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*S. A. Fair*

# The New Zealand Beekeepers' Journal.

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APRIL 17th, 1916.

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



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



## The Beekeepers' Exchange.

FOR SALE. | WANTED. | TO EXCHANGE.

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**FOR SALE** (or would take Partner), TWO APIARIES, with Honey Houses, Work-room, batch 300 Hives, Engine, Circular Saw, Hive-making Plant, &c.; with or without 12 ACRES LAND in good Honey District.—Apply

A. B. TRYTHALL, Cambridge.

**FOR SALE**, "EAT HONEY" STICKERS; good advertising medium; 500 for 12 penny stamps.

SECRETARY N.Z. Beekeepers' Association,  
Box 572, Dunedin.

## 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.

## 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.

April 17, 1916.]

*E. A. Bay*

# The New Zealand Beekeepers' Journal

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

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No. 22

DUNEDIN.

3/6 PER ANNUM.

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## THE GAME OF MAKING GOOD.

In the game of making good there's a time limit. When we were seventeen the future to us was a world unexplored, with time unlimited. But at thirty-seven or forty-seven our perspective has changed. We look into the future through wiser eyes and are startled—time has acquired boundary-lines. We look back at opportunities lost—at things done which we ought not to have done—at things left undone which we ought to have done—at long hours and well-meant labour which proved profitless. And it shows in our score. We stand at the crest of the hill—the game is half over; to win we must capitalise the future with experience gathered from the past. But we cannot afford to put off till to-morrow. We cannot afford to miss even one opportunity. There is a limit—a time limit—and every day, every hour, every minute is reducing just that much our chance of rolling up a good score in the game of making good.

We can't afford to go through the year not knowing whether we are winning, playing even, or going behind. A year is 365 precious days—8,760 hours—the best days and hours of our life, and we can't coax them back. If we are losing, we want to know to-day, so that to-morrow we can "change the trump." And next week we want to know how much we profited by the change.

If we investigate, we find that a large percentage of all failures is due, not to lack of ambition, ability, or hard work, but rather to each man's ignorance of the actual condition of his own particular business.

Do you know the facts and best methods in your own particular business? An opportunity of acquiring exact knowledge and gaining other people's experience will be presented to you at the Beekeepers' Conference. Come along and learn how others have made good.

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## CONFERENCE CHARACTERS.

(Continued.)

I could say some more things about Brickell, but, you see, he's the Editor of this Journal, so of course this article will get censored by him. For instance, how he rushes one into writing "something for the Journal," or a paper for the Conference, and you don't know what to say or how to say it; but you can't withstand the enthusiasm and energy of our Secretary-Editor. May he long continue as such!

There are such a lot of good fellows one meets at Conference that one hardly knows who to "name" next. But Mr. H. W. Gilling cannot be left out anyway. If you, reader, haven't yet seen or heard of Mr. Gilling, Chairman of the N.Z.C.H.P. Association, then come to next Conference and have a chat with him. He is a busy man, but he will sure spare you a few minutes, particularly if you want to discuss the selling end of the honey business.

Most of us think we know more or less about the producing part of the business, but the selling part has been a weak point with the beemen of New Zealand in the past.

One can't get away from the fact that the merchants who buy our goods have been able to play one man against the other, and some of us are just getting on our feet, and not feeling very strong yet—financially, I mean. Know the little game? Oh, yes, too well we know it! Now, this is where Mr. Gilling comes in.

I think I am right in saying that Mr. Gilling was the prime mover in starting the N.Z. Co-operative Honey Producers' Association, Ltd. For that alone he deserves a place in this article. I was rather dubious about taking up shares in the Company when it first came into existence. As a neighbour of mine put it, "He wasn't going to let that Taranaki crowd run his show." But I joined, and he joined, and if you who read this article have not yet taken up shares and still keep bees for something besides fun—well, the very best thing you can do is come to the Conference and have a yarn with Mr. Gilling. Anyway, you can take this from me: I had never met the "Taranaki push" before, but I came away from the Conference feeling that the N.Z.H.P. Association is being run straight, and there's nothing "crook" about it. Mr. Gilling struck me as being a "solid" sort of individual, a man in whom one could have complete confidence, a man with an idea, and who thoroughly believes in his idea—viz., co-operation in beekeeping.

Isaac Hopkins! What a name to conjure with in the realms of New Zealand beekeeping! I do not know if Mr. Hopkins will be at next June Conference. I understand he intends going Home, but there is no necessity for me to say much here about Mr. Hopkins. I think Mr. Allen was very happy in his speech expressing the feeling of N.Z. beemen towards Mr. Hopkins, and presenting him with a small token of their regard. He has been called the "Father of Beekeeping" in New Zealand. And the title is not misplaced. I picked up the other day from a pile of old second-hand books one of the earliest copies of Isaac Hopkins' "Manual on Beekeeping in Australasia," and there is very, very little matter in it, both of opinion and experience, that is not as good now as it was then. What A. I. Root is to America, so is I. Hopkins, though in a lesser degree, to New Zealand.

