

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE GENERAL EXECUTIVE, HELD IN  
THE EMPIRE HOTEL, WELLINGTON, ON THE 14TH. 15TH & 16TH. FEBRUARY  
1945, COMMENCING AT 9.30 A.M. ON THE FORMER DATE.

PRESENT :- Messrs. E. A. Field (President) W. J. Lennon (Vice-President) E. D. Williams, E. J. Kirk, T. F. Penrose, J. McFadzien Jr. and the General Secretary (Mr. G. V. Fraser.)

MINUTES of the meeting held on the 5th. 6th. and 7th. July, 1944 were read and confirmed.

SYMPATHY :- The President moved a vote of sympathy with the relatives of those members who had died since the last meeting. The motion was carried in the customary manner.

INVITATIONS TO MEETING :- The Secretary read the following letters relative to the meeting. 26-9-44, From Acting-Director of the Internal Marketing Division. 2-10-44 Reply:- 11-10-44 From the Acting Director Internal Marketing Division. 24-10-44 Reply:- 30-10-44 From Secretary, Internal Marketing Division. 15-12-44. Reply:- 18-1-45. To Mr. Stoupe, 18-1-45:- 18-1-45, To Mr. Wallace Nelson :- 8-2-45, Reply:- 18-1-45, To Secretary, Internal Marketing Division :- 18-1-45 To Mr. W. K. Dallas. Resolved on the motion of Mr. Williams, seconded by Mr. Lennon "that the inward correspondence be received and the outward approved."

MINUTES OF STANDING COMMITTEE :- At this stage the Minutes of the last meeting of the Standing Committee were read and briefly discussed.

MEETING WITH CONTROL BOARD :- This had been arranged for 11.15 a.m. and while waiting for the Board to appear, the President referred to the fact that once again the Chairman of the Control Board has forstalled the Executive by taking prior steps to put proposals for a price increase to the Minister before the Executive had had an opportunity of doing so.

A general discussion ensued in which keen disappointment was voiced at the action taken by Mr. Nelson. The Control Board, consisting of Messrs. W. Nelson (Chairman) Penny and Robins were then ushered in and briefly welcomed by the President. MARKETING COUNCIL :- Mr. Nelson said there were two matters the Board wished to discuss with the Executive, firstly the proposed Marketing Council and secondly the question of increased price. Dealing with the first named, Mr. Nelson said that his Board was not prepared to support the I.M.D. proposal for a new Advisory Committee. They did however agree that an election of the present Board should be held. Apart from this he had indicated to the Minister that the present Board would resign if the Minister felt that a new body would be more effective.

Dealing with the matter of an increase in price, Mr. Nelson said that the only case put before the Board had come from the Waikato beekeepers. There had been no other approach and his Board was prepared to support the Waikato case. Crops this year were well down in the Waikato and in Taranaki they were much worse off still. There was a case where 14 tons of sugar had been fed and no honey produced at all. The matter of costs and returns in the Waikato was serious and he had received letters from beekeepers wanting to know what the Board was doing about the matter. He had accordingly met the Minister and submitted a case for an improved payment which he urged should be made retrospective to last years supply. He had asked for a price of 7.4d. -i.e. just under 8d. pro rata the increase to be by way of a bonus. The present bonus was 1d. and he was pressing for a bonus of 2d per lb. straight out. The Minister had informed him that it was not a fact that the Stabilisation Commission would deal with increased costs only since 1942. They were prepared to consider costs since 1939.

Mr. Nelson said he would like the President of the National Association to be associated with him in presenting a case before the Stabilisation Commission. The Minister had agreed that Mr. Field should support him in presenting a case on the basis of the whole industry.

In reply to Mr. Penrose, Mr. Nelson said that the total of all the reserves held was approximately £35,000. This amount did not include any "hidden reserves". He said further, that he looked upon the reserve funds as belonging to the Industry. Dealing with current seals revenue, Mr. Nelson said that the Seals Fund should yield £4000 to £5000 annually and this amount should be sufficient to meet the increased bonus payment of  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per lb.

At this stage, the time being 1.15 p.m. the meeting adjourned until 2.15 p.m. after the President had thanked Mr. Nelson for his statement.

MEETING WITH I.M.D. :- Upon resuming at 2.15 p.m. Messrs. R. Fraser (Acting Director) and Stoupe (Manager of the Honey Section) of the Internal Marketing Division waited upon the meeting and a general discussion took place.

