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Beekeepers'
Journal.

VOL. 4.

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President for 1920-21—Mr. W. Watson.

ISSUED MONTHLY

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PLENTY.

The New Zealand Beekeepers' Journal

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

No. 8

VOL. 4

6/- 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.

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All communications respecting the Association and Journal to be sent to

FRED C. BAINES, Kati Kati.

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EDITORIAL.

One of the matters dealt with at Conference was the rumour that the transportation of bees from one district to another would be prohibited, owing to the outbreak of the dreadful disease of fire-blight amongst the orchards, as it was assumed that bees would act as carriers. Although we had nothing official to go on, it was thought there was sufficient reason to believe the rumour was correct, and a committee was appointed to wait on Mr. T. W. Kirk, Director of Horticulture,

and ask that if the rumoured step was being taken the reasons they had for suspecting the bees to be a menace be given to the committee, as according to the latest scientific reports from America on this very question, there was very serious doubt as to whether bees were a danger in spreading the disease. The committee duly waited on Mr. Kirk, but were unable to do any real business, as the embargo had not been gazetted, and we were presuming on a rumour. However, both Mr. Kirk and Mr. J. A. Campbell listened very attentively to what the committee had to say from the beekeepers' standpoint; and, whilst neither admitting or denying the rumoured intentions of the

Department, these gentlemen explained the position from the orchardists' point of view. Briefly put it is this: Fireblight is a disease that is rapidly spread; the only cure for it is by cutting the trees out and burning them, root and branch; and if once allowed to get abroad over the whole of the Dominion, the orchardists' living and all the money sunk in the industry is lost. At present this disease has shown itself in certain districts only, and, still not admitting the truth of the rumour ('cute chaps, these Department officials), it would be a commendable thing if the Department did their best to keep the thing localised. Mr. T. A. Clark, of the committee, thought that perhaps the difficulty could be bridged by some system of quarantining the bees for a period of, say, forty-eight hours prior to removal. Mr. Kirk thought there was at least a possibility of this being done, and he would get the Biological Division to conduct experiments in isolating the bacteria to find out what media is necessary for their existence, as it is stated that they are very short-lived. If it is found that outside the media obtained in a fruit blossom or in the sap of fruit trees these bacteria die within twenty-four hours, then even if it is possible for the bees to become carriers, they can be rendered absolutely harmless by confining them, say, forty-eight hours before transporting, as all the bacteria being out of the media necessary for their existence would be dead. The rumour, of course, has been confirmed by the regulations being gazetted, and as one of the committee, the Editor is quite sure that both Messrs. Kirk and Campbell were not at all happy over the necessity of taking the step that looked like penalising one industry for the sake of another, and we quite realise the difficulty. We are all bound to admit that the control of a disease that threatens to put an industry out of action must be combated by every means, and if the prohibition of transporting bees for a while—perhaps only a few months—is going to save a kindred industry, we ought to put up with the handicap. What would we beekeepers give to-day if, by the sacrifice on the part of another industry, for a few months, we had been saved the curse of foul-brood? Therefore, we are inclined to say: Put up with the embargo; it will come a bit hard on those who have built up apiaries which are to be run for the sale of bees; it will also be a serious matter to many that no queens will be on sale from either Ruakura or Tauranga, which will mean a serious loss to the industry and the Department.

We had hoped that some information would have been available for this issue, but in a letter from Mr. Kirk dated 19th July, he states that the Biological Division has quite recently had to change their quarters, and the laboratory is only just now in working condition. Dr. Cockayne is very interested, and to carry out his investigations is securing honey, pollen, and candy to see if these are suitable media for the life of the bacteria. Mr. Kirk

hopes to be able to give us information of interest shortly, and concludes his letter with the hope that he may have something favourable to report. "So mote it be!"

We are very sorry to report the death of Mr. Stephen Anthony, of Coromandel, who died of heart trouble on 3rd June. Mr. Anthony was a keen beekeeper, and was in touch with beekeepers all over the world. He was an expert linguist, having a knowledge of eight or nine languages. He was a staunch supporter of both the National and the Journal, and his contributed articles in the latter will be well remembered. Our sympathy is extended to his bereaved wife and family.

An advertisement appeared in our last issue relative to the sale of certain queens. No advertisement yet has caused so much concern or so much uneasiness. We have received wires from the President, Executive, and Apiary Instructors; letters of alarm, requests for full particulars, &c., &c., &c. The Editor has been accused of inserting the advertisement, which he denies absolutely. The advertisement was sent and paid for by a member of the National and a valued contributor to the Journal. Any letter sent addressed as printed in the advertisement will be forwarded.

Although the advance of one shilling on the price of the Journal was not retrospective, we tender our thanks to all those who have sent the extra cash with good feeling. It is very encouraging to us to get a letter dated 19th July from "H. B.," Koparanga with the following:—"If you keep on improving the Journal, it should be worth 7/- next year." Thanks, friend B.

Market Reports.

Honey.—Since our last report the market has been very dull, and the only business reported is retails of Pile X at 95/- per cwt. and No Pile at 69/6 to 70/- per cwt., and other descriptions at late rates. The recent enquiries for quantity have not resulted in any bids being made.

Beeswax.—Chilian: Thirty bags have been sold at £11 to £11 15s. The market for East African beeswax is very dull—£8 7s. 6d. per cwt.

TAYLOR & CO.
Liverpool, 27th April, 1920.

The queenly rose knows no decay,
Though scoured and crushed it lies,
And while it slowly wastes away
Its fragrance never dies.
With other gifts that make life glad,
And in our thoughts endure,
It cheers our hearts when sick and sad
Like Woods' Great Peppermint Cure.

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

Wellington.—All crops have been gathered by the beekeepers and the bulk forwarded to the various grading and packing stores in the Dominion. It is too early to anticipate next season's crop, but the bees generally throughout the country are in good winter condition. Small lines are realising good firm prices. Beeswax from 2/- to 2/6 per lb., according to quality. Comb honey scarce.—P. A. Jacobsen.

Christchurch and Dunedin.—There is little fresh to report. The market is firm for all lines. Bulk honey is in strong demand. Section honey is scarce, and choice lines are realising 12/6 per dozen. Pat honey is in short supply. Beeswax is scarce, and good samples are quoted at 2/6. Lines are being imported from Australia and America to meet the shortage.—E. A. Earp.

Beekeeping for Beginners.

[As these instructions conform to the seasons in the Auckland Districts, an allowance must be made for difference in latitude North and South. Average bee-seasons in the extreme North are four weeks earlier, and in Southland three weeks later.—Ed.]

In opening our seasonal remarks under this heading, we hope those to whom this column specially appeals will not fail to write the Editor on any matter in which they think he could be of assistance to them. He does not pose as knowing ALL about bees, but whatever knowledge he possesses is available to those who require it.