From Mr. Hopkins one's thoughts naturally turn to the gentleman who sits alongside him, and to whom he refers as his old chief—Mr. T. Kirk, the "boss" of the Orchards and Apiaries Division. Mr. Kirk is the best speaker who attends our Conference. When he gets up to reply to the criticism which has been hurled at the Department, everybody sits up and takes notice. And don't some of us wriggle on our seats

when he gets a nasty one on to us. Those who were at Conference last year will remember how we raked the Government Grader, Mr. Jacobsen, with a volley of questions and sarcastic remarks concerning grading, and how we would do it. Then when his chief got up and quietly told us we had the grading system we asked for, some of us felt and looked pretty silly. I am afraid a lot of us do not appreciate what Mr. Kirk has done for our craft for many years. He represents the Department, and, rightly or wrongly, the Department is sure to get criticised.

With the opening up of the new overseas markets, our produce has to come under Government inspection and Government grading. Our yards must be inspected by the Government Inspector, and soon there will be a Government register of every hive in the country. One doesn't need to be very brilliant to see how differences of opinion can arise. But we and the Department too are safe in the hands of Mr. Kirk, of that I am assured. I believe that the welfare of the beemen of New Zealand lies very close on his heart and mind, and no honest man need fear Mr. Kirk or his officers. But he's "dead nuts" on the fellow who is trying to work a point in the export trade, or the box-hive man who won't listen to reason.

Get to next Conference and hear Mr. Kirk speak. It's worth an effort. Most of the "boys" in the North Island know Mr. Jacobsen, who gave the grading demonstration. I hope he will give another, with several different classes of honey that have been sent forward for export. Come along and fire a few questions at him. You won't hurt him. He's cultivating a hide like a rhinoceros—useful thing on a Government job!

One can learn much at Conference from men who were beekeeping when we young fellows were being born. Some of these "old boys" can talk too. Mr. Ireland and Mr. Jacobsen, senr., have a lot of sensible things to say, and they give freely of their advice based on experience.

Mr. Rentoul is a quiet, reserved sort of chap till you draw him out. When you've done that, you'll be glad to know him. He's a bit of a critic, too. I did hear that he sits on the Bench down in his home town. Woe betide any box-hive man brought before Mr. Rentoul.

There are a lot of good fellows attend Conference who are just "dumb dogs" during session. Yes, you, friend Pink, and Stewart of queen-bee fame, and Nicholas from Taranaki, and a few more of you. Just get up on your hind legs and tell us what you think about things, even if you believe, like Mr. Barker, that "grading is a delusion and a snare."

And at last, but not least, the ladies! I would like to see more of them at Conference. I guess some of we men would make a mess of things during extracting time if the wife didn't help with the work, and the packing, and scores of other jobs she does. Then why not bring her down to Wellington for Conference, and have a good time together. And I would like to see the ladies taking part in the talking, too; but they just sit and knit socks for the boys at the front, and listen to what the men say, and I expect they think what a lot of nonsense some of it is!

**THE FARMER, BEES AND CLOVER.**

By W. E. BARKER.

"A primrose by the river's brim,  
A yellow primrose was to him—  
And it was nothing more."

"I like to see the farmer m'owing of his clover,  
But when he says the bees are thieves  
'Tis time to bowl him over."

I hear the foolish farmer say that bees, in taking away nectar, impoverish the hay and lessen the production of seed. Is this so? To the casual thinker this may seem true, and it is thus that error gets disseminated and truth dislodged. It is the duty of the philosopher and the scientist to collect facts and correlate and disseminate truths. What say they on this subject? Plants have not, like animals, the power of thought; they are at most but semi-conscious, conscious only to outside stimulus, but they have a power we have not—viz., of "turning stones into bread" by feeding on inorganic substances.

How many farmers, I wonder, in cursing the stones of the Canterbury Plains, for instance, to realise that they hold locked up the foodstuffs of a world that is past, and that it is the plants which hold the key that brings it back into circulation.

Now to our mutton! Given a field of clover, man with a scythe comes along, "the grass withereth, the flower fadeth," but it is from the aftermath he gathereth his seed. Now, why? Much ink might be successfully spilt in trying to prove that farmers are "reflex machines," doing but that which their fathers did. If you were to ask the average farmer the reason he would probably say, like the Urasian lady in India, who, when remonstrated with for spoiling her figure with stays or adopting other foolish European customs, says, "It is the fashion," or else, "we get two crops of hay thereby, and they say you get a large crop of seed"; or he may be a more thoughtful farmer, and explain that in mowing down the first math which, owing to the favourable spring weather, causes the clover to run to leaf rather than to seed, you cause a check in the sap, cause the clover plant to stool out and form more heads, with shorter corollas, so that the bees can the more readily pollinise the seed, and that anyway experience had taught them that by this means they obtained a greater yield of finer seed. I lately passed an immense field of red clover, which the farmer intended later on to thresh for seed. As the season passed I said, "Surely you are going to mow it first!" "Oh, no; I intend to eat it down with sheep, and then close it up." What was the result? The seed did not pay the wages of the threshing machine. Now, why? To look at it—was a very fine crop, and few would have anticipated so dire a result. The farmer said it was lack of water, he thought, but the real reason was that it had not been properly mowed and the clover caused to stool out evenly. The stimulus was irregular, the corollas were not shortened, so the bees could not collect the nectar and pollenate the seeds, and the result was a failure.

Now, in the eyes of the philosopher what takes place is this: The plants must breathe—those wonderful cogeries of

organisations the bacteria nodules on their roots must obtain sustenance to continue their mysterious duties, the significance of which we are at present only partly cognisant of. Can it be that theirs is the duty to whip the vegetable cells into the semi-consciousness of the sentient matter of the animal kingdom?—a sort of "pulex irritans."

