

to cure American foul brood by throwing a cup of cold water in the grass in front of your hives as to expect to cure it by requeening as I recommended for European foul brood.

The reason why American foul brood has never been cleaned out of a comb is because a larvæ that dies from that disease is so much like glue that the bees can not remove it in its soft state; and before it dries down it penetrates with its spores into the cocoons of the cell until it becomes a part of the comb itself, where it can not be reached by any disinfectants, nor removed by the bees. Such infected cell becomes ever afterward worthless to rear brood in. But not so with European foul brood. Even in its very worst stages, after the larvæ dies with this disease it soon dries up and cleaves from the cell, and is easily removed by the bees; consequently the cell is soon ready for another egg which often matures into a healthy bee.

Another point of difference is, a larvæ affected with American foul brood seldom dies until about old enough to be capped over, or after it is capped by the bees, while a larvæ dying from the effect of European foul brood seldom lives to be capped over, as it usually dies when from two to four days old. There is only one course of treatment for American foul brood that is of any use. This is now known as the McEvoy treatment. That is, to remove the bees from their combs and put them on comb-foundation starters, and in two or three days remove them again to full frames of foundation. This treatment will save the bees, but is no cure for the combs, which are worthless except for wax. Fifteen years fighting this disease forty years ago, when this part of New York State was badly affected by it, gave me lots of experience. At that time I lost several hundred colonies with American foul brood, as we had no foundation then to use, and our only way was to cut out the combs as fast as it appeared and melt them up, and let the bees build new combs again. We cut the combs across just above the brood, leaving the honey in the hive with a strip of comb as a starter to build on. We did not then think the honey diseased, but I now know it was with American foul brood; but with European foul brood I have my doubts as to the honey being affected.

I have given many combs of honey from colonies badly diseased with European

foul brood to healthy colonies, and have never seen a case where it had a bad effect. This fact, and that of the honey, combs, and pollen of a colony badly affected with European foul brood becoming perfectly healthy when requeened with a young virgin, as I recommended in my cure for European foul brood, is strong evidence that the honey is not the means of spreading this disease. It is very easy to cure an apiary of European foul brood; but the old American foul brood is incurable. As I said before, you can save the bees by the McEvoy treatment, but you can not save the combs.

I am well aware that on some points in the above I am crossing swords with those who are considered good authority; but on this subject in question I write the same as on other subjects, simply from long and extensive experience. I don't take anything as fact until I have thoroughly tested it on at least 50 or 100 colonies for two or more years. This jumping at conclusions because some one says so and so, I think but very little of.

European foul brood will spread much faster through an apiary than American foul brood, and kill the brood quicker than any other disease that I ever dealt with. Coming as it does before the colonies become very strong in the spring, it soon reduces them to a mere handful of discouraged bees unable to accomplish anything, and it is hard for their owner to realize that he will ever again have strong healthy colonies in those hives.

But don't be discouraged. I have been through it all, and what we have done you can do. All that is necessary is to follow the plan I recommended, and you will in a short time have as strong, healthy colonies as you ever saw.

When we had this disease, black and hybrid bees were about the only ones affected. I sometimes think that, if the apiaries of some bee-keepers were attacked with this disease it would be a blessing in disguise, for it would necessitate requeening their colonies at once with some good honey-gathering strain of Italian bees; and if this were done about the first of June these requeened colonies would be in a fine healthy condition for an August harvest; and then with a good working force of Italian bees their owner would secure a larger surplus than he could possibly have had if it were not for requeening to cure the disease.

I think these us nearly all what they with honey and boiling when one a

In dealing thought is th it fully and information v it may be h keepers, and one article in at the present subjoin a ver of Mr. R. A. the Missouri tion meeting 6 and 7, 1909.

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