

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE DOMINION EXECUTIVE HELD IN THE GRAND HOTEL, WELLINGTON, ON THE 7TH. AND 8TH. MAY 1958, COMMENCING AT 9.30 A.M. ON THE FORMER DATE.

PRESENT: Messrs. J.W. Fraser (Chairman), J.R. Barber, J.D. Lorimer, G.E. Gumbrell, H. Cloake, R.R. Chandler and the General Secretary Mr. R.A. Fraser.

ATTENDING: Mr. J. McFadzien, Editor N.Z. "Beekeeper."

MINUTES: Minutes of the meeting held in Wellington on 23rd. and 24th. October 1957 copies of which had been circulated to members were taken as read and confirmed.

DISSENTING OPINION:

Messrs. Gumbrell and Cloake expressed their contrary opinion on the correctness of the minutes maintaining that a motion appearing on Page 262 in connection with Honey Marketing Sales on the local market should have read as follows "That the Marketing Authority be advised that the Executive considers the appointment of an Agent has been a complete failure as far as the sale of honey is concerned and that the Executive considers that the sale of honey is the responsibility of the Salesman Manager."

GUARANTEED PRICE PROPOSAL:

The Chairman gave a verbal amplification of the ground covered when the General Secretary and himself had met the Minister of Agriculture on the 26th. February 1958. (Copy of a Statement which had been presented to the Minister had been circulated to members.) The wording of the Statement and the mention of guaranteed prices to the Minister were the subject of some considerable discussion. Finally it was resolved (Lorimer/Gumbrell) "That the Statement presented to the Minister of Agriculture on 26th. February 1958 by the President and Secretary be endorsed and that their subsequent action in arranging a joint meeting with members of the Honey Marketing Authority at this time to discuss the guaranteed price proposal in the light of the Minister's reply under date of 11th. April be also ratified." The Minister's reply read as follows :- "The question of a guaranteed price for honey exports cannot be considered until your organisation acting in co-operation with the N.Z. Honey Marketing Authority give me a comprehensive review showing

the amount of honey normally exported each year, the returns from export honey and payout to producers in relation to the cost-of-production also how and to what extent you consider a subsidy would be required to meet your present difficulty."

The meeting gave consideration to the official attitude which the Executive would express as a body at the joint meeting with the Honey Marketing Authority later in the day. The matter was discussed in general terms at length without any decision being reached and it was finally decided to await the joint meeting rather than adopt a firm attitude which may prove inconsistent with the feelings of the joint meeting.

At this juncture (11.00 a.m.) Mr. J.W. Fraser and Mr. R.R. Chandler (acting as proxy for Mr. W.W. Nelson) withdrew to attend the meeting of the Honey Marketing Authority called for that time. The remainder of members present continued the business of the meeting as follows :-

CONFERENCE PLANNING:

Mr. McFadzien and the General Secretary expressed their opinion that the Conference programme this year should be varied to provide educational and social activity during official day sessions. The necessity for encouraging greater attendance at Conference was stressed and it was felt that this could only be accomplished with a varied programme which would prove of interest to the practical beekeeper as well as to the beekeeper interested in administration problems in the Industry. It was also felt that business sessions conducted on standard lines of procedure tended to narrow the opportunities for participation and discussion to delegates only and that many people who attended Conference in a private capacity had no real opportunity of taking part and tended to become either interested or uninterested spectators to a succession of arguments. The Secretary drew attention to a number of interesting developments in group working methods which would provide greater opportunity for participation by all who attended Conference and felt that possibly some of these methods could be used with value in the open sessions of Conference. He also expressed the opinion that many of the group ideas and working methods could be adopted with advantage by branches and so increase

their member-interest and participation in branch affairs.

In this connection he sought permission to run a seminette on the opening night of Conference at which these ideas and methods could be introduced to those who were attending Conference so that they could be taken back and implemented at branch level. These matters were debated at some considerable length and while scepticism was expressed by some members it was generally felt the new ideas were worthy at least of a trial. Accordingly the following resolutions were passed (Lorimer/Gumbrell) "That the Executive agree to the running of a group discussion session of selected remits during business sessions for the 1958 Conference, such remits to be selected by the General Secretary and President and recommendations circulated to the Executive for approval."

