

Registered at G.P.O., Wellington, for transmission by post as a Newspaper.



A. Sayf

The New Zealand Beekeepers' Journal.

JUNE 2nd, 1919

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



PER ANNUM: **5/-** IN ADVANCE.



Our Queen Breeding Season has now Closed.

We tender our thanks to those who patiently waited when the rush was on.

Also regret so many were disappointed in not securing Queens and Neuclei at end of season.

Beekeepers intending to increase in the Spring by purchasing Neuclei will greatly assist us by ordering several weeks beforehand.

M. SHEPHERD, Present Address: Southbrook, Canterbury.

NICHOLAS' FOUNDATION FACTORY.

BEESWAX WANTED

In Large or Small Lots to keep our Up-to-date Foundation Factory going at top speed. The capacity of our Electric Power Plant has been greatly increased for 1919.

Highest SPOT CASH Price paid for Beeswax.

Foundation made up at 8d. per lb. or on Shares.

NICHOLAS, 4 CALEDONIA ST., HAWERA.

Don't Forget

Our Store when anything is wanted in the shape of

BEE MATERIAL.

Full supplies of all Beekeepers' Requisites kept in stock. Honey Tin Manufacturers. Agents for Alliance Box Co. and for Benton's Capping Melter.

REMEMBER! If it's for Bees, we have it.

H. BEALE & CO., LTD., PLUMBERS, TINSMITHS and IRONMONGERS,

P.O. Box 129. Phone 62.

MASTERTON, WAIRARAPA.

**MONEY IN BEES
in
AUSTRALASIA.**

Price 8/-

By
TARLTON-RAYMENT.

MONEY in BEES in AUSTRALASIA.

By **TARLTON-RAYMENT.** 292 pages; 100 illustrations specially drawn by the author.

Price 8/6

Posted 8/6

A concise, explicit and eminently practical guidebook, conveying the elementary as well as the more advanced phases of practical apiculture. The volume also contains a special section—the first of its kind—dealing with the nectariferous value of the indigenous flora.

WHITCOMBE & TOMBS LTD.,

Auckland, Christchurch, Dunedin, Wellington, & Melbourne

ALEXANDER TURNBULL LIBRARY
WELLINGTON, NEW ZEALAND

398261

The New Zealand Beekeepers' Journal

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

No. 6

VOL. 3

5/- PER ANNUM.

National Beekeepers' Association of New Zealand.

The object of the Association is the improvement of the Beekeeping Industry and furthering the interests and 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 fees as follows:—1 to 15 Hives, 5/-; 16 to 50 Hives, 10/-; 51 to 100 Hives, 15/-; 100 to 200 Hives, 20/-; every additional 100, 5/- extra.

OFFICE-BEARERS FOR THE YEAR 1918-19.

President: Mr. W. E. BARKER, Peel Forest.

Vice-President: Mr. J. ALLAN, Tasman.

Executive: North Island—Mr. E. W. SAGE (Ohaupo), Mr. B. H. NELSON (Martinborough)
South Island—Mr. A. IRELAND (Christchurch), Mr. W. WATSON (Geraldine).

Secretary & Treasurer: Mr. FRED C. BAINES, Kati Kati.

Editor of Journal: Mr. FRED C. BAINES, Kati Kati.

DISTRICT ASSOCIATIONS AFFILIATED.

Auckland Provincial Branch.—Hon. Sec., E. W. Sage, Ohaupo.

Sub-Branches:

Lower Waikato.—Hon. Sec., M. P. Millett, Papakura.

Te Aroha.—Hon. Sec., C. A. Grainger, Waikou.

King Country.—Hon. Sec., W. Copsey, Te Kuiti.

Rotorua.—Hon. Sec., F. E. Stewart, Rotorua.

Taranaki Beekeepers' Association.—Hon. Sec., H. W. Warcup, Hawera.

Canterbury Beekeepers' Association.—Hon. Sec., Miss MacKay, Middle Lincoln Road, Spreydon, Christchurch.

Southland Beekeepers' Association.—Hon. Sec., L. Gardiner, 119 Elles Road, Invercargill.

Wairarapa Beekeepers' Association.—Hon. Sec., Mr. F. H. Benton, Featherston.

Chiviati Beekeepers' Association.—Hon. Sec., E. McKnight, Domett.

Clutha Valley Beekeepers' Association.—Hon. Sec., G. Cottrell, Greenfield, Otago.

West Coast Beekeepers' Association.—Hon. Sec., D. T. Cochrane, N.Z. Railways, Greymouth.

All communications respecting the Association and Journal to be sent to

FRED C. BAINES, Kati Kati.

CONTENTS.

	Page	Page	
Editorial	81	West Coast Beekeepers' Association	89
Bees and Flower Fertilization	84	Answers to Correspondents	89
Prosecutions under the Apiaries Act	85	Correspondence	89
Work for the Winter Months	87	Extract from the Recording Angel	90
Canterbury Tales	87	Beekeepers' Exchange	91
Market Reports	88	It Pays to Keep Bees	91
District Reports	88		

EDITORIAL.

In the November (1917) issue of the Journal we published a letter received from the Under-Secretary of the Lands Department relative to the setting aside of apiary sites on all newly opened country. In this the following information is given:—'The undermentioned sections have been withheld from disposal for the purpose mentioned, and are still available for settlement.'

In April, 1918, the Editor applied for one of these sites, but, receiving no reply

from the Department, took occasion to go to the Auckland Office and see why. He was informed by the officer in charge that they were unable to consider the application, because the conditions for occupying these apiary sites had not been framed, but the Lands Department was waiting instructions from the Department of Agriculture. The Editor then interviewed the Commissioner for Crown Lands, and stated the position, and was assured by that gentleman he would get the matter attended to and have the sites balloted for, as it was explained enquiries were being made for them. The Editor also saw Mr. G. V. Westbrooke on the matter, pointing out the necessity of getting this matter

fixed up, and the impression given was that it would be attended to.

This happened in May, 1918. On 24th June the Editor was asked for particulars of these sites by a fully qualified bee-keeper, who was desirous of shifting his apiary, as he was troubled with unextractable honey where he was. The Editor, thinking that the question of the sites was being put in order, gave the necessary information. The applicant, writing us on 16th April, 1919, says:—

"The Government—that is, the Lands Office—has kept on and kept on promising about that piece reserved at Piako, till I lost last season, and are doing the same this year. Is it not a shame and disgrace?"

We wrote our friend asking him for full particulars, and his letter will be found in this issue.

Please note this apiary site has been set apart five years, and it has taken the Department all that time to consider what conditions are necessary to secure these, and they are not completed yet. Also note the credentials of the applicant. He is a practical beekeeper; two of his appliances are used at the State Apiary at Ruakura; his son went to the war, and came back on crutches; and even all this is apparently not sufficient to incite the Department to move in the matter: all the satisfaction our friend got was promises, promises, and more promises!

Those who are agitating for legislation on Apiary Boundaries can judge from the above how much satisfaction they would get on the matter under the conditions now ruling. Consider the amount of time it would take to frame the conditions necessary for an apiarist to take up these ten-acre sites. We will give the Department a lead.

1. The applicant must be a bona fide commercial apiarist, and must establish an apiary of not less than 75 colonies of bees, and maintain that number or more.
2. The applicant must reside on the property.
3. The property cannot be disposed of by sale under three years, and can only be sold to a commercial apiarist, subject to the sanction of the Department.
4. Every subsequent owner of the land must obtain the sanction of the Department before disposing by sale, that these apiary sites be not used for any other purpose.
5. In the event of the successful applicant not running his apiary to the satisfaction of the Department—that is, neglecting to keep down disease, not maintaining the minimum number of colonies, or allowing the apiary to get in a neglected state—he be called upon notice, such notice to terminate on 31st May.

Is there much else that is necessary?

