

HMA elections
830
~400 back
7 votes invalid

GAVIN MCK
500 hives
8 P-N6 boys



NATIONAL BEEKEEPERS' ASSOCIATION
of NEW ZEALAND (INC.)

ANNUAL REPORT FOR
THE YEAR ENDED
31st DECEMBER 1976

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OFFICE BEARERS

PRESIDENT

Mr P. Berry - Hastings

VICE PRESIDENT

Mr M. G. Stuckey - Auckland

MEMBERS OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

a) Representing the North Island

Mr E. R. Robinson - Waihou

b) Representing the South Island

Messrs A. Clissold - Gore

I. J. Dickinson - Milton

G. McKenzie - (to November 1976)

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

G. A. BEARD

ASSOCIATION'S OFFICE

Level 14,
Pastoral House,
Lambton Quay,
WELLINGTON.

P. O. Box 4048,
WELLINGTON.

Phone: 721-541

GENERAL REPORT TO MEMBERS

INTRODUCTION

The Association completed the revision of its Rules early in 1976, with the result that a postal election was able to be conducted for all Executive members, just prior to the Annual meeting in July. This new procedure enabled all members to participate in the election of their Executive representatives.

The honey harvest in 1976 was not as good as in 1975; the central north island regions in particular being badly affected by continuing wet cold weather and a number of late unseasonal frosts. A very favourable autumn did however see a greater recovery than seemed possible in early February.

The 1976 Annual Conference was dominated by the question of whether or not the Honey Marketing Authority should allow the export of honey in retail packs by private packers. The will of the industry as expressed in the terms of supporting remits left no doubt that the proposal had widely based industry support.

The Conference which was held in Taupo was well hosted by the Waikato Branch with the full support of local members.

MEMBERSHIP

The twin base for membership of the Association is now well established and understood by the industry.

To become a "Commercial" member of the Association a Beekeeper must own not fewer than 50 hives and pay Hive Levy. The Hive Levy is paid into a special account held by the Marketing Authority. All beekeepers who pay Hive Levy are automatically declared to be members of the Association.

In respect of beekeepers (and others who may enjoy some link or association with the industry) who own fewer than fifty hives, direct membership applies at an annual subscription rate of \$7.50 per member.

All members receive without further charge a copy of the Association's quarterly journal the "Beekeeper".

The overseas membership which in general stems from the wish to receive "Beekeeper" has grown steadily and it is gratifying to have world wide interest in the Association and its activities.

The membership of one branch fell to a point below the minimum required by the Rules and unless further members are enlisted the Branch will merge with the neighbouring branch.

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Individual branch membership at the end of the year was as under:-

Far North	7	South Western Districts	114
Northland	40	Nelson	46
Auckland	113	West Coast	27
Waikato	114	Canterbury	75
Bay of Plenty	31	South Canterbury	30
Hawkes Bay	49	South Otago	23
Central/Southern Hawkes Bay	10	Otago	58
		Southland	48

At 31 December the membership totalled 785 of which 284 were commercial members and 501 were ordinary members.

THE BEEKEEPER

The new look "Beekeeper" has been extremely well received by members and reflects the high editorial and production quality of the journal. Mr Trevor Walton the Editor has proved that he has quickly acquired a sound understanding of the industry and as a consequence beekeepers are receiving a journal comprising of a range of well balanced and topical material.

The Editorial arrangement was reviewed in December for 1977 at a slightly increased rate that took into account increased production costs.

Beekeeper is proving a very effective means of communication between the Executive Committee and the membership and a review of the business transacted by Executive is included in each issue.

HONEY MARKETING AUTHORITY - ELECTION OF PRODUCER MEMBERS

The Executive Committee again appointed the Executive Secretary Returning Officer for the 1976 election of two producer members to the Authority.

The persons elected were Messrs I. J. Dickinson of Milton and M. G. Stuckey of Auckland. Both are also serving members on the Executive Committee of the Association. With the President three members of the Executive Committee are now also members of the Authority.