The month of August in the Auckland Province is the first of the beekeeper's year, and the work necessary for the month is very small and yet very important—and that is the food supply. It is not necessary to open the hives to ascertain this: just give the hives a heft at the back, and mark those that are light. These are best helped by a good frame of honey, provided it came from a clean hive. First, bruise the cappings by running your hive tool over it, and do not put it in the centre of the brood chamber, but rather inside the one nearest the outside that has a little honey in. The bees will soon carry it to where the brood is being raised. Do this just before sundown, and do it quickly, to avoid having the hive open too long to chill the bees, also the possibility of attracting robbers.

F. C. B.

Send for Pamphlet on "BEESWAX."

6d. POST FREE.

W. B. BRAY,
Barry's Bay.

Work for the Winter Months.

[NOTE.—These questions are intended to form a programme for discussion at the winter meetings of the Branches.]

72. Compare the utilities of carbolic fumes with those of smoke in subjugating bees.
73. Describe nectar, and explain how it is converted into honey.
74. Explain in detail how bees commence making comb in a hive not furnished with foundation.
75. In what circumstances is it advisable to extract honey from combs in the brood chamber?
76. If during a manipulation a frame be accidentally dropped, and the bees become irritated, what should be done?
77. Describe minutely the process of opening a hive of bees for examination.
78. What is known as to the sense of smell possessed by bees?
79. What is the shape of a queen sting, and for what purpose is the use of the sting generally reserved?
80. What interval occurs between the changing of the larva into a nymph and the emerging of a perfect bee?
81. How much honey is estimated to be consumed in a year by an average colony?

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS.

52. A nucleus colony opening in the spring in good condition can be worked into a full colony by assistance of a frame of brood at intervals as soon as strong enough in bees to take care of it, being careful not to give more brood than the bees can cover. We have at times when the nucleus had three frames of brood placed it in the position of a colony strong in flying bees, and thus strengthened it very quickly.

53. Our opinion is that balling is often brought about by the bees getting upset by manipulation, and are thus protecting the queen. Another reason for balling is that the queen is restless and uneasy. When there is no apparent reason for the balling, we usually quietly close the hive, and leave it for a day or two.

54. The space between brood combs is from three-eighths to half inch; that between honey combs is generally a little narrower. In nature there is a considerable variance on this matter.

55. The clustering of the swarm can be hastened by a spray of water being directed above the bees to imitate rain. Earth thrown amongst them sometimes has the same effect. The old-fashioned 'tang-ling' is still claimed by many to have an immediate result on the swarm.

56. Briefly, the advantages are that the honey combs contain only honey; the brood and queen are where they are wanted. The drawbacks are chiefly the result of using the appliance in the wrong way and at the wrong time, meaning very often a crowded brood chamber and swarming.

57. To our thinking, this is largely a question of locality. If one is near a large town, where transit facilities are easy, and sections can be landed safely, a very fine trade can be worked up in section honey. This means that your crop is marketed without the expenses of an extracting outfit, containers, etc. On the other hand, where the above conditions do not prevail, the beekeeper should run for extracted honey, as this can be shipped away in bulk, and has an unlimited sale.

58. Clipping the queen's wing has a two-fold effect—for the prevention of a swarm absconding, and also can be used as a record of the queen's age, by clipping right and left wings alternate years. This we usually do in the spring. Our method is to pick the queen up by the wings with the right hand, catch hold very lightly by the thorax with the left hand, and with a pair of small curved manicure scissors clip which ever wing we decide.

59. Punch the lever lid with plenty of small holes, fill with syrup, invert, and place on top of the frames.

60. Queenlessness. The bees retain the drones in hopes of being able to raise a queen, and the presence of the drones would give her a chance of being mated.

61. First, freedom from disease; second, brood nicely placed, with very few cells missed; third, queen of good appearance; fourth, markings for purity, and general behaviour of bees.

A Few Words from the President.

Ladies and Gentlemen,—

I take this opportunity of thanking you for electing me as your President, and I will do my best to advance your interests. In company with Messrs. Kentoul, Ryland and Baines I had the pleasure of interviewing the Minister of Agriculture, the Hon. Mr. W. Nosworthy. He promised us he would go carefully through the various resolutions which we brought under his notice, and assist us as far as possible.

I feel sure now we have started the ball rolling, your Executive, in combination with the Standing Committee elected at Conference, will leave no stone unturned to gain our objects; if need be, we will wait upon the Minister and Department again and again.

Now, to do effective work, your Committee must have the support of the organised beekeepers in the Dominion. I would therefore ask for all Branches of the National to get busy; endeavour to enrol all beekeepers into the National fold; get the member of Parliament for your district interested; ask for his support if occasion arises; only by such methods will we attain justice.

In conclusion, let me ask your support for the Journal. The Editor is in need of more articles. Let him have a description of your labour-saving devices, and last, but not least, get more subscribers.

Yours for the industry,

W. WATSON,
President N.B.K.A.

Work of the Standing Committee.

While in Wellington, Mr. Baines being also present, we took the opportunity of making the first move in getting effect given to the resolutions passed at the Conference.

Messrs. Watson, Baines, Ryland, and the writer spent Thursday morning with Mr. Kirk. He assured us that the Apiaries Tax was the proposal of his Department, and that they would push the matter. With reference to a Chief Apiarist, he stated that should the Government agree to the appointment, the position would be advertised, and the endorsement of an applicant by the Standing Committee would have effect. We also took the opportunity to ask that the Government Chemist should conduct experiments on the fermenting of honey, which he agreed to do if we would supply the necessary data.

In the afternoon we were fortunate in being able to arrange an interview with the Hon. Mr. Nosworthy, Minister of Agriculture, who was good enough to leave the Chamber during a debate to meet us. We were introduced by Mr. G. W. Forbes, member for Hurunui, Mr. Burnett (Geraldine), Messrs. Bollard and Young (Waikato). We were exceedingly fortunate in enlisting the sympathies of these members, representing, as they do, the larger farming interests. We submitted a typed copy of the resolutions to the Minister, with the explanation that they would be supported by further evidence in writing, confining ourselves to the more important matters of railway rates, the appointment of a Chief Apiarist, and the Apiaries Tax.

I am satisfied that we made out a good case, Mr. Baines' speech being particularly effective. While we did not expect nor get definite promises from the Minister beyond that of his consideration, he made a statement that showed that he was at least

interested, while the members present affirmed the principle of the tax.

I feel more than ever that when members generally are educated into the requirements of the industry, we will have no difficulty in getting fair treatment. For instance, when Mr. Burnett, whose family have been sheep-farming in the snow country for two generations, demurred at the tax, I was able to point out to him an analogous case in sheep scab, that the Government dealt with so drastically in those days, and he promptly admitted the position.

J. RENTOUL.

Cheviot, 2/7/20.

The Benton Nursery Incubator

FOR QUEEN-BEE CELLS & MATTERS RELATING THERETO.

By Y. H. BENTON.

In complying with the Editor's request for a write-up and description of the Benton Nursery Incubator for queen cells, it would perhaps be as well if I comment briefly on several more or less controvertible opinions and beliefs that have been expressed recently, and which have been brought to light by the advent of the above appliance.