Now, what is the position? The site on the Otway Settlement applied for by the Editor is in the Te Aroha District, where a large number of apiaries have been established the last year or two. The Piako site is in another district that is fast being taken up by beekeepers, and in both these cases the probability is that by the time the regulations governing the securing of these sites are ready, both districts surrounding them will be so stocked with bees that the purpose for which they were set apart is lost, as the apiarist, on taking possession, would find he was surrounded by other men who had taken the territory whilst the apiary site was not occupied.

Do we really need a Chief Apiarist to look after the needs of the industry, or do we not? In any case, this matter of apiary sites should engage the serious attention of Conference, that they be made available for settlement without further delay.

There is another matter we should like to see discussed—that is, railway freights on honey. That the industry is unfairly handicapped in this respect is evident, as the following illustration will show. The Editor wanted to send a case of honey weighing 37 lbs. to Wellington, and as a local orchardist was going to the station to consign some fruit, he was asked to consign the honey. Now, the orchardist was consigning cases of fruit weighing 56 lbs., the freight being 7d. per case; the Editor's case of honey, weighing 37 lbs., and not occupying anything like the space, was 6/6. And just here we would remark that the fruitgrowers were up in arms that the Government should handicap their industry by putting an extra penny per case on the fruit freights! Why did the Government put a flat rate on the freight for fruit? We take it because they wanted the people to secure a wholesome article of food at a reasonable figure, and at the same time to assist a growing industry. Isn't the beekeeping industry in exactly the same position in this respect? We are a young industry; we have a wholesome article of food that should be available to everybody at a cheap rate. How often a beekeeper is asked to send 20 lbs. or 30 lbs. of honey to a friend, but is prevented by the prohibitive freight, as it makes the honey too dear, and thus the consumption of honey as an article of food is prevented when it should be fostered.

And the question of freight on large quantities. Compared with butter, the pre-war tariff was that honey was charged about one-third more. For why? Butter requires insulated waggons, and gets them. Honey requires decent treatment, and does not get it—anything on wheels has to answer for honey; the Editor has had to sweep out coal before he could load his honey! Honey will pack eight tons in the same space as five tons of butter, thereby lessening haulage, but still it has to bear

a higher freight. As our friend, Mr. Jas. Allan, once aptly put it:—"Butter pays second-class fare and gets first-class accommodation; honey pays first-class fare, and gets second-class accommodation"—and very often much worse.

The freight tariff is going to be considered by the Railway Department when matters become more normal, and we suggest that a deputation wait on the Minister of Railways, drawing his attention to our grievance, that the matter be not lost sight of when a revision is being made.

We are very pleased to note that our attempt at providing work for the winter months in the series of questions has called forth favourable comments from our readers, both as regards the educational value of them and the proposal for a programme for winter meetings of Branches.

It has been suggested that perhaps many of our readers do not belong to a Branch, and even if they do are too far away to attend; also they may not possess the necessary text-books to study up the different questions; so that it would be a decided advantage to these if the answers were published, and the usefulness of the Journal would be considerably increased thereby.

The Editor is not at all anxious to increase his work on the Journal, and to answer these questions in detail would mean a considerable amount of extra labour; but at the same time he is very anxious that no opportunity should be lost in making the Journal both helpful and interesting, and if he receives a number of requests for the answers to be published, it shall be done. In any case, the answers could not be published with the questions, as this would spoil the idea of making these a programme for an evening meeting of the Branches; but the questions would be published one month and the answers the next.

We print elsewhere an article taken from the N.Z. Journal of Agriculture on "Bees and Flower Fertilisation," which bears upon the question as to whether or not humble bees perforate the flowers of broad beans and similar plants. According to the authority quoted—Darwin—the humble bee is guilty of this. The article should clear up any doubts on the matter.

A correspondent recently informed us that the beekeepers' "bete noir" was rampant in the Taumarunui District. Official action was prompt and efficient; the inspector paid no less than 38 visits, and found more foul-brood from Kakahi to Taumarunui, a distance of seven miles, than anywhere else he knew of. Only one man was free, and he had but one hive. One aged gentleman, who has "kept" bees for fifty years, proceeded to instruct the instructor. This, to a man of the stamp of Mr. Goodin, is rather laughable. It is satisfactory to know that really good work is being done.

The discussion on boundaries in the Journal has led to some queer inferences in some queer minds, according to an incident related by a budding beekeeper seeking a location, which, by the way, is not quite as simple a problem nowadays as it might appear. While walking round the district the newcomer espied nine colonies sheltered by a hedge. Seeing the owner, a conversation began, friendly at first, but quickly taking a note of concern and distress when the visitor hinted at settling near by. "You should go at least four miles from an apiary" (!) wailed the established one, who imparted the information that he desired to increase—if he could learn something about queen-rearing!

We intended publishing the crop reports this month, but feel there are yet a good few who have not yet replied, and as we want them all to appear at one time, we are giving these late-comers a bit longer time. Please send as soon as possible.

The programme of the Conference is sent out with this issue, and we think the papers will all prove interesting and instructive. Mr. Trythall's paper, "A Practical Talk to Beginners," should entice all those who are in their early days of the industry; and Mr. E. Simpson's on the use of half-depth supers should also be of interest to those just starting. The whole programme indicates that the Conference will be quite up to the usual standard, and the only thing wanted is a large attendance. We do hope all our readers will make an effort to be present, particularly those who have not yet attended one of these gatherings.

The capping melter demonstration promises to be a feature of great interest. The last few years has seen a great deal of attention placed on these appliances, and there is no doubt that a really efficient machine is wanted. The Baines Melter, introduced in 1913, was the first innovation as a departure from the usual type; and although this machine will handle cappings quite satisfactorily, an appliance that will melt solid combs as well would be an advantage. To this end inventors are working, and the latest types of three different machines will be demonstrated. The Bartlett-Miller machine has been fairly well advertised, and the construction is generally known. The Smedley machine is constructed with tubes, and has an ingenious separator. At the eleventh hour we heard of another invented by Mr. Johnson. We have no particulars of the build of this machine, but reports are that it is IT. Mr. Johnson kindly promised to bring the machine down and demonstrate its powers against all-comers. The evening of the first day should give ample time for these machines to be thoroughly demonstrated and their merits explained.

You will want to be there, won't you?

We understand that hotel accommodation is a little easier now than it was when Trentham Camp was in existence; but

should a troopship be due about the Conference date, difficulty might be experienced. Therefore, we advise all those who intend coming to secure accommodation in advance.

The Secretary will be away from home from the 5th to the 16th inst., and his address till the 14th will be care Barrett's Hotel, Wellington, to where any communications relating to the Association should be addressed.

Bees & Flower-Fertilization.

THE CASE OF BEANS AND PEAS.

By W. H. TAYLOR, Horticulturist.

The following notes are written with the idea of elucidating certain questions which have been under discussion for some time past, such as, "What perforates the flowers of broad beans?" "Why do runner-beans fail to set beans on the first flowers?" "Do bees cross-fertilize peas?" The authority used by the writer in dealing with these questions is Darwin, in his book "Cross and Self Fertilization of Plants."

Regarding holes in the corolla of flowers, Darwin states that in England these are always made by humble bees, but that here bees invariably avail themselves of the holes and rarely visit in the proper manner flowers that have been perforated by humble bees. By the possession of powerful mandibles humble bees are particularly well equipped for making the holes; their object is to obtain the nectar quicker than by entering the flowers, thus enabling them to visit a larger number of flowers. My own observations convince me that there is sometimes another reason. I have taken advantage of every opportunity that has offered this summer to watch the movements of humble bees on plants in my garden. The first noticed were small black specimens, probably "Bombus ruderatus," a considerable number of which were at work on antirrhinums. The bees without exception alighted on the lower limb of a flower, and by their weight and movements depressed and opened it; they then entered the mouth of the flower, forcing their way right in so as to reach the nectar. Later on the black bees disappeared, and greater numbers of the large banded bee, "Bombus terrestris," appeared. Not one of these visited the mouth of a flower, but gnawed holes in the corolla just above the nectary. In the course of a few days it was only by close search that flowers could be found without a hole in the corolla; usually there were two holes, one on each side of the rib that runs down the lower limb of the corolla. In this case I conclude that the insects knew they could

not reach the nectar in the proper manner. They undoubtedly were too large to enter a flower.