The expenses incurred in conducting the Authority elections are recoverable.

EXPORTS BY PRIVATE PACKERS

This was a much debated topic at the Annual Conference. Prior to Conference it had been widely canvassed at Branch annual

meetings and while some misgivings were voiced there was manifested at Conference a large body of opinion in support.

The Authority was quick to act in the matter and the way is now clear, subject to appropriate conditions, for private packers to directly enter the export business. This approval was confined to retail packs and co-incides with a rising world price for New Zealand honey.

APIARY STATISTICS AS AT MAY 1976

This schedule is at present unavailable.

RESTRICTED ZONES FOR BEEKEEPING

The re-organised Advisory Committee which is now administered in the Hamilton office of the Ministry has met as required. The Association's representative on the Committee is Mr E. R. Robinson.

The Association is now satisfied that matters arising in connection with the administration of Restricted zones is now on a much more satisfactory basis and one that will restore producer confidence in the work of the Advisory Committee.

HONEY PRICING POLICY

The price that may be paid to suppliers to the Honey Marketing Authority in large measure determines the level of honey prices industry wise.

The Authority is required to adhere to a Base Price approved by the Hon. Minister of Agriculture; this Base Price establishes a narrow range within which the Authority is free to set a specific price. Realisations in excess are credited to the Reserve Account which is in fact a Stabilisation Fund.

The Association membership contended that the Base Price should be set in December each year so that new season honey could be traded on the new price basis.

The Authority recognising the within industry need to formulate the Base Price recommendation before the end of the year conveyed its recommendation to the Minister in November. The recommendation on the Base Price must be made by both Authority and the Association.

Early in December the Executive met with the Chairman of the Authority and a detailed joint submission was developed and submitted to the Minister.

The rising world prices for New Zealand honey meant that local market prices had to move upward in sympathy, and further if the Base Price was set too low then suppliers to the Authority were making an unduly large contribution to the Reserve Fund.

The present Base Price Fixing procedure is largely dominated by the Ministry of Agriculture and a case for some independent method similar to that applying in other primary products appears justified.

There is a need too for both the Authority and the Association to develop a much more defined approach to pricing considerations and the formulation of Base Price recommendations; the present "ad hoc" methods are not conducive to well researched and soundly based decisions.

ASSOCIATION REPRESENTATIVES ON OTHER ORGANISATIONS AND COMMITTEES

Mr J. W. Fraser of Southland represents the Association on the Agricultural Chemicals Board. Mr Fraser's services on the Board are acknowledged.

The Association's representative on the Apiary Advisory Committee is Mr E. R. Robinson, a serving member of the Executive Committee.

The Association's member on the Dominion Council of Federated Farmers (Inc.) is the President Mr P. Berry.

THE LIBRARY

Mr Chris Dawson continued to act as Librarian. The Library Committee comprised Messrs Dawson, Mervyn Cloake and Gavin McKenzie. Mr McKenzie left to take up a post in Papua New Guinea late in the year so a vacancy exists on the Committee. The library continues to provide beekeepers with a valuable service and the contribution made by Mr Dawson in this is widely acknowledged by the industry.

The following is the Librarian's Report:

"The demand for books during the last twenty-one months has increased to 166 per cent. It is a pleasure to see this increase and it has been a privilege to try and supply answers to many questions on the topics in which we are interested.

We look forward to the arrival of some more recent release books and with those added recently, our library is being kept up-to-date with modern books.

It was disappointing that no donation has been received of a copy of the William Charles Cotton book "Manual for New Zealand Beekeepers" which was reprinted in New Zealand. It would be a valuable addition to the Library and the Committee considers the cost too high as it has no use to modern beekeepers. "

Chris Dawson - Hon. Librarian

THE EXECUTIVE

The Executive Committee met on four occasions during the year, each meeting occupying two days. With the exception of the meeting held to coincide with the Conference all meetings were held in Wellington.