(Barber/Cloake) "That permission be given to the General Secretary to organise and run a seminette on group organisation at the 1958 Conference with a view to strengthening the operations of branches by providing greater opportunities for participation in activities."

(Lorimer/Gumbrell) "That Executive agree to the inclusion of official sessions conducted by officers of the Department of Agriculture on some production topics or items of educational interest to beekeepers in the 1958 Conference programme, but that the draft programme for the Conference be submitted to members of the Executive for prior approval."

CONFERENCE REPORTING:

Attention was drawn to the unsatisfactory standard of Conference reporting by stenographers over recent years and it was recalled that the Secretary had earlier commented that it would be possible for him to prepare a condensed version of Conference without the aid of Stenographers if necessary. It was agreed that this should be done this year.

CONFERENCE ACCOMMODATION:

The Secretary advised that the Wellington Public Relations Office were recommending organisations which conducted Conferences in Wellington to run them over a weekend period of say Friday to Tuesday in view of severe accommodation difficulties during the mid-week period. Members, on discussing

the matter, felt that the proposal to hold Conferences over weekend periods had some merit and as it had never been tried before by the Association it was considered that an attempt should be made to ascertain members wishes in this regard especially as it would possibly enable greater attendance at Conference. Accordingly it was resolved (Gunbrell/Cloake) "That the Executive sponsor the following remit at 1958 Conference." "That in view of the difficulty of securing accommodation for Conference during mid-week periods consideration be given to holding of future Conferences over a week-end period."

Meeting adjourned at 12.35 p.m. for luncheon and for the joint meeting with the Honey Marketing Authority in the afternoon.

RESUMPTION: 8th. May, 9.45 a.m.

The meeting resumed with Mr. J.W. Fraser (N.B.A.) representative on the Honey Marketing Authority) giving a verbal report on Honey Marketing affairs. Mr. Fraser referred specifically to a letter which Colonel Kimpton as sole Agent for the Authority on the overseas market had sent to the Authority complaining at the incorrect reports of the overseas position which had appeared in the correspondence columns of the Journal over the signature of a member of the Authority. Mr. Fraser confirmed that the reports in that correspondence referred to by Mr. Kimpton were incorrect and he considered that he as the Associations' representative on the Authority should write to Mr. Kimpton dis-associating the Association from the false statements made and advising him of our continued confidence in his handling of the overseas market. The Executive agreed with this course and again thanked Mr. Fraser for his report on Authority affairs. During this period the Secretary was absent making preliminary arrangements for Conference Halls and accommodation.

PESTICIDES: Losses of bee stocks continued to be apparent in both Islands according to reports from Executive members and in most cases no reasonable cause could be given for the occurrence. It was considered that the losses of bees under mysterious circumstances were more likely caused by farmers using hormone

sprays and pesticides without the knowledge of adjacent beekeepers. Accordingly it was resolved (Gumbrell/Lorimer) 267
"That while the Executive appreciates the work done by the research officer of the Department of Agriculture it considers that in view of the continued mysterious losses of bees further investigation into the dangers of pesticides and weedicides should be made."

AFFORESTATION AND NECTAR PRODUCING TREES:

Mr. Gumbrell drew attention to an article appearing in a recent issue of the Journal of Agriculture on the propagation of ucalypts in New Zealand and Messrs. Cloake and Lorimer supported his views that some ucalypts were useful for nectar sources as well as timber. Resolved (Gumbrell/Cloake) "That in view of a previous Conference resolution suggesting the planting of nectar producing trees Executive request the Forestry Service and Department of Agriculture to investigate the matter."

MEETING WITH DIRECTOR OF HORTICULTURE:

Mr. A.M.W. Greig, Director of Horticulture, attended the meeting at 11.00 a.m. and again after luncheon adjournment at 2.00 p.m. Mr. Greig drew attention to the imminent retirement of Mr. T.S. Winter, Superintendant of the Beekeeping in the Department and advised the Executive confidentially of certain reorganisation of administrative posts within the Department which would probably be taking place at an early date. Mr. Greig also advised developments with the Agricultural Chemicals Bill. In connection with the proposed Diploma of Beekeeping he advised that the proposed syllabus was at present in the hands of the Examining Board of the N.Z. Institute of Horticulture and he suggested that the Executive endeavour to meet the Examining Board at Conference time.