Anyway, there seems to be some correlation between bacteria and genius in the human species where, it is often observed, they seem to whip the brain cells to their utmost capacity. Be their duty what it may, their demand is met by increased activity in the root cells, which extract from inorganic soil more sustenance to produce more leaves from which to elaborate in those wonderful alembics from the carbo-hydrates and nitrogen supplied to them saccharine foods so necessary for the perfection of its seed, and soon once more is conceived from Nature that wonderful cradle we call a clover blossom, so soon to be occupied by the baby seed if the bees bring along that mysterious vitalising element or complement, the pollen from some other neighbouring plant. There too beside the cot is baby's food, for from the moment of the birth of the seed it is bathed in it, gradually growing and storing up its reserve supply of albuminous and nitrogenous food.

Some of our New Zealand plants take two years to perfect their seeds. For two years the cradles are supplied with nectar, and prove valuable sources of Autumn and Spring food for our bees, the surplus nectar sweating from the seed capsules. Now, it is here that the mistake of the foolish farmer comes in. Plants are conscious of outside stimulus only; the longer the cradle is supplied with nectar the finer and more prolific will the seed be, hence the longer the stimulus the longer the supply. When the bees take their sup of nectar, they do not reduce but increase the supply, and whip the plant to renewed energy to keep up the flow. Here is an interesting case, showing that this production of nectar is purely a case of stimulus. A few years ago Mr. Lillie, geologist to the Antarctic Expedition, happened to be staying with a neighbour of mine, and he drew my attention to an oak which was sweating out nectar, not only from the leaves and blossoms but even the bark, and the bees and the birds were having a high old time; in fact, many of them were disgracefully drunk owing to the fact that certain lewd fellows of the baser sort saccharonyatous bacteria, having wakened up to the fact that something was doing, had set up an alcohol factory. The reason was simple. This oak tree had for years struggled for an existence in a thick plantation; the trees were suddenly removed; the necessary alembics or leaves were there; they answered to the extra and unexpected stimulus of the light, and produced more foodstuff than the tree as a whole could consume. In scientific terminology, the sudden stimulus or photo-synthesis awakened the dormant chloro-plastids of the cells, thus furthering the decomposition of the carbo-dioxides and water in the sap and the formation by means of chemo-synthetic reactions of sugar. This is what the mower does; he gives the extra stimulus, the roots of the clover plant respond to the demand, new leaves or alembics or munition factories are produced, the cradles are

provided in greater profusion, the nectar flows in, and would soon be evaporated if the bees did not by supplying some help to prolong the stimulus—viz., the life of the plant.

Farmers are said—and I believe truly—to be of all beings the most unthankful. Here they have an industrious and indefatigable worker, who increases one thousand fold their seed and improves the quality of their hay; they don't have to provide him lodgings, and yet they begrudge him his food. Further, it is to these living plastids, together with enzymes or ferments (zymogens), to which are due the varied colours of our flowers; they also are the strongly suspected origin of new species in plants.

(To be continued.)

## Honey Crop Prospects.

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

Auckland.—Prices are high, with prospects of rise, beekeepers obtaining 13/6 per dozen for 2-lb. tins of first and second grade, and the supply not equalling the demand.—Geo. V. Westbrooke. 5/4/16.

Wellington.—Many beekeepers have harvested, some returns being good and others up to average. Prices show a considerable advance over former years, and many merchants have enquired where honey is procurable. Average lines have sold up to 5½d. in bulk; beeswax 1/6 per lb.—F. A. Jacobsen. 5/4/16.

Christchurch.—It is generally admitted that this has been the worst season experienced. Very little extracting is being done. "We have to feed instead of extract," is a common comment; consequently the market is very bare of extracted honey, and sections are unprocurable. Prices in Christchurch are fully 1d. per lb. in advance of last year. Honey has been advancing steadily in price for the last four years, attributable to the export trade, coupled with two consecutive bad seasons. Prices are fully 75 per cent. higher than in 1912. Enquiries for choice table honey have been received.—L. Bowman. 5/4/16.

Dunedin.—A phenomenal late flow from catsear and thistles in many districts has obviated the necessity of feeding. Extracting is practically over, and operations are confined to putting bees into winter quarters. There is a marked improvement in the marketing of honey. Producers are realising the advantages of putting their crop in a good marketable form, unsightly second-hand packages being dispensed with. A few small bulk lines sold readily at advanced rates. Sections are scarce, and in strong demand. Prices are firm. Bulk honey 5d. to 5¾d. for choice lots. Pat honey is coming forward steadily, realising 6/- to 6/6 per dozen. Sections are quoted at 8/-. Enquiries have been made for consignments of dark honey, rank flavoured. This is exceptional, as previously auctioneers have experienced difficulty in quitting such lines.—E. A. Earp. 5/4/16.