This year two special meetings of the Association were held to settle and adopt the new Rules.

At the annual meeting the President Mr Ivan Dickinson declined to accept nomination and the vice President Mr Percy Berry was duly elected to succeed him. Mr Mike Stuckey was elected vice President.

The Conference acknowledged with gratitude and appreciation the excellent service given to the Association by Mr Dickinson during his long term as President and an appropriate resolution was passed with sustained acclamation.

All the Executive Committee members stood for re-election when the initial election under the new Rules was held and all were re-elected. In the latter part of the year Mr Gavin McKenzie resigned to take up a post in Papua New Guinea - all wish Mr McKenzie every success in his new position.

LIFE MEMBERS

At the annual meeting in July five members were elected Life Members of the Association, they were

Mr Jack Glynn
Mr I. W. Haines
Mr Harry Cloake
Mr Geo Gordon
Mr Norman Glass

MR ERIC SMAELLIE

This year's report would not be complete without reference to the retirement in August of Mr Eric Smaellie from his position of Superintendent Beekeeping Industry Ministry of Agriculture.

At the Conference the opportunity was taken to make a presentation to Mr Smaellie on behalf of the Industry. The President and many other members paid tribute to Mr Smaellie for the services he had rendered the industry over a long period of years.

The industry at large extends to him every good wish for a long and pleasant retirement in Western Australia.

OBITUARY

It was with regret that the Association records the passing of a Life Member Mr I. W. Haines of Kaitaia.

HONEY MARKETING AUTHORITY

A remit endorsed by the 1976 Conference asked that an evaluation be made of the advantages and disadvantages of the Authority and the Association being organised within a single industry body.

A report will be tabled to the 1977 Conference.

The position since Conference has altered somewhat in that three members of the Association's Executive are now also producer members on the Authority. A consequence of this situation is that it is now comparatively easy for the two organisations to arrange joint discussions and this will lead to much better appreciation of the roles each has to play in industry affairs.

The collection of the Hive Levy by the Authority cannot be regarded as ideal and this was recognised by the 1976 Conference which resolved that consideration and study be given to ways and means that would allow the transfer of this responsibility to the Association.

Appropriate recommendations have been made to the Hon. Minister of Agriculture accordingly.

It is pleasing to report that an excellent liaison exists with the General Manager of the Authority Mr Curtis Wicht and this is much appreciated by the Executive Secretary and his staff.

FINANCE

The Association's finances due to the Hive Levy are now on a sound footing and provide adequately for the operations of the Association.

The appropriation from the Hive Levy Account is subject to Ministerial approval and was set at \$20,000 for 1976. This sum is paid to the Association in two equal instalments - in March and August. A carry forward of close to \$5,000 is necessary in order to cover first quarter expenditure.

The remainder of Association income comes from the subscriptions paid by "Ordinary" members at the rate of \$7.50 per member.

As stated elsewhere the Association is taking steps to explore ways and means of collecting the Hive Levy itself thus absolving the Authority from this non marketing responsibility.

The finances of the Association are in a sound state, although the impact of rising costs in almost every sphere of Association expenditure should not be ignored. It will probably be necessary for the Hive Levy rate to be reviewed in 1977.

ADMINISTRATION SERVICES

Some years ago the Association contracted with the Pork Industry Council to undertake all administrative, secretarial and accounting services on behalf of the Association.

The arrangement has provided the Association with a service that has been eminently satisfactory and at a very favourable cost. The office and other facilities available to the Association are very satisfactory.

BRANCHES

There are fifteen Branches of the Association. The level of activity varies but in general they provide a good link between rank and file producers and the members of the Executive Committee.

The basis of funding branches has not proved easy of resolution but late in the year a new formula was adopted which will ensure that all branches have adequate funds to support their operations.

The level of membership in one or two branches is near the minimum. Overall however producer interest in the industry is strong.