Anything new, which is in any way a departure from accepted belief, is always at first received dubiously. Doolittle's method of raising queens was at first received with disfavour, the majority being of the opinion that queens raised by such a method would be inferior to those raised naturally on the comb. This opinion is entirely reversed to-day, and Doolittle's method is generally accepted as the equal to any other, and in some cases the superior. So much for first opinions. Some still believe it a mistake to cage cells pending the hatching of the queens. Those of us who make a general practice of caging our cells know this belief to be totally unfounded; but I would stress the point of not caging the cells until they are ripe.

The Benton nursery incubator does not permit the bees to cluster on the nursery cages, hence the bees cannot feed the young queens, if they feel so disposed, and several prominent beekeepers have expressed the opinion that young queens reared under conditions that make it impossible for the bees to feed them on warm honey will not develop properly. That such an opinion could come from a prominent beekeeper of to-day is hardly credible. We know that under natural circumstances the bees take no notice whatever of a virgin queen, and she is left to fend for herself as best she may, instinct prompting her to seek and take her fill of honey from the first supply she comes on. Is it reasonable to suppose that the bees take any more

notice of a virgin queen simply because she is caged? Is it reasonable to think that the young queen, who is guided by instinct to seek food for herself, is going to apply to the bees for honey when she can take her fill in a natural way from the candy supplied?

I know and believe that under certain conditions the bees will feed caged virgins that are not supplied with candy, and I also know that I would not care to leave a batch of virgins "caged" to the mercy of the bees for more than a few hours without giving them a supply of candy or honey.

All who use nursery cages stock them with candy, and what proof have we, in this case, that the bees give the young queens any honey at all. I honestly believe that the bees rarely if ever feed virgin queens in a nursery cage if they are given a stock of candy off which they can sup themselves.

In regard to young queens not developing properly when fed entirely on candy, I would ask those who entertain this belief what proof they have to substantiate their argument. My experimental tests prove conclusively that queens reared under conditions which make communication with the bees impossible, and fed on candy only until introduced, are the equal of those reared under any other conditions; and I challenge any beekeeper to prove that this is not so. Do not condemn a method untried; the proof of the pudding is in the eating.

Some critics appear doubtful as to whether cells placed in an appliance over the brood nest would get sufficient heat to bring them to maturity and prevent chilling; but I positively assert that there is no danger from lack of heat with the Benton Nursery Incubator under ordinary seasonal conditions. If queens are reared at unseasonable times, chilled cells and inferior queens are to be expected, no matter what appliance is used as a nursery. Under natural conditions, and if left to themselves, the bees build the majority of their queen-cells along the bottom edge of the combs, where they are exposed to a constant draft of fresh air that is being drawn in at the entrance by the bees. Heat rises, and the Benton Nursery Incubator is placed immediately over the brood-nest proper; thus I maintain that there is more heat at the top of the brood-nest than there is at the bottom, where the bees invariably build the majority of their queen cells, consequently there is less risk of cells being chilled at the top. It is conceded by all that the correct time to rear queens is from when the bees start swarm cells until the finish of the main honey flow. Queens reared before or after that period are undoubtedly inferior to those reared during that time. Now, if a colony is made queenless during the above period, where do we find the majority of the queen cells? Chiefly on the bottom edge of those combs nearest the outside of the brood nest and rarely on the combs

in the centre of the brood nest; yet it is customary for us to place frames of grafted cells and nursery frames in the centre of the brood nest. From my study of the habits of bees, I have come to the conclusion that the most natural place for bees to build cells and rear queens is on the outskirts of the brood nest; and whether it is on the bottom, side, end, or top is a matter of indifference. I find that I not only get more grafted cells accepted near the outskirts of the brood nest, but that the cells are considerably larger.

In writing the foregoing, it has been my endeavour to emphasise the fact that the environment on top of the brood nest is as suitable for the caged and hatching queens as any other that the hive offers; and since it lends itself to an appliance which allows the operator to put in, inspect, and remove cells or virgin queens at any time without interfering with or opening up the colony which supplies the necessary environment for perfect and natural incubation, it is superior.

DESCRIPTION.

In appearance the Benton Nursery Incubator is like a shallow super 2½ inches deep, divided into three compartments, with an interstice half inch wide between the compartments and on either side. The compartments are covered top and bottom with wire gauze, and access is had to these compartments by removing the movable end of the appliance. Into each compartment slides a drawer containing sixteen nursery introducing cages of an approved style. (See illustration.) The interstices between the compartments and on either side allow the bees free access to the hive body or super above the appliance.

To operate, select a strong two-story colony, the stronger the better, and see that the bottom storey is full of brood and bees, then place the appliance between the two bodies, with the movable end at the back of the hive; it is then ready to take care of the cells, and all you have to do to put a batch of cells in the appliance is to remove the end, pull out a drawer of cages, insert the cells in the cages, which have been previously stocked with candy, and close the appliance up again. The same process is gone through if you wish to inspect the cells or remove the hatched queens.

ADVANTAGES.

1. The cells can be put in and inspected and the virgin queens taken out at any time without interfering with the colony on which the appliance is placed.

2. It greatly facilitates the handling of cells expeditiously; thus there is less risk of cells being chilled in handling.

3. There are no bees adhering to the nursery cages, so there are none to brush off, with the consequent risk of getting stung and dropping the caged cell or virgin in the process.

4. All the manipulations are executed without the use of a smoker or veil.

5. A 10-frame size nursery incubator provides for the care of forty-eight cells in one time, and furnishes forty-eight introducing cages for use at any time.

6. It is a great saver in time, labour, and trouble, consequently it lessens the cost of production very considerably.

7. Taking into consideration the unique advantages of the Benton Nursery Incubator, the cost, compared with that of other appliances on the market as queen-cell nurseries, is exceptionally moderate at £3 17s. 6d.

In conclusion, just imagine what it means to be able to put your cells in a safe and hygienic nursery without pulling a hive to pieces to do so; and the same applies when you wish to inspect the cells and remove the young queens that are hatched.

Believing that this appliance will prove a very valuable asset to every commercial beekeeper, I have done my best to point out its advantages for the benefit of readers of the N.Z. Beekeepers' Journal, even at the risk of incurring the Editor's displeasure by taking up so much space.

June 30, 1920.

[We regret the photo did not arrive in time to be reproduced. It shall appear next month.]

The English Market and the N.Z. Beekeeper.

From time to time we have received letters from our readers, who have quoted prices that our produce was being sold at by the retail shops in England, and comparing these with the advances and final payments made by the H.P.A.

We were given the opportunity of meeting Major Norton, who called here on his way to Australia, and we were thus able to get first hand evidence of the actual facts, as he not only handles our honey, but his firm (the Bristol and Dominions) is now one of the largest importers of honey and syrup in the United Kingdom.