Runner Beans.

Darwin states that the flower of runner beans (*Phaseolus multiflorus*) is entirely self-fertilizing, and yet, though such is the case, it is quite incapable of fertilization without the aid of insects, the fertilizing organs being in a spirally wound keel, from which they must be released to effect pollination. Bees visit the flowers continually. They alight on the left wing-petal, as they can best suck the nectar from this side. Their weight and movements depress the petal; this causes the stigma to protrude from the spirally wound keel, and a brush of hairs pushes the pollen before it. The pollen adheres to the head or proboscis of the bee which is at work, and is thus placed on the stigma of the same flower or is carried to another flower. That this plant is self-fertile was proved by Darwin and others, who found that when plants were covered so as to exclude insects only very rarely was a bean formed, yet by moving the wing-petals with a pin fertilization took place and beans formed.

It will thus be seen that beans cannot be formed unless the flowers are visited by bees or some other insect sufficiently powerful to depress the wing-petals. The bees are, of course, quite unaware of the presence of the flowers until they see them. Bees do not detect flowers until a considerable number have expanded, presumably because they are not sufficiently conspicuous to attract their attention. The bees may not observe the first flowers on runner beans, as they are near the ground, and to some extent concealed by the foliage. But they soon detect and visit them when many flowers are out, and at once beans are formed. This clearly explains why the first flowers fail to set beans. If bees perforated the corollas instead of visiting the flowers in the proper manner no beans would be formed, because the necessary movement of the wing-petals would not occur.

Broad Beans.

Although not quite sure on this point, I believe the agency of bees is necessary to secure fertilization of broad beans ("Faba vulgaris"). If that is the case, the reason why the perforated flowers fail to set beans is explained. It is the first flowers usually that are found perforated, and the question arises, Why is it? The explanation is quite simple. I have previously mentioned my observations regarding antirrhinums and how they were constantly visited by humble bees. About the middle of March in my garden a plant known as "blue spiraea" ("Caryopteris mastocanthus") began to open flowers. The bees soon found it, and after a day or two had abandoned the antirrhinums and concentrated their attention on the caryopteris. I counted as many as twenty-four large banded humble bees on the plant at one time. Since that time, so far as I have seen, not a single

bee has visited the antirrhinums, which is not strange, as bees always confine their attention to one species while they can, and evidently the nectar of the caryopteris (natural order Verbenaceae) is preferred to that of the antirrhinum (natural order Scrophulariaceae).

The first flowers on an early crop of broad beans open at a time when flowers of any kind are scarce, and the humble bees make use of them. Later on, when more flowers of the beans have expanded, there are also many other flowers out, and the bees probably abandon the beans in favour of something more to their liking. So that an observer may watch in vain for more visitations by humble bees on beans.

Dwarf Beans.

The flowers of dwarf beans ("Phaseolus vulgaris") are entirely self-fertile without the aid of insects, as is abundantly proved by their being grown in greenhouses where bees are not present. Yet they are capable of cross-fertilization by bees, and it undoubtedly occurs. The extent of cross-fertilization is not, however, great, and different varieties grown in close proximity will remain fairly pure, but not entirely so.

Garden Peas.

The flowers of garden peas ("Pisum sativum") are entirely self-fertile, and usually behave as though cleistogamic (uncrossable), which they certainly are not. Fertilization is effected before the flowers open, and this precludes the possibility of crossing by wind-borne pollen. Notwithstanding these statements—and there is abundant proof that they are true—the flowers are obviously adapted to cross-fertilization. Darwin observes that it is remarkable that they are not often crossed, yet it only very rarely happens. He mentions cases of varieties that have remained pure for sixty years, though each year several varieties were grown together. Hive-bees can have no effect on the fertilization of these flowers, as they are not heavy enough to open them, consequently they cannot gather pollen from them except from old and already fertilized flowers, which they sometimes do, but not to any great extent. For my own part, I have frequently watched my garden peas this season, and have not seen a bee on them. Darwin states that he had peas under observation for thirty years, and only three during that period did he see bees of the proper kind at work. These were "Bombus muscarum," a humble bee. These, he is sure, must have crossed some flowers.

Sweet Peas.

The flowers of the sweet pea ("Lathyrus odoratus") are entirely self-fertile, and can rarely be crossed by insects and never by wind-borne pollen. I have examined a large number of flowers and proved that fertilization takes place long before the flowers open. However young a flower may be, a pod will be found in it, and the smallest pod I could divide with a sharp knife exhibited peas quite distinctly.

Bees and Seed-growing.

It has previously been stated that bees confine their attention as long as possible to one species. It is also known that when gathering pollen bees will not wander far if they can get their load nearby. The knowledge of these facts, and, further, that different orders of plants will not cross, guides seed-growers in planning their plots. All the different species of brassica, which include cabbages, cauliflowers, &c., will cross each other. The seed-grower plans his field so that no two varieties of the same species are close to each other. But this would not ensure safety from crossing unless a considerable number of plants of each variety were grown, for bees will fly quite a considerable distance in search of flowers of a species. Safety is found in growing a good block of each variety. The bees then load up from the one block, and the risks of crossing are very small.

—N.Z. Journal of Agriculture, 21/4/19.

Prosecutions Under the Apiaries Act.

We have received from Mr. F. A. Jacobsen news clippings of the following prosecutions in the Gisborne district:—

Several informations under the Apiary Act were dealt with at the Magistrate's Court. Francis Gay, of Mangapapa (Mr. Dunlop) was fined £1 (with 7/- costs), on the information of the apiary inspector (Mr. F. A. Jacobsen), for failing to take proper steps for the prevention of the spread of foul-brood among bees—For failing to have hives in accordance with the Act so as to permit the inspection of bees, C. E. Hare, of Makaraka, was fined a similar amount. Defendant explained that the bees were placed in boxes temporarily during the rush of shearing time.—John Morrow (Patutahi), for a similar breach, was fined £1 (with 14/6 expenses); and James O'Neill (Waimata) was fined £1 (with 7/- costs). His Worship pointed out that the cases were brought up by way of warning and for the protection of other bee farmers. The inspector had stated that unless the bees were kept in proper framed hives, the work of inspecting and examining them was very difficult.

George Sangster (of the Stratford district) was prosecuted on two charges—having foul-brood and failing to treat or destroy, and keeping bees in box hives. The Magistrate fined him £3 on the first information and £2 on the second (with 7/- costs in each case).

All children ere they lie to play
Upon a raw, cold winter's day,
Should don warm clothes, from hat to hose,
To guard their loins from bronchial woes;
And when to bed they beat retreat,
To make precaution quite complete,
Last thing each one should have, be sure,
A dose of Woods' Great Peppermint Cure.

Oh Yes! Oh Yes! Oh Yes!

This is to give notice that the

SIXTH

Annual Conference

Will be opened by the Minister of Agriculture
at the DOMINION FARMERS' INSTITUTE,

Featherston Street, Wellington,

On WEDNESDAY, 11th JUNE, at 10 a.m.

The President and Executive cordially invite
you to be present. Just look at the Pro-
gramme and see if you can afford to be away.

CAPPING MELTER DEMONSTRATION

will be of very great interest, new machines,
embodying new ideas in Honey and Wax
separating.

SUPPER AND CONCERT

On the Evening of the second day.
All invited to take a prominent part
in these events.

A Real Good Time is Promised
BE THERE!

Work for the Winter Months.

By FRED C. BAINES.

These questions are put that the bee-keeper may, by studying the text-books, increase his knowledge in the industry.

16. What outside indication in early spring shows that a queen has begun to lay?
17. How is a subjugating cloth made and used?
18. How may the strength of a swarm be estimated?
19. State briefly the life-history of the worker-bee from the time the egg is laid until the bee flies from the hive.
20. Describe pollen.
21. What approximately is the proportion of water—(1) in nectar; and (2) in honey?
22. What indicates the proper time each season for putting the first super on a hive?
23. What is one of the chief indications that the death of bees has been caused by starvation?
24. What danger lies in marketing honey extracted from combs taken from diseased hives?
25. What is likely to happen if a swarm is hived on empty combs?

