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*E. A. Fair*

The New Zealand  
**Beekeepers'  
Journal.**

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The Apiary of Mr. William Watt, Matura.

ISSUED MONTHLY

FOR

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# The New Zealand Beekeepers' Journal

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

No. 9

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.

This month being really the first of the season for the beekeepers, we hope it will prove a bumper one for all. The winter for the most part has been very mild, and in the Auckland Province a very light rainfall—in fact, far too light to ensure a good spring growth. Southland has had a good winter for the district; no snow, and very little frost so far. Canterbury has had some heavy falls of snow, which usually mean good growth in the summer. The

general outlook for the industry is good. Our local market, thanks to our own co-operative organisation, is being developed to an extent that a few years ago would have been said impossible.

The overseas market—at least England—is best shown by a report of a meeting of the British Beekeepers' Association on 17th June, when the retail price for the present season came up for consideration, and it was decided that 2/9 per lb. for extracted honey and 3/6 each for finished sections, both without packages, would be a fair price for the present season. These prices are altogether too high for honey to become an article of general consump-

tion amongst families, and it clearly limits the market to the wealthy few. But we can very well allow the wealthy to buy their expensive English honey at these figures, as they permit us to place our equally good honey before the masses at a figure they can afford, and one that gives us a very fair return for our produce.

Although the sugar shortage is still acute in England, it does not seem as if the manufacturers are going to buy honey as a sweetening agent as they did during the war; and it was this factor that was chief in sending the price of honey skywards at that time. Therefore we shall have to look to the consuming public to buy our honey for the table; and in this we can feel quite confident that the reputation and the quality of our honey will quickly assert themselves again when the public have forgotten the rubbish that was sold as honey during the war.

We believe that our enterprising friend, Mr. Ryland, the manager of the H.P.A., is placing honey in most unlikely (at least so we thought) places on the map, and finding excellent markets too. Therefore, taking the whole question into consideration, we feel we can look to the future quite optimistically, and, given normally good weather during the season, the prospects are good.

At the same time it is necessary for all beekeepers to realise, particularly those who are now entering the industry, that so short a time as six years ago one could never tell with any degree of certainty where he would dispose of his crop if he got one, and a still more uncertain matter was what price he would obtain. He would perhaps if he were lucky get 4d. or 4½d. per lb. in bulk, or perhaps 9/- to 10/- per doz. for 2-lb. tins; but in the majority of cases the prices would be lower in each instance. Why? Because every beekeeper in the land was offering the merchants his crop at the same time, with the result these gentlemen secured the best at their own figure, usually from 3½d. to 4½d., and those beekeepers with dark, medium, or second grade honey got anything from 2d. per lb. To export was very little better, our honey fetching from 35/- to 45/- per cwt. London, which meant the beekeeper netting somewhere about 2½d. per lb. All this uncertainty has been eliminated by the creation of our selling organisation, and we want every beekeeper to join us so as to keep the market secure against gluts and slumps; against having to compete and undersell their brother craftsmen; against the middleman securing a large portion of their just rights; against the possibility of the smash of our selling organisation and all that would mean. Those who are in the industry for a living will tell you best that beekeeping to-day in New Zealand is profitable only through the existence of the N.Z. Honey Producers' Association, and it is only right

to ask all those who are in the industry to-day to support the Association that makes their living possible.

Now where does the National Association come in: what part has it played, or what has it done in this matter, because it must be realised that the two Associations are quite distinct and separate?

The marketing question was always a burning one at Conference up to 1914, when the co-operative movement was first brought up as an established fact, and it has been chiefly through the medium of the National, its organisation and Journal, that the movement made headway; in fact, we doubt if the movement could have lived without them. Therefore the National and its members can justly claim that it is by their own efforts the industry is possible as a livelihood to-day, and it is with the knowledge of these facts that we appeal to every person who 'keeps a bee' to assist us in our efforts to assist them. Co-operation and organisation have only one end, and that is success; selfish greed and under-selling without a thought for others mean the reverse. You want the National and its organisation; we want you as a member. How now?

We are very gratified to find our little Journal had caught the eye of the Editor of the Italian Bee Journal 'L'Apicoltore,' who sent us an exchange copy indicating he wanted ours. This is one of the oldest and most respected bee journals in Europe. We are fortunate in having a gentleman amongst us who can, along with his many other accomplishments, translate Italian—Mr. Basil H. Howard, of Mosgiel, and he has given us a transcript of a system of working the bees for the main honey flow as written by the Editor of 'L'Apicoltore,' which appears in this issue. Mr. Howard has promised to give us all items of interest as they appear, and at the same time asks us to say that if in the reading of the article anything should appear a little strange, this will probably be due to the translation. (That's right, isn't it, Basil?)

When we suggested the increase in the price of the Journal at the Conference, we were not looking for the Government to collar half, which they have done by increasing the cost of postage, and it will now cost about £50 a year for postage alone. With a view to economising, we shall in future print a list of the subscriptions received up to the date of going to press; **THE USUAL RECEIPT FORMS WILL NOT BE SENT.** The name, address and date of expiry will be published, and any discrepancy will be seen at once, and will if necessary be corrected. Receipts for small amounts for the 'Exchange' Column will not be sent; the appearance of an advertisement indicates the cash has been received. Cash must accompany these advertisements.

We can do with any May copies not required by our readers; sixpence each will be paid for them.

We must congratulate the H.P.A. on the excellent little price-list of supplies sent out. It is very nicely got up, and the prices seem to be quite reasonable—that is, as prices are these days. Those in want of supplies are advised to secure a copy.

## Market Reports.

Since our last report there has been a little more movement in this article, which was only to be expected seeing the scarcity of sugar and the advance in price of it. Still, we cannot say that honey has in any way responded as one would have expected it to have done, for we can only report a small advance on the last prices quoted. It would appear that as long as people can obtain sugar at any price, they are so conservative that they will not increase their use of honey. We have to report the following sales during the past month:—125 packages sold in London out of 827 packages offered, and in Liverpool about