

would be found very minute veins something like small blood vessels, just below the surface.

Mr. Puhl.—Had been troubled with foul brood for six years, and had as many as 100 colonies affected at once. It is difficult to tell it in its first stages. He believed in the starvation plan, with which he had been successful. It was important that hives having contained foul broody colonies be well boiled before being again used, and they should not be allowed to stand around where there is any chance of bees reaching them.

Dr. Mason, Wagon Works, O.—Had had considerable experience and was in favor of the starvation method.

Mr. Graden.—Promised to send Prof. Cook samples of his foul broody honey and if possible, pieces of comb showing the capping.

A. I. Root.—Reported his troubles with foul brood in *Gleanings*; so need not repeat them.

F. H. Macpherson.—Reported cases in Ontario where foul brood had been entirely cured by the starvation method and where the disease had not reappeared in any instance. The work had to be done thoroughly and greatest care exercised as to leaving frames, hives or pieces of comb around where bees in quest of stores could find them.

Next came the following paper by Geo. E. Hilton, Freemont, Mich., entitled,—

THE HONEY FLORA OF NORTHERN MICHIGAN.

If one takes the time to observe and the trouble to enumerate them, he will be astonished at the almost endless variety of honey-producing plants within the State. It would require a skilled botanist to name them all. The all-wise father has provided nearly all the trees and plants with either honey or pollen to attract the insect world.

He spread a continual feast for the bee that the important object of perfect fertilization may be more certainly attained. The bee that slips from flower to flower rollicking in the golden dust among the new born anthers, playing hide and seek in the opening corollas is performing a work of untold value in the wise economy of nature. The honey secreted by the blossoms is for the purpose of inviting cross fertilization and to prevent in and in breeding. If no insect is there to utilise the drop of nectar it is evaporated and scattered to the four winds of heaven. No one is richer for the ungathered sweets and no one is the poorer where fields are searched by the tireless little worker, whose instincts lead

it to garner the evanescent riches, which of a truth take to themselves wings and fly away. From the "Trailing Arbutus" that peeps out of the snow on some hill side, to the last frost flower in autumn, there is almost a continual succession of honey producing plants whose wealth of nectar ought to be utilised as one of the sure resources of this grand State.

California may occasionally astonish us by her magnificent honey crop, but in Michigan where the "early and late rains" are not only promised but sent, we are always confident of a reasonable surplus. The pastures and roadsides are dotted with white clover which yields the finest honey in the world. The rivers and lakes are generally skirted with linden timber and our uplands are interspersed with the same, one of the best honey producing trees of the world, yielding largely a nectar that is prized for its beautiful amber color and aromatic flavor. Every fence corner and neglected field is planted by the hand of nature as though she were trying in some way to counteract man's shiftlessness by making the earth bring forth abundantly some of the good things of life. It is of the greatest importance to the bee-keeper to know just when this succession of bloom occurs that he may have his bees in the best possible condition to secure the nectar, so far as my observations and knowledge extends I will briefly enumerate them. About the first pollen comes from willow and soft maple, usually about the middle of April, varying with the season. In the early part of May comes the hard or sugar maple, and this tree deserves more than a passing notice. It produces both honey and pollen in large quantities, and I sometimes feel that were our bees in the same condition they are at the approach of the linden flow, we would receive nearly the same results. Fortunately my bees last spring were strong early and many of them stored considerable surplus from this source, and it being followed closely by the raspberry and blackberry bloom, (with which this country abounds) I secured at least a thousand pounds of surplus previous to the opening of white clover, from my sixty colonies. White clover opens from the first to the 10th of June, and in my ten years of bee-keeping has never failed to give us a fair surplus. The flow was short the past season on account of drouth, but my bees being strong, I took about 2,500 pounds from this source. There is no interval between clover and linden in this latitude. In wet seasons the clover often continues until after the linden ceases to bloom. The linden opens from the 4th to the 20th of July, according to seasons, but cannot be depended on in this latitude; it is the most sensi-