Canterbury Tales.

By E. G. WARD.

Here we are—home again, and glad of it! Bees tucked in for the winter, and ourselves looking forward to a rest and change, and the pleasure of meeting old friends and making new ones at the Conference.

I am beginning to wonder if Canterbury is in for another drought. No rain of any consequence since my last report, and soil as dry as powder. Most of the cows nearly dry, and grass almost at a standstill on account of frosts. I am told that Clement Wragge has predicted that the year 1920 will be something to be remembered. He seems to have got the habit of being pretty right, too! Wonder if he is descended from that chap Joseph that used to live "somewhere in—Egypt"?

I am beginning to wonder if we shall ever get a season which is a duplicate of a previous one, or likely to be a duplicate of a future one. Seems to me I shall have to keep on wondering! Perhaps that is one of the reasons why beekeeping is such a fascinating "game." You never know

what will be your luck till the end of the season, and might "throw up the sponge" just when good fortune is going to smile on you. This is a bit of the philosophy of my late friend Gidley.

Through omitting to brand one of my cases of honey, I have had to go to Lyttelton to rectify my mistake. I was greatly pleased to note the cleanliness and order in the store. I noted that great care was taken that honey should not be exposed a moment longer than necessary, and that every care was taken in opening and closing cases to avoid damage.

Mr. Earp drew my attention to the risks which we take (of course, I mean the H.P.A.) in not having lids soldered on after the honey is graded. It would be obvious to anyone after ocular demonstration, and it would be a cheap insurance for our produce if the Company insisted on this being done in future. It is especially necessary where the 5-inch press-in lid is used. I noticed that a large proportion of the tins did not have an entirely new top, but a ring and lid had been put in, leaving the branding of the original benzine tin intact. No doubt, readers remember that I "barracked" for the benzine tin, but NOT that the brand should be left. An entirely new top is a different matter. I have learned recently that there is a possibility that an attempt may be made to use kerosene tins by at least one supplier. I have been told he is saving them for the purpose, and as there are no brands on the tins, as is also the case with some kinds of petrol tins, there is a danger that they may get through, as the only way to detect them is by the st— (beg pardon!) aroma. However, after my experience in "transmogrifying" a benzine tin into a fit receptacle for honey, I have come to the conclusion that if new tins are procurable at a reasonable price, "the game is not worth the candle." I hope we shall get a definite statement in plenty of time before next season's tins are needed from the Department of Agriculture as to whether the use of second-hand tins will be permitted, as some suppliers used new tins for their crop last season, but, of course, will not get any more money for it.

All authorities agree that to be successful in any industry reading is a very necessary part of the training required. It has been stated many times that there is often enough information in one issue of a Journal to pay the subscription to it for a year or more. These remarks are prompted by the receipt of the last issue of "Gleanings." It is the best I have seen for a long time, and contains in condensed form the essence of the teachings of many of the greatest authorities on apiculture. Hope ye Editor will not think this is an attempt to advertise on the cheap. I just want to say to anyone starting—Read, read, read—anything and everything bearing on the subject during the winter, and apply the teachings next season, and do not forget the N.Z. Beekeepers' Journal.

I say, Mr. Editor, have a little mercy on that young chap who put the supers on too late to catch the honey. I know several experienced beekeepers who have made bigger mistakes. I was nearly caught napping myself last season. Hark! I had been all through the apiary, and given the bees what I thought was enough room for a week. Three days later outside indications gave me the impression that room was wanted. Mrs. Ward laughed. "Why, you were all round three days ago," she said. "Do you think it is raining honey?" "Anyway," I replied, "I am going to look," and sure enough I was right: those bees were soon supplied with enough room to keep them out of mischief, and I do not doubt that our honey crop benefited.

Here is a case where a scale hive would be a good proposition. "Why have you not got one?" someone says. My answer is that I did not realise the importance of it till now, but—just wait a bit!

These remarks of yours, Mr. Editor, on late treatment of foul-brood. When I had my experience of it, I discovered it near the end of March. I treated the bees "à la McEvoy," and fed up on sugar syrup. All came out well next spring, and did well the next season. I do not favour harsh measures, but I profoundly believe that we are not half enough afraid of that curse of beekeeping—foul-brood.

Market Reports.

We confirm our last report of the 25th February.

Honey.—Forty barrels Chilean have been sold at 65/- per cwt. We have now more enquiry, and we expect shortly that licenses will be given freely, and we will be getting further orders. Low prices have been taken for Australian, down to 65/- per cwt.

Beeswax.—The market remains dull, and at the moment there is little or no enquiry.

TAYLOR & CO.

Liverpool, 25th March, 1919.

The Director of the Horticulture Division has received from the apiculture instructors the following report concerning the honey crop prospects:—

Auckland.—Local prices have dropped slightly in sympathy with the fall in prices on the Home markets, best prices offering locally being from 6d. to 8d. per lb., according to quality; latest Home prices between £70 and £80 per ton. Beeswax is in demand at from 2/- to 2/6 per lb.—G. V. Westbrooke.

Wellington.—All the honey in my district has now been gathered, and considerable quantities are coming forward to the various grading stores for export. The quality of those lines examined has been

exceptionally good. Prices are in the vicinity of 10d. per lb. for bulk lines. Very little comb honey is in evidence this season, the producers having confined their attention to extracted. Beeswax is scarce at 2/3 per lb.—F. A. Jacobsen.

Christchurch and Dunedin.—There is little fresh to report. Beekeepers are busy preparing their consignments for export. In some localities extracting is not yet finished, having been delayed by unsettled weather. There is little forward for local supplies. Pat honey: None offering. Sections are scarce, and are quoted to 8/- per dozen. Bulk honey is in demand, and sales are being effected at 8d. per lb. Beeswax is in strong demand. Prices are firm.—E. A. Earp.

Honey.—Quiet at 4½d.

Beeswax.—Still in good demand at 2/- for best qualities.

—Queensland Apicultural Journal.

District Reports.

TARANAKI.

Things are, generally speaking, quiet in the bee world. Crops have been above the average, and the quality is even better than our usual good standard.

There is a feeling among the large producers that yards of 30 to 40 colonies are much more profitable than larger yards; and having tried even as few as 25 colonies in five yards this season, we find it a profitable experiment. Each of these five yards brought in an average per colony of a little over double that of a yard of 90 colonies. The man, however, who intends to run his bees in a slipshod manner will probably get a larger return from a large yard; but give the two yards the following treatment, and the small yard will win out—viz., young queens, plenty stores, and two good supers full of bees when the season opens.

The H.P.A. have again opened the grading store at Normanby, and honey is going in fast.

Mr. E. Honore, our Otakeho apiarist, who returned badly gassed, has been transferred from Rotorna to the Hawera Hospital. He has had a bad run, but we wish him a speedy recovery to health.

H. R. PENNY.

Okajawa, 15/5/19.

The' clad in leather, wool, and fur.
All around risks of cold incur.
As flying high or flying low
They fit their airplanes to and fro;
Their lungs and throats protection need
When playing at abnormal speed,
Protection which they all assure
By taking Woods' Great Peppermint Cure.

West Coast Beekeepers' Association.

The usual meeting of the above Branch was held in Shroder's Temperance Hotel on Saturday, 10th May, at 7.30 p.m. There was a good attendance of members, about 20 being present, and a very pleasant time was spent. The minutes of last meeting were read by the secretary, and approved by the meeting.

The following Executive were elected:—Messrs. Geo. Dixon, M. O'Connell, Wolstenholme and Duffey, Secretary Cochrane, Treasurer Cottle, and President A. Baty.

It was unanimously decided to hold the meetings every fortnight and not every month.

A very instructive paper was read by Mr. Duffey, his subject being general winter management and preparations for next season. He covered a wide scope, and showed a thorough knowledge of his subject, and at the close was accorded a very hearty vote of thanks for his very instructive paper.