CONCLUSION

The decision of Mr Ivan Dickinson not to offer himself for re-election to the Presidency brought to an end a popular and purposeful term of office. Mr Dickinson's term had seen the Association through a very difficult financial period and also the complete redrafting of the Rules. His decision to remain on Executive and later to successfully seek membership of the Authority indicate Mr Dickinson's standing in the industry.

The Vice President Mr P. Berry succeeded Mr Dickinson and as the architect of the Hive Levy Scheme has established himself as a member with the interest of the Industry at heart.

The contribution made by all members of the Executive Committee is acknowledged.

The co-operation received from Ministry of Agriculture staff has been all that could be asked; many officers have made a very real contribution to the work of the Association and the Industry.

As stated in last year's report the great need within the Industry is to achieve a closer working relationship between the several

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sectional interests: there were clear indicators this year that the value of within industry co-operation and co-ordination will serve the industry best but the impetus must be maintained if beekeepers are to obtain the best results from their elected bodies.

The Association is now fully representative of the Industry and as a consequence is well able to act as that co-ordinating agency.

NATIONAL BEEKEEPERS' ASSOCIATION OF NEW ZEALAND (INC.)

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 1976

<u>1975</u>	<u>ACCUMULATED FUNDS</u>		
140	Conference Fund		140
295	Library Fund		295
451	Seminar Fund		451
250	Travel Bursary Fund		250
387	General Fund at 1-1-76	514	
8	<u>Plus</u> Recovery of Expenditure in previous years	-	
138	Transfer from Library Fund	-	
-19	<u>Plus</u> Excess of Income over Expenditure 1976	514	
		<u>7,163</u>	<u>7,677</u>
<u>650</u>	Total Accumulated Funds		<u>8,813</u>
	These are represented by:		
569	Bank of New South Wales	4,812	
276	P.O.S.B. Timaru	205	
-	Short term Investment	5,000	
3,182	Sundry Debtors	902	
160	N.A.C. Deposit	<u>148</u>	11,067
2,694	<u>Less</u> Sundry Creditors	2,427	
50	Provision for Bad Debts	50	
30	Subscriptions in Advance	<u>75</u>	<u>2,552</u>
1,413	Net Current Assets		8,515
	Other Assets are (cost less depreciation):		
138	Library and Blocks	209	
99	Cabinets	<u>89</u>	<u>98</u>
<u>1,650</u>			<u>8,813</u>

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

I have examined the books and accounts of the Association for the Year Ended 31 December 1976. I have obtained all the information and explanations as required by me. Proceeds of 1976 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, 25 March 1977

N. Ryder-Lewis
Chartered Accountant.

NATIONAL BEEKEEPERS' ASSOCIATION OF NEW ZEALAND (INC.)

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE
YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 1975

1975 ⁺	<u>INCOME</u>	\$.	\$
2,027	Subscriptions	3,489	
10,550	Hive Levy	20,000	
21	Interest	357	
1,107	Journal Income - Advertising	2,477	
226	- Subscriptions	852	
		<u> </u>	<u>27,175</u>
	 <u>LESS EXPENSES</u>		
3,721	Administration Fee	5,986	
225	Audit and Computer Fee	255	
1,149	Capitation to Branches	507	
513	Conference Expenses - Accommodation	627	
206	- Travel	412	
58	- Sundry	<u>156</u>	1,195
245	Executive Meetings - Accommodation	1,177	
1,477	- Travel	1,659	
9	- Sundry	<u>31</u>	2,867
4,743	Journal - Printing	6,978	
297	- Editor's Honorarium	280	
278	- Sundry	<u> </u>	7,258
276	Postages and Tolls	504	
333	President's Honorarium	500	
354	Printing and Stationery	524	
55	Sundry	406	
11	Depreciation	10	
19	Net Surplus	<u>7,163</u>	<u>27,175</u>
Deficit			

+ 1975 comparative figures are for 8 months to 31 December 1975.