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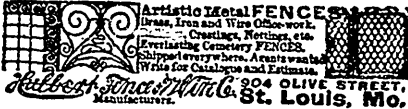
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W. Z. HURCHINSON, Flint, Mich.

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TILBURY, ONT., APRIL, 1895.

No. 4

Mr. McEvoy's Foul Brood Report.

BY REV. W. F. CLARKE.

BEE-MASTER, Sir:—I did not expect to trouble you so soon with another 'Echo,' but the appearance of Mr. McEvoy's report as Foul Brood Inspector, on page 138, compels me to do so. I was not present when that report was read to the Ontario Association, and knew nothing of its contents until I saw it in the American Bee Journal of Feb. 28. The report was presented at an evening session. The weather was stormy. I was stopping with a friend nearly a mile away from the place of meeting, and with sciatica haunting me I did not dare to venture out-doors. Not until I got my American Bee Journal on Friday did I know that I was virtually put in the pillory, and arraigned as a public criminal in the Foul Brood Inspector's report.

It will be said, "Why, you are not named." I reply, I might as well have been. All Canadian bee-dom knows that I live in the County of Wellington where Mr. McEvoy reports having burned three foul-broody colonies. Besides this, Mr. McEvoy, notwithstanding he takes great credit to himself for suppressing names, has made no secret of his having burnt three of my colonies. I question if there were a dozen out of the hundred bee men present at the Stratford meeting who were not furtively apprized of the fact. How does this look alongside the statement made in the report that a resolution had been passed by the Board of Directors prohibiting any person from getting the

names except the Minister of Agriculture. Moreover, Mr. McEvoy not only as good as names me but puts a bad mark against me. I am evidently hinted at in the statement:—"Some that had only a few colonies, would be so careless and indifferent about the curing, and would not do as I told them, and then I resorted to stamping the disease out by fire for the public good." Again, he says, "I burned three foul-broody colonies in Wellington county. I was well pleased with the work done by the owners of all other foulbroody colonies."

I have nothing to conceal in regard to my experience with foul-brood, and nothing to be ashamed of in regard to it. I am rather glad of the opportunity to state, "What I know about foul brood?" Whether I am justly open to the charge of carelessness, indifference, or disobedience to Mr. McEvoy's authority, I will leave the bee-keeping public to judge when I get through with my story.

In commencing my present apiary in spring of 1891. I knew I was running a great risk from the proximity of foul brood. Within a half-mile in one direction there was an apiary of 80 colonies that I knew had the disease badly, for I could smell it from the sidewalk. Half a mile in another direction an apiary of 100 colonies had gone up with foul brood. A mile off in another direction were the last vestiges of another apiary of 40 colonies that had "pegged out" with the disease. But I wanted to resume bee-keeping it only for the diversion of it, after being unable to enjoy the pastime from various causes for two or three years. Wishing to take every precau-

ion. I obtained an official visit from Mr. McEvoy. He ordered 11 colonies of the 8-colony apiary to be burned, and put the rest under a course of curative treatment. He found a solitary colony over the fence from my apiary grounds rotten with foul brood, and got the owner's consent to burn it at once. He examined my colonies - 16 in number - and pronounced them all right. They consisted of 10 hybrid colonies bought of Mr. R. F. Holtermann, 3 pure Italians from Mr. Henderson, of Tennessee, and 3 Carniolans from Mr. Turner, of Wisconsin.