Whilst the war was on and shipping scarce, the amount of honey arriving in England was very small; but what did get there, no matter whether it was light, dark, sound, or fermented, fetched a high figure, as it was the only sweetening agent that was not controlled; and the position was that it was not a question of the traveller asking the shopkeeper how many dozen he would take at a price, but the shopkeeper was asking to be allowed as many as possible, no matter what the price was, or even the quality. To give one an idea of the market, Major Norton said

that it was not even necessary to examine the bulk before putting it into retail form: the demand was so insistent that as long as one could get hold of honey there was not any bother about selling it. Jam was commandeered by the Government, and you could not buy a pound even if you were willing to pay 10/- for it. So it is easy to see that honey was practically the only spread that could be used to help down the war bread and margarine which, from all accounts, was pretty awful stuff, and for that reason alone absolutely rubbishy honey fetched as high as 240/- per ton. Suddenly the armistice was declared, and within a very short time sugar began to find its way into England, and two huge shipments of Australian jam arrived, and this was being retailed at 17/6 per dozen 2-lb. tins. Sugar syrup too made its appearance at a reasonable price, and of course the public, who were "fed up" with the awful price of honey and the more awful taste of the rubbish, "went sour" on it.

Now comes the point. The storekeepers who up to now had been only too glad to get all the honey they could at an exorbitant price, now found that honey, and that of inferior quality at 3/- per lb. was not being sold; and Major Norton will admit it was quite possible for a long while after the armistice was declared to find honey labelled at 3/- per lb. in shop windows, but it was not being sold (as the term is generally understood) at that figure, although of course it could be purchased if one was so inclined. Now it is easy to see that the public, who for years were paying a high price for an inferior article, are now leaving honey severely alone, in spite of the fact that the best New Zealand honey is now being offered at 1/3 per nominal pound pot in retail stores.

Mr. Cotterell mentioned in one of his letters of the "Spur Brand" honey purchased by a friend of his in England, who stated it was branded on the label "N.Z. Honey." This is not quite right; it was packed by the B. and D., but we have a label in our possession, and there is no mention whatever of the country of origin. As a matter of fact Major Norton says it was a line of orange honey he managed to get hold of, and the label reads:—"Choicest Honey. Spur Brand. Packed," etc., etc.

For our part, we are convinced that our honey is being sold to-day in England at the highest market value, and if the sales are not as rapid as we should desire, the cause of this is reasonably explained previously.

We understand that Major Norton will be returning to New Zealand in a month or two, and probably an opportunity will arise for a meeting to be held whereat questions can be asked and answered direct.

F. C. B.

District Reports.

TARANAKI.

There is not much to report. Bees are wintering fairly well, and some have a fair bit of brood. We have experienced heavy rains, which is in our favour for clover next summer.

I rather liked the Editor's paper on excluders in last issue. I own up I have got them "set," but I will try a few again and see if it is because I do not know how to use them. Of course the Editor's (Demaree) plan would have to be modified for this district. To put a super of empty combs on top of the brood nest and then the brood on top of that would lead to no end of trouble if we got a week of our special brand of weather.

Some of those fellows who were talking about honey being 3/- per lb. in England got a sally up in last Journal. Although I do not altogether hold with what was said, a plain statement or two does no harm sometimes. Our Company and the B. and D. have made good progress, and no one knows better than I do where we would have been without them. But that is not saying they cannot do better. I received a letter from my sister, who lives in Guildford (about 40 miles from London, I believe) the same day as I received my Journal. The letter was dated 17th May, and this is what it says about honey. (I might mention my sister had written for me to send her some honey, and one of the family advised her it was unnecessary, as honey could be purchased at Bristol for 1/1, but had evidently not made that fact clear.)

"— says in her letter that honey is sold (yours, I suppose she means) in England for 1/1 per lb. If so, where? I pay 2/6 per lb. for stuff they call honey; well, I cannot eat it, and even the children jib at it."

Now, these are just a few facts, so guess the B. and D. better try and sell some "honey" in Guildford. The letter goes on:

"Jam costs 2/3 for 27 oz. jar marked strawberry or raspberry, but is chiefly marrow and turnip, flavoured with essence of strawberry and raspberry. Sugar is 1/2, and they say it is to cost 1/6, and then none at all for two months."

I should say if jam and sugar affect the price of honey, then it is on the cards to look for a rise at Home.

H. R. PENNY.

Okaiawa, 15/7/20.

Send for Pamphlet on "BEESWAX."

6d. POST FREE.

W. B. BRAY.

Barry's Bay.

HAWKE'S BAY.

Without doubt the Beekeepers' Conference plays an important part in the honey industry. Hawke's Bay beekeepers are delighted with the results, and endorse without exception almost all the findings of the delegates. Being in a district where fire blight is a dreaded pest, we rather agree with any effort of the Department to prevent the introduction of the disease. The vent the introduction of the disease. The occurrence of that blight forewarns us against another, so we emphatically agree with any regulations to prevent the introduction of the Isle of Wight disease. Some of our members feel all arguments are clinched by the page advertisement in the July issue, especially when the bees advertised are to come direct from the very home of the disease.

It is interesting to read the crop reports. Wellington tops the list. Our locality comes under the head of Wellington, which includes Poverty Bay, Hawke's Bay, Taranaki, Manawatu, and Wairarapa. Some of these districts are persistently reported as having had a very poor crop. To make these reports, therefore, of great value, the crop must be tabulated for districts geographically defined.

We are expecting an early spring to counteract somewhat the results of the shortage of sugar for bee food. On the 12th inst. willows were noted breaking into leaf. The value of willows for early nectar is unquestioned among local apiarists.

Someone has advised the poultry farmer to cross for egg production a Leghorn hen with an Italian bee. It is a fact already accomplished. The May issue of "The Farm Journal," recently to hand from America, tells of Biddy, a year-old white Leghorn that laid in one month no less than 55 eggs, and of these on one day she laid five!

J. P. BOYLE.

July 15th.

[The reason the particular districts are not given in the crop reports is to avoid any danger there might be in making known the fact that good crops were being raised.—Ed.]

TAIERI.

Winter is a curse to bee correspondents; there is nothing to write about! Weather? Ah, yes, but the weather has been the last (frequently, alas, the first) resource of chance acquaintances for the last year or two. Twice a revolution to strike out on a line. We can't! So, a perfect winter, a really, truly, perfect winter—a little snow, a little rain, a little wind, and a huge slice of spring weather. The bees even are venturing out in the afternoon, and they are nice critics of the climatic conditions. Still we can make no rash attempt to forecast. A reputation like mine is not worth staking on such a trifle, is it? However, if things improve as much in the coming months as they have since I last wrote, we shall be in Paradise.

I had intended to say something about the Conference. But what is there to say? 'Twas simply tremendous from all accounts. Mr. Ward's remarks make one's mouth water, so to speak. Luck or Fortune makes a wry face at me every time Conference comes round. She spins her wheel too fast for me to attempt a grip. I am sorry—I do not say "we," as my opinions are not necessarily those of the Branch)—that our Editor's proposed clauses for meeting the difficulty of apinary boundaries have not found more support. My lack of knowledge and experience, I suppose, makes my opinion as a beekeeper valueless; but when I look at the matter purely as a neutral, I cannot see that anything simpler, anything fairer, could be devised. It is as clear as milk! Ah well!