Mr. Stoupe referring to his South Island tour stated that Beekeepers in the South Island were satisfied with the 30 lb. per hive basis of supply. He gave figures of the registration of extractions for each district up to the 24th. January. Based on 30lb. per hive these figures would give a supply of 1222 tons, of which 417 tons would be for the South Island. Honey received to date totalled 61 tons as against 215 tons at the same time last, year.

Mr. R. Fraser brought up the question of granting exemption from the regulations to a returned soldier who was building up his holding. The application was recommended by the Rehabilitation Department and although he had informed the Minister that on principle he was personally opposed to the granting of exemptions, he felt that favourable consideration could be given to each particular case on its merits. He asked for an opinion on the matter from the National Executive. A fairly lengthy discussion ensued in which the President voiced strong opposition to the suggestion. Opinion on the matter was divided however and no decision was reached.

Dealing with the necessity of securing an increased price for honey supplied to the Division, Mr. Stoupe, in reply to a question, stated that the Seals revenue last year amounted to only £1300. A lengthy discussion then took place on the question of seals funds and the granting of an increased price through the utilisation of reserves. Mr. R. Fraser said he was definitely against using reserves as a method of increasing prices. He would, through necessity however, agree to future seals revenue being used for the purpose of paying an increased price which may be authorised by the Stabilisation Commission.

The basis of representation on the proposed Honey Marketing Council was then discussed, Mr. Fraser indicating that as far as he was concerned, the proposal for four producer and four Government nominated representatives, one of which to be Chairman, was the only practicable method he could recommend. He stated however, that although these were his views, it did not mean that the door was closed to further negotiation on the matter. He strongly urged the Executive to adopt the proposed basis he had suggested.

The visitors withdrew from the meeting at 4.30 p.m. and consideration was then given to the proposals submitted by Mr. Nelson for an increased price for bulk honey. At 5 p.m. Mr. Nelson returned to the meeting and asked whether any decision had been reached. The President indicated to Mr. Nelson that the Executive was keen to co-operate with the Board in presenting a case to the Stabilisation Commission, but in view of the discussion which had taken place with Messrs. Fraser and Stoupe, the Executive desired further time to consider the proposals.

After further discussion it was resolved on the motion of Mr. Kirk, seconded by Mr. Williams "that the President be authorised to jointly submit a case to the Stabilisation Commission in company with the Chairman of the Honey Control Board, for an increased bonus payment of  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per lb. to be met, if necessary, in whole or in part, by current seals revenue.

CONFERENCE :- Resolved on the motion of Mr. Lennon, seconded by Mr. Mc.Fadzien "that Conference this year be held in Christchurch."

The time now being 6.30 p.m. the meeting was adjourned until 9.45 a.m. on the 15th.

CONSTITUTION :- The meeting resumed at 9.45 a.m. on the 15th. with a discussion on the suggested amendments to the Constitution. Mr. Lennon gave figures relating to last years statistics of membership and consideration was given to a proposal to modify the proposed basis of subscription.

Mr. Lennon estimated that on the basis of 2d. per hive with a maximum of 300 hives, the total income would be £465. At 2d. with a maximum of 600, £568. At 3d. per hive with a maximum of 300, £688 and at 3d. with a maximum of 600, £827.

Finally it was moved by Mr. Lennon, seconded by Mr. Penrose "that we recommend the acceptance of the proposed amendments to the Constitution on the basis of 2d. per hive with a maximum of 450 hives, with a minimum subscription of 7/6d." As an amendment, Mr. Mc.Fadzien then moved, seconded by Mr. Kirk "that the basis recommended be altered to 3d. per hive with a maximum of 300 hives."

The amendment, on being put, was lost.

The motion was then put and carried.

Moved by Mr. Penrose, seconded by Mr. Lennon, "that an amendment be made to the Constitution to provide that where a delegate's vote is required, it should operate only when due notice to that effect has been given at the time of lodging of remit." On being put the motion was lost.

Moved by Mr. Williams, seconded by Mr. Kirk "that it be a recommendation to conference that consideration be given to making provision in the Constitution, whereby when matters relating to Marketing are being discussed, a vote be taken by Commercial Producers only, Conference to decide what status constitutes a Commercial Producer."

The motion was carried.

STATISTICS :- Mr. Lennon intimated that he would submit to the General Secretary the latest figures for checking and subsequent circulation to members of the Executive.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT :- The Secretary submitted a financial statement as at the 2nd. February, which after a brief discussion was adopted on the motion of Mr. Lennon, seconded by Mr. Penrose.