During the following summer I detected the first signs of foul brood, and at once made use of the Cheshire prescription. I also notified Mr. McEvoy that the disease had appeared in my apiary, and he paid me a visit soon afterward. He found mild traces of the disease, but there was no bad case. I was trying the phenol treatment and he wished me to become convinced that it was no good, so let me go on with it. He also wanted to try an experiment of his own to which I had no objection. In spring he called to look at the results of our experiments, found them failures, and promised so soon as the honey season began, to come and put my apiary, as he said, "in grand order." He wrote on May 22, 1893, informing me that he had ordered the necessary bar-heads with half-inch strips, also Langstroth frames with full-sized foundation, and directing me to hurry up and have all things in readiness. Toward the end of June he notified me that he could not come. I was not surprised at this, because I knew he was driven from pillar to post with calls here, there and everywhere. So I went to work myself and made, as I thought, thorough work of it reducing my colonies to 10, boiling all the old honey, melting down all the old combs, and feeding all the colonies that were short of stores. I made considerable sacrifices to get rid of the pest, and my

bees went into winter quarters, as I thought, clear of it.

The next spring (1894), I asked the President of the Association to authorize Mr. McEvoy to call and look at my apiary, and see if he could give me a clean bill of health. I neither saw nor heard anything of him until July 25, 1894, on which day I received the following note from Mr. Mills, President of the Ontario Agricultural College:

"MY DEAR SIR:—I regret very much to have to inform you that Mr. Wm. McEvoy, Foul Brood Inspector, has this morning inspected the three hives of bees which you placed on the College campus to assist in illustrating your lectures on bee-keeping, and has formally notified me that they are diseased with foul brood. I have therefore to request you to have them removed from the grounds at once."

It was late in the afternoon before I got this official intimation. Accompanying it was a private note informing me that it was only one of the hives that was considered tainted, and that Mr. McEvoy wanted to burn it on the spot but the President forbade his doing so, and told him he would have them removed to my own apiary where he might deal with them. On receiving these communications, I at once hastened to the apiary to get my bee veil, smoker, wire-cloth, etc., and make preparations to remove the three hives of bees. On reaching the apiary, what was my surprise to see a smouldering heap of ruins, and near by several clusters of bees clinging to sticks and stalks, contemplating the burning ruins of their homes. After removing my three hives from the College grounds, I got an expert to examine the colony. Mr. McEvoy wanted to burn, and he could not find a speck of foul brood in it. A very curious thing happened shortly afterwards to this colony. One morning, between eight o'clock and noon, that particular hive was removed from its stand to a secluded spot back of my house-apiary, pulled to pieces,

three brood-frames carried away, and the remaining frames, more or less full of honey, piled iglepigledy on each other, and the bees clustering as best they could between and upon them. The queen was all right, so I fixed up the hive again, and took special pains to prepare it for winter. If it survives until spring, we shall see what we see. This was a very mysterious circumstance. I wonder if Mr. McEvoy can explain it

Now I have stated these facts in as fair and circumstantial a manner as I can, because I wish to call the attention of bee-keepers to the practical working of our Foul Brood Law. Especially do I wish to call the attention of the legal lights of bee-keeping—such men as Hon R L Taylor, Messrs J. E. Pond, G. W. Demaree, and others, to this piece of legislation. I do not wish to say anything hard of Mr. McEvoy, or to be unfair to him in any way, though I think he pursued a very high-handed course with me, and treated me very unkindly, considering the friendly terms we have always been on previously. Why did he not call on me? I had asked for his visit of inspection, and was prepared to welcome him and carry out his official orders. I have no doubt he thought he was carrying out his functions according to law, but the law reserves some rights to criminals even, and does not put arbitrary power into the hands of such high and mighty officials as inspectors.

I have taken legal advice about this matter, not that I intend to litigate about it, for I do not. But I am told by my lawyer that the Act does not empower the inspector to go on to a bee-keeper's premises without the knowledge and consent of the owner, and that it does not empower him to burn hives of bees unless they are in a hopelessly foul-broody condition. If they are curable he is bound to give them a chance to be cured. Furthermore,

the law does not put into the Inspector's hands any power of punishment. He cannot visit any official wrath on an offender. If a bee-keeper can be shown to be culpably and criminally negligent, the Inspector is to bring him before a magistrate and have him fined in due course of law. So that Mr. McEvoy is liable for trespass, for destroying colonies that might have been cured, and for taking the law into his own hands by usurping the place of the magistrate who alone it is to be "a terror to evil doers and a praise to them that do well."