It was also decided to form a deputation to the Minister of Agriculture (Hon. W. D. S. Macdonald) while on a visit to the Coast, to urge upon him the necessity of having an apiaary instructor to visit the Coast periodically. The following were appointed a deputation:—Messrs. Wolstenholme, Cochrane, Cottle, and Baty. The deputation was introduced by the Mayor of Greymouth, Mr. J. D. Lynch. The first speaker, Mr. Cottle, said that he thought the Apiaary Division should try and send an instructor to the Coast periodically. He also dwelt on past results of apiarists here, and showed clearly that the Coast could produce a crop of honey with most parts of the Dominion, and all that was required was a little instruction from a capable man, Mr. Baty endorsed Mr. Cottle's remarks, and said what we needed most was expert advice to start the beekeepers in the right way, as this district was possessed of the necessary bee forage.

The Minister, in reply, referred to the difficulty of obtaining suitable instructors, but promised to look into the matter and do all he could to help the industry on the Coast. It was a pleasure to him to meet the deputation, and he was very pleased to hear that we had a Branch of the National here.

The deputation thanked the Minister for his sympathetic hearing.

ALFRED BATY,
President. West Coast N.B.K. Assn.

When days are short and nights are long,
When south-east gales are going strong,
When trees uproot and rain-clouds burst,
Wild winter then is at its worst.
Then is the time for colds and chills;
For sore throat, coughs, and kindred ills;
But such afflictions all endure
Who trust to Woods' Peppermint Cure.

Answers to Correspondents.

A. H., Oamaru.—Many thanks. Journal has been sent.

A. J. M., Island Block.—Record of scale hive interesting; from 96 lbs. to 252 lbs. is very good.

F. W. B., Auckland.—Please accept our sincere sympathy. Instructions are not.

F. P. L., Hawera.—Have written the local secretary, who will probably call on you.

Correspondence.

(TO THE EDITOR.)

Sir,—I did not think of the idea of mentioning my trouble in the Journal. But your idea is good, and here are the facts. I left my sheep farm to my son and started keeping bees on Coromandel, so as to be not too far from the old place. But honey here is unextractable, and the game is not worth the candle. My son was wounded at Amiens in both thighs, right one severely, besides other smaller wounds. As soon as the cable came out I applied for section 11, Block IV., Piako S.D., which, as you know, had been surveyed some five years now, and still lies in the rough, so that my son, if not able to carry on sheep and cattle farm, might earn his living with bees, I starting him for a couple of years. Promises, promises, and more promises, till it would have been madness to move the bees that season. My son in the meantime returned on crutches. He is better now, but, although the thigh-joint is severely injured, he may still be able to follow the occupation of bee-keeping. So I started worrying the Department last January, and still with the same result. Now I have taken off the Government the burden of providing for a disabled soldier, is it too much if I should ask them to let me get on to a section all in the rough to start a new industry there? And after all it may still be for that disabled soldier if he should find that sheep and cattle farming be too much for him.—I am, &c.,

STEPHEN ANTHONY.

Coromandel, 10th May, 1919.

(TO THE EDITOR.)

Sir,—Your card re quantity of honey gathered to hand. I am ashamed to tell, with the quantity of bees I have, but not ashamed to say they are all sold through the experience of overlapping. I can claim to be the oldest apiarist both in age of myself and the oldest apiaary in the district, but am forced to sell out both home and bees to keep my head above water. It is dangerous nowadays to try and hold out when I have three apiarists around me at a distance of not more than one and a-half to two miles, and these are able-bodied

men, and it is a mean thing to "cook" the old man. It has been said that this business cannot be stopped, but I say it could if the Government was to pass a law not to register an apiary within a given distance of the one that is first established. Then they would be safe, instead of being overwhelmed with these birds of passage, who have no stake in the locality where they choose to squat. I have given it best.—I am, &c.,

G. PHILLIPS.

Waihou, 3rd May, 1919.

[We hope those responsible for the above deplorable business will, when they read this, congratulate themselves on the result of their action!—Ed.]

(TO THE EDITOR.)

Sir,—The enclosed is a cutting from our local paper. I leave any humorous comments to your fertile brain. Fancy having a whole bee-hive "settle" on your foot! I should think the flow of language must have been greater—even if milder—than the flow of honey upon this occasion!—I am, &c.,

HUGH C. JONES.

Box 33, Pirongia, 17/4/19.

[I can't beat you when it comes to being a wag, Hugh.—Ed.]

Clad only in light duck trousers, with bare feet, a party of Aucklanders made an unsuccessful attempt to extract honey from a bees' hive one day recently, with the result that one of the party is an outpatient of the Auckland Hospital. One of the men was endeavouring to smoke the bees out, and the whole hive settled on his foot. He made a rush for water, and covered the distance from the hive to the water in record time. The reward for their efforts and pain resulted in two cells of honey, which was poked out of the hive with a stick.

(TO THE EDITOR.)

Sir,—Re Mr. E. G. Ward's trouble over the honey not granulating so readily, I think there are two causes which are closely connected with each other, and those are locality and season, the former of which is chief. My experience goes to prove that ripeness in my locality has little to do with the matter, as I have taken off unsealed honey in a dry season which could not be run out of the tank in less than a week, and set so hard that a piano wire would not cut it a la Allen, as it would break off in chips. Also, at one out-yard I have had honey granulate hard in the combs four weeks after gathering; while at another yard it could be kept on the laves all season, stand in the honey-house all night, and extract cold next day as clean as possible. In my case, contrary to Mr. Ward's, it was early gathered honey which granulated in the combs before I could extract. I have never had

trouble with honey not granulating in the tin. We have a lot to learn yet in this connection. Cannot the analysts help us out?—I am, &c.,

E. SIMPSON.

May 12th, 1919.

EXTRACT FROM THE RECORDING ANGEL.

By CORRA HARRIS.

(Depicting life in a country town in Georgia, U.S.A. Published 1912.)

"The only truly busy inhabitants there until quite recently were the bees, who did a thriving business, and created annually frightful family disturbances by swarming and deserting one Rucker's hives for another Rucker's hives. This was considered personal by the respective owners of the hives, and gave rise to bitterness, all the more lasting because the Ruckersville bees appeared to have inherited their stings from the original cavaliers, who were quick at the thrust, and too fiercely tempered to be meddled with. They hived where they listed, and defended themselves with demoniacal frenzy when any effort was made to ding-dong them back home with their former owner's bell. They were invariably supported in their determination to stay where they were by the Rucker whose hives complimented by their migratory instinct. There was a devilish old Brigham Young bee drone in the Ruckersville honey business, who had in this way alienated some of the best families and nearest relatives. He was said to have descended from an Italian queen bee imported in a cigar-box," &c., &c.

A youthful defendant in a by-law case at the Magistrate's Court yesterday asked the Magistrate: "Did you ever ride a motor-bike with two other bikes on your shoulder?" The Court admitted that it had not performed this feat, but remissly added that it had gone as far as carrying a step-ladder and a swarm of bees while riding a push-bike. The defendant subsided before the laughter did.—Christchurch "Press," April 12th, 1919.

"I feel sure I am only one of many who appreciate your work with the Journal"—D. C., Waiuku.

"Please find enclosed 7/- for sub. to Journal—a good investment."—T. R. A., Hauraki Plains.

Beekeepers' Exchange.

ADVERTISEMENTS on this Page will be inserted at the rate of 3/- per 36 words per insertion.

FOR SALE, 200 Wire Gauze SCREENS,
for shifting Bees.

N. J. BOWMAN,
Kaihere.

c/o Ngarua Privato Bag, Auckland.

BEE-HIVES FOR SALE.

Dovetail 2-storey Hive; reversible bottom board; flat or sloping roof; 20 frames; 16/-.

Separate Parts, in crates of ten.

Reversible bottom boards, 2/6.

Waterproof Roof, Flat or Sloping, composition, 3/9.