RESEARCH OFFICER FOR SOUTH ISLAND:

Mr. Greig advised that the appointment of an additional apiary instructor had taken place and he was hopeful that work on pollination studies would be commenced before long. The matter was delayed meantime by certain staffing rearrangements within the Department. The Executive pointed out to Mr. Greig that the appointment of an additional apiary Instructor had never been requested by the Executive but that rather we had asked for the

elevation of a senior officer within the section to a specialist position to carry out studies in the pollination field. Mr. Greig said that this could not be done meantime. Mr. Greig mentioned also the developments with the amending legislation to cover disease eradication and identification of out-apiaries before he withdrew from the meeting.

CONFERENCE ARRANGEMENTS:

The Secretary then reported on the preliminary enquiries which he had made earlier in the day concerning a Conference Hall and advised that the R.S.A. rooms and the N.Z. Wool Board Conference Hall were both available. The N.Z. Wool Board's Conference Hall was considerably dearer to hire but the amenities available were far superior. It was decided that the Wool Board's Conference Hall be engaged.

With regard to the provision of morning and afternoon teas it was decided that an endeavour should be made to engage a firm to provide afternoon teas and supper on the opening night after the seminette and that the cost of such refreshments be met individually by those attending Conference.

PRESENTATION TO T.S. WINTER:

Mention was made of the outstanding service and assistance which Mr. Winter had given both the Industry and the Association over a long period of time in many different offices. It was recalled that he was one-time General Secretary of the Association and had been largely instrumental in re-establishing the finances and organisation of the Association at a time when it was at a very low ebb. It was considered that some effort should be made to officially recognise his services at this year's Conference and accordingly it was decided that the Secretary circularise branches advising that the Executive considers a presentation should be made from the Association to Mr. Winter at this year's Conference and seeking donations from Branches towards funds required for such purpose. It was further decided that a deadline date should be fixed for the receipt of such donations so that the purchase of something suitable could be

arranged in plenty of time.

After further general discussion the meeting then terminated, the time being 5.00 p.m.

CONFIRMED.

DATE.....

CHAIRMAN..... *J. J. [Signature]*

10.00 A.M.

PRESENT: Messrs. J.W. Fraser (Chairman), J.R. Barber, G.E. Gumbrell, J.D. Lorimer, H. Cloake, R.R. Chandler, and the General Secretary Mr. R.A. Fraser.

ATTENDING: Messrs. J. McFadzien, Editor of the N.Z. Beekeeper and E.D. Williams, immediate past President of the Association. The latter at the express request of the President.

MINUTES: of the meeting held in Wellington on 7th. May 1958, copies of which had been circulated to members were taken as read and confirmed.

ALCOHOLIC LIQUOR FROM HONEY.

The Chairman reviewed steps which had been taken to acquaint government with eminent suitability of honey for gin production following government's announcement that a licence for gin production may be granted in New Zealand. He advised that a firm of Auckland solicitors acting for Innes Industries and Associates had approached him with a proposal that Beekeepers form a joint company with Innes Industries for the production of Gin from honey. He had deputed Mr. Williams to discuss the proposals with the Solicitors pending a joint meeting between the Executive and representatives of Innes Industries. Mr. Williams reported on the talks he had with the firm and advised that at present high cost of honey as a base for Gin production compared with barley appeared to be one of the immediate problems which had to be overcome. There was also doubt as to whether sufficient honey could be made available to enable Gin production on a large scale to be under-taken. Relief from excise duty could possibly put honey on a competitive basis as far as the manufacturers were concerned. No approach had yet been made to Government to see whether this relief would be granted. Mr. Williams also advised that the firm would be interested in the production of Honey Mead if this appeared feasible after full investigation.

The Chairman thanked Mr. Williams for his assistance to date and members expressed their confidence in him to continue discussions with the firm along the lines of reference already established.

H.M.A. REPRESENTATIVES REPORT.

Mr. J.W. Fraser as Association representative on the Honey Marketing Authority gave a verbal elaboration of his written reports to members and acquainted them with the more recent developments of the Authority's work. Various aspects were discussed fully until the meeting adjourned at 1.00 p.m., at which time members expressed their continued confidence in Mr. Fraser as their representative.