But I wish particularly to ask the opinion of bee-keepers, and especially the legal gentlemen among them, on the principle underlying this kind of legislation. Is it a sound and good one? I opposed our Foul Brood Act when it was first mooted on various grounds. I have never suggested its adoption by United States bee-keepers. I now submit my own example of its practical working, that they may judge for themselves—

If Mr. McEvoy's interpretation of the Act is correct, and he has the right to go onto my premises and burn up my property at his discretion, without my having any appeal to magistrate or witness, judge or jury, I propose to submit quietly, and if I cannot get the law altered in a constitutional way, I shall seriously consider whether I will quit keeping bees, or emigrate to another country. I hope some of the great lights of bee-keeping will drop some of the threadbare subjects of which readers of bee-papers are getting so tired, and discuss this new topic. I hope, too, that the North American Bee-keepers' Association will give this subject a prominent place in their discussions at the next meeting. If I am alive and well, I promise to be on hand and to have something to say that will not be "dull as a sermon."

Guelph, Ont., March 4th.

Bees Doing Well.

ALLEN PRINGLE.

My bees are wintering as well as I could wish so far. They are all in the cellar repository with the exception of 10 colonies which are packed in dry saw-dust outside on their summer stands. As I grow older I feel less and less inclined to take two steps where one will do; and my intention now, is this winter and next to test the matter as to whether there is more work in connection with packing them outside, or carrying them in the cellar and cut. If I can winter successfully in or out, the only matter to be settled is which plan entails most work. I have a good cellar repository which I have used for many years. It is immediately under the kitchen and dining room portion of the dwelling, and is both dry and frost proof, and is thoroughly ventilated. It holds without crowding about 125 colonies. A few years ago when my stock of bees considerably exceeded that number, I wintered the surplus outside, and the degree of success attained was about the same in both conditions. Of late years, however, as I have been keeping the stock below 100 colonies, I have wintered mostly in the cellar; but now propose to get onto the easiest plan, whichever that may prove to be. Of course the cellar is there ready without further expense, and the skeleton cases—one for each colony—will cost something to get up, but once completed they, too, will be there for a life time. In wintering outside I used to pack them two, three or four together in dry-goods boxes, with but few of them isolated. I do not, however, like that method, or the clamping, and prefer each colony to have its own case and packing. When they are packed separately the proper temperature of the colony can the more readily be secured, as it is much more difficult when a lot

are packed together to get the packing so adjusted in quantity and otherwise as to secure a uniform temperature for all, and about the right degree of temperature for all. When each one is by itself these necessary conditions may be compassed with a reasonable degree of accuracy and certainty. This is an important point in outside wintering—of sufficient importance to warrant the extra expense and trouble of separate cases and packing. The case ought to be large enough to admit of 3 to 4 inches of packing on all sides and in the bottom with room on top for 6 to 8 inches; and should be so constructed as to exclude rain and snow and keep the contents dry. The roof or cover should, of course, slant to shed water, and if it fits snugly it ought not to be painted all over. The middle portion of it, say a space 12 by 18 inches, may be left bare on both sides while the other portions of the cover may be painted. This will facilitate the escape or evaporation of the moisture from within, which will be constantly rising through the dry saw-dust. The entrance of the hive, say one by eight inches, more or less, ought to be left wide open; but the skeleton entrance while of the same size ought to be adjustable. Mine, (Zinth) may be adopted for a single bee space to the full hive entrance. This outside entrance may be adjusted from time to time as may be necessary, while the hive entrance is left alone—wide open. The outside entrance must be kept clear of ice. The snow alone will not smother, as the air passes freely through it, but sometimes ice will form in the entrance completely blocking it. This must be looked after. The ice has, however, given no trouble at all this winter so far with me. They appear to be dry and nice and in good form. Those in the cellar are also doing well. The prospects for the coming season are good. The clover was in good condition in the fall, and the great body of

snow now covering it will be likely to protect it till well along in the spring.