Dovetail 10-frame Full Depth Storey, 2/9.

Simplicity Frames, 1 1-16 in. top bar, 17/6 per hundred.

No orders accepted after 1st August.

Terms: Cash with Order.

Prices f.o.r. Waitoa.

R. WHITING,
Springdale, Waitoa.

BENTON CAPPINGS & COMB HONEY REDUCERS.

The only Reducer sold under a guarantee of satisfaction or your money refunded in full, including freight. I offer you an opportunity to demonstrate or test the efficiency of my Machine to your own satisfaction. Why run the risk of buying a machine that you cannot return, if it proves to be a "dud"?

Don't run risks needlessly.

BUY A BENTON REDUCER.

Price, f.o.r., £7 17s. 6d.

ADDRESS:

P.O. Box 47, Featherston. Phone No. 165.

Do to-day's work this morning, to-morrow's this afternoon.—Backbone.

The man who loafs may have plenty of company, but the quality is not very good.—Backbone.

We must treat each man on his worth and merits as a man. We must see that each is given a square deal, because he is entitled to no more and should receive no less.—Roosevelt.

It Pays to Keep Bees.

By PIONEER.

(Continued from May issue.)

IV.

In 1907 I determined to Italianise my bees, so sent to Auckland and procured 12 nuclei, and great was my joy in transferring the golden beauties; but, as is usual with the fair sex, they brought trouble with them—but of that, anon. What struck me at the time was what hustlers they were. A few hours after releasing them I had cause to ascend a high hill, and found them already busy on the fuschia bushes, and this good trait they have always kept up, being far ahead of the black—more venturesome, I should say. They seemed also constitutionally stronger, and to be practically immune to foul-brood, for by next season I got my first taste of this disease, and it spread like wildfire through the blacks and practically wiped them out. I found the McEvoy single treatment sufficient to keep the disease down with the Italians and hybrids. Next season also I found I had introduced, too, the large wax moth; but the South Island is evidently too cold for them, and I have seen no sign of them since.

That year I got 2,838 lbs. of honey, but only a profit of £30 4s. 10d. However, in 1909 my profit rose to £97 3s., and, finding my honey candied readily, I went in largely for Aitken honey-bags, which paid me very well.

In 1913-14 I made a turn-over of £121 9s. 7d., but in 1915 foul-brood got ahead of me, and my profit was only £3 5s., and my honey crop 2½ cwt. Since then I have run the apiary on shares, as I found time did not allow me to do justice to the bees. By this means I got my bees properly attended to, but I did not find the principle of "on shares" work out otherwise practically to me, though I tried several modified plans of the same, and find it pays me best to employ an apiarist for the season on wages, for it seemed to me, however you arranged it, friction was sure to arise; either the other fellow was making too much and working too little, or he thought I was getting too much, and he was doing all the work. One young partner, when he went off with half the profits, told me I ought to be content with 2½ per cent. profit on my capital. But then he was a Socialist, and they always seem to think that "what is thine should be mine," irrespective of the amount of work they may have given in exchange. Oh, no! My advice is, if you possibly can, go on your own in beekeeping, or leave it alone.

In 1916 the honey crop was 3 tons 12 cwt., which worked out at a profit of £112 14s. 3d. I had 180 colonies.

1917 proved a good year, and my crop was 7½ tons, and every available super on the place was put in requisition to keep ahead of the bees.

Four years ago I erected a large extracting tent, and used a gas-engine to extract with, using the old honey-house to store honey in. Tents are cool and airy, but of too temporary a nature, so this year my son built me a very practicable honey-house of Pinus insignis and petrol-tins, which cost about £5. It has an annexe in which are the honey-tins, and the whole is bolted together, so that it can be readily removed, and, being below the apiary, the honey can be manipulated by gravity.

All this while I had been slowly accumulating my spare supers. Now come along the Bristol and Dominions' liberal offer to beekeepers, and on the H.P.A. taking up the contract I was in a position to take up shares in it, and have since put all my honey crop through their hands—much to my profit and ease. It may be a temptation to some to get a small amount (cash down) from their grocer, but I prefer the continual surprises, long drawn out, of the H.P.A. It is so nice, as occurred the other day, to get a cheque for £360 twenty days after grading, then a few weeks after that get a further £10 cheque on last year's crop you had forgotten all about, with a notice of a possible further payment later on; and just when you are thinking of going over your bees in the spring there comes along a further cheque for £400 at least; so I am confidently believing for

this coming season, and then I expect another 13½d. per lb. on top of that just about when I shall be extracting. Oh, yes! Give me more of this agony, long drawn out, and keep you to the middleman, or take my advice—take shares in the H.P.A., be loyal, and you will find—

IT PAYS TO KEEP BEES.

[Concluded.]

Blessed is the man who has found his work, and then—gets busy.—Backbone.

Do not loiter or shrink,

Do not falter or shrink,

—But just think out your work,

And then work out your "think."

—Backbone.

It is easy to find fault if one has that disposition. There was a man who, not being able to find any other fault with his coal, complained that there were too many prehistoric toads in it.—Mark Twain.

To-day is the best day the world has ever seen; to-morrow will be better.—R. A. Campbell.

Beginners will appreciate a practical talk by Mr. A. B. Trythall at Conference. Be there!

Mr. J. C. Hobbs (700 hives) will tell you how to work your bees economically. June 11th, 12th, and 13th.

N.Z. CO-OP. HONEY PRODUCERS' ASSOCIATION, LIMITED.

Competitive designs are hereby invited for a label for our "H.P.A." brand of honey.

The sum of £5 will be paid to the successful competitor, but only in the event of a design being adopted by the Association, whose decision shall be final.

All designs submitted will become the property of the Association, and should be forwarded on or before the 30th of June, addressed to the Manager,

N.Z. CO-OP. HONEY PRODUCERS' ASSCN. Ltd.
G.P.O. BOX 1293,
AUCKLAND.

Of World Wide Interest

The American Bee Journal

Is of interest to beekeepers wherever the English language is read. No other magazine relating to bees has so many pictures or discusses beekeeping from an international viewpoint.

Its editors travel widely in America and foreign countries. Every phase of beekeeping is considered, and all parts of the beekeeping world receive attention.

Illustrated articles on honey plants, feature stories of beekeeping in various places, new inventions, special methods, markets, news notes—everything of interest to beekeepers.

MONTHLY, 36 LARGE PAGES, 5s. 6d. PER ANNUM POSTPAID.

Books You should have

First Lessons in Beekeeping, by C. P. Dadant. Cloth. 167 pages, 178 illustrations. Will start you right. Postpaid 4s. 6d.

Langstroth on the Honey Bee, revised by Dadant. A complete text on beekeeping; 575 pages. Cloth. 212 illustrations. Postpaid, price 7s.

A Thousand Answers to Beekeeping Questions, by C. C. Miller. Cloth. 276 pages. Invaluable to beginner and veteran alike. Postpaid. ... 5s. 7d.

Practical Queen Rearing, by Frank C. Pellett. Cloth. 105 pages. 40 illustrations. All modern methods of queen rearing described. Postpaid ... 4s. 6d.

Productive Beekeeping, by Frank C. Pellett. A manual of honey production. Cloth. 320 pages. 134 illustrations. Postpaid 8s. 10d.

Add 4s. to any one of the above if the American Bee Journal is wanted in combination with books.

PLACE YOUR ORDERS WITH
AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL, HAMILTON, ILLINOIS, U.S.A.

Secure International Money Orders when sending directly to us.

WISE AND OTHERWISE.

Some persons are trying to run down the BARTLETT-MILLER COMB HONEY REDUCER. One person somewhat desperately refers to "duds" in reference to Comb Reducers.

Well, some Comb (so-called) Reducers are "duds," but the only one I have actually seen "dudding" was one that was demonstrated at Ruakura Field Day—in public, of course. We tried to put through the "dudder" two good old black combs from the same lot that the Bartlett-Miller Reducer had simply taken ten of "in its stride." I watched, and others watched, and we all watched, until the operator (Mr. Trythall), the apiarist in charge, explained that it was not meant to melt combs, but only eappings; so thinks I to myself:—"Bartlett, me bhoy, you well named your Reducer 'The Glutton,'" for the thing gobbles all that is put in it; and that's much more than its competitors do—by long white chalks and big black combs it is!