SECRETARY'S SALARY :- Mr. Penrose said he was concerned over the fact that although this matter had previously been referred to the Standing Committee for a report, the matter was not mentioned in the Minutes of the meeting of the Standing Committee. After a general discussion, it was decided that in view of the state of the Association's finances, consideration of the matter be deferred.

JOURNAL :- Mr. Lennon made a verbal report on matters connected with the editing of the Journal and following a general discussion, the meeting adjourned at 1.10 p.m.

RESUMPTION was made at 2.15 p.m. with a brief discussion on the question of the proposed Marketing Council, after which Mr. Williams left to catch his train.

CORRESPONDENCE was read and dealt with as follows :-

From the Director of Agriculture re the formation of sub-committees of the Agricultural Development Committee. Resolved on the motion of Mr. Lennon, seconded by Mr. Kirk, that Messrs. E. A. Field and T. F. Penrose be appointed as the Association's representatives on the proposed Agricultural Development Committee."

From the Minister of Agriculture re Registration of Apiary Sites -  
 Received.  
 " the Rev. J. Graham. Secretary's reply approved.  
 " Mr. Ibel. " " "  
 " Messrs. Parkes & Parkes. " " "  
 " Mr. H. M. Hansen. " " "  
 " Mr. Mawhinney. " " "  
 " N.Z. Woolpack & Textiles Ltd. Presidents reply approved.  
 " The Federated Farmers of N.Z. Received.  
 " South Auckland Branch re Mr. Williams position on Executive.  
 Secretary to reply.  
 " South Auckland Branch re Sale of Honey from Apiaries.  
 " Mr. J. Mc.Fadzien " " " " " "

Decided to advise South Auckland that the Executive had considered the matter at some length and while anomalies appear to exist, the Executive would suggest that if any beekeeper wished to charge a price in excess of 10<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>d. it would be wise for him to secure legal opinion on the matter beforehand. The Executive itself does not feel in a position to give a legal opinion and further feels that it would be unwise at this stage to make investigations in official quarters. From the Canterbury Branch, copies of resolutions passed at a recent meeting of the Branch. No. 1. re inaccuracy of Balance Sheet - referred to General Secretary. No. 2. Referred back to Branch through Mr. Penrose, with a recommendation that the matter should be brought forward as a remit to Conference.

The time now being 6.15 p.m. the meeting was adjourned until 9.30 a.m. on the 16th.

APIARY INSTRUCTORS' SALARIES :- When the meeting resumed, the matter was introduced by Mr. Penrose in connection with another resolution passed by the Canterbury Branch. Mr. Penrose elaborated on the various relative points and gave instances of cases where Instructors had resigned their positions in order to take up beekeeping, owing to the inadequate scale of salaries. Members felt however that as the question was one which affected Government policy and involved the functions of the Public Service Commissioner, no action should be taken. The balance of the Canterbury resolutions were discussed and referred back to the Branch through Mr. Penrose.

Messrs. F. T. Wimble & Co. (N.Z.) Ltd. wrote in answer to a letter in reply from the President, suggesting that the Association purchase 700 lbs. of 28 Round Steel Wire now in stock for distribution to members.

Resolved on the motion of Mr. Lennon, seconded by Mr. Penrose "that as we are not in a position to trade in bee supplies we decline the offer of Messrs. Wimble & Co. Ltd. to buy and handle their supplies of wire. That Messrs. Wimble & Co. Ltd. be supplied with a list of our Branches as requested by them and that Branches be advised where supplies are available and the type of package."

REMITTS :- Decided that the distribution of remits be carried out in the same manner as last year.

MARKETING COUNCIL :- Resolved on the motion of Mr. Penrose, seconded by Mr. Lennon "that after due consideration of all further points raised, this Executive adheres to its previous decision in regard to the constitution of the proposed Honey Marketing Council and feels that if any further consideration is required, the matter be referred to Conference.

CONSTITUTION :- Resolved on the motion of Mr. Penrose, seconded by Mr. Lennon, "that the resolutions passed at this meeting in respect of Amendments to the Constitution be submitted to Branches with the Remits as recommendations to Conference."

GENERAL :- The question of supplies of wire guaze, timber, etc. was discussed and satisfactory explanations given.

Certain items contained in the Cost Schedule prepared by the South Auckland Branch were also discussed, principally those relating to interest charges and capital cost. Members agreed that the accuracy of these items was questionable.

A discussion was also entered into regarding suggestions to be put forward as a basis of discussion by the Association's appointees on the Agricultural Development Committee, the Secretary undertaking to embody these in his letter to the Director of Agriculture re the appointments made.

