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*P.O. 504*

# The New Zealand Beekeepers' Journal.

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MARCH 15th, 1916.

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ISSUED MONTHLY  
FOR  
THE NATIONAL BEE-KEEPERS'  
ASSOCIATION OF N.Z.



PER ANNUM: **3/6** IN ADVANCE.



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March 15, 1916.]

# The New Zealand Beekeepers' Journal

The Official Organ of the  
National Beekeepers' Association of N.Z.

No. 21

DUNEDIN.

3/6 PER ANNUM.

## STRAY BEES.

Less than a year back city merchants, on receipt of honey samples, were in the habit of replying, "We are fairly well stocked with honey, but could pay 3d. per lb. in bulk, or 6/- dozen for 2-lb. tins labelled in cases, carriage paid to our warehouse." This season they write, "We would be glad to know your price for this season's honey, and we could take it in any package, bulk, jars or tins, or we would send along our own containers, thus saving you the cost of tins and cases."

Why this change of tone? Ask the N.Z. Co-operative Honey Producers' Association. They are responsible for it, and those of us who are shareholders may claim a wee bit of credit too. There are, however, shirkers who have not yet joined, and who are giving about half of each day's labour to the middleman. Members would be doing these thoughtless beekeepers a kind act by bringing them into the fold.

Those paragraphs in the January issue of the N.Z. Beekeepers' Journal about the Bay of Plenty may have the effect of a rush of beekeepers to this land of plenty, but it should be remembered that to locate within three miles of an established apiary will mean failure for the newcomer. So far there are many unoccupied places where fairly large apiaries could do well. There are seven or eight large dairy factories doing well, and as a rule where a dairy factory succeeds a beekeeper can do well. The number of commercial apiaries in the Bay at present is about four, with some others growing up.

The Apiary Instructor reports no foul-brood in the area lying between Te Puke (near Tauranga) and the East Cape. Thus, the whole of the Opotiki and Whakatane Counties and part of Tauranga and Waiapu Counties are clean.

A bottling depot is being started at Hamilton East by the N.Z.H.P.A., and it is understood that honey is to be put up in suitable packages for the retail trade. Great care will have to be exercised so that honey obtained from foul-brood districts is not shipped to storekeepers in clean areas. A little thoughtlessness on this point might set back the bee-keeping industry for many years.

The recent fire in Mr. Baines' apiary should lead beekeepers to see that their property is covered by insurance. Although this precaution does not fully compensate for the damage done by fire, the insurance money will help in getting back to working order again. The beekeeper has now to face many dangers besides bee-stings. What with benzine for the engine and kerosene for the stove he may go up any time he

forgets to be careful. Don't keep more than a gallon of benzine in the apiary house, and don't open the tin or the engine tank until sure there is no flame or spark about. If the stove should burn out for want of oil, don't try to put kerosene into a hot stove. Better trim the wick, remove sparks, and let it cool down. Two people in this locality tried to fill hot stoves last season. They are now sure that they will never try it again.

If those "Eat Honey" stickers are good for sticking on beekeepers' letters, papers, and parcels, wouldn't they look good if stuck on the wrapper of the N.Z. Beekeepers' Journal?

That article on "Mead, and how to make it," in the December issue really describes a method of producing an intoxicating drink containing over the legal limit of three per cent. alcohol. We would not like to be caught in this locality with a forty-gallon cask of it on hand. Of course, we might explain that it was kept to treat visitors, but the S.M. in this district is a terror to evil-doers, and he would say with a smile, "Yes, yes, the same old tale—£50 or six months." Again, beekeepers, don't!

During the last year "Gleanings" in "Bee Culture" has found a poetess in the person of Mrs. Grace Allen, who is now one of the associate editors of that Journal. In the January issue she sings:—

"Happy New Year to you, friends, Gleaners one and all,  
Amateurs and veterans, beefolk great and small;  
East and west, south and north, forest, field, and fen:  
Happy New Year to you all, womenfolk and men!  
Happy New Year to the kiddies with their starry eyes!  
Greetings to the Editors, friendly folk and wise!  
Everybody, everywhere, here and over-seas,  
Happy New Year to you all—and to your bees!"

Bay of Plenty.

R. B.

[R. B. is in error in supposing it is illegal to make mead. Anyone may make mead for his own use and consumption. The selling of it is quite another matter.—Ed.]