The meeting resumed at 2.10 p.m. with the attendance of the Director of Horticulture Mr. A.M.W. Greig who introduced Mr. E. Smaellie who had been appointed the new Superintendant of Beekeeping. The Chairman thanked both for their attendance and Mr. Greig advised on the following matters :-

AGRICULTURAL CHEMICALS BILL.

Following agreement between the D.S.I.R. and Agriculture Department on the certification of Therapeutics Mr. Greig advised that the Minister was now likely to introduce the Bill as at present amended. He suggested however that if the Executive wished to hasten the introduction of the Bill to the House continued pressure should be exerted on the Minister and in this respect he considered a combined approach from representatives of Federated Farmers, the Beekeepers Association, The Agricultural Chemical Manufacturers, Orchardists and Growers Associations should be made without delay.

DIPLOMA IN APICULTURE.

Mr. Greig advised that the Royal New Zealand Institute of Horticulture had now progressed as far as possible in finalising a syllabus and examination procedure. The Board of the Institute now desired to have joint discussions with the Executive before instituting the courses to discuss various points such as the appointment of examiners. He suggested that such a meeting might be arranged at the time when the Executive normally held it's next meeting in October. He advised however that he would not personally be available from the 20th. to 31st. October. Messrs. Greig and Smaellie then retired from the meeting.

INFLUENCE IN AFFORESTATION.

The use of Nectar and Pollen bearing trees in

afforestation programmes was referred to by Mr. G.E. Gumbrell. He drew attention to the formation of farm forestry Associations throughout the country under the sponsorship of the Conservator of State Forests and advised that at a meeting convened in Timaru for the purpose of forming such an Association he had been able to secure an official invitation for a member of the Apiaries Division, Department of Agriculture (Mr. I.W. Forster) who had been able to interest those present in the use of nectar and pollen bearing trees in farm tree-planting programmes. He suggested that the attention of all beekeepers be drawn to this matter so that similar influence could be brought to bear in other parts of the country where such associations were being formed.

PRICE CONTROL DIVISION SURVEY.

The General Secretary detailed action which had been taken and developments which had been evident subsequent to the meeting which he and the President had had with a member of the Price Control Division in May 1958.

At this time an endeavour had been made to impress upon the division the necessity for using a truly representative panel of beekeepers in any survey which was undertaken to establish the level of beekeepers' incomes. The Division had promised to consult the Department of Agriculture on the scope of a more representative panel but there had been no further developments from this point onwards. The Executive decided to leave this matter in abeyance meantime.

NEW SUPERINTENDANT BEEKEEPING INDUSTRY.

The appointment of the New Superintendant to the Beekeeping Industry was noted and members expressed concern that the outstanding qualifications of Mr. I.W. Forster and his wide experience in all aspects of the industry appear to have been overlooked.

CONSIDERATION OF REMITS.

Members reviewed the subject matter of remits coming before conference the following day. It was resolved Lorimer/Cloake "That the Executive recommend to Conference that the South Auckland Remits received after the official closing date be accepted for consideration."

In connection with remit No. 1 dealing with the principle of Guaranteed Prices it was decided to recommend to Conference that decision be made by means of a delegates vote.

Discussion then ensued on the selection of remits for group treatment at Conference, the Secretary having already made some recommendations in this regard. General agreement was expressed in this connection except in the case of remit No. 5. Finally it was resolved "That No. 5 be included in the panel of remits for group treatment." (Messrs. Chandler and Barber recording their contrary opinion.)

ANNUAL ACCOUNTS.

The Secretary presented the accounts of the Association for the year ended 31st. May, 1958. The General account disclosed a slight reduction in income from subscriptions while higher expenditure had been incurred in the production of the journal, in the holding of Executive Meetings and Sundry Travelling Expenses. The year had commenced with a debit balance of £31. 12. 0 and closed with a debit balance of £179. 5. 7. The full allocation from the Seals Provision Fund of £1000 had been drawn. While concern was expressed at the continuing trend of over-expenditure during the past year it was generally accepted that the volume of work which had been undertaken during the year would not have been possible without this use of funds. Several suggestions for limiting expenditure and/or increasing revenue were considered without finality being reached and it was decided that the matter be deferred for attention of the incoming Executive. Mr. Gumbrell drew attention to the fact that the President's Honorarium had remained at a constant figure of £25. 0. 0 for many years and considered that an increase was long overdue, in view of the amount of time and effort expended by the President in carrying out his work. This view was heartily echoed by all members but the Chairman stated that he was not prepared personally to accept any increase and suggested that the matter be deferred until the Associations finances were in a healthier position.