We were discussing the ancient question, "Why is a policeman?" This led to the more pertinent query: "Why is honey?" It seems as pointless as "Why does the whistle-pipe?" Of course, the whistle does pipe simply because the tin-can! But why is honey? Now this is masterly in its neatness. Honey is bee-cause! See? Oh, yes! I know this is a serious and respected bee journal; but it won't lose anything of its dignity.

BASIL H. HOWARD.

14/7/20.

NELSON.

Beekeeping here is rather a neglected occupation, and yet there are many favoured spots: a climate that makes one feel it is good to live; room for more bees, and, yes, room for beekeepers to prove themselves—"workmen that needeth not to be ashamed." Hive the swarm, put the super on, and then take the honey off at the approach of winter—that's all that is in it; could anything be more simple? Oh, yes, get somebody else to do it for you. If there is a lot of honey the bees have done well. No honey! Well, it has been a very poor season, and nobody can help that. This is beekeeping made easy—all in one paragraph, just as found in the Nelson district.

A few have sent in crop reports. I rejoice at this sign of progress—a few are interested in their bees after all. My own extracting was unfinished at the time of leaving for Conference; so at least some of the bees should be rejoicing in having "millions of honey at our house." The result, if anyone is interested, was slightly over three tons, and an increase from 136 to 230.

Foul-brood, how I hate it! Even the name makes one almost shudder and want to light the copper fire. We are hearing a lot on this subject, and after reading some of the complaints, I feel we do not all take our fair share of the blame. Last night the writer was awakened by an energetic thumping and shaking and crying: "Wake up, wake up, Phil! There has been an earthquake." Disturbed again for nothing: it was too late. We often wake

up too late. Somebody left my honey house door open last season. I bought a lock for the door when the mischief had been done. A recent report complains of box hives, etc., and then tells we had visits from the inspector during September, November, and December. You beekeepers, "wake up!" You had more than your fair share of inspector, and if you will not help yourselves by helping him, don't complain "to late!"

I have often said I wish folk would not always greet me with "How's the bees?" when they really did not want to know anything about bees. Arriving home after a month's absence, I found a fine collection of cans, bottles, billies, jars, &c., and the greeting changed was to "Got any honey?" Now the last of the honey is away, I expect to be haunted with "When will you have any?"

Registration of apiaries caused quite a stir here. At least three I know of have disposed of their bees rather than register. This is an indication of what will happen when apiaries are taxed. Speed the day and eliminate the beekeeper who does not produce honey. The America saying does apply: "Better keep bees better or better not keep bees!"

P. MARTIN.

Umukuri, 17/7/20.

Canterbury Tales.

By E. G. WARD.

I feel inclined to indulge in a little prophesying, but have in mind the saying, "You never know till the numbers go up." Of course it's the prospects for the coming season I am thinking of, and there's lots of things may happen before extracting is over. Well, the winter in Canterbury up to the present has been all that could reasonably be wished for. The rainfall to date is about 3 in. in excess of that of the corresponding period last year, and very little snow has fallen on the plains. No severe frosts yet, and the shortest day a month in the rear. I have great hopes!

In a letter from Miss Shepherd a fortnight ago, she told me she found brood in two frames in some of her hives, and pollen coming in freely. Her district (Southbrook) is probably earlier than mine. At any rate, I am not at all anxious to have brood rearing start too soon, for the reason that if a cold spell comes it may get chilled, and stores are depleted for no good purpose.

In the May issue of the Journal, Mr. Sligo asks for my views on the foul-brood question, and as the subject was given prominence at the Conference, I take this

opportunity of adding what little I can to the discussion. I am right out to fight it "tooth and nail." To begin with, I repeat what I said some months ago: "We are not half enough frightened of it." However, it would seem from the remarks made by a number of delegates that the loss from the disease has assumed large proportions, and that the inspectors are going to have a busy time from now onward. Mr. Sligo complains of the absence of literature on the subject. Great Scott! There's tons of it! For the last ten years there have been numerous methods of treatment suggested in "Gleanings," and at every Conference of New Zealand beekeepers which I have attended the subject has been discussed; but I am beginning to wonder if the old saying "familiarity breeds contempt" does not apply in this case. Mr. Sligo speaks of predisposing causes. He says weak colonies are more susceptible than strong, blacks more than Italians, and a friend tells him that damp hives are a predisposing cause, and that an English beekeeper thinks that chilled brood leads to foul-brood; also that opening hives in unfavourable weather weakens the resisting power of the bees to the disease.

I do not believe any of the causes enumerated have anything to do with it. Foul-brood comes from foul-brood and from no other cause. A colony does not get foul-brood because it is weak. It is weak because it has foul-brood.

There is a pamphlet by Mr. W. E. Bray, issued by the Agricultural Department, which can be had for the asking giving method of treatment, which I can guarantee efficacious. It is the one and only known sure cure, and is called the McEvoy treatment for the cure of foul-brood. I am waiting eagerly for that article promised by Mr. Clayton at last Conference, for the reason that I think it is a safe short cut, and I am not quite sure if I got the right hang of it, although I heard all he said.

I opened my eyes pretty wide when I read that advertisement in last issue relative to Isle of Wight disease. The sooner the resolution passed by the Conference asking the Government to prohibit the importation into New Zealand of bees and queens is given effect to the better, or beekeeping will be a nice game to be out of! The advertisement says that a strain of bees IS SAID to have been evolved in the Isle of Wight which has successfully withstood the Isle of Wight disease. Then I say for goodness sake let us have conclusive evidence of the truth of this statement before we risk getting the scourge here. IT IS SAID is not good enough; let it be IT IS PROVED, and then go ahead. One beekeeper, in talking the matter over with me, said, "I'll be jolly glad if all the queens are dead when they get here."

Whenever I stroll round the town—and, let me whisper, that is not often—I look out for honey. We have a very nice show in one shop here of "Imperial Bee Honey," which has attracted a good deal of notice.

The observation hive, with one frame nucleus, sample of foundation, slab of wax, drawn comb, &c., all help to arouse interest, and should stimulate sales. It is quite evident, however, that the H.P.A. has not got a monopoly, or "finest clover honey" would not be offered at 10d. per lb. on one side of the street and at 1/- per lb. on the opposite side. In both these cases a block was on show, and evidently the practice is to slash off a "junk" and slap it in a piece of paper with a "Here you are; you can put it in a jar when you get home." There ought to be a good demand for "Imperial Bee" in nice neat pats, but I have not seen any as yet.

In discussing the depot system of handling honey at the Conference, I gathered from Mr. Allan's remarks that an attempt would be made to produce a standard grade by blending. Now, whether this means one standard grade for the whole of New Zealand I am not quite sure, but this I can say for certain: Canterbury wants honey produced in Canterbury for preference. I have been told that North Island people consider our honey too insipid, and I have heard many here say they do not want North Island honey at any price. Let it be clearly understood, I am not making comparisons, but our best line of business is to study local taste and stimulate the demand by supplying what the different towns are used to. I would suggest that every shareholder be supplied with the names of the merchants in his town who stock H.P.A. honey so that when inquiries are made he can at once answer.