**FOUL-BROOD CURES.**

In the March number of the Journal appears a report giving a method of treatment of foul-brood by Mr. J. S. Cotterell. The idea of saving the combs is all right, and if that can be accomplished quite half the loss will be avoided. But my own experience with the disease and the published experience of others is quite contrary to Mr. Cotterell's conclusions. In mild cases the method would no doubt be successful in many cases. Where the disease was confined to a few brood cells and no diseased honey had been stored in the upper portion of the comb the hatching out of the brood would enable these to be located, and their removal would probably get rid of the trouble. Where, however, honey had been removed from these cells and stored elsewhere in the comb, how could this be got rid of? In publishing new cures for foul-brood it should be stated how long the author has tried the method, and how severe the cases treated. Mild cases can often be cured by removing the combs affected, and in some cases by cutting out. But to advocate this as a general thing would be disastrous, and where it is done it seems to me to require more time and care than more reliable methods. Some seasons again are more favourable for the development of the disease than others. In bad years it is my experience that the disease is harder to cure and easier to spread. Probably the bees are working more over the same portion of comb, and the honey coming in slowly is lodged more in the breeding cells. Another method also requires a little illumination, and I am keen to learn the experiences of others who have tried it—that is the Clayton method. With me it has been far from successful. Unfortunately, I had ample opportunity to give it a good trial, and my experience has been failure in three-fifths of the cases. I have followed the author's methods carefully, but the only part of it I now retain is driving the bees down with carbolic acid. This does not cause the bees to fly and scatter like shaking or brushing. Mr. Clayton's contention, however, that the bees take down very little honey is not verified. I find that an average colony will almost or quite fill an extracting comb with honey carried down, and this using carbolic under the best conditions, when the weather was hot and still and combs well spread. After much trying and tribulation, there are just two methods I feel at all safe in recommending—the first and surest the McEvoy plan, which should be the one advocated and taught by inspectors, and the empty comb variation, which requires some nice attention to make it satisfactory, and which I do not consider suitable for the novice.

APIARIUS.

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We specially draw the attention of beekeepers and others to the appeal published in another part of this issue by Mr. T. W. Kirk for honey for the troops at the front. Those willing to contribute either in goods or cash should communicate with the Secretary of the National or of the H.P.A.

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One of our prominent beekeepers in the South has promised to write an article entitled "How I Secured a 10-ton Crop from 100 Hives" in a few days.

**CAPPING AND COMB MELTERS UP TO DATE.**

(By FRED C. BAINES, Normanby.)

In the last issue of "Gleanings" to hand (No. 4, Feb. 15), under the above heading Mr. H. Bartlett-Miller has an article describing an accredited machine that leaves others now on the market hopelessly behind; and as he asks for criticism I am going to oblige him, but only in the spirit of gaining knowledge, with the desire to have the most efficient machine available. Like Mr. Miller, capping melters have been one of my pet hobbies. I have made, used, and discarded two; and although thoroughly satisfied with the work done by the machine bearing my name, which was the result of articles by Mr. Teverin and Mr. Pratt (of Idaho), I am not going to say it can't be improved upon, although all those who have them speak highly of them, and testimonials have been sent me from the manufacturers from men who have used them for melting solid combs. Nevertheless, if there is a better one going, I am ready to quit mine at a reduced price to the first man who wants it.

There are one or two statements in Mr. Miller's article that I do not agree with, but there is no object to be gained in raising discussion over small matters; the chief object is to get information on the new melter.

There are three triangular tubes in the drawing, 3 inches wide at the bottom, tapered to a point, leaving a 5-16 space between them for the honey and cappings to fall through. My experience is this is too wide. I find 1-8th inch ample, and even at that some cappings slide right through, but they are melted as a rule on the flat surface of the inside of the melter where a greater heat is than in the tubes. There is no measurement given of the depth of the tubes, which, according to scale, would be from 9 to 10 inches deep, and seem to me to be too deep.

Now that "honey shed" in the drawing gets me right down. I have looked at it all ways, and cannot see what it is or means, because the only place for the honey to be shed (excuse apparent pun) is from the 5-16ths space between the tubes, from which it would fall on to the screen which collects the slumgum, and run out of the exit provided in the corner. This honey shed also has a little tail nursing the exit, which only increases my difficulty in finding out what it is.

Now the screen to catch the slumgum. By the drawing this is inserted from the outside; therefore I understand the wooden jacket (also the water jacket) has to be slotted to allow this to be done, and it occurs to me this would have to be pretty wide, for with a heavy morning's melting there would be 2 or 3 inches of slumgum on the screen, which when you started to withdraw it the slumgum would be scraped off, only to fall and block off your exit unless your jackets were slotted pretty wide.

"Outside end wall folded ready to solder on to tube end wall." This has a "filler," which, if soldered in the position indicated, would come right into that confounded "honey shed" again, which has already beaten me, as it cannot be intended you use the filler to put honey in. The filler is no

doubt for water, and that leads me to the question, "Where is the water?" The tubes, I take it, are heated by the steam generated by the boiling water, so that the melter must not have water higher than the bottom of the tubes; therefore, all the water to be heated to do the necessary work is contained in the  $\frac{3}{4}$ -inch space water jacket to a height of  $7\frac{1}{2}$  inches, and I am very doubtful that is sufficient to do the rapid work the machine is reported capable of.

Underneath the "honey shed" between the dotted lines indicating the water jacket is a space. I cannot see why the honey shed should have a concave bottom at all, because if it is to contain honey a portion will stay in the corner opposite the exit and never move.

I should be afraid to have the wooden jacket run right down to the bottom, because the flames from the stove would be sure to set fire to it after it had been used once or twice.

