

looks safer than the sealed comb system, and it is this: It is only too true that many apiarists are slow in recognizing foul brood, and it is quite possible that often in selecting healthy colonies to feed up to secure the full combs, that the said colonies do not prove to be entirely free from foul brood, and of course the colonies that receive the full combs later on will simply be "botched." This is no idle fancy, for bee-keepers have confessed to having done this very thing. On the other hand, with the foundation plan, when the diseased honey is used up, there is no possible source of infection, as sugar syrup and foundation constitute the raw material. Now as to the time for starving. There is no law saying you cannot leave them longer than two days if necessary, but the conditions at the time of year when this treatment is carried out is so different to that of a honey season, that I really think that two days then is as efficacious as four during the honey season. At the latter period, when the honey is coming in freely, and there is abundance of brood in the hive, it always seems to me that the bees seem to fill themselves more fully than is the case when shaking is done after the honey flow. Then, again, often considerable honey is shaken out on the bottom-boards and in addition, some honey is nearly always coming in from the fields at the time of treatment. After all is said and done, I am of the opinion that we should not recommend **any kind** of fall treatment except under very exceptional conditions, for the simple reason that but comparatively few bee-keepers will be thorough enough in their methods to make a success of the job. I want to say yet that my personal experience, as intimated in March issue, has been very limited in this matter of fall treatment, for the reason that I only had foul brood in the apiary for the two seasons, and of course I do not feel like introducing the disease again simply for experimental purposes. But say, friend Chalmers, I really do not

understand the source of infection of those big swarms from the foul colonies. Without any compunctions, I freely give my opinion that the infection came from super combs or some other source outside of the hives. From my earliest recollections of friend McEvoy's visits in our locality, I recall, among other teachings, the following: "A first swarm issuing during a honey flow rarely carries the disease, while a second swarm nearly always will be foul." Have nearly always found this to be the case, and as a rule colonies hived on foundation will be found to be all right. If this is not the common experience of others, will have to explain it by the word (much overworked) "locality."

In conclusion, would say that what I wrote on the foul brood treatment for the March issue was done under protest, as the Editor will affirm. However, have no apologies to offer, as it has been the means of bringing out such a splendid, useful contribution from friend Chalmers—a contribution unbiased, full of candor and common-sense.

[You are all right, Byer. You have no need to apologize to any one. As for the C.B.J., it will accept no protest. We simply cannot do without you every month. We would have been grievously hurt if you had not turned up this month. Our friend Chalmers has something to say and knows how to say it. He is making good.—Ed.]

#### FOUL BROOD QUESTION

[By J. Alpaugh]

Mr. D. Chalmers, of Poole, Ont., on page 104, C.B.J., takes me to task for my two-day starving system, simply because he found foul brood in some hives treated that way. I could knock McEvoy's four-day system higher than "Gilroy's kite" if I was to single out all the cases of foul brood that I found on my rounds of inspection in 1907 which had been treated according to McEvoy in 1906. To show you how absurd it is to condemn a system simply because some

one has failed in one case I Beattie, a sho just at the c flow, 1907, sh McEvoy's pla starved them then gave the inspect his api three of the f shaken about with foul broo Mr. Jones, a Elgin, shook a in 1906 accordi but instead of something took left them alto them after the go. In 1907 I those colonies find one cell of years in Galt I many foul broo from foul brood with them. I fo enough to starve was carried out have made a c shaking the bees starters. I have to foundation an not say how tha '22 rifle will do why fire those which take so m them? If J. B. can make a succ cannot others? I the single shaking inspectors say st fall into line and whether I think i Chalmers, McEvo best of friends, so have been just fa mill that if some too hard on my they crow or come Eden, Ont.