The following clipping should interest shareholders in the H.P.A. I would particularly draw attention to the reference to loyalty:—

CO-OPERATIVE TRADING.

An interesting article is contributed to the current number of the "Importers and Exporters' Journal of Australasia," by Mr. A. W. Jamieson, of the New Zealand Farmers' Co-operative Association of Canterbury Ltd. Summing up the causes of the failure of certain co-operative ventures in Australia and New Zealand, Mr. Jamieson says the main causes are a misconception of true co-operation, cheap administration, and disloyalty. On the other hand, success is obtained by good service, expert administration, and loyalty of members. He estimates the number of members of co-operative trading societies in New Zealand at 49,931, or nearly one in twenty-five of the population.

O! pins and needles! O! needles and pins!
When a man marries his worry begins:
Nurses and babies and plasters and pills,
Doctors' prescriptions and dressmakers' bills,
Mumps and measles and quinsy and croup,
And all the ills that make one droop;
But and such worries comes solace sure,
When using Woods' Great Peppermint Cure.

Correspondence.

[The publication of any letter does not necessarily imply our agreement with the subject matter, and we do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions expressed by correspondents.]

Mr. NELSON'S QUERIES re BOUNDARIES.

(TO THE EDITOR.)

Sir,—Will you allow me to correct an item referring to myself in Mr. Nelson's paper, read at the Conference, and which I have only just seen. When giving the names of those who replied to his queries sent out, Mr. Nelson remarked that, "Mr. Isaac Hopkins has not answered at all." This is contrary to fact, and would thus tend to show, or infer, an act of discourtesy on my part.

Mr. Nelson's queries reached me on 26th April last, and in the May number of the "Fruitgrower," I gave the full text of the queries and my reply, which I have every reason to believe he saw. I certainly thought it rather strange that after writing ten articles on the subject, giving my views in full, two of which appeared in your Journal and eight in the "Fruitgrower," I should be asked to go over the same ground again. I am sure that everyone, including Mr. Nelson, knew my views, but the point is I did reply to the queries, as can be seen in print.

I don't know whether it occurred to anyone else to question the wisdom of sending such queries to "beekeepers all over the world." Mr. Nelson must think we haven't enough talent in New Zealand to conduct our own business. The fact is, Mr. Nelson and his confederates on the question of apiary boundaries are eager, like drowning men, to clutch at the proverbial straw to save themselves. One can but admire their pertinacity in clutching at one straw after another as each fails to support them.—I am, &c.,

I. HOPKINS.

(TO THE EDITOR.)

Sir,—Please allow me to express a West Coaster's hearty appreciation of the 1920 Conference, held at Christchurch in June. I quite agree with the verdict of my companion when parting from him—"It was well worth while"—and any man who does not agree with this verdict wants re-queening. We had a distinguished-looking type of men at the tables in front of us, and a very quiet submissive-looking lot of women in the audience, keenly taking in everything that was worth remembering. How they managed to keep so quiet for three days on end beats me. It is a pity that at least one of the gentlemen present could not see the beauty of silence, or, at least, when he had something to say, to boil it down, and then sit on it. The surprise-packet of the Conference to all concerned

was the undoubted spirit of self help, even if it meant taxation to ourselves and our neighbours. No better sign could be given the Government that the beekeepers were out for drastic treatment of foul-brood by asking that they be taxed to provide better inspection, and to see that our inspectors' instructions are carried out.

At the close of the Conference, those of us who were spending a few extra days in Christchurch considered the local men missed a splendid chance (just for want of thought) of arranging for a day out on the Saturday visiting some of the nearest apiaries. This was mentioned to Mr. E. G. Ward (of "Canterbury Tales" fame), and I think he must have read that book, "Paddy the Next Best Thing." He immediately offered to arrange for a party to set out on the Monday, but when Monday morning came only a few were left to enjoy the ride. We got away about 9 o'clock, reeling off nearly 100 miles. When we returned it was quite dark, but our hearts were light, for had we not seen new ideas, new appliances, new methods of treatment of the wax dears, as our new chum laddie called them the first day he was fortified with a spoon and a pot of honey. I maintain that I have found some of the finest traits of character in men belonging to the N.Z.B.A.—men who practise the Golden Rule; men who would go out of their way to help you; men who, as soon as they found something worth while knowing, were anxious that others should share their joy. One of such we found in our guide that day, as we all agreed that he was—A White Man.—I am, &c.,

JOHN MURDOCH.

Ross, July 15.

(TO THE EDITOR.)

Sir,—In an English newspaper lately I came on a very interesting paragraph—namely, that a decision depending on a law 1,400 years old had recently been delivered at Bath in England. A beekeeper claimed the value of his swarm of bees which had silted in a neighbour's property and were out of sight of the original owner. The neighbour hived the bees and retained them. The judge said that the law of Justinian still held—namely, the bees belonged to the original owner as long as they remained in his sight and could easily be pursued; that if they went out of the sight of the original owner they belonged to any person who first saw them. He gave judgment for the defendant, because the bees were out of sight of the owner when they had settled. This may be of interest to some of your subscribers.—I am, &c.,

T. W. KIRK,

Director of the Horticulture Division.
Wellington, 14th July, 1920.

She's slender and graceful and tall and fair!
The elegant lass with the delicate air;
And despite her coquetry, whims and pride,
She's the girlie I've begged to be my bride,
For she's kind of heart and sweet to see,
And, best of all, she's so fond of me,
For lover's warm welcome in winter assure
By gifts of Woods' Great Peppermint Cure.

Mr. BAINES' CONVERT.

(TO THE EDITOR.)

Sir,—To me the most interesting paper at the Conference was Mr. Baines' on "Paddling." I would not have believed it possible such an alteration could have been made in the apparent quality of a honey by mere "paddling" if I had not seen it—not so much in the grain as in the flavour. There must be a far greater variance in the densities of the nectars collected from the Kati Kati flora than we have in the south. Like most converts, however, I am not as black as I am painted; it was the excessive paddling I was at the time combating. I have never been adverse to moderate. This season we had a dearth of white clover blossom, and I noted quite a lot of bush nectar in the frames, so glutinous that the only way to obtain some was to cut it down to the mid-rib and put it through the melter. Such honey, it stands to reason, 'twere better "paddled" evenly through the mass.—I am, &c.,

W. E. BARKER.

COUNTRY "CUTS."

(TO THE EDITOR.)

Sir,—There are several kinds of "cuts," are there not? There are flowers to cut. We are cut by other flowers—not very nice ones—of our own species sometimes! If we are lucky, we may get a cut off a "bonus" joint! Some among us would like to cut the head off the H.P.A! Not a bad idea if we could bring the "dis-union bow-wows" to join in with us, provided we could stick the dismembered body together again later on. I heard a story the other day where some bold and unfortunate bee-man was fighting for all he was worth against that huge trust and combine—the H.P.A., which was endeavouring to cut off his means of livelihood! And his local storeman refused to exhibit H.P.A. show-cards, &c., when approached to do so by a member of that co-operative concern, because he "sympathised" with the small man, who was out on his own, at so much disadvantage to himself! Cutting, isn't it?—I am, &c.,

CUT UP.