Now, it is my belief that nobody gains much (but what he deserves) by "knocking" another man's invention, so I mention no names—at least, not yet; but I woulda't be surprised if there was a very willing "ding-dong go" at the Conference; for at least one paper to be read is to treat about comb and capping melters—AND B.-M. WILL BE THERE!

Well, quite so, and more to it. But you should have seen that "dud"—the dudder at Ruakura "dudding." It was a sight for sore eyes to see how it completely "dudded" all its boasted claim to be styled a real comb reducer.

Another individual writes to—well, someone not a thousand miles from Kati Kati, giving the Bartlett-Miller Reducer particular fits; but the funny part of it is—How came this person to own a B.-M. Comb Honey Reducer? For I never sold him one! My patent is a big improvement upon the Reducer I demonstrated at the last Conference; so I know (without knowing anything more about the report than I have here stated) exactly what is wrong with

him and his home-made abortion. He is trying to melt beeswax without heat—or at least without enough of it. However, it is not a B.-M. Reducer, because B.-M. DID NOT MAKE IT.

Now, he is "zackly" what Mr. Bumble once styled English Law. What's that? Why, "The Law," says Mr. Bumble—"the law's a hass!" So is—well, I may tell you later.

NUMBER THREE.

This is another person who wrote so hotly that the gum all melted on the stamps and on the envelope flap. The "langwidge" inside the envelope! I had to get "most awful wise" to read what it was all about. Then at once I told my youngest offspring to put it in the w.p.b. and pour some water upon its still pulsating, throbbing warmth! We were not then insured. Have been since, you bet!

Now, all this heat in the letter was on account of a lack of it in the Reducer! That chunk of solid "boor" wax had actually tried to run his Efficient Sized Reducer by the heat from the chimneys of three large hanging lamps! What next? Three 25 candle-power lamps to reduce a ton of cold, and perhaps half-candied honey in eight hours. Hold me while I laf!

NUMBER FOUR.

This delight—(not lamplight)—ful person accuses B.-M. of fraud, for selling him an invention to melt combs, when—"For getting combs fresh from the extractor melted ready for the wax-press—(read it again, boys; it's worth it!)—it is simply no good whatever!" By jove! He's right first time! Now, what do you think of such a customer? I did not exactly tell him I thought him the best joke I had had since I caught the measles, but I assured him that the B.-M. Reducer was a "terror" for rending the "innards" from anything containing honey, but to do duty as a wax-boiler was over beneath its dignity. I await in cold-drawn terror his reply to my well-meant communication. But if it gets too cold, I can always sit on that w.p.b. that accommodates the letter of Number Three, y' see!

Say, boys, don't use blue flame Perfection lamps for the B.-M. Reducers; and of course the Beatrice lamps are always out of court. It takes a great deal of heat to keep going a reducer that gets through a ton of honey a day, and it is one man's work to look after it without cutting the combs out.

If you cannot afford to purchase the Primus kerosene lamp while these exorbitant war-prices prevail, then rig up an oil-drum outside the honey-house, as we had at Ruakura Field Day last year (February, 1918), and conduct steam through the wall with a rubber hose. This is not the best way (to my mind), but it saves money till prices for metal goods get back to normal.

TO SUM UP.

One person cries, "Beware of Duds!" I cry "Encore, and remember Ruakura 1919 Demonstration, too!"

Another declaims about a Reducer that permits of a strong presumption that it is a home-made pirated imitation of the Bartlett-Miller Patent Machine, and my heartiest wish and invitation is that this disgruntled individual will bring his Reducer to the Conference, and if I made it and cannot make it work, I pay £10 to the funds of our National Association. If he will not accept this challenge, then all will know what to think of his complaint. Furthermore, I defy such a person to bring to the Conference any comb from a beehive that the Bartlett-Miller Comb Reducer will not deal with to the satisfaction of a majority of the onlookers; and if he can invent a more severe test, I will engage to put the B.-M. Machine to it. Surely no one can want anything better than this challenge.

Regarding the others, one purchaser came to my honey-room to see how to work his own B.-M. Reducer, with which he was not successful. As soon as ever he saw "The Glutton" delivering the goods, he exclaimed: "Oh, it's all right! I see, I have not been using heat enough."

AND THAT'S WHAT'S THE TROUBLE WITH ALL OF THESE,

except the wax-press individual. He's just a KOMMON HASS!

So give the B.-M. all the steam (not under-pressure) that you can give it. Tilt up the blind end so as to run the honey faster out of the gutter, and you will agree with all the others who ARE getting chunks of solid satisfaction out of the B.-M. Machine that, with clean combs, it needs no attention at all; and with black and pollen-filled combs IT IS THE BEST YET!

REMEMBER THE SIZES, PRICES AND CAPACITY.

BABY (larger than any other make on market), 5 to 8 cwt.	
a day	£3 15 0
BOOSTER, to reduce 10 to 12 cwt. a day	4 12 6
BOON, to reduce 15 to 20 cwt. a day	5 10 0
EFFECTIVE, to reduce 20 to 25 cwt. a day	8 15 0
GLUTTON (for two operators at combs), 40 to 50 cwt. a day	13 10 0

AND EVERY ONE OF THEM REDUCES THE BLACKEST COMBS AT THE LOWER NAMED CAPACITY, AND MUCH OVER HIGHEST NAMED FOR GOOD, CLEAN SUPER COMBS.

Manufacturer, Patentee, and Inventor,
H. BARTLETT BARTLETT-MILLER,
 THOROUGHWORK APIARIES,
 KIHIKIHI.

I SHALL (D.V.) HAVE A SMALL SIZE REDUCER AT THE CONFERENCE, WITH BOTH CLEAN AND BLACK COMBS TO BE PUT THROUGH. WE HAVE HAD THE "EFFECTIVE" SIZE AT RUAKURA AND CONFERENCE IN 1918, AND "THE GLUTTON" AT RUAKURA IN FEBRUARY, 1919. SO NOW A SMALLER SIZE WILL BE EXHIBITED AND DEMONSTRATED AT THE 1919 CONFERENCE. THEY ARE ALL THE SAME PATENTED PATTERN.

Honey for Export

A WORD and A WARNING

WE ARE BUYERS.

But owing to lack of Shipping Space and Congestion of Stocks awaiting shipment, we have been unable to buy during the past season.

But we will be in a position

TO BUY AGAIN NEXT SEASON.

Producers know the prices we were paying in 1918.

Do not tie yourselves or your future outputs up so that you are unable to take advantage

OF THE FULL CASH PRICES

(equivalent to the English value), which we pay you here in Auckland as soon as your Honey arrives and is graded.

Competition for your Honey is healthy—keep yourselves free to sell at the highest price.

A. S. PATERSON & Co., Ltd.,

No. 1 Custom St. West, Auckland.

Telegraphic Address—'ASPASIA,' AUCKLAND.

THE
New Zealand Co-operative
Honey Producers' Assoc.,
LTD. (H.P.A.)

TO BEEKEEPERS.

As a record of achievement, the history of the H.P.A. must already hold a high place in the annals of successful co-operative effort, and under the new Management the Association may confidently be expected to achieve even greater results for its Shareholders, who comprise the bulk of the commercial Beekeepers of the Dominion.

Unfortunately, there are a number of honey producers who have not yet realised what the Association has done for the industry, nor why they should be identified with the movement, and space for the full details cannot be found in this short column. One fact alone should be sufficient to bring in every Beekeeper, and that is—that the H.P.A., since its formation in 1914, has trebled the return per lb. to the Producer, and has raised the value of honey upon the local market to hardly realisable heights.

Upon the basis of the Honey handled in 1918 by the H.P.A., the increased value of 1917-18 Honey as against 1914 represents a sum of approximately £17,000. These figures speak for themselves.