A statement to be handed to the Press Association was then drawn up and mutually agreed upon.

The meeting closed at 1.35 p.m. with a vote of thanks sponsored by Mr. Lennon to the Chairman and to the Secretary, the Chairman thanking members for their attendance.

CONFIRMED.

DATE .10-7-45.....

CHAIRMAN. *E. Field*.....

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE GENERAL EXECUTIVE HELD IN THE  
CANTERBURY PROVINCIAL BUILDINGS, CHRISTCHURCH, ON TUESDAY, 10TH. JULY,  
1945; COMMENCING AT 10.20 A.M.

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PRESENT :- Messrs. E. A. Field (President) W. J. Lennon (Vice-President)  
T. F. Penrose, E. D. Williams, E. J. Kirk, J. Mc.Fadzien Jr. and the General  
Secretary (Mr. G. V. Fraser.)

MINUTES of the Meeting held on the 14th, 15th. and 16th. February, 1945 were  
read and confirmed.

INCREASED PRICES :- Referring to the Minutes, Mr. Mc.Fadzien asked what had  
been done regarding the joint application of the President and the Honey  
Control Board re increased prices.

The President reported upon what had taken place and read a letter  
he had received from the Chairman of the Control Board and also the copy of a  
letter sent to the Minister by Mr. Nelson.

CORRESPONDENCE was read and dealt with as follows :-

Letters to and from the Secretary of the Provincial Buildings  
Board re Arbitration Court Sittings. Replies Approved.

From Whakatane Branch - report. Received.

From Far North Branch - report.

From Mr. G. Gumbrell nominating Mr. Field as a member of the  
Executive .

From Mr. R. R. Bushby, a similar nomination for Mr. Penrose.

From Mr. W. B. Bray, a similar nomination for Mr. E. W. Sage. The  
Secretary pointed out that under the provisions of Clause 10 of the Constitution,  
all of these nominations were invalid as none of the nominators were direct  
members. Following a discussion, it was decided that the nominations could  
not be accepted and it was unanimously agreed that in regard to the election of  
officers, past procedure be followed at the forthcoming Conference.

The President reported having telegraphed the Prime Minister  
protesting against the proposal to hear evidence on the granting of Tyre  
manufacturing licenses, in Camera. Also that he had requested the Farmers'  
Federation to offer evidence at the hearing on behalf of the Association. The  
President's action was endorsed.

Letters to and from Mr. J. J. Morrin concerning his claim for  
damages under the Association's Insurance scheme, were read by the Secretary and  
his action in paying £2 to Mr. Morrin from the Trust Account was endorsed.

The time then being 12.45 p.m. the meeting adjourned until 2.15 p.m.

Upon resuming a letter was read from South Auckland Branch requesting  
a full statement on the position of affiliation with the Farmers' Federation.  
"Received".

From Mr. W. J. Ashcroft, nominating Mr. E. J. Kirk as a member of  
the General Executive - Received.

From Mr. W. J. Ashcroft, urging support for the coupon system of  
rationing supplies of honey. Decided in view of the difficulty in working a  
coupon system, not to recommend the suggestion to Conference.

CONSTITUTION :- From Secretary, King Country Branch, suggesting that Conference  
be asked to approve of a rule that all subscriptions be paid yearly in advance.  
Decided to give the matter consideration if and when the Constitution is amended.

At this stage the Secretary drew attention to several ambiguous  
clauses in the Constitution and referred also to the urgent need for a complete  
revision of the Association's rules. Subsequently it was resolved on the  
motion of Mr. Penrose, seconded by Mr. Williams "that this Executive recommend  
Conference to authorise the incoming Executive to examine and revise the  
Constitution in its entirety and urges Conference to take steps to have the  
Association registered as an incorporated body."

BALANCE SHEET :- The Balance Sheet and Statement of Accounts for the  
year ended 31st. May, 1945 was presented by the Secretary, copies also being  
handed to each member. Resolved on the motion of Mr. Lennon, seconded by

Mr. Mc.Fadzien "that the Balance Sheet be received."

The Secretary then read the Auditor's Report which was fully discussed. Subsequently Mr. Lennon moved, seconded by Mr. Penrose "That the Secretary's action in paying accounts during the year be endorsed and that he be authorised to pay all future accounts for members' travelling and hotel expenses." Carried.