A vote of thanks to the Chairman for the excellent work which he had carried out during the year was moved by Mr. Lorimer and carried with acclamation.

The meeting adjourned at 6.20 p.m. and resumed at 8.07 p.m. when the following business was transacted.

JOURNAL REPORT.

The Editor Mr. J. McFadzien presented a brief written report on the operations of the journal for the year and called for comment. Members noted the fact that the cost of producing the journal for the year had risen by some £40 odd, but considered that this increase in cost was more than compensated for by the better format of the journal.

Mr. Chandler suggested that a "Personality Pix" might further improve the journal by giving a photograph and short biography on different personalities in the Industry from time to time. The Editor noted this for possible future action.

POLLINATION PROPAGANDA.

Mr. McFadzien stated his intention to publish in the next issue of Beekeeper an abstract from recent submissions to the Minister of Agriculture dealing with the value to Agriculture generally of Honey bees as Pollinating Agents. He suggested that if loose leaf reprints of this article were made available to Members of the Association or to Branches it may assist them in bringing to the notice of farmers the substantial benefit which bees brought to Agricultural production. Resolved (Cloake/Barber) "That the Editor be empowered to produce sufficient copies of a four page leaflet on Pollination to fill the needs of Branches and Direct Members in distribution to farmers and the General Public in an endeavour to increase their appreciation and interest in the value of beekeeping. Further that the price to be charged for copies be fixed by the Editor at a figure calculated to cover the cost of printing."

The meeting then turned it's consideration to General Business as follows :-

TOXIC CHEMICALS.

Resolved (Cloake/Gumbrell) "That the use by Rabbit Boards of a new toxic substance known as 1080 be drawn attention of the Department of Agriculture and that they be asked to investigate it's usage and advise in connection with it's danger to honey bees."

PUBLICITY FOR HONEY.

The West Coast Branch drew attention to the

potential for increasing honey sales with the inclusion of a greater number of recipes in magazines and journals in which honey was a principle ingredient. The Executive considered that there was much merit in the proposal and the Secretary was directed to write to the American Honey Institute seeking a full range of honey recipes.

WAITOMO BRANCH.

A letter was received from H.N. Tuck, Vice-President of the Branch advising that the Branch had gone into recess due to a drop in membership and the loss of a Secretary. He advised that the Branch was holding funds to the total value of £15. 18. 0 and suggested that they be held pending the possibility of reforming the branch either at Kihikihi or some other point at a later date. Resolved (Cloake/Gumbrell) "That the Executive approve the dissolution of the Waitomo Branch and that the Balance of Funds amounting to £15. 18. 0 be forwarded to the General Secretary to be held on deposit pending the possibility of reforming the branch at a later date."

GUARANTEED PRICE PROPOSAL.

Copies of the submissions made by the deputation from the Executive and Honey Marketing Authority had been forwarded to members, also a circular advice following the meeting with the Minister. The Secretary reported that the Minister was still considering the proposals laid before him and that advice of the Government's decision had not yet been conveyed.

HONEY AND DENTAL CARIES.

Mr. Chandler drew attention to the fact that many Plunket and Dental Nurses were advising the mothers of young children against the consumption of honey as they considered honey contributes to Dental Caries.

Resolved (Chandler/Lorimer) "That the General Secretary write to the American Authorities requesting information on the latest scientific information available to show the effect of honey in the causation of Dental Caries."

MISCELLANEOUS CORRESPONDENCE. was read and dealt with as follows :-

FROM

W.W. Nelson acknowledging receipt of Life Membership Certificate and expressing thanks to the Executive

for the honour which had been conferred
on him. - Received.

TO The Director of Horticulture requesting further
research into the making of Honey Mead.

FROM Same in reply advising that research to date had
been exhaustive and that there was no point in
devoting more time to this subject. - Received.

TO Director of Horticulture seeking extension to
Apiaries Protection Regulations to include all
flowering crops and pasture.

FROM Same advising that matter would be considered.
- Received.