SELBY, Ont., Feb 23rd.

Nothing Settled—Conflicting Opinions.

A. BOOMER.

Perhaps in no other industry or profession can there be found not only such a divergence, nay more, such a real conflict of opinion as there seems to exist in this bee business. Let a question be submitted to a dozen of our most practical bee-keepers and not more than two or three, at most, of them will agree in their answers. And the divergence of their views is often quite bewildering. One man approves of cellar wintering, another as strongly supports the out door plan. One would have sealed covers, another would have unsealed or new cotton. One wants shallow frames, another a deeper one, and so we might go on enumerating, and in almost, if not in every particular, we find this same divergence of opinion. What has been one man's experience, has not proven true with the other. And amateurs like myself, are often very much puzzled to know what plan is best for him to adopt, either as to winter, spring or summer management, or as to style of hive that will be the most easily manipulated for extracting and comb honey purposes.

One of my neighbors says, "that before he began to read bee books and papers he had good success and got lots of honey but after adopting some of the newfangled ways, he lost all his bees."

Now whilst I don't think that his adversity in this line was attributable to reading bee literature, it would nevertheless be much more satisfactory if there were at least a greater consensus of opinion upon the leading features of the industry.

I think it possible however to amalgamate some of the apparently conflicting opinions as to extract at least some information from them as to the different methods of wintering. I shall say nothing just now, the time for anything of this kind is early in the fall, nor shall I say anything as to the particular kind or size of hive to use. A good deal is being said in favor of the Langstroth, I suppose by those who use them, this seems to have arisen by way of deciding if possible on the best depth of frame, and those who use them appear to conclude that with a shallow frame such as used in the hive referred to, the bees will more readily enter the sections or supers. I use a somewhat deeper frame and have never had any trouble getting the bees to enter the sections. Some parties put sections into hives that have swarmed and expect to get them filled, this is simply nonsense, unless all queen cells have been cut away after a young queen has hatched out, but in such a case if I think they will make some surplus I give them a case of empty combs in the super and do not run the risk of getting a case of sections perhaps half filled and thus spoiled. I do not put either sections or supers on an old colony until I am satisfied they are strong enough both in numbers and amount of honey stored in the brood chamber and then I do not have to wait long to find the bees busy at work, either in the sections or supers. Others will put sections onto second swarms and expect to get them filled, but are mostly disappointed. I put sections only on old colonies and first swarms on old colonies, by using full sheets of foundation in the sections. Queen excluders may quite safely be omitted, also on new swarms, if full sheets of foundation are used and bees allowed a few days to draw it out so that the queen may get to laying, in which case queen excluders may quite safely be omitted, but if the swarm be very large

or two swarms mixed up, then I put on a queen excluder, and a case of sections and at once the sections are filled with bees.

But to return to the frame question I am free to admit that the shallower the frame, the more likely are the bees to enter the supers or sections. But will bees winter as well on shallow as on deep frames, I think not, and if not, then will any seeming advantage there may be in their entering the supers more readily, offset the disadvantage there certainly is in the wintering problem. My greatest study is the wintering of my bees, if I can get them safely through these long winters, I am not so much concerned about the summer management.

I have a few tenement hives with extra deep frames, and the bees winter admirably in these, and they enter the supers readily, also miring frames. This is another of the undecided questions. If I had to use foundation for the supers I would wire the frames to strengthen them for first extracting, but having an abundance of good white combs for this purpose, I very much prefer to have combs built without wires. I may not be an adept at the wiring business, but I do get much nicer, straighter combs built without wires, and thus save a lot of labor. I have my swarms mostly on full sheets of foundation, then in a few days I look them over to see that they are being properly drawn out, and if not, turn them around and in other ways compel them to build them properly, and I only had a few sheets melt down last season, and that only in an extremely hot spell of weather, even this could have been avoided by properly ventilating and shading the hive. A very good plan is to hive the swarm on empty frames, with frames filled with foundation and in nine cases out of ten, the foundation will stand all right.