The success of the co-operative movement lies in the hands of the Beekeepers, and a stable market and permanently good returns are only possible through the co-operation and the elimination of private enterprise and speculation.

The merchants and retailers exist for themselves, but the H.P.A. exists for the Beekeeper only, and the whole of the profits return to the Producer.

A vigorous forward policy has been inaugurated by the Association, and all Beekeepers should study their own future interests and become members. Shares can be taken up in small quantities, upon the easiest possible terms.

Apply for shares or further particulars to

THE MANAGER,

THE N.Z. CO-OP. HONEY PRODUCERS'
ASSCN., Ltd.,

P.O. BOX 1293,

Stanley Street, AUCKLAND.

National Beekeepers' Association of New Zealand.

PROGRAMME

of

Sixth Annual Conference

To be held in the
Dominion Farmers' Institute, Featherston Street, Wellington,
on June 11th, 12th, and 13th, 1919.

The Conference will be opened by the Hon. W. D. S. Macdonald, Minister of Agriculture, at 10 a.m. on WEDNESDAY, June 11th.

ORDER PAPER.

President's Address.

Secretary's Report and Balance Sheet.

THE FOLLOWING PAPERS WILL BE READ:—

“A Workable Scheme for Settling the Question of Apiary Boundaries.”—Mr. A. IRELAND.

“Granulation of Honey for Export: Can It Be Improved?”—Mr. R. W. BRICKELL.

“Possibilities of Beekeeping in Westland.”—Mr. JOHN MURDOCH.

“The Depot System of Handling Honey.”—Mr. J. RENTOUL.

“The Appointment of a Grader for the Whole of the Dominion.”—Mr. W. WATSON.

“The Continued Use of Petrol Tins for the Export of Honey Advocated.”—Mr. C. A. JACOBSEN.

“Do Queens Mate Once Only?”—Mr. R. H. NELSON.

- “The Work of the National Beekeepers’ Association and the Honey Producers’ Association.”—Mr. JAS. ALLAN.
- “A Practical Talk to Beginners.”—Mr. A. B. TRYTHALL (Officer in Charge of State Apiary, Ruakura).
- “Further Remarks on the Crystallisation of Honey.”—Mr. W. E. BARKER.
- “Land Legislation to Improve the Status and Prospects of the Honey Producer.”—Mr. W. B. BRAY.
- “Economy in Beekeeping.”—Mr. J. C. HOBBS.
- “Why I Advocate and Use Half-Depth Supers.”—Mr. E. SIMPSON.

Note.—The above Papers will not necessarily be read in the order placed.

DEMONSTRATIONS.

(EVENING OF FIRST DAY.)

- The Smedley Capping and Comb Melter.—C. SMEDLEY.
- The Johnson Capping and Comb Melter.—F. A. JOHNSON.
- The Bartlett-Miller Capping and Comb Melter.—H. BARTLETT-MILLER.
- A Few Remarks on the Benton Melter.—Y. H. BENTON.

REMITTS.

The following Remits are forwarded by the Poverty Bay Beekeepers’ Association:—

Registration of Apiaries.—“That all apiaries be registered annually, and that the amended registration provide that a fee be levied on all apiaries from which honey is sold; and also that provision be made for and the enforcing of a substantial penalty for failure to register.”

Chief Apiarist.—“That the appointment of a Chief Apiarist be again brought before the Minister of Agriculture, and that the matter be pressed that he make the appointment, as promised by him, at an early date. The officer appointed to be responsible for the proper enforcement of the Apiaries Act. Such an appointment would be of the greatest assistance to local inspectors in the carrying out of their work.”

Box Hives, &c.—“(1) The prosecution of owners of box hives without notice.

“(2) To prevent the sale of apiaries or the moving of hives of bees to another locality, unless such apiary or hives be declared clean by the inspector, and a permit given.”

Penalties.—“That the penalty for breaches of the Apiaries Act be increased; the maximum penalty be raised to £20.”

Apiary Boundaries.—“That provision be made for the protection of commercial apiarists in regard to boundaries, &c.”

Local Inspectors.—“This Association desires that the powers conferred on local inspectors be explicitly defined in regard to the effective carrying out of the Apiaries Act; also that fuller power be given to local inspectors to deal with box hives, and that he be empowered to see that all combs, brood, &c., be destroyed or removed from access to bees.”

JAS. B. ADAMS, Hon. Secretary.

“That discussion be made on the question of Apiary Sites now set apart by the Lands Department, and that if the conditions for securing these be not already framed, a deputation wait on the Minister of Lands to urge their being completed without delay.”

“That a deputation wait on the Minister of Railways, drawing his attention to the unfair handicap that is placed on honey as compared with other produce, with a request that the tariff be revised as soon as possible.”—F. C. BAINES.

On THURSDAY EVENING, June 12th, a Supper and Social Evening will be held at Godber's Refreshment Rooms, Cuba Street, to which all visitors to the Conference are cordially invited.

FRED C. BAINES,

Secretary.

Advice for Winter Months.

Now that conditions are returning to normal, beekeepers may, with some degree of accuracy, calculate the probable returns from their bee yards. In doing so they must take into consideration the value of their product.

Prices for Honey for the next three years will remain at a very high level, in fact at over fifty per cent. advance on pre-war rates. A wise beekeeper, therefore, will fill in the long winter evenings by making up hives, frames, supers, etc., in order that no time may be lost when the honey flow is on. In anticipation of an increased demand we commenced manufacturing some months earlier than usual, and we are now in a position to supply all orders within a few hours after their receipt.

ALLIANCE BOX CO., Ltd.,

1 Mason Street,

DUNEDIN.

The Opportunity to Save Money

The wide-awake honey-producer knows that it pays to use the very best foundation. It means good, straight all worker combs which make beekeeping both pleasurable and profitable. As nothing but pure beeswax can be used in making comb foundation, it behoves every beekeeper to save every ounce of wax and have it made into foundation. We have the best manufacturing plant in New Zealand: we have had longer experience than any other maker, and our foundation is made on the principle of the Weed Process. That is the reason why we make Foundation superior to any other locally made, and equal to the best imported. It is transparent and supple, and never loses its condition. It does not sag, and every sheet is perfect. We do not destroy the "temper" of the wax by using sulphuric acid to clean it. We have a better system of getting the wax perfectly clean. The result is that the bees go straight to work on the foundation, and draw it into nice straight combs. The best Foundation is always the cheapest in the end. Do not wait till the last moment, and pay exorbitant prices. We offer you the opportunity of saving all the middleman's costs and profits; but remember we are in this business only in the off season. When the bees are needing our attention, we cannot neglect them for the beekeeper, who neglects his opportunity NOW of laying in a stock of Foundation at absolute bed-rock prices.

Therefore, get your Wax ready, and send it along AT ONCE. We cannot accept any Wax after the end of June. **Delay means loss to YOU!**

Owing to increased cost of freight and packing materials, we have had to increase our price by one penny per pound. But our Foundation is still cheap, because it is the BEST.

Our charge for making Wax into Medium Brood Foundation—8 sheets to the pound—is 9d. per lb. Some makers deduct 5 per cent. weight lost in cleaning, but we give credit for every pound of Wax sent. It must be reasonably clean, though, however clean it appears to be, we refine it. Foundation will be returned packed in 25 lb. boxes, paper lined. We cannot pack odd weights, but will return the weight to the nearest box, and allow 2/- per lb. for shortage, or charge 2/9 per lb. for surplus, as the case may be.

Shipping Instructions.—Wax must be packed in clean, sound bags or strong boxes, and no paper wrapping used. Each package must bear the sender's identification mark, and must be clearly addressed "**Barrett and Bray, Barry's Bay.**" The sender must pre-pay the freight to Lytleton, and consign through the Goods to "**C. Anderson, Cutter Doveron, Lytleton.**" Advise us of the weight, description, and when sent. We pay the sea freight both ways, and you pay the return railfare.

BARRETT and BRAY,

Barry's Bay.