July 15.

(TO THE EDITOR.)

Sir,—My father gave me the strongest colony he had for my tenth birthday—23rd October last year. As it was on a Hand bottom-board, I divided it, giving the old queen two frames of brood. The queenless hive started to rear queens, so I let them go on, as they were almost pure Italians. The first queen out swarmed without tearing down the rest of the queen cells. I got her back and put her in an empty hive, so I had three hives. Soon after they were all strong, and each with a mated queen. When the honey flow started I put two supers of sections on the first two hives. The swarm hive I let fill a few frames, so I had a bit of extracted honey as well. By the time the flow ceased I had taken from them sixty-

eight 1-lb. sections and 30 lbs. of extracted honey. They are now in good condition to go through the winter. Next year I hope to increase, and therefore get a better crop.—I am, &c.,

CECIL D. BANKS.

Whakarewarewa.

[That's a splendid start, Cecil. Please write again later in the season and tell us how you are getting on. We shall be quite interested.—Ed.]

ISLE OF WIGHT DISEASE.

(TO THE EDITOR.)

Sir,—Noticing an advertisement in the Bee Journal offering for sale queen bees imported "direct from the Isle of Wight," "the very home of the disease," and "SAID" to be from a disease-resisting strain, one cannot too strongly condemn such a policy of importing queen bees from Great Britain above all places, where the Isle of Wight disease is still raging, and has played so much havoc among the bees there. All efforts by the Government and by individual beekeepers to find a cure or means of prevention have been a dismal failure so far. I look upon importing queen bees from Britain as a dangerous and foolish experiment, and likely to bring this dread disease—"the greatest scourge which has ever struck the industry"—in our midst. Should this come about, the beekeeping industry over here will become very quickly a thing of the past, judging by its results in Britain. **Something must be done, and without delay!** The advertisers, perhaps unconsciously, point out the way when they say: "At present there is no law to prohibit this" (importation of bees, honey, &c.). If we had such laws, there would be but little chance of getting Isle of Wight disease, the D.T., or European foul-brood amongst our bees: and should any of these diseases get in, in spite of all our precautions—well, then will be the time to experiment with imported bees "SAID" to be disease-resisting.—I am, &c.,

J. P. IRELAND.

Te Kowhai, Ngaruawahia, 19/7/20.

Answers to Correspondents.

T. C., Otaki.—You will be quite safe in purchasing nuclei from the advertisers appearing in the Journal. You would stipulate that you wanted a queen. There would be a number of nurse bees sent with the nucleus. Regarding safety in transit, this is a bit difficult to say definitely, although we think you will find the advertisers guarantee safe arrival. We should advise getting your requirements filled from the nearest point; there is nothing in sending hundreds of miles for that which can probably be obtained very much nearer. We should not advise one like yourself,

who is just starting, to buy an extractor; although there is no firm that does this, but it is usually possible to get a neighbouring beekeeper to do this for you at a small charge.

T. Orr, Tomuka.—Thanks for your letter-cards; but when is that good time you speak of coming—when blackberries become strawberries?

C. A. P. (Christchurch), H. S. (Mangatera).—Letters will appear next month, with replies.

Mr. C. I. Jennings, J.P., and Mr. W. McGruer, J.P., presided at the Rangiora Magistrate's Court recently, when Samuel Smith, Cust, and Adam Smith, Fernside, were each fined £1 and costs (15/- and 15/- respectively) for having bees in boxes instead of bar-framed hives.

A record crop of honey for Banks Peninsula is reported to have been taken from Messrs. Barrett and Bray's bee farm at Piraki. There are sixty hives on the farm, and 141 60-lb. tins were taken during the season. As these tins are worth about £4 each, about £564 will be taken this year. The crop is an exceptionally good one, and those in charge of the hives say they would be content with half the quantity if only it were an average crop.

Beekeepers' Exchange.

[Advertisements on this page will be inserted at the rate of 3/- per 36 words per insertion.]

WEED PROCESS FOUNDATION AT PRICE OF LOCAL MANUFACTURE.

Send for quote and Descriptive Leaflet. EXTRACTORS equal to American at far less cost.

It will pay you to inquire.

H. W. GILLING,
Selkirk Road, Mt. Albert.

BEE SWAX.

We are Buyers of BEE SWAX from anyone and from anywhere. Cash directly Wax is received.

Beekeepers are reminded that our policy is to keep Prices down, and it is therefore to their interests to send all Wax to us rather than to others who are interested only in making money out of the Beekeepers.

N.Z. CO-OP. HONEY PRODUCERS'
Box 1293, AUCKLAND.
ASSOCIATION LTD.

YOUNG LADY, with about seven months good experience in Beekeeping, wishes to be received as a CADETTE or Assistant on a Commercial Apiary for next season. Address,

"MELISSA,"
P.O. Box 321, Hastings.

FOR SALE, 30 NUCLEI, with enough Foundation, Frames and Hive Bodies for 100 Colonies. Good opening for Apiarist within 30 miles Auckland.

Write "NUCLEI," c/o Editor Journal, Kati Kati.

NOTICE TO BEEKEEPERS.

I have LEASED SITE on Mr. Nicol's Farm, Mona Vale, a mile from the Mona Vale Factory, and will be putting Bees there at once.

A. W. TISCH.

WANTED TO PURCHASE, AN APIARY as a going concern, in a good district for honey; a few acres of land preferred; within reasonable distance of a school. State particulars to

N. C. DAVIDSON,
Nireaha, Eketahuna.

FOR SALE, Good Strong COLONIES of BEES, or Three-Frame Nuclei with young Queens; any quantities; free from foul-brood; safe arrival guaranteed any station in North Island; immediate delivery.

Particulars from

H. R. PENNY,
Okaiawa.

LIGHT WORK WANTED for season with Experienced Bee Farmer exchange board and nominal wage by single man (36), ex-accountant; fair experience bees; wanting put in season previous start on his own.—HALL, "Allington," Ohaupo Road, Hamilton.

NOTICE TO BEEKEEPERS.

I AM ESTABLISHING an Apiary at Whatawhata, and Out-yards in the vicinity.

T. C. HORNER.

BENTON'S QUEEN-CELL NURSERY- INCUBATOR (Patent No. 43259.)

This Appliance represents the most important advance in up-to-date Queen-rearing Appliances and its advantages over other appliances in use as Queen-cell Nurseries are such as to make it an indispensable adjunct to the equipment of every commercial beekeeper.

Send for descriptive leaflet and price to the

SOLE AGENTS:

N.Z. Co-op. Honey Producers' Assn., Ltd.

BOX 1293, AUCKLAND.

Our Own Paper for Good Results.

Already we have had enquiries from persons in Egypt and England in reply to advertisements in our Bee Journal.

First, we had replies about our enquiry for other races of Bees, for which we advertised in the December issue. These replies came from Egypt and Japan, as well as from England. Then, too, the "Bee World" of the British Apis Club gave our N.Z. advt. a splendid boost by calling attention in its pages to our intention to apply the Science of Genetics to the Breeding of Queens.

