

The entrance is smoked a little, and this kills all the bees. We go from one colony to another to kill the bees, to keep them from leaving the hives in handling; we know that no live bees can escape from those colonies. We remove the combs and burn them, then the bottom boards and covers are treated over the flames. The hive bodies are stacked on a single bottom board, and from a small can of kerosene we pour just a little oil from the top down the sides; by throwing in some dry grass or anything of that kind, which has been lighted first, the fire will start at the bottom and the hive bodies will act as a chimney. In that way we scorch the hive bodies for a few minutes. As soon as these have been scorched sufficiently we close up the top with a bottom board or cover and close the entrance of the hive with earth; then we leave them for a little while for what we call "steaming."

Mr. Anderson. Is there any way of safely detecting American foul brood before the cells are broken, and how long is it after it is sealed before the cap is broken? That is a question I have been discussing at home, and I would like to know if there is a way that it can be detected. For instance, if you have not treated a colony successfully, or suppose American foul brood has been in your locality and you are waiting for it, can you catch it before all the larvæ are exposed?

If there are only two or three diseased cells in a colony, and if you cut those out, will the disease go any farther? I have read that if the cell cappings are broken and you take out those particular cells you will never see the disease again in that colony. I have heard an inspector say that he can tell the disease in his own apiary. He claims that there is a way to tell it before the capping is broken, and he says he can take away the disease then and it will not reappear. I know he can because he has proved it. He can tell where foul brood is before he can actually see it. He further says that the larvæ are killed, but do not show it for forty-two days afterwards. Now, I want to know if anyone else has found such to be the case.

Doctor Phillips. I think his record stands alone.

Mr. Anderson. I know this: If you cut this foul brood out before there is another exposure, you won't get it in

that colony unless it is carried from somewhere else. I have proved that.

Dr. Phillips. As far as the forty-two days' time is concerned, I have no faith in it, because in most cases inside of forty-two days the colony would be dead. I have seen that demonstrated.

Mr. Holekamp. I might ask how early can the disease be discovered?

Doctor Phillips. Not sooner than the ropiness of the larvæ becomes evident. I never saw a sample of diseased brood from Texas, but, assuming for the moment that the conditions in this state are similar to those in California, the method described in the east is not going to work in Texas. It will work where the disease is not virulent. The same thing holds true for European foul brood. Where it has existed for five years it is easily treated, and the Alexander treatment is sometimes successful, but it is not when the disease first appears in a locality. As you know, European foul brood started in New York and is spreading to the Vermont line. You will find a great difference in the type of disease in Schoharie County and on the Vermont line. The same thing seems to hold in a different way for the American foul brood. The disease is much more easy to combat in the east than in the west. I visited California this summer. Inspectors there have proved to their satisfaction that eastern methods are not satisfactory, and they told me that it is necessary to burn out the hives. Mr. Smith does not burn his hives, and the inspector in New York does not burn hives; they insist, however, that no honey and no wax cells remain in the hives and that the hives be clean. That does not prove satisfactory in California. We know that this one disease is a very different proposition under different climatic conditions, and in discussing treatment in bee journals writers forget or do not realize that the plans which they advocate may not do in different places. As Mr. Parker said in his paper, the eastern treatment will cure nine-tenths, but the other tenth has to be taken care of. The disease seems to be much more virulent in the western parts of the United States than in the eastern parts.

Mr. L. Scholl. Our conditions are the same here as in California, I am sure. We have tried some of the shaking treatments, but they were unsatisfactory. On account of the character of the disease

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