In a future article I may have some-

thing to say on a few other undecided matters, whether I shall be able to help to a decision or not. In the meantime I fear I have already said more than will be interesting, at least to "practical bee-keepers."

Seeds, Bee Supplies, Etc.

We have received one of John S. Pearce & Co., London, Seed Catalogues for 1895, and in looking over its 72 pages, we notice the seeming endless variety carried in stock to meet the wants of the farmer, gardener, florist and nurserymen.

The first 16 pages is devoted to novelties in vegetables, roots, grain, flowers, etc., of which the enterprising firm leads in Canada.

They have a trial ground kept up at great expense, on which all new, as well as old varieties are tested before offering them, by protecting their customers against frauds.

The aim of this firm has always been to supply nothing but the best and their labors have not gone unrewarded as an evidence of which their large and increasing business can testify.

They also carry a large stock of bee supplies and Pearce's snow white polished sections, brood and section foundation hives, etc., are noted as being of the very best material, workmanship etc.

We think that anyone needing anything in their line cannot do better than give them a trial.

There is quite a furor at the present time among farmers about crimson clover. It is supposed by many to be a newly introduced variety of clover, but this is a mistake. More than 20 years ago it was in cultivation under the name of "Incarnat clover," so called from its botanical name—*Trifolium incarnatum*—which will be found attached to it in the seed catalogues after the names crimson, or scarlet clover.

Art vs. Nature.

A. E. HOSHAL.

Some seem to think that nothing in apiculture can succeed unless done in accordance with nature. Be this as it may, it is a fact, that in other occupations of life man by his intelligence does so direct and change the course of nature, that the results are much more to his liking than when nature is left to herself. For instance, we plant an apple seed, it will germinate, grow to a tree and bear fruit without man's further intervention. Man can however, so graft, prune and cultivate such a tree, that its fruit will be much more beneficial to him than when it is left solely to nature. In this process of pruning, grafting, etc., he has both recognized and admitted, and by results shown, that as far as this tree and its fruit is concerned, that nature is blind force caring naught for his wishes, and when left to herself accomplishing that which is not for his best interests by producing fruit that is both small in quantity and inferior in quality. In caring for the tree he both retarded and fostered nature, retarded her where she did not comply with his interests, fostered her where she did. From this simple illustration which all admit as a fact and which is universally carried out, we see, that as far as his best interests are concerned, that man by applying his intelligence can so speak "improve on nature."

In view of this very self evident fact I have been turning over in my own mind why it is, that it is so hard for many to recognize the same principle in profitable honey production, especially when it is referred to as "improving on nature," as though the name had anything to do with it, or that it was a sacrilege through belittling the Creator.

Let us throw aside at once this absurd idea that in order to be successful in

apiculture we must blindly adhere to nature, when the facts are, if we are to be most successful, we must both retard and foster her in the instinct of our bees according to the end we have in view, like in other pursuits, this is the field for the exercise of our intelligence, and the one which will mightily test our tact and ability as bee-keepers.

Composition.

W. A. HUTTON.

The subject, Composition, is one that receives too little consideration in the public schools of to-day. How many pupils, are there, who can parse and analyze the most intricate sentence, yet can not write a good business letter, or send to the local press an account of a public entertainment held in their vicinity? The "Lost, Strayed or Stolen," "Tenders Wanted," etc., that hang by the wayside tell a tale that reflects greatly to the discredit of the school training of the writers.

It is the intention of the Editor of this column to give a few hints and suggestions on Composition to the readers of the Practical Bee-Keeper, and he trusts that they may be of interest to at least some of the many, who monthly peruse this periodical.