But as a trade puller our Journal has done even better than this, for by the last American mail we received an order from no less important a Client than the Firm of Dadant and Sons, the world-renowned Makers of Foundation, and Publishers of the American Bee Journal.

THEY WANT A "BOON" REDUCER & WAX HONEY SEPARATOR AS SOON AS WE ARE ABLE TO SHIP IT, WHICH HAS ALREADY BEEN DONE.

This firm does not purchase Bee Material merely for the fun of owning a new invention! Not much! The Dadant firm are first and foremost business people, and when they order goods on their merit you may rest assured that the same goods are quite good enough for you.

Furthermore!

If the Dadant firm thought they could obtain as good a Reducer in the U.S.A. they would not send away to what (to America) is a mighty small set of islands somewhere away in the far off Pacific!

Now Then!

If this big firm thinks our Reducer good enough to send away this distance (and heaven help them about the freight) to obtain the world's best machine, for Dadants are too old a business firm to bother about

anything else. What in the name of common sense is holding you off ordering yours before the continuous and everlasting H.C.L. runs the price of them still higher?

You know just as well as we do that you really ought to have a Reducer in your Honey Room, AND ALSO JUST AS WELL YOU KNOW THAT YOU ARE NOT LIKELY TO BE ABLE TO OBTAIN ANY REDUCER OF BETTER DESIGN THAN

The BARTLETT-MILLER MACHINE

WHICH HAS REMAINED UNALTERED EVER SINCE IT WAS FIRST INTRODUCED, EXCEPT FOR THE ONE ALTERATION OF THE PATENTED DROP-DOWN BOTTOMS BETWEEN THE TUBES, WHILE A FEW COMPETITORS HAVE BEEN SO CONTINUOUSLY REDESIGNED THAT NOBODY CAN RECOGNISE ANY DISTINGUISHING FEATURE BETWEEN ANY TWO SUCCEEDING PATTERNS WITH A MICROSCOPE.

THE TROUBLE IS THAT ALL OUR COMPETITORS ARE MERELY EXPERIMENTING! AND WHAT YOU WANT IS A SOUND AND PROVEN INVENTION! WHICH MEANS—

**You need a BARTLETT-MILLER REDUCER
and SEPARATOR**

THE VERY SAME THING THAT THE DADANT FIRM ARE PINNING THEIR FAITH TO! THEY WILL NEVER BE DISAPPOINTED! THEY KNOW TOO MUCH!

The Thoroughwork Apiaries Company

KIHIKIHI.

[ADVT.]

Honey for Export

WE ARE CASH BUYERS

Of New Zealand Government Graded Honey,
packed according to Regulations, at

FULL CASH PRICES

equivalent to the highest values obtainable in
the Overseas Markets.

Payments made within 48 hours of the
time the Honey is graded.

Write, telegraph, or call on us for further
particulars.

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

No. 1 Custom St. West, Auckland.

Telegraphic Address—'ASPASIA,' AUCKLAND.

New Zealand Co-operative Honey Producers' Assoc., Ltd.

(H.P.A.)

Head Office: Postal Address: Box 1293, Auckland.
Stanley Street, AUCKLAND.

Telegraphic Address: "Bees, Auckland."

BEEKEEPERS' SUPPLIES.

There are already expectations of a favourable season for the next season's honey crop, and with many beekeepers extending their operations, the demand for beekeepers' supplies is likely to be very much heavier than last year. We would therefore recommend beekeepers to order their requirements early, those beekeepers in distant districts we should recommend to bulk their orders with others ordering and send them along to us. This may probably mean a saving in freight and other charges.

The new catalogue will be out in July, but we should be glad to quote now for anything which you may require.

BEES.

Last season we supplied several hundred Colonies of Bees, and the demand was greater than we could cope with.

For the coming season we have made special provision for breeding Bees for sale, for delivery from end of September.

Nuclei can also be supplied if ordered in ample time. Send for leaflet and quotation if interested, and do it now. Every transaction in Bees carries the guarantee of the Association.

BEESWAX.

Send us your Beeswax. We receive it at Lyttelton, Hawera and Auckland. Write us stating quantity available and we will advise you where to send.

Note.—There is keen competition for Beeswax at present which will inevitably result in prices for foundation being much higher than those ruling last season. We therefore strongly urge all beekeepers to send their Wax to us because **we are not a profit-making concern**, and our only interest in the purchase of Wax is to enable us to turn it into foundation to retail to the beekeeper at a lower price than that charged by our competitors.

We stand to give the producer the whole benefits of co-operative trading, and in supporting the Association you are benefiting yourself.

New Zealand Co-op. Honey Producers' Assn., Ltd.
AUCKLAND.

ADULTERATED BEESWAX.—Some years ago a man was sentenced to a term of imprisonment for selling a mixture as beeswax. We shall be glad if any subscriber to the Journal who remembers anything at all about the case, either the defendant's name or the approximate date of the prosecution will send the particulars on to us by an early mail.

HIVES and SUPPLIES.

The new season is rapidly approaching and with the return of Spring beekeepers will be up and making those very necessary preparations for a maximum crop. Amongst the first things to be done is a stock-taking of appliances, and a decision as to the quantities required for the swarming season and the increase which has been planned in view of the high prices obtainable for honey.

All statesmen of the world are urging increased production. The whole world is calling out for sugar or a substitute. Honey takes its place, in fact is a better food. Good appliances help increased production more than any other single factor. 'Alliance' supplies are right and give universal satisfaction. The largest beeman in the Dominion will have no other, for the simple reason that 'Alliance' goods are absolutely accurate and help him in his work. You cannot do better than follow his example and equip your apiary with supplies manufactured by

ALLIANCE BOX CO., LTD.,
P.O. BOX 572 - - DUNEDIN.

New price-list and illustrated catalogues are now in the course of preparation and will be sent on request to anyone interested.

1919-1920

PRICES OF ITALIAN QUEENS.

One or Two.
7/- each.

Three or Four.
6/- each.

Five or more than Five.
5/6 each.

Colour Range of Workers Guaranteed Leather Three-banded to Golden Four-banded.

TERMS.—Nett cash with order; Cheques to have exchange added.

Any Queen arriving dead replaced free if cage is returned unopened.

NOTES.—Experience in this district shows that it is risky to introduce fertile Queens while swarming cells are general in the hives. Many are killed by the bees, and the majority are reduced to the size of virgins, not being fed by the bees or allowed to lay for many days. Some Queens during this period are ill-treated by the bees, and, though eventually accepted, may be injured. Before and after the swarming season most Queens are accepted at once, and laying freely very soon after being liberated from the cage.

In addition, Customers can rely on getting the very best of Queens after the general swarming season is over.

All Queens reared from carefully picked Breeding Queens, in hives specially selected for the building of good queen cells, no such hive being allowed to feed more than 16 cells at a time.

No Queens from indiscriminate swarming cells are sent out.

POSTAL ADDRESS:

J. H. TODD, Renwicktown, MARLBOROUGH.