if they are living or dead. They have been there nearly four years. I looked at them a few days before coming to this meeting and found they were still alive. So that in dealing with these foul brood spores we have a low form of plant life which is extremely resistant to dessication.

These then, gentlemen, are the experiments which have been performed this year and I trust that in your practice you will seize some opportunity for trying this formalin fumigation for foul brood. (Applause.)

INSPECTOR OF APIARIES REPORT.

During 1901 I visited bee yards in the Counties of Bruce, Grey, Perth, Oxford, Waterloo, Wellington, Wentworth, Halton, Peel, York, Ontario and Simcoe.

I inspected seventy-seven apiaries and found foul brood in twenty-nine of them and dead brood of other kinds in many others.

Some bee-keepers secured the