### THE WORLD'S HONEY PRODUCTION.

Roughly speaking, it may be estimated that the world's annual production of honey amounts to some 300 millions of pounds. Actual statistics of honey show a production of 238½ millions of pounds annually. Approximately one-half of this amount is used in confection and in medicinal preparations. Those countries for which no honey statistics have been procured are Canada, Italy, Spain, Africa, India and Asia. All other honey-producing countries, with the amount in pounds which each produces, are given in the following table:—

Russia	..	..	..	..	60,000,000
U.S.	..	..	..	..	55,000,000
Germany	..	..	..	..	38,000,000
Austria-Hungary	..	..	..	..	25,000,000

France .. .. .	19,500,000
British Isles (estimated) .. .. .	10,000,000
Cuba, S. Domingo, Jamaica, P. Rico, Hawaii .. .. .	7,200,000
Chile .. .. .	4,000,000
Roumania .. .. .	3,100,000
Bulgaria .. .. .	2,500,000
Switzerland .. .. .	2,340,000
Greece .. .. .	2,000,000
Serbia .. .. .	1,830,000
New Zealand .. .. .	1,500,000
Bosnia-Herzegovnia .. .. .	1,400,000
Denmark .. .. .	1,180,000
Belgium .. .. .	1,070,000
Australia .. .. .	1,000,000
Mexico .. .. .	1,000,000
Cen. & S. Am. Countries .. .. .	1,000,000
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	238,620,000

Of this 238½ millions of pounds of honey, practically 222 millions are consumed in the countries in which they are produced. On other words, only 16¼ millions are exported from the countries in which they are produced. These countries, and the amount in pounds, that each exports, are:—

U.S. .. .. .	3,250,000
Cuba, Jamaica, and Santa Domingo	7,000,000
Chile .. .. .	4,000,000
Mexico, and Central and South American Countries except Chile) ..	2,000,000
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	16,250,000

The countries importing these honeys, and the amount in pounds that each imports, are:—

U.S. .. .. .	1,250,000
Germany .. .. .	8,500,000
England .. .. .	2,500,000
France .. .. .	2,000,000
Belgium .. .. .	1,000,000
Denmark .. .. .	1,000,000
	<hr/>
	16,250,000

It is seen that of this 16¼ millions of pounds, Germany imports over one-half, or 8½ millions of pounds. This shows that over 50 per cent. of the exported honey of the world goes to Germany. Of the balance, the United Kingdom import 15 per cent., France about 12 per cent., United States 10 per cent., Belgium and Denmark, each 5 per cent. It is also seen by referring to the above that these 16 odd millions of pounds of honey is honey of an inferior quality, and is all produced by the Central and South American countries. In normal years less than 1 per cent. of this low-grade honey finds its way into American markets; the balance goes to Europe. Practically all of this honey is used by the biscuit manufacturer, baker and confectioner.

If the beekeepers were to work out a system of wax production wherever inferior grades of honey are produced, he would find wax production to be more profitable than the production of low-grade honey. And again, if wax production were extensively undertaken, it would have a very beneficial influence on the entire honey market; it being evident that there would not be so many low-grade honeys to injure the better grades.

## REGULATIONS RELATING TO THE EXPORT OF HONEY FROM NEW ZEALAND.

(Notice No. 1814.)

No honey shall be exported from the Dominion until it has been graded as hereinafter provided, and until the other provisions of these regulations have been complied with.

Honey shall not be exported from the Dominion excepting at the ports of Auckland, Waitara, Wellington, Lyttelton, Timaru, and Dunedin.

The following stores are hereby appointed to be the grading-stores for honey at the places indicated opposite each:—

Place.	Store.
Auckland—N.Z. Express Company's Store.	
Wellington—Wellington Meat Export Company's Store.	
Lyttelton—Lyttelton Harbour Board's Store.	
Timaru—Timaru Cold Stores & Ice Company's Store.	
Dunedin—Department of Agriculture, Industries & Commerce's Store, Railway Yards.	

The owner of honey intended for export shall forward it to one of the appointed grading stores not less than seven days before shipment.

He shall at the same time give to the grader at the grading store to which the honey has been sent an advice note in the form set out in the First Schedule hereto or to the effect thereof.

Where there is any noticeable difference in the class or standard of honey forwarded to an appointed grading store in one lot and under one brand, the owner shall submit such honey in separate parcels, each parcel containing honey of a uniform class and standard, with a distinguishing mark on each case of honey in each such parcel, and the advice note to the Grader shall show the distinguishing mark of each such parcel.

Every person who wilfully supplies false information on any advice note commits a breach of these regulations.

Every owner of honey sending the same to any of the appointed grading stores must make his own arrangements for the transit of the honey to and from the store, and also for its receipt, storage, opening up for grading, repacking, delivery, shipment, and any other service, including insurance and protection from damage and loss of any kind.

All honey submitted for grading must be granulated, and no honey will be graded or allowed to be exported unless it is granulated.

Honey intended for export shall be packed in clean, strongly-constructed tins, which shall be lacquered or oiled on the outside to prevent rusting.

To enable the grading to be carried out each tin shall be provided with a leak-proof lid which is capable of being easily removed and replaced.

The tins shall be packed in cases, which shall be clean and new, and constructed of well-seasoned timber, planed on the outside, and strapped with metal strapping or wire.

The weight of the honey in any case shall not exceed one hundred and twenty pounds net.

The owner of honey for export shall, before sending it to an appointed grading store, cause the cases to be clearly and indelibly branded with an export brand to be approved and registered by the Director as hereinafter provided.

The brand shall contain the words "New Zealand Produce—Pure Honey," and the name of the owner; provided that either in lieu of or in combination with the name of the owner there may be used such other words or such designs as the Director may approve for the purpose.

The net weight of the honey shall also be branded on the cases.

A shipper's brand or mark may also be branded upon the cases.

One end of each case shall be kept clear for the grade mark to be placed thereon by the grader.

Every person intending to ship honey for export shall make application to the Director in the form set out in the Second Schedule hereto, or to the effect thereof, for the registration of the export brand prescribed in clause 8 of these regulations.

The Director may, if in his opinion the use of the brand to which the application relates is not likely to lead to mistakes or confusion, approve and register the brand, and shall forthwith notify the applicant of the result of his application.

No person shall use any export brand unless and until he has been notified by the Director that it has been registered.

The Director may at any time, after giving one month's notice in writing to the owner thereof, cancel the registration of any export brand if satisfied that it has not been used during the preceding two years in connection with the export of honey.

For the purposes of grading, honey will be divided into four classes, according to colour—namely, white, light amber, medium amber, and dark.

For the purposes of the grading of honey the maximum number of points that may be allotted in respect of the several qualities is as follows:—

Quality.	Points.
Flavour .. .. .	40
Colour .. .. .	10
Condition .. .. .	15
Grain .. .. .	12
Acids .. .. .	8
Freedom from scum and froth .. .. .	10
Packing and finish .. .. .	5
Total .. .. .	100

The following will be the standards upon which the grades of honey will be determined:—

- A or Special Grade: 94 to 100 points, both inclusive.
  - B or Prime Grade: 88 to 93½ points, both inclusive.
  - C or Good Grade: 80 to 87½ points, both inclusive.
  - D or Manufacturing Grade: 65 to 79½ points, both inclusive.
- No charge will be made for grading.

As soon as possible after grading any honey the Grader shall stamp on the case containing the honey a mark (herein called the "grade mark") indicating the grade of such honey, determined in accordance with these regulations; and shall also sign and deliver to the owner a certificate of the grade (herein called the "grade certificate"), in the form set out in the Third Schedule hereto, provided, however, that no grade certificate shall be issued in respect of honey scoring less than 65 points in the grading, and no grade mark shall be placed on any case containing any such honey, but in any such case a notification of the result of the grading shall be sent by the Grader to the owner of the honey.

No person shall remove from any appointed grading store, except for the purpose of immediately shipping it for export beyond New Zealand, any honey for which a grade certificate has been issued unless the grade certificate is surrendered to the Grader and the grade mark upon the case has been erased.

If any honey, after being graded and prior to its export from the Dominion, is damaged or, in the opinion of any Grader, deteriorates, the owner of such honey shall, if and when directed by the Grader to do so, submit such honey for re-examination and shall surrender to the Grader the grade certificate issued in respect thereof.

No honey in respect of which the grade certificate has been or ought to have been surrendered in accordance with the two last preceding regulations shall be exported until it has been re-submitted for grading and a new certificate has been issued in respect thereof.

No honey shall be exported from the Dominion which scores less than 65 points in the grading.



No honey shall be exported from the Dominion if the tins containing it show any signs of leakage.

The decision of any Grading as to the quality, condition, or grade of any honey shall be conclusive, and no action or other proceeding shall lie against any Grader or against any other officer of the Crown, or against the Crown, in respect of any erroneous decision of a Grading as to such quality, condition, or grade.

Except as otherwise provided in these regulations, no person shall alter or obliterate wholly or partially, or cause to be altered or obliterated any grade mark, nor shall any person counterfeit or improperly impress any such grade mark on any case containing honey or intended to contain honey.

Any person committing or concerned in committing a breach of these regulations is liable to a penalty not exceeding £5.

### CONFERENCE CHARACTERS.

Yes, I went to the last Conference. This was my first attendance at the deliberations of the beemen of New Zealand.

From the first year I got the "bee fever," and I got it pretty bad—so bad that I don't ever expect to get well again. I had promised myself a few hours at the meeting of the beekeepers. But not until this year did I get the chance to have a couple of days away from business while Conference was sitting. I stretched those two days into three, and got into trouble for doing so; but who cares; I'll do it again next year, you bet. I'm not going to miss the Conference any more; I can't afford to. Just at present I'm not fully launched out as a full-blown apiarist, having to depend on quite a different occupation for my bread and butter. But I've got an eye for the main chance, and I'm going after the bees strong. That's why I can't afford to miss the Conference any more.

From a purely £ s. d. point of view, I reckon the few shillings it costs to attend the Conference is the best investment I ever made any way.

But I've headed these lines "Conference Characters," and so far we've only got to the Conference part. Now we come to the characters, so look out, somebody. But right here, for goodness' sake, don't any of you get mad and go savagely buzzing round if I happen to run up against you. Just poke out your antennae and feel round a bit before you start any stinging game.

What of our worthy Past President Allan? More's the pity I have to say it. We're sure to miss his genial smiling face and his fatherly presence from the presidential chair. He's what I'd call a beaming Chairman. Yes, he real beamed down on the Conference while he was speaking in his quiet, almost gentle voice. Only once during the three days' sitting did I hear him get the least bit riled, and that was when Billy Bray wanted to butt in with a "personal explanation."

Dear reader, did you ever meet Billy Bray, one-time Government expert? He's some character now, if you like. From Banks Peninsula he comes, and he's one of the men that help make the Conference the bright and breezy gathering it is. His special bugbear is grading (mine, too, by the way), and he can't keep off the subject many minutes together. I don't mean that he's against the principle of grading—no, he says the system is wrong. What his system would be like is not very clear, but anyway, I'm glad he was put on the Executive Council, where he can use up some of his energy.

Secretary-Editor Brickell, Master of Ceremonies, is a man I was especially hoping to meet at the Conference. And I met him! The joke is on me all right. Laugh away! I had always imagined him a man of fifty or thereabouts—why I do not know. However, there he is, a young man well on the right side of thirty. And a real good fellow, too. No "side" about Brickell. Rather nervous and hesitant when speaking, he yet gives one the impression that he knows what he's talking about. And he's always doing something to make the Conference a success. Speaking, writing, taking notes, introducing beemen to one another, arranging deputations and so on. Brickell is a square peg in a square hole.

(To be continued.)

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## Correspondence.

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### GETTING READY FOR THE MARKET.

(TO THE EDITOR.)

Sir,—After Major Norton's remarks about the condition of some honey that reaches him from New Zealand, and also from experience I have had myself in handling other beekeepers' honey, I think it well to say a little on the above subject. I have done a considerable amount of cutting up honey into pats for one of the principal merchants here, a large proportion of it being honey which the merchant had bought in the open market. And although I never got any so bad as Major Norton describes, yet I find that some do not wash their tins before filling them, and as a consequence find grit in the bottom of the tins and in the honey. Quite a number of tins also have some scum and particles of broken comb or wax on the top of the honey, which turns quite yellow after it has stood in the tins for some time. Some may think that because the tins are new that they don't need washing. But that is not so. A tinsmith's workshop is not the cleanest of places. The grit, solder, and acid that defiles new tins must be got rid of. How I manage myself is as follows:—I have two baths—one with hot water, in which is soda and soap; the other has cold, clear water. I put some of the soapy water into the tin, put the top on, and shake the tin for some seconds, then empty it, and fill a quantity of cold water and shake, which cleans out the soap. A towel is then placed in the tin and shaken, which absorbs most of the water left in the tin. It is

then left in the sun for the rest of the day to dry and sweeten. As we are trying to work up a trade with the Old Country, and also to extend the local consumption of honey, it is up to us to produce the best article we can, and cleanliness is one of the first conditions. I think that one of the duties of the inspectors should be to see that beekeepers have proper appliances, such as strainers, tanks, &c.—I am, &c.,

A. IRELAND.

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(TO THE EDITOR.)

Sir,—J. A. writes on page 340 "Preparing for Wintering." Wouldn't it be better to leave the uniting until the spring? With the fall uniting we have a fine lot of bees to go into winter, but most of them being old bees die off in the spring, and leave the colony in much the same condition as they would have been had they been left without uniting. Then there is a top box on, which will require removing and putting away safely, or a mat put in between to keep all the bees snug in the brood chamber. I always leave my bees till the spring, then just before the willows start to bloom have a look through the poor queens being marked in the autumn, of course). There will usually be four frames of brood with the poor queens and about seven with a good one. Now is the time to unite. Put them alongside a night or so before, put all the brood together, alternate the frames of bees so that they won't fight, fill up the brood chamber with frames of honey or pollen, put an excluder on and a super on top. The advantage is this: Two queens have laid more eggs than the one would have done, and when you want to pinch the poorer; she is easily found; not so many bees, no robbers, as there usually is. After the last extracting the bees are easier to handle. With the brood nest full of bees, brood, and honey, and the willows just coming into bloom, which lasts about sixteen days, you will collect a surplus of 20 to 30 lbs. of first-class honey when honey is getting scarce. As for the bees superseding their own queens, I find they will sometimes supersede what appears to be a good queen, and another time they will put up with any poor thing, and perhaps lose her in the winter. I don't like the idea of sulphuring good bees even if diseased, but with all our care we may find some that way when the season is over. A good plan then is to get a hive with sealed frames of honey (after the queen has done laying), and shake the bees in front of it. They will carry some of their diseased honey with them, and put it in some handy cells, and it will all be used up long before breeding starts again. If you haven't got enough combs to do the lot, shake three or four into one hive. If there are any signs of fighting sprinkle a pinch of flour over them, which is much better than the sulphur.—I am, &c.,

Marlborough.

H. R.

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(TO THE EDITOR.)

Sir,—There are few beekeepers in New Zealand who have not heard of that dread scourge called the Isle of Wight bee disease, which threatens to ruin beekeeping in Britain. From late numbers of "Gleanings," especially the last to hand, there

seems little doubt that this disease is spreading in the United States, and it must be borne in mind that as the Editors of "Gleanings" are very large manufacturers in bee supplies, they will be the last people to start or carry on a scare of this kind. Little or nothing so far as I am aware is known as to the cause, cure, or means of spreading this disease. The question therefore arises, ought not the National Association of New Zealand immediately approach the Department of Agriculture and ask that the importation of all beekeepers' supplies which could possibly bring this disease to our country be prohibited? Probably beeswax in all forms, queens and honey are the most dangerous sources of infection, and in these articles we could surely be self-supporting, which, apart from all other considerations, would be highly desirable in these times of stress. Surely this is a matter which warrants drastic and immediate action. It is not the slightest good waiting till we have imported the disease and then take preventive measures. When the disease spread from the Isle of Wight to the mainland of Britain, it appeared in a most mysterious way all over the country, in places hundreds of miles apart, and no one could tell how it was carried and where it did start. It stayed till all the bees were gone, which was only the operation of a few months.—I am, &c.,

Renwick.

J. H. TODD.

[We shall be glad of any information on this matter. Conference will be asked to express its opinion on the advisability of the course of action suggested by our correspondent.—Ed.]

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(TO THE EDITOR.)

Sir,—At a meeting of beekeepers at my apiary to-day, Mr. G. V. Westbrooke, Government Apiary Instructor, Auckland, gave a demonstration of bee handling, together with general information, about thirty-two persons being present. During the lecture, the meeting decided to apply for information re starting a branch of the National Society. Yours truly secured two subscribers to the Journal, and hopes to secure others shortly. I could possibly have done better to-day, but was otherwise engaged most of the time. Wishing you all success,—I am, &c.

Opotiki.

WM. HEALD.

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(TO THE EDITOR.)

Sir,—Enclosed please find 7/- for two years' subscription for your Journal. I have kept all the Journals from the first, and am pleased to see there is a marked improvement. I hope to see some illustrations in some future issues. I think it would help to increase the output. What do you say?—I am, &c.,

CHAS. WILLIAMS.

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(TO THE EDITOR.)

Sir,—Bees were never in better condition for a honey flow, but it did not arrive. They got plenty to keep them breeding strong all through, but the long dry spell, after a comparatively

dry winter and spring, settled the clover, and pastures were dried brown in January. We extracted half a ton in the Piraki yard, one which gave such glowing prospects in October. It was all bush honey, but it will fool the grader all right, you wait. We will get another half ton between Barry's Bay and Duvauchelles, mostly catsear and thistle, a little clover perhaps. All colonies are strong, crowding two supers, and we are leaving on an average over a clear super of honey each. Let us hope we get a wet winter and spring now. Conditions were favourable for queen-rearing till New Year, and we reared a good number. Over half ours are pure Italians now. Have heard that Parrett, Junr., is reduced to 60 from 300, spring count. Jacobsen is not extracting. Neither is Sillifant. Elliott has extracted about a ton and a-half.

BARRETT & BRAY.

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## Honey Crop Prospects.

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The Director of the Horticulture Division has received from the Apiary Instructors the following reports concerning honey crop prospects:—

Auckland.—The past month has been very dry, and the flow has suddenly stopped in most parts. Where maize is flowering the bees are getting a little nectar. At the Ruakura State Apiary they are working on the lucerne very freely. Prices of all grades of honey are likely to be high this season, and merchants are eagerly enquiring for honey. The crop generally in the Auckland districts will be an average one.—Geo. V. Westbrooke. 2/3/16.

Wellington.—Prices are good everywhere; 2-lb. tins are bringing 13/- per dozen f.o.r. The flow, however, is about over but for a few thistles.—F. A. Jacobsen. 29/2/16.

Christchurch.—A few slight showers have improved the pastures, and there is a little honey being stored in the supers. It is feared that the general poor condition of stocks and the lateness of the flow will take bees all their time to gather sufficient to go through winter successfully. Beekeepers must make a thorough examination of brood combs, and stocks found short of stores should be liberally fed with syrup. This season is one of the worst experienced for a very long time. Prices are much better owing to the scarcity.—L. Bowman. 6/3/16.

Dunedin.—Conditions in South Canterbury and North Otago are unchanged, reports confirming a disastrous season. Beekeepers have suffered severely through continual drought, the losses being appalling. In Southland heavy crops have been netted, beekeepers reaping excellent returns. Extracting is still in progress, and final stocks will not be available for some little time. Prices are high, and lines offering are eagerly taken up, the supply not equalling the demand. The quality is excellent, as is usual when the clover is good.—E. A. Earp. 1/3/16.

## Field Day at Ruakura, Waikato.

A most enjoyable and instructive field day was spent by the beekeepers of the Waikato and surrounding districts recently at the apiary of the State Farm of Instruction, Ruakura. Amongst those present were Mr. F. S. Pope, Secretary of Agriculture; Mr. T. W. Kirk, Director of Horticulture; Mr. A. W. Green, manager of the Farm; Mr. J. E. Hammond, Mayor of Hamilton; Mr. R. F. Bollard, M.P.; Mr. J. S. Cotterell, President of the National Beekeepers' Association; Messrs. R. W. Brickell, G. V. Westbrooke, Isaac Hopkins, together with nearly all the commercial beekeepers of the Waikato and their friends, making a gathering of nearly 100 persons.

After an inspection of the apiary and its very complete appointments, Mr. Hutchinson demonstrated a new system of making nuclei. In the past, in the rearing of young queens, it was the custom to take a number of bees and shut them up or remove them to a different locality. Mr. Hutchinson showed how it was possible to take the whole hive and break it up into five nuclei, to which are added an empty comb. A virgin queen is then introduced to each nuclei, and in the course of time a full hive is developed. The advantages of this system are that the virgin queens being already to hand, a considerable amount of time is saved as against the old system of allowing the bees in the nuclei to raise their own queen. Mr. Hutchinson also gave a demonstration of uncapping with a steam-heated knife, which is claimed to save time.

These demonstrations were followed with the keenest interest by those present, and amongst the crowd one heard the remark, "No wonder Mr. Hutchinson is a successful beekeeper when he works like that."

Mr. G. V. Westbrooke, apiary instructor, showed how honey should be tested for ripeness with hydrometer. This was followed by an address by Mr. Bartlett-Miller, "Preparing Honey for the Market."

Mr. J. S. Cotterell gave a demonstration of a new method, discovered by himself after two years' experimenting, of curing foul-brood without destroying the combs, which are built at a tremendous amount of labour. The system is one of self-cure, by removing the queens and leaving the young bees motherless for a period of twenty-one days. The hatching bees then devote their energies to removing the diseased matter from the combs. At the end of twenty-one days it has been proved that the combs are quite free from diseased matter, the only remaining signs being a few sealed cells. These can be removed by pulling out the cocoon containing the germs and returning the original comb for the bees to repair and start a fresh brood nest, which in the majority of cases will hatch out perfectly healthy bees. The advantages of this method are that no bees are destroyed, the combs are preserved, and no expense is incurred or labour or time spent in providing new frames and making them ready for breeding.

After the visitors had been conducted over other portions of the Farm, Mr. J. S. Green expressed the hope that the gathering would be a forerunner of many such visits, and that the field day at Ruakura would be an annual fixture.

## Good Things from Everywhere.

*"In the Multitude of Councillors there is Wisdom."*

Oh, for something good from home, costing little money,  
Something sweet and rich, you know, like "**New Zealand  
Honey**";

It's excellent beyond a doubt, nothing could be better,  
So when you write, dear one, next time, send some with your  
letter!

And don't forget what brand it is—"N.Z.H.P.A."  
This brand is certainly the best, I've proved it so to-day;  
But don't be biassed, have your way, and only get the best;  
This is the brand I've mentioned, for it has stood the test.

France, 4th November, 1915.

REMEMBER ME.

(Composed by Sergt. J. Dryburgh, 1566, of the 7th King's  
Regiment, B. Company, France, on receiving a parcel of New  
Zealand honey, "N.Z.H.P.A." Brand, from Home, November  
4th, 1915.)

We owe the boom in honey, slight though it may be, to  
competition—the competition of other honeys coming into the  
English market. It has made our home beekeepers "buck up."  
To all appearances the improvement has come to stay, and not  
only to stay but even to become greater. At any rate, so think  
the Colonials, for I notice in colonial journals—New Zealand  
more especially—that conspirators are organising still greater  
plots for our overwhelming. It is perhaps just as well for us  
that it is not the province of any censor, either over the seas  
or at home, to delete this information. It gives us an oppor-  
tunity of espionage, and, knowing the invasion that is threaten-  
ing us, we deserve all we shall get if we do not arrange our  
home defence.—J. Smallwood, in "British Bee Journal."

The annual meeting of the members of the National Bee-  
keepers' Association and the annual Conference of the bee-  
keepers of the Dominion will be held probably in Wellington  
early in June. The object of the Conference is the considera-  
tion of matters of general interest to the beekeeping industry,  
and the Secretary will be pleased to hear from anyone who has  
anything to bring forward at this Conference. By united effort  
we can do almost anything, and now is the time to make a  
start in removing any disabilities under which beekeepers work.  
The Executive of the National will also be pleased to hear from  
any beekeeper who is willing to read papers or to give addresses  
on any subject relating to any branch of the industry.

We have just been shown a letter sent to a wholesale  
house by a firm of produce brokers quoting 100 10-lb. tins of  
honey at 5/9 each wholesale, free on rail. Two years ago  
honey from the same grower was sold at 3/2 per tin.

In order to get over the difficulty of scum on the top of his honey, one beekeeper struck a novel idea. He filled his tins, pressed the lid home tight, and then turned the tin upside down, leaving it in this position until the honey was granulated. No doubt feeling rather proud of his astuteness he sent his consignment to the grading store, only to find himself a marked man so long as he exports. It is no use trying to dodge the graders. Better far to turn your ingenuity to good use, and send in honey which will be a credit to yourself and the Dominion in which you live.

We want to make the next Conference even better than those gone by, and to this end invite your co-operation in framing the Order Paper. Are there any disabilities under which you as a beekeeper work? If so, tell us your trouble, and we will try and find a solution of the difficulty.

The advisability of fire insurance for apiaries, the planting of honey-producing plants, such as bass-wood, the Isle of Wight disease, the systematic inspection of all apiaries by local inspectors, the recommending of a uniform plan of action, checking the spread of disease, the advisability of an agitation prohibiting the spraying of fruit trees whilst in blossom are amongst the first subjects for consideration at the forthcoming Conference.

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Applications are invited from **BEEKEEPERS ONLY**  
for **SHARES** in this important enterprise.

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## NEW ZEALAND CO-OPERATIVE HONEY PRODUCERS' ASSOCIATION, LIMITED.

CAPITAL - - - £3,000

The very pronounced improvement in the honey market is due in large measure to the operations of this Company.

Our export contract will maintain prices even in the years of record crops.

Beekeepers will average much larger returns than formally and assist in permanently maintaining the present high prices by sending all their crop through the Company, which is purely a co-operative one.

Full particulars of the working of the Company and share application forms will be sent on application.

Mr. H. W. GILLING, Chairman of Directors N.Z. Co-op. Honey Producers' Association, Ltd., Matapu, Taranaki.



## GRADING RULES FOR SECTION HONEY.

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Considerable advance in the value of sections will follow a systematic and careful grading, and we suggest that beekeepers should observe the following rules:—

Sections should be removed from the super just as soon as they are capped over, in order to get them nice, clean and bright. When ready for shipment, sort them out into three different grades.

**Special Sections.**—To be well filled, combs firmly attached to all sides, and evenly capped, except the outside row next to the wood. The comb and cappings should be white, and should not project beyond the wood. The sections to be well scraped, and should weigh not less than 14 ozs. gross.

**Prime Sections.**—To be well filled, combs firmly attached, not projecting beyond the wood, and to be good sections, although not so well finished as those in special grade.

**Good Sections.**—To be composed of sections picked out from the two other grades.

The front row in each case to be a true representative of the contents of the case.

Most growers in the past have packed all grades of sections in the same case, consequently the price obtained has been governed by the lowest grade of sections in the consignment.

The wholesale prices should not be less than:—Special sections, 8/6 per dozen; prime sections, 8/- per dozen; good sections, 7/- per dozen.

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Send us some ideas. You may do the other fellow some good and benefit yourself by the exchange of experiences. Do not say you cannot write; it is the ideas which count.

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## N.Z. CO-OPERATIVE HONEY PRODUCERS' ASSOCIATION.

The N.Z. Co-operative Honey Producers' Association offers the solution of the honey marketing problem. Beekeepers will be studying their present and future interests by taking up shares now. The secretary's address is Mr. F. C. Baines, Hawera.

**SUBSCRIPTIONS.**

The following subscriptions have been received during the month:—

Messrs. E. C. Ball, W. E. Barker, E. D. Best, A. G. Edgecombe, E. J. Gridley, J. Gresham, J. Hunter, A. Headland, H. Bartlett-Miller (7/-), J. Morgan, J. Pritchard, D. Pethig, W. A. Sillifant, C. Schener, A. Simmonds, Geo. Taylor, J. Wilkinson.

A beekeeper in North Canterbury bought a nice new engine, power extractor, and honey pump in anticipation of a big crop at record prices. Unfortunately the drought continued, and he saw no prospect of using his outfit for the purpose for which he had purchased it. A bright idea struck him, and he turned his engine and pump to good use in watering from a near-by stream his mangel fields. The mangels responded to the kindly treatment, and instead of a big crop of honey, our friend produced a big crop of mangels, and had the satisfaction of using his outfit and making some return on his outlay.

The record of our old friend, Mr. Moreland, Blenheim, will take a lot of beating. He secured a splendid return from all his hives, the best being just over 300 lbs. from one colony. And good honey it is, too. The writer has never tasted better.

**ITALIAN QUEEN BEES.**

**BEEKEEPERS!** Your attention a moment, please!

**SIX TONS OF HONEY per 100 COLONIES.**

How does that average strike you? That was the actual result obtained in this district last season. The season was nothing exceptional, but the Bees that produced that splendid result were not too slow: they were what we call hustlers; no "Beg pardon" about them.

**THE STRAIN WAS GOOD—THAT'S THE SECRET.**

It will pay you to have Queens from this strain.

I can supply you. Let me know your requirements.

PRICES:

Untested ..	4/- each	..	10 for 35/-	..	20 for 60/-
Tested ..	7/6 each	..	three for 20/-		
Select Tested ..	12/6 each				

**A. J. D'ARCY,**

20 Linton Street - Palmerston North.

March 15, 1916.]

N.Z. BEEKEEPERS' JOURNAL.



## ITALIAN QUEENS

*From Root's Famous Long Tongued  
Red Clover Strain.*

**THESE ARE THE BEES THAT FILL  
THE SUPERS AND THE POCKETS.**

SAFE ARRIVAL GUARANTEED.



PRICES.  
Cash  
with order.

Untested	10/-	15/-
Tested	20/-	35/-

### M. SHEPHERD,

10 WILMER STREET

CHRISTCHURCH.

## W. A. DAWSON, FORTROSE.

### PRICE LIST OF QUEENS.

	1	2	3	5
Untested	5s.	9s.	13s.	20s.
Tested	10s.	18s.	25s.	42s.
Select Tested	11s.	26s.		

### COLONIES OF BEES (without Queens).

2 Frame (Nucleus Colony)	Each—10s.
3 " " " "	12 6.
4 " " " "	15s.
Full Colony on 10 Frames	£1 12s.

To the above prices must be added the price of the Queen required.

**BEES Free from Disease**, and bred from good stock. All care taken to ensure safe transit, but no responsibility taken with the colonies. I will, however replace a dead queen, from the mail, if the box is returned intact.

TERMS—CASH WITH ORDER.

W. A. DAWSON, FORTROSE, SOUTH ISLAND.

## TO BEEKEEPERS!

We are the Largest Manufacturers in New Zealand of HONEY TINS of all sizes for Local and Export Trade. We supply Tins plain or decorated.

Send us particulars of your requirements, when we will be pleased to quote you prices that we know will be favourable.

We have no agents, and all enquiries must be made direct to us.

**ALEXANDER HARVEY & SONS, Ltd.**

ALBERT STREET, AUCKLAND.



Right through the American States the beekeepers and supply dealers are engaged in an extensive honey advertising campaign. One of the cheapest and most successful of their methods is the use of stickers on all letters, papers, and parcels sent through the post. The National Beekeepers Association has imported thousands of these "Eat Honey" stickers, and invites every beekeeper to use them freely. Grocers would use a few hundred if they were asked. Will you help? The stickers are just like the heading, gummed ready for use, and printed in bright red on white. A parcel of 500 sent post free on receipt of twelve penny stamps. How many shall we send you?

EDITOR, Box 572, Dunedin.

## Modern Equipment for the Progressive Beekeeper.

On every hand we are finding that Up-to-date Apiarists are recognizing that success is most rapidly and economically secured by the employment of the latest forms of equipment. We make it our business to keep in touch with the leading Manufacturers in different parts of the Globe, and receive from time to time the most approved and reliable devices that have proved themselves by practical results. Amongst these are the following, which will be found of distinct service to Beekeepers, not only from the standpoint of saving time and trouble, but also in securing economy in time and expenditure.

### POWER EXTRACTORS.

We issue a special pamphlet on this subject, and will be glad to mail a copy free on application. The plant consists of a four, six, or eight-comb Extractor, with a Honey Pump geared to the side, and the whole outfit driven by a one or a one and a-half horse-power motor. At a mere fraction of the cost of the wages of an extra man, and the saving of heavy, laborious work, an Apiarist with this plant can extract honey all day long.

### THE BAINES' CAPPING REDUCER.

This device enables the Beekeeper to overcome all difficulties in dealing with uncappings. A high-grade wax is produced immediately the extracting is finished, and the honey is not deteriorated in the slightest degree. Particulars on application. PRICE, 55/-.

### NEW QUEEN EXCLUDER.

This Queen and Drone Excluder is far superior to the perforated metal. It has met with the greatest approval from experienced Beekeepers, who consider it a most valuable invention. PRICE, 2/5. Per Dozen, 27/-. When ordering, please state whether for use on dovetailed or on old-style Hive.

### ALEXANDER HONEY STRAINER.

This very useful article is made on the plan of a tin pail with handle, the bottom and sides between the braces being closed with fine brass wire cloth, fifty meshes to the inch. It provides a large amount of straining surface, will not clog up, and runs for hours at a time, catching all the sediment. PRICE, 18/6.

### COMB FOUNDATION.

We keep large stocks of Dadant's, Faulkner's and Root's Foundation, brands of the highest grade, which can be used with complete confidence.

### THE "DANDY" HONEY SPOON.

This is a wonderfully simple but very useful invention for those who use honey on their dining-table. It does away with sticky fingers, and is much cleaner and more desirable than the ordinary spoon. The "Dandy" is specially shaped, and has a little hook or catch in the handle, which enables it to be hooked on to the side of the honey jar, always ready for use, and always clean. PRICES: Nickel-plated, 1/6; Electro-plated, 2/- Post free.

### A BOOK EVERY BEEKEEPER SHOULD HAVE!

"BEEKEEPING." (By Dr. PHILLIPS.)

This is a new book which has just appeared, by one of the most eminent authorities on Beekeeping in the United States. It deals with the "how" and "why" of Beekeeping, and differs entirely from other standard works on Bee.

Orders are now being booked for delivery on arrival of Supplies.

SEND YOUR ORDER TO-DAY.

## ALLIANCE BOX CO., LTD.,

HEADQUARTERS FOR BEEKEEPERS' SUPPLIES.

MANUFACTURERS OF THE FAMOUS "ALLIANCE" WATER-PROOF DOVETAILED HIVE.

CASTLE STREET - DUNEDIN.