

NATIONAL BEEKEEPERS' ASSOCIATION OF NEW ZEALAND (INC.)

ANNUAL REPORT FOR YEAR THE EIGHT MONTHS

MAY 1st 1975 TO 31st DECEMBER 1975

OFFICE BEARERS

PRESIDENT

I. J. DICKINSON - MILTON

VICE-PRESIDENT

P. BERRY - HASTINGS

MEMBERS OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

- a) Representing the North Island
Messrs M. G. Stuckey - Auckland
E. R. Robinson - Waihou
- b) Representing the South Island
Messrs A. Clissold - Gore
G. McKenzie - Waimate

GENERAL SECRETARY

G. A. BEARD

ASSOCIATION'S OFFICE

Level OP,
Williams Parking Centre,
Boulcott Street,
WELLINGTON.

P. O. Box 4048,
WELLINGTON.

Phone: 721-541

GENERAL REPORT TO MEMBERS

INTRODUCTORY

The Association due to the change in the membership structure has now achieved a much sounder financial basis and consequently is able to operate to better effect in meeting the varied requests of the membership and Branches.

The Industry enjoyed a very good harvest in 1975 and a record production resulted.

The 1975 annual meeting and Conference of Branch Delegates was held in Timaru in late June and the business transacted covered a wide range of topics. The Conference was enhanced by the excellent arrangements made for visiting members by the host Branch, South Canterbury.

MEMBERSHIP

Membership of the Association may be achieved in two ways. For those beekeepers owning 50 or more hives the Hive Levy of 15 cents a hive applies and the revenue is paid into a Hive Levy Account held under the provisions of the Honey Marketing Regulations which are administered by the Honey Marketing Authority. For all levy payers membership of the Association is automatic.

In respect of those beekeepers operating fewer than fifty hives and also other persons who just wish to belong to the Association the annual subscription rate is \$7.50 per member.

In spite of reservations held by some in the Industry the Hive Levy was paid by all who were eligible and collection was achieved before December 31st 1975.

In respect of direct membership a great deal of endeavour was made to encourage beekeepers to join and the response has been excellent.

The combining of the membership fee and the subscription to Beekeeper plus making the financial year coincide with the calendar year have been supporting factors.

The Association also has a considerable overseas membership.

At 31 December the total membership numbered 732 of whom 296 were Hive Levy members and 436 direct members.

The disposition of members by Branches were as under:-

Far North	8	Nelson	51
Northland	42	West Coast	23
Auckland	108	Canterbury	76
Waikato	111	South Canterbury	25
Bay of Plenty	26	North Otago	21
Hawkes Bay	34	Otago	60
Central/Southern Hawkes Bay	8	Southland	45
South Western	94		

THE BEEKEEPER

In June 1975 the Executive Committee decided that Beekeeper should from November 1975 be produced in the Wellington region so as to be closer to Association's Office. Accordingly the Editorial arrangement with Mr N. S. Stanton was terminated and Agricultural Promotional Associates of Wellington appointed as Editors of Beekeeper.

The Association wishes to place on record its appreciation of the services given the Industry by Mr Stanton during his term as Editor.

The Executive decided that with the adoption of a new Editorial arrangement a completely new format and presentation should be adopted for Beekeeper. The A. P. A. staff member concerned Mr Trevor Walton duly presented to the Executive an acceptable format.

The journal is produced quarterly in March, June, September and December.

The first issue was published in December 1975 and was the subject of much favourable comment from members. With the advent of the Hive Levy there is now no direct contribution to Beekeeper by the Honey Marketing Authority. The new presentation will cost the Association more but it is the view of Executive that the additional cost is justified.

HONEY MARKETING AUTHORITY - ELECTION OF PRODUCER MEMBERS

The General Secretary acted as Returning Officer for the election of two producer members to the Authority. The costs of the election are recovered from the Authority. The members elected were Messrs R. Poole and P. Berry.

EXPORTS BY PRIVATE PACKERS

A remit was passed at the 1975 conference calling upon the Authority to review the basis under which private packers might be able to enter directly into the export marketing of honey in retail packs. Up to the present the Authority has not approved of private packers exporting honey.

The Association sought late in 1975 a meeting with the Authority to discuss the complex implications in the proposal and the fact that no talks were held was the subject of some criticism from packer members.