TO Minister of Agriculture pressing for appointment
of additional Apiculturist to carry out pollination
research.

FROM Same in reply advising that while pollination
research would be carried out by the Department the
appointment of an additional Apiculturist at the
present time was not considered necessary. -
Received.

TO Director of Horticulture re Continued loss of bees
thought to originate from use of Pesticides,
Weedicides and Hormones and requesting extension of
research into this field.

FROM Same in reply conveying report of T. Palmer-Jones
on the matter. - Received.

TO The Minister of Agriculture re Apiaries Amendment
Bill and seeking inclusion of more specific clause
dealing with compensation.

FROM Same in reply advising that details of compensation
would be included in regulations to be promulgated
under the act and which would be referred to the
Executive for it's prior consideration. - Received

TO The Secretary, Soil Conservation Council and
Conservator, State Forests requesting greater use
of Pollen-bearing and Nectar-bearing trees in
afforestation programmes.

FROM

Same in reply advising that the Executives request would be born in mind where possible in future planting programmes. - Received.

FROM

N.Z. Honey Marketing Authority conveying text of three resolutions passed by the Authority in connection with

- (1) Guaranteed Price Proposal.
- (2) Seals Revenue.
- (3) The operations of the Authority. - Received.

After further brief general discussion the meeting then terminated.

CONFIRMED.

DATE.....

CHAIRMAN..... *J. G. [Signature]*

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MINUTES OF A SPECIAL MEETING OF THE GENERAL EXECUTIVE HELD IN THE
GRAND HOTEL, ON THURSDAY 7TH. AUGUST, 1958, AT 4.15 P.M.

PRESENT: Messrs. J.W. Fraser (Chairman), G.E. Gumbrell,
R.R. Chandler, J.I. Jay, J.K. Bray, and the General Secretary
(Mr. R.A. Fraser.)

ATTENDING: Mr. J. McFadzien, Editor, N.Z. Beekeeper.

WELCOME: The Chairman welcomed the newly elected members,
Messrs. J.K. Bray and J.I. Jay and also extended his congratulations
to Messrs. Gumbrell and Chandler on their re-election.

HONEY MARKETING AUTHORITY REPRESENTATIVE.

It was resolved (Chandler/Jay) "That Mr. J.W.
Fraser be re-appointed as the Association's representative on the
Honey Marketing Authority."

Messrs. Chandler and Gumbrell expressed their
appreciation of the excellent work that Mr. Fraser had done in his
capacity as N.B.A. Representative during the last year particularly
in the matter of keeping Executive Members advised by means of
reports on matters of importance which were under consideration
by the Authority.

ASSOCIATION FINANCE.

The Chairman advised that he had received an offer
for a Life Insurance Agency in the name of the Association and
that the Company concerned had put this proposal forward as a
means for the Association to substantially increase its income
each year. The proposal envisaged the use of the Company's own
personnel in interviewing beekeepers and writing up their business
with the Association taking responsibility for the collection
of premiums and a certain amount of publicity through the N.Z.
Beekeeper. It was stated that initial commissions in the writing
up of new business could amount to up to £2,000 while annual
commission on premium payments could amount to £300 to £400 annually.
Some degree of apprehension was expressed by members over the
Association engaging in trading or commercial activities and it was
decided that the Chairman investigate the matter further before the
Executive's next meeting in October so that the matter could be
fairly considered at that time.

COST OF PRODUCTION SURVEY.

It was decided to request the Director-General of Agriculture to revise the present cost of production survey to make allowance for increased petrol costs and other charges which had recently come into effect. It was considered that no useful purpose would be served by carrying out a complete new survey of production costs and that the Director-General should be advised of this fact.

1959 CONFERENCE.

Resolved (Chandler/Bray) "That 1959 Conference of the Association be held in Timaru."

GIN AND HONEY MEAD.

Endorsement was given to the previous Executive's appointment of Mr. E.D. Williams to act as the Chairman's deputy in negotiations with Innes Industries and Associates in connection with the possibility of manufacturing Honey Mead and Gin from Honey.

H.M.A. SUPPLIERS MEETING.

It was decided to refer the conference request to the Honey Marketing Authority for action.

There being no further business the meeting then terminated.

CONFIRMED.

DATE.....

CHAIRMAN.....