TRUST FUND :- Resolved on the motion of Mr. Penrose, seconded by Mr. Mc.Fadzien "that it be a recommendation to the incoming Executive to make provision in the Constitution for the transfer from the Trust Fund to the General Fund of an appropriate amount to cover the costs of administering the Fund."

JOURNAL SUBSCRIPTIONS :- Moved by the President, seconded by Mr. Penrose, "that it be an instruction to the Editor of the Journal that the price to be charged for Journals to new subscribers and renewals be increased to 10/6 per annum, including postage."

An amendment, moved by Mr. Lennon, seconded by Mr. Mc.Fadzien "that the subscription rate be 5/- per annum, including postage," was put to the meeting and lost. The original motion was then put and carried.

Resolved on the motion of the President, seconded by Mr. Kirk "That the Balance Sheet be adopted."

ANNUAL REPORT :- The Secretary then read the Annual Report to be presented to Conference by the President. The report was unanimously approved and adopted.

FURTHER CORRESPONDENCE WAS DEALT WITH AS FOLLOWS :-

From Mr. T. F. Penrose re arrangements for Conference.

Letter received and Mr. Penrose thanked for his generous assistance

From Canterbury Branch, advising election of Mr. T. F. Penrose as Branch President for the ensuing year. Received.

From Canterbury Branch, nominating Mr. W. B. Bray for office of Dominion President. Received.

From Mr. R. P. Fraser, Acting Director of Internal Marketing Division, expressing appreciation of invitation to Conference and best wishes for a successful meeting. Received.

From Mr. E. H. Andrews, Mayor of Christchurch, intimating his willingness to open Conference. Received.

From North Taranaki Branch, best wishes for Conference and expressing hope that Executive will secure an increase in price of bulk honey. Received.

From Nelson Branch, expressing thanks for gift of Stationery on formation and enclosing cheque in repayment of amount involved. Received with appreciation.

From Taranaki Branch enclosing copy of letter forwarded to the Minister of Agriculture re supplies of sugar. Received.

From Hawkes Bay Branch, copy of Branch Annual report and balance sheet. Received.

BRANCH RETURNS :- The Secretary drew attention to the fact that very few of the Branches were supplying copies of their annual financial statements and he considered that this information should be made available to the Executive.

The President said there was a serious lack of information regarding Branch funds and he felt that Branches should be compelled to furnish annual returns. Decided that the General Secretary take action to ensure that complete returns are furnished promptly each year.

REMITTS :- The rest of the afternoon was occupied in a general discussion on the various remits coming before Conference but time would not permit for the grouping of these as was intended.

VALEDICTORY :- At the conclusion of the business the President referred to the fact that this was the last meeting of the Executive in what had probably been the most difficult period in the history of the organisation and he wished to record appreciation of the work and loyal co-operation of the General Secretary. He also expressed his personal appreciation of the

support and help given wholeheartedly by members of the Executive and especially of their loyalty. Members he said, had their different views but had always worked as a compact body. The Executive had done all that was required of it in respect of the work entailed in negotiations with the Government Departments. Referring to the Vice-President, Mr. Field said that they had had many discussions on policy but although they had differed he had always received Mr. Lennon's co-operation and loyalty. He asked members to accept his thanks for their services.

Mr. Lennon, in reply said that he fully endorsed Mr. Field's remarks regarding the Secretary and also in reference to the work of the Executive. Mr. Lennon also paid a tribute to the President's great wisdom in guiding the Executive along right lines through all matters where there was conflict of opinions. In conclusion Mr. Lennon intimated that for private reasons he was not seeking re-election but he wished all members success at the coming Conference.

Mr. Penrose expressed his sincere regret at Mr. Lennon's decision and stated that he wished to add his support to the previous speaker's remarks regarding the Secretary. Regarding the work of the Executive, this had been very pleasant. They had been a happy family, and all knew where they stood.

Mr. Mc.Fadzien expressed the hope that his services on the Executive had been of some value. His association with the Executive has certainly been very pleasant.

Mr. Kirk, speaking as a new member, said that although he had no previous experience with this Executive he had with other organisations and he did not think that any other similar organisation had handled its business with more dispatch than had the Beekeepers' Association. He concluded by saying he wished to endorse the remarks made regarding the services of the President and Secretary.

Mr. Williams said he also wished to endorse all that had been said by the previous speakers. The Executive had done good work and they had been a happy family.

The meeting concluded at 6.30 p.m.

CONFIRMED.

DATE. *March 27<sup>th</sup> 1946*.....

CHAIRMAN. *E. A. Field*.....