It could be that the time is at hand for the sectional interests concerned to collectively re-evaluate the whole question to see whether a new policy should be developed and if necessary to define appropriate guide lines.

APIARY STATISTICS AS AT MAY 1975

The following table is a consolidation of the figures prepared by the Ministry of Agriculture.

District	1-50 Hives		51+ Hives		District Totals	
	Beekopers	Hives	Beekopers	Hives	Beekopers	Hives
Northland	415	549	21	758	436	1,307
Auckland	566	769	17	202	583	971
Hamilton	312	412	43	1,482	345	1,894
Tauranga	210	306	23	783	233	1,089
Hastings	160	237	17	666	177	903
Palmerston Nth	389	531	22	575	411	1,106
Hawera	191	231	17	356	208	587
Nelson	240	322	25	566	265	888
Christchurch	225	244	50	2,133	275	2,477
Oamaru	118	196	42	2,142	160	2,338
Gore	141	163	46	1,673	187	1,836
Dominion Totals	2,957	4,060	323	11,336	3,280	15,396

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RESTRICTED ZONES FOR BEEKEEPING

After protracted negotiation with the Minister of Agriculture it was finally agreed that the Apiaries Advisory Committee membership be reviewed. The Executive now has a direct representative on the Committee. The Association remains unhappy about the administration of the Committee and feels that its role and meeting policies should be further reviewed and defined.

HONEY PRICE

The principal honey price guide line for the industry is the price paid for honey supplied to the Honey Marketing Authority. This price is subject to Ministerial approval and has over recent years been set within a defined range.

The need for this price to be set before the end of December each year has been stressed by the Association but the Authority has so far failed to move in the matter before late January or February with a Price Fixing date beyond mid-March. The Association makes available certain production cost data while the Authority assesses market prospects. That there is no consultation on such a key question is a matter of considerable concern to members. The need for a more co-ordinated attitude towards honey pricing policy is a matter that must be resolved by industry itself unless direct Government involvement in this sector is to become a permanent fixture.

ASSOCIATION REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE ORGANISATIONS

Mr J. W. Fraser, continued to represent the Association on the Agricultural Chemicals Board and his services in this capacity are acknowledged.

Mr E. R. Robinson was appointed to the Apiary Advisory Committee.

The President represents the Association on the Dominion Council of Federated Farmers.

THE LIBRARY

Mr Chris Dawson together with Messrs Cloake and McKenzie have continued to serve as the Library Committee. The Librarian is Mr Dawson and his services in this capacity are widely acknowledged and appreciated.

THE EXECUTIVE

The Executive meets on a quarterly basis and all meetings with the exception of that held in conjunction with Conference are held in Wellington. The present administrative service has now settled into an appropriate routine that fully meets the requirements and responsibilities of the Executive.

HONEY MARKETING AUTHORITY

The fact that Hive Levy is collected by the Authority has meant that a close administrative link between the two bodies has been developed. The Association is most appreciative of the courtesies and co-operation given by the Authority's General Manager, Mr Curtis Wicht.

The Association appointed its General Secretary to act as Returning Officer for the election of two producer members to the Authority.

The Authority also appointed Mr G. A. Beard to act for it in the matter of the collection of outstanding Hive Levy Accounts - this appointment did not involve the Association in any way.

The need for the Authority and the Association's Executive to meet at intervals appears essential if sound industry policy decisions are to be developed - the honey industry is too small for independent factional attitudes to predominate in industry policy determinations.

The Authority's role in the collection of the Hive Levy has been a factor of some contention in Authority circles and is still not being accepted in a manner likely to assist relationships - the Association has done all it can do to be fully co-operative and helpful and desires only that the matter be accepted as a continuing industry requirement.

OBITUARY

The period saw two past Presidents pass on namely Mr E. D. Williams and Mr Bruce Forsyth. Both had served the industry on the Association and on the Marketing Authority. Mr Forsyth who was still a comparatively young man at the time of his death was very much involved in industry affairs in the Waikato. Another Association and branch stalwart, Mr Norman Tuck also died late in 1975.

The sympathy of all go to their respective families.

LIFE MEMBERS

The honour of life membership was bestowed by Conference on Mr Ivor Forster of Oamaru who had as a Ministry Officer served the Beekeeping Industry with great distinction over a long period of time.

The reception accorded Mr Forster by Conference was in itself testimony of the esteem in which he is held by New Zealand Beekeepers.