Probably it would be as well to commence on the use of the capital letters. How ridiculous it is to see a correspondent write his own name and his post office address, beginning each word with a capital letter, and on the same page spell the name of the Creator of the Universe "god." Good writing is an essential qualification in composition but it is vastly inferior to proper capitalizing. By good writing, I mean plain legible writing, where there is no probability of the reader mistaking the wording of the manuscript, he is reading.

Nine rules may be conveniently ob-

served in using capitals.

First—Capitalize the letter, I, when it stands for the person writing; as, Then I saw I was saved.

Second—All names of places and persons should begin with capitals; as, Sir John Ross, Chicago, Long Island Sound, Hudson Bay Territory.

Third—Names of religious denominations, political parties, social and fraternal organizations, companies, months of the year, days of the week and important events and days should begin with capitals; as, Roman Catholics, Quakers, Methodists, Republican, Conservative, Democrat, Reformer, Equal Rights, Social Club, Macanley Club, Whist Club, Ladies' Aid Society, Young Men's Liberal Association, Free and Accepted Masons, Royal Templars, Licensed Victuallers, Phoenix Life Insurance Company, Tilbury Dredging Company, July, December, Tuesday, Thursday, Constitutional Act, Declaration of Independence, All Saint's Day, Decoration Day, Thanksgiving Day.

Fourth—The first word of every sentence and the first word of each line of poetry should begin with a capital.

Fifth—A quoted sentence, that is a borrowed sentence, should begin with a capital. Such sentences should be enclosed in quotation marks, as, He said, "Where are we now?"

Sixth—Every important word in a title, or group of words used as a name, should begin with a capital; as Practical Bee-Keeper, Bay of Fundy, Gulf of Mexico, Opening a Chestnut Burr, Vice-President.

Seventh—All words standing for the Deity should begin with a capital; as, God, Saviour, Supreme Being, Creator of the Universe, Grand Geometrician.

Eighth—Names of peoples and languages, should begin with capitals; as Canadian, German, Scotch, Irish, American, Russian.

Ninth—Each article mentioned in an account, and the principal words of

advertisements should begin with capitals. The words North, East, West and South when they refer to portions of country should begin with capitals; as, The North West Territory, The South is a Democrat stronghold.

Periods should be placed after the initial or first letters of the name of a person or place. Every sentence that does not ask a question, or make an exclamation, ends with a period. Every sentence that asks a question, ends with an interrogation, or question mark; as "who are you?" Every sentence making an exclamation, or expressing a strong wish, wonder, emotion or passion, ends with an exclamation mark; as, "O John how you look!" Would that he were dead!

The following exercises will give a good drill on capitals, periods, exclamation and interrogation:—

1. Correct the following where necessary: tuesday will be easter sunday, uncle john ross went to new brunswick in march? The gulf of mexico is south of united states. scotland sometimes called scotia is the home of sir george ross. the japanese defeated the chinese at the battle of lun tung. the phoenix fire insurance company built a new office in toronto. the caspian sea has no outlet. the globe printing co. held a meeting last wednesday, emancipation day, decoration day and labor day are public holidays. the grand trunk and Canadian pacific railways both enter halifax nova scotia. the vice president of switzerland and the king of holland spent march and april reading lamb's tales of shakespeare. who said that france helped the south in the war of secession. o give a drink of water or I will die. is there no joshua to lead our party to success said james grant of comber, Ontario. robert e. adams of canton o went to the city of wheeling w v.

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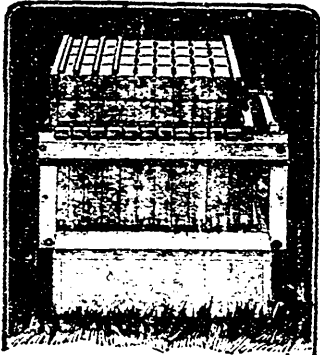
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