I think the drawing cannot do the machine justice, as I can usually grasp the idea of an illustrated article, particularly on a subject that one is interested in. I hope it is Mr. Miller's intention to take one down to the Conference, where the merits of the machine can be demonstrated, as there is nothing so convincing as a practical demonstration, and if anyone has an appliance of interest to beekeepers, that is the time and place to bring it along, and if the machine will do the work it is reported to that in itself would be the means of paying ones' expenses to the Conference and a good bit besides.

I am not certain of being able to attend Conference myself, as between this and then expect to be moving some 400 miles, and that to a district where a lot of unextractable honey is gathered, so this appliance would be of particular interest to me; but if I knew there was to be a demonstration of this kind it would be a double incentive to attend.

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## N.Z. FRUITGROWERS' FEDERATION.

### NATIONAL PATRIOTIC APPLE SHOW.

To be held in Wellington, May 8th to 13th, 1916.

#### Schedule of Exhibits.

- Best Collection and Display of Honey.
- Honey in two glass bottles,  $2\frac{1}{2}$  lb. each.
- Honey in Comb, not exceeding 4 lb.
- Best Case of Honey ready for export.

All exhibits to be forwarded at risk of sender, carriage paid, addressed to T. C. WEBB, Secretary National Patriotic Apple Show, Wellington, and timed to arrive NOT LATER than SATURDAY, 6th May, 1916.

A separate advice by post-card or letter must be sent at the same time.

Exhibitors are specially requested to forward their entries to the Secretary in Wellington as early as possible, and thus facilitate preparations for the show, and to state in legible figures the number of the Class in which each exhibit is to be entered.

## Notices.

The Annual General Meeting of the members of the National Beekeepers' Association will be held in Wellington on June 7th, commencing at 10 a.m., for the purpose of receiving the Report and Balance Sheet for the year ending May, 1916; receiving the Report and Balance Sheet of the New Zealand Beekeepers' Journal; the election of office-bearers; the appointment of an auditor for the ensuing year, and general.

### NOTICES OF MOTION.

Mr. J. Rentoul to move:

"That the Constitution of the National be amended, as follows:—

"The Registered Office of the Association shall be at 50 Castle Street, Dunedin, or such other place as the Executive may from time to time determine. Due notice of any change shall be sent to the Registrar."

"The Association shall have a Common Seal, which shall be kept in the custody of the Secretary, and shall only be affixed to documents at meetings of the Executive, and the affixing of the same shall always be attested by at least three members of the Executive. As regards third parties, the Common Seal shall be deemed to have been duly affixed if such affixing purports to be attested by three members of the Executive, and that notwithstanding any invalidity in the appointment of any member of the Executive or any irregularity in the meeting at which same was affixed or in any other matter connected with the affixing of the same, and as regards third parties the signatures of the persons purporting to attest the affixing of the Seal shall be sufficient evidence that those persons are members of Executive."

"District Fees.—The District Branch Secretary shall collect all fees due by members of his Branch and remit the same to the General Secretary. The General Secretary shall pay quarterly the proportion of the fees due to the various Branches on the following scale:—  
When the members of the Branch do not exceed 25 members, one-quarter of the fees; from 26 to 75 members, one-half of the fees; from 75 upwards, one-quarter of the fees."

"The Committees of the various Branches may apply to the Central Executive for an advance to meet their current expenses, and the Central Executive shall pay such sum of money on request."

"Dissolution.—The Association may be dissolved at any Special General Meeting called for that purpose, provided that all the liabilities of the Association have been discharged; two thirds of the members present; Rule 10b applying, the meeting may resolve that the Association be dissolved as from the date named in such resolution. The property and the funds of the Association after such dissolution shall be divided amongst the financial members of the Association in

the proportion of the fees they have paid during the year that the dissolution takes place."

Mr. R. W. Brickell to move:

"That this Conference of representative beekeepers of the Dominion recommend to the existing and prospective Beekeepers' Associations of the Dominion the advisability of the adoption of a uniform Constitution under the name and title of the National Beekeepers' Association.....Branch."

"That a Committee of representatives of all the Associations present be appointed to report before Conference closes as to the best means of carrying above resolution into effect."

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The Annual Conference of the Beekeepers of the Dominion will be held in Wellington at the close of the Annual Meeting of the National. Every beekeeper in the Dominion is invited to attend this Conference, and to take an active part in the proceedings.

The Executive of the National will be pleased to hear from any beekeeper on subjects for discussion at the Conference, and to receive articles or papers on any subject relating directly or indirectly to the beekeeping industry.

All communications should be sent to

R. W. BRICKELL,  
P.O. Box 572, Dunedin.

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## Comments on Passing Bee Events.

By CRITIC.

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Page 16 (Jan. Number).—Doubtless the application of artificial heat to hasten the preparation of honey for market after extraction from the combs will be generally adopted in the near future in New Zealand, but how best to apply it is the question. The plan of a water jacket round the honey tank, with some kind of stove underneath to heat the water, naturally suggests itself, as it did to Mr. Jacobsen, as being the most simple way of accomplishing the desired end. But, and this is most important, if there is the slightest defect in the inner skin of the jacket by which a leakage can occur a tankful of honey may be ruined for marketing purposes. It must be realised that the pressure of the honey in the tank against the water jacket is tremendous in proportion to its bulk, and any weakness in the joints, which under ordinary circumstances would be strong enough, might readily give way under the pressure and cause disaster. Then, again, if such leakage of water into the honey did occur, although sufficient to cause fermentation at a later date, this fact might not be discovered until a big loss has occurred. No doubt a water-jacketed tank can be so made as to reduce any such risk to a minimum. If the joints are well soldered and "strapped" so that the whole of the strain does not fall upon the joints themselves, there

## Notices.

The Annual General Meeting of the members of the National Beekeepers' Association will be held in Wellington on June 7th, commencing at 10 a.m., for the purpose of receiving the Report and Balance Sheet for the year ending May, 1916; receiving the Report and Balance Sheet of the New Zealand Beekeepers' Journal; the election of office-bearers; the appointment of an auditor for the ensuing year, and general.