CONCLUSION

This report would not be complete without reference to the contribution made by the President and his Executive to the affairs of the Association - their time has been given freely and has meant much to the administration.

The co-operation of the various Ministry of Agriculture Officers is acknowledged.

The need of the industry over the next year is to achieve a welding together of the different sectors in the industry so that policies and actions can be worked out in the interests of all beekeepers; the industry can no longer afford the luxury of a fragmented industry organisational structure.

NATIONAL BEEKEEPERS' ASSOCIATION OF NEW ZEALAND (INC.)

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 1975

		\$	\$
<u>1975</u>	<u>ACCUMULATED FUNDS</u>		
-	Conference Fund - 1975 surplus		140
433	Library Fund	433	
	Less purchases	<u>138</u>	295
451	Seminar Fund		451
250	Travel Bursary Fund		250
<505>	General Fund at 1.5.75	387	
420	<u>Plus</u> Recovery of Expenditure in previous years	8	
-	Transfer from Library Fund	<u>138</u>	
		533	
<472>	<u>Less</u> Excess of Expenditure over Income 1975	<u>19</u>	<u>514</u>
1,521	Total Accumulated Funds		1,650
	These are represented by:		
2,608	Bank of New South Wales	569	
306	P.O.S.B. Timaru	276	
1,235	Sundry Debtors	3,182	
200	N.A.C. Deposit	160	
275	Subscription in arrears	-	
4,624			4,187
232	<u>Less</u> Sundry Creditors	2,694	
3,000	Hive Levy in Advance	-	
50	Provision for Bad Debts	50	
31	Subscriptions in Advance	<u>30</u>	<u>2,774</u>
1,311	Net Current Assets		1,413
	Other Assets are (cost less depreciation):		
100	Library and Blocks	138	
110	Cabinets	<u>99</u>	<u>237</u>
			<u>1,650</u>
	<u>Contingent Liability</u>		
	Unexpired part of 1974 H.M.A. Grant	\$1,667	

To the Members of the National Beekeepers' Association of New Zealand (Inc.)

I have examined the books and accounts of the Association for the 8 months ended 31 December 1975. I have obtained all the information and explanations as required by me. Proceeds of 1975 Conference were remitted to the General Secretary after deducting expenses. Apart from this reservation, in my opinion proper books of account have been kept and in my opinion the above Balance Sheet and attached Income and Expenditure Account have been drawn up so as to show a true and fair view of the affairs of the Association.

Lower Hutt, 12 May 1976

N. Ryder-Lewis
Chartered Accountant.

NATIONAL BEEKEEPERS' ASSOCIATION OF NEW ZEALAND (INC.)

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE
8 MONTHS ENDED 31 DECEMBER 1975

<u>1975^x</u>	<u>INCOME</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
4079	Subscriptions (a)	2,027	
2000	Hive Levy (b)	10,550	
5333	Grant from H.M.A.	-	
81	Interest	21	
545	Journal Income - Advertising	1,107	
1066	Subscriptions	,226	
191	Donations	-	
<u>328</u>	Decrease in Bad Debts Provision	<u>-</u>	13,931
13,623			
	<u>LESS EXPENSES</u>		
5394	Administration Fee	3,721	
200	Audit Fee	225	
-	Capitation to Branches	1,149	
288	Conference Expenses - Accommodation	513	
376	Travel	206	
373	Sundry	58	
372	Executive Meetings - Accommodation	245	
1213	Travel	1,477	
2	Sundry	9	
170	Insurances - Public Liability	credit 112	
1673	Journal - Printing (c)	4,743	
687	Editor's Honorarium	297	
436	Sundry	278	
444	Postages and Tolls	276	
500	President's Honorarium	333	
755	Printing and Stationery	354	
148	Travel Expenses - other meetings	-	
108	Sundry	167	
<u>12</u>	Depreciation	<u>11</u>	
13,151			<u>13,950</u>
472	Net Deficit		19
(surplus)			

- (a) Beekeepers paying Hive Levy are now automatically members of the Association.
- (b) Appropriation of Hive Levy. Honey Marketing Authority grant has now lapsed.
- (c) Includes \$1,000 for debit in 1974-75 against H.M.A. Amount not properly chargeable to H.M.A.

x 1975 comparative figures are for 12 months to 30 April 1975. Association's year changed to 31 December which is closing date of the annual Hive Levy.