

decided to let the question of the establishment of an apiary for the rearing of queen bees in the Cook Islands stand over for the present."

T. W. Kirk, Director of Orchards, etc. Sept. 1914.

#### FROM BRANCH MINUTES.

"Owing to the disastrous season with bees facing starvation, this meeting of beekeepers would ask the Government to provide *free sugar to the amount of thirty pounds per hive* to beekeepers in this district in order to keep their bees alive until next honey flow." Copies to National Secy., Mr. Nash, and Minister of Agriculture. 25/1/35.

"Truth is stranger than fiction."

"Mr. R. Gibb then tried to give a little instruction in bee diseases, dealing principally with Foul Brood; but it is my opinion that, though the average beekeeper puts the bulk of his losses down to Foul Brood, he knows comparatively little about that Fell Disease which is the rock that wrecks the hopes of many a young beginner and dogs the steps of the older veteran." 1906.

"Hope springs eternal in the human breast."

#### FIRST BEEKEEPERS' MAGAZINE.

On 1st July, 1883, there appeared the first issue of "The New Zealand and Australian Bee Journal".

The proprietor was Mr. C. J. Firth and the editor Mr. J. Hopkins. It was a monthly paper of twelve pages, and the subscription was 6/- per annum in advance.

A bound volume of the first twelve copies is lodged in the N.Z. Section of the Dunedin Public Library. This volume gives a very good account of the early efforts to establish beekeeping in New Zealand. Mr. Firth was the proprietor of apiaries at Mata-mata which were managed by Mr. Hopkins.

The season 1884 appears to have been a poor one. Karl Bros., of Ohaupo, reported that it was the worst in their experience of 21 years. Foulbrood was being reported, and the remedy tried was salicylic acid in syrup. There was a report from Mr.

Brickell, of Dunedin (Jan. 1884) not at all complimentary of the southern climate for the purpose of honey gathering that season.

#### OUTBREAK OF HOSTILITIES.

##### A WARNING TO THE NEW ZEALAND BEEKEEPER.

Mr. BEEKEEPER,—

For a short period during the War some large New Zealand firms of merchants *speculated* in Honey, and offered high prices in order to tempt the producer to support the *private speculator* as against the *co-operative movement*.

These high prices were withdrawn *in a few weeks*, and the firms in question made heavy losses over the transaction, and this has kept them out of the Honey Market for a year or more. Now they resume hostilities, and are offering to buy New Zealand Honey for export at prices which, on present English and Foreign Market Values, *must involve them in considerable loss*.

WE ASK YOU: Is this move in *your* interests, or is it a challenge to the co-operative marketing movement?

Will the speculators stand by the producer all the time (last year they lay low and laid plans), or are they for themselves *all day and every day* "world without end, amen"?

Be wise, Mr. Honey Producer! The welfare of the industry lies in the co-operative movement, and the present profitable prices are the result of the birth and operations of *The N.Z. Co-operative Honey Producers' Association Ltd.*

Therefore, *safeguard your own interests*, and help us to help you by marketing your Honey through the H.P.A.

We return you ALL the profits, and our Organisation is in a position to obtain the maximum price for Honey.

NEW ZEALAND CO-OPERATIVE  
HONEY PRODUCERS' ASSOC.,  
LTD.

C. F. RYLAND,  
General Manager.

Head Office:  
Stanley Street, AUCKLAND.

—N.Z. Beekeepers' Journal,  
Feb. 2, 1920.