### NOTICES OF MOTION.

Mr. J. Rentoul to move:

"That the Constitution of the National be amended, as follows:—

"The Registered Office of the Association shall be at 50 Castle Street, Dunedin, or such other place as the Executive may from time to time determine. Due notice of any change shall be sent to the Registrar."

"The Association shall have a Common Seal, which shall be kept in the custody of the Secretary, and shall only be affixed to documents at meetings of the Executive, and the affixing of the same shall always be attested by at least three members of the Executive. As regards third parties, the Common Seal shall be deemed to have been duly affixed if such affixing purports to be attested by three members of the Executive, and that notwithstanding any invalidity in the appointment of any member of the Executive or any irregularity in the meeting at which same was affixed or in any other matter connected with the affixing of the same, and as regards third parties the signatures of the persons purporting to attest the affixing of the Seal shall be sufficient evidence that those persons are members of Executive."

"District Fees.—The District Branch Secretary shall collect all fees due by members of his Branch and remit the same to the General Secretary. The General Secretary shall pay quarterly the proportion of the fees due to the various Branches on the following scale:—  
When the members of the Branch do not exceed 25 members, one-quarter of the fees; from 26 to 75 members, one-half of the fees; from 75 upwards, one-quarter of the fees."

"The Committees of the various Branches may apply to the Central Executive for an advance to meet their current expenses, and the Central Executive shall pay such sum of money on request."

"Dissolution.—The Association may be dissolved at any Special General Meeting called for that purpose, provided that all the liabilities of the Association have been discharged; two thirds of the members present; Rule 10b applying, the meeting may resolve that the Association be dissolved as from the date named in such resolution. The property and the funds of the Association after such dissolution shall be divided amongst the financial members of the Association in

the proportion of the fees they have paid during the year that the dissolution takes place."

Mr. R. W. Brickell to move:

"That this Conference of representative beekeepers of the Dominion recommend to the existing and prospective Beekeepers' Associations of the Dominion the advisability of the adoption of a uniform Constitution under the name and title of the National Beekeepers' Association.....Branch."

"That a Committee of representatives of all the Associations present be appointed to report before Conference closes as to the best means of carrying above resolution into effect."

The Annual Conference of the Beekeepers of the Dominion will be held in Wellington at the close of the Annual Meeting of the National. Every beekeeper in the Dominion is invited to attend this Conference, and to take an active part in the proceedings.

The Executive of the National will be pleased to hear from any beekeeper on subjects for discussion at the Conference, and to receive articles or papers on any subject relating directly or indirectly to the beekeeping industry.

All communications should be sent to

R. W. BRICKELL,  
P.O. Box 572, Dunedin.

## Comments on Passing Bee Events.

By CRITIC.

Page 16 (Jan. Number).—Doubtless the application of artificial heat to hasten the preparation of honey for market after extraction from the combs will be generally adopted in the near future in New Zealand, but how best to apply it is the question. The plan of a water jacket round the honey tank, with some kind of stove underneath to heat the water, naturally suggests itself, as it did to Mr. Jacobsen, as being the most simple way of accomplishing the desired end. But, and this is most important, if there is the slightest defect in the inner skin of the jacket by which a leakage can occur a tankful of honey may be ruined for marketing purposes. It must be realised that the pressure of the honey in the tank against the water jacket is tremendous in proportion to its bulk, and any weakness in the joints, which under ordinary circumstances would be strong enough, might readily give way under the pressure and cause disaster. Then, again, if such leakage of water into the honey did occur, although sufficient to cause fermentation at a later date, this fact might not be discovered until a big loss has occurred. No doubt a water-jacketed tank can be so made as to reduce any such risk to a minimum. If the joints are well soldered and "strapped" so that the whole of the strain does not fall upon the joints themselves, there

will be little risk. It might seem to some that I am exaggerating the risks. I don't think so, for having had ocular demonstration of a big loss through leakage of water into honey is my reason for giving a warning.

Page 318.—The Department recently through the apiary inspectors carried out experiments to determine whether comb-foundation made from wax rendered from foul-broody combs spread disease. In one case I can answer for the inspector rendered the diseased combs into wax, and then made the foundation, with which he experimented, and after two seasons' test reported against the foundation carrying disease.

Page 327.—Every beekeeper who has come in contact with Mr. Hooper Teed will be sorry he is leaving us, although his services as an engineer in the Old Country just now will be valuable. Let us hope that he will return soon to take up bee-keeping again in the Waikato.

Opening and following page (Feb. Number).—The letter received by Mr. Cotterell from the manager of the Bristol and Dominions Producers' Association should prove very encouraging to those who are doing their best in New Zealand in the interests of the honey export trade. The question at once suggests itself, Are all those who are benefiting by the work of the N.Z. Co-operative Honey Producers' Association, which is working in conjunction with the former Association at this end of the business, giving the N.Z.H.P.A. their whole-hearted support as they should do? It is no excuse to say: "I am only keeping bees in a very small way, and do not raise sufficient honey to make it worth while to enter the export trade." If a beekeeper raises honey for commercial purposes, however small the quantity may be, he is reaping a benefit from the work of the Association in the increased market price he will obtain for his honey, and therefore it is his duty to support the Association.

There is one statement in the letter I cannot understand. Major Norton says: "Although necessarily we are not dealers in it, we have already been offered large parcels of white Californian honey, equal in all respects to your best, at prices far and away below what we are at present returning." There is a standing advertisement in the British Bee Journal from a firm which apparently deals in "Colonial and Californian honey," offering either in bulk at 50/- to 65/- per cwt. If Californian honey is now equal to our best, it must have improved wonderfully of late years. I have several times received samples of the "best" honey from that State, direct from two of the largest apiaries, and compared with our best it seemed very insipid, and nowhere near ours in flavour or consistency.

Page 333.—I have often wished that our forestry section of the Department would have given consideration to the planting of basswood trees if only for their timber alone. Basswood is a valuable timber for many purposes, and the blossoms yield excellent honey, and in some years plenty of it; at least this is the case in America. In the former Apiarist's Annual Report for 1906 the following occurs: "I would also suggest that the American linden or basswood (*Lilia Americana*) be grown in the State Nurseries for dis-



tribution among our beekeepers. The blossoms yield abundant honey, and the timber is exclusively used in America for making one-piece sections, being the best known for the purpose." I think it would be a good subject for our National Association to take up.

Page 334.—Mr. Ireland, it may be said, is going through the process known as "splitting hairs" where he takes to task those who have spoken of the growth in honey. Call it what we may—"Scum," efflorescence," or anything else—there is a something that does grow in honey. "Growth" is not "confined to organic beings"; to grow is "to increase in any way; to pass from one state to another; to increase; enlarge; augment; expand; extend." Growth, "that which has grown or is growing; anything produced; product; consequence; effect; result." To go further, there is the growth of trade, power, etc., so that the use of the word "growth" in connection with the substances we see expanding in honey is quite correct.

Page 335.—It is, I think, generally conceded that the queen does lay almost up to the moment of swarming, and that the chief reason for the swarm settling close at hand and very soon after it has issued is to afford the queen an opportunity to get rid of most of her eggs to enable her to fly well. This seems to be borne out by the usual vagaries of a second swarm led off by a virgin queen, which may keep one going for a long distance expecting it to settle every moment, and then give one the slip.

The last paragraph on above page describes the usual conditions of Beekeepers' Associations to a "T," and secretaries generally get more "pricks than 'a'pence," hence so few care to take the office.

Pages 340-341.—"J.A." certainly goes to a lot of trouble when preparing his bees for winter, but I am afraid his system entails too much labour for most of us, especially where there are several out-apiaries to attend to. Just before the close of the honey season, and before the last extracting takes place, I know the condition of each colony, and within a trifle the amount of honey each have. At the last extracting I take care to leave sufficient in the hives to serve the bees right on till Spring in case of failure of the Autumn flow of nectar. If outward indications suggest something wrong within the hive, I examine the colony, otherwise I do not touch the hives until early in May, when fixing them up for the Winter. My notebook gives me all the information I need as regards the condition of each colony, the age and comparative values of the queens, and also near the quantity of food in each hive, which is always on the safe side. If I have any doubt about one, I just "heft" the hive from the back to make sure before going any further with it.

Opening page, March Number.—It is instructive to note that the apiary inspector reports no foul-brood in that extensive area lying between Te Puke and the East Cape. It was not always so, as I know full well. This fact should comfort the croakers—if there are any in existence now—who used to declare that foul-brood could never be cleared out of a district after it had once made its appearance. In this

connection I may state that I was asked to examine two colonies in a district that I could swear had not one clean colony in it a few years ago, and to my great surprise there was not a speck of disease in either, thanks to our Apiaries Act.

Every beekeeper will be sorry at the loss suffered by Mr. Baines through the fire in his apiary. It was, however, fortunate that Mr. Baines himself was not injured—at least there has been no mention of such a thing. If the fire was caused by any of the plant he had in use, I would ask Mr. Baines to give us the particulars; they might prove most useful as a warning to others.

Page 350.—I think the grading points need a little adjusting by altering the "flavour" points to 35, and making "colour" 15, for flavour and colour in honey seem to be so intimate that the divergencies in points is too great in the adopted scale.

353.—"H.R." suggests uniting in Spring instead of Autumn. If there are colonies that would be the better for uniting, by all means do it in Autumn rather than try to keep them through the Winter. If you hang on to them you may have no bees to unite in Spring. Old bees will live longer in a strong warm colony than in a weak one, to say nothing about the risk of the latter being robbed. A queen-excluder placed between the united colonies for a day or so will prevent fighting.

Page 358.—I had heard a rumour of such a thing being done, re turning tins upside down while the honey was in a liquid state to send the scum to the bottom to deceive the graders, but I thought it very improbable that any beekeeper would resort to such a trick, till I was assured by an authority that it had been done. I sincerely hope for the credit of New Zealand beekeeping that such a mean device has not been done more than once.

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## Correspondence.

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### BASSWOOD PLANTING.

(TO THE EDITOR.)

Sir,—When a writer goes on the warpath he should first make sure of his ground. In your last month's number "Apis Dorsata" makes some scathing remarks relative to the paragraph which I sent you re basswood in this district, and jumps to many erroneous conclusions. He insinuates that I have stolen into a district, and am reaping the benefits which have been provided by the early settlers. For his information I may say that I have lived here for over thirty years, and have carved my present home out of the wilderness. I am not disputing what he says about the trees at Fairlie. I know nothing about that district. But conditions vary in different districts. What I previously wrote was from my own experience in these parts. I have trees here 30 feet high, and they have never yet had a bloom. The only one which has been seen in Taranaki was taken from a tree 25 years old in New

Plymouth. When "Apis Dorsata" talks about basswood making a splendid shelter tree, he displays a most lamentable ignorance. No man with any knowledge of shelter planting would class a deciduous tree as a shelter tree. I think "Apis Dorsata" is just a little mad on the subject of nectar-producing trees and plants, and thinks every settler should plant them whether he keeps bees or not. The percentage of beekeepers is very small indeed, and the honey industry does not by any means occupy the front rank. So far as Taranaki, with its variable climate, is concerned, it is never likely to. Your correspondent also suggests that the Government should be requested to plant basswood extensively. Well, Governments in the past have done some very silly things, but I should hardly think they will plant basswood when there are plenty of trees that will make more growth in 30 years than the basswood will in sixty.—I am, etc.,

Oakiawa.

H. B.

(TO THE EDITOR.)

Sir,—Many thanks for prompt arrival of Journal. I find the articles and notes in Journal very interesting, and congratulate you upon having the assistance of so able a contributor as "Critic." "He knows whereof he writes." With best wishes for your success.—I am, etc.,

M. ATKINSON.

The Bee Farm, Fakenham, Norfolk, England.

### HONEY FOR TROOPS AT THE FRONT.

The Hon. Colonel Rhodes has written his manager, Mr. Beadel, suggesting that a scheme might be formulated and donations of honey sent to our boys at the front. In order to give the scheme a start he has sent a donation of £100 for the purpose of purchasing honey. It is suggested that 1-lb. tins are the most suitable and convenient for transport, as the honey has to travel by mules. I would like to see all our beekeepers, large and small, come forward with gifts of honey according to their means. They can send their honey in large tins to the receiving depot, where it could be re-tinned and packed in suitable size. Mr. McCartney, Chairman of the Tai Tapu Patriotic Committee, Tai Tapu, will be pleased to receive all donations. Probably one of the Beekeepers' Associations of the North Island will also take up this matter.—T. W. Kirk, Director of the Horticulture Division.

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

The adjourned Annual Meeting of the shareholders of the New Zealand Co-operative Honey Producers' Association will be held in Wellington on THURSDAY, 8th June, at 2 p.m.

FRED. C. BAINES,

Secretary.

Hawera, April, 1916.

Applications are invited from duly qualified persons for the position of Secretary to the National Beekeepers' Association for the year commencing June 1st, 1916. Particulars of duties may be had from any member of the Executive.

The many friends of our President (Mr. J. S. Cotterell) will regret to hear that he is again compelled to place himself under medical treatment and to undergo a major operation, and that there is very little likelihood of his recovering in sufficient time to enable him to preside at the forthcoming Conference. We can only express our sympathy with Mr. Cotterell, and trust he will soon be restored to health.

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## NATIONAL BEEKEEPERS' ASSOCIATION OF NEW ZEALAND.

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The object of the Association is the Improvement of the Beekeeping Industry and furthering the interests and the prosperity of the Beekeepers throughout the Dominion.

Membership is extended to any Beekeeper who is in accord with the aims and objects of the Association, on payment of a small fee.

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### DISTRICT ASSOCIATIONS AFFILIATED.

- Waikato Beekeepers' Association. Hon. Sec., E. W. Sage, Ohaupo.  
 Taranaki Beekeepers' Association. Hon. Sec., H. W. Warcup, Hawera.  
 Canterbury Beekeepers' Association. Hon. Sec., Miss Mackay, Middle Lincoln Road, Spreydon, Christchurch.  
 Pahiatua Beekeepers' Association. Hon. Sec., G. Bentley, Pahiatua.  
 Southland Beekeepers' Association. Hon. Sec., L. Gardiner, 119 Elles Road, Invercargill.  
 South Canterbury Beekeepers' Association. Hon. Sec., R. Lang, Geraldine.

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### OFFICE-BEARERS OF THE NATIONAL BEEKEEPERS' ASSOCIATION OF NEW ZEALAND.

President: Mr. J. S. Cotterell, Te Aroha.

Vice-President: Mr. J. Rentoul, Cheviot.

Executive: Messrs. A. C. Askew (Manakau), R. J. H. Nicholas (Hawera), W. F. Barker (Peel Forest), W. B. Bray (Banks Peninsula).

Secretary: Mr. R. W. Brickell, Dunedin.

A large membership will give the Executive increased funds with which to develop the local and foreign markets and push the export trade. Increased demand will raise the value of your honey crop.

April 17, 1916.]

N.Z. BEEKEEPERS' JOURNAL.



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### 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.

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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.

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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, 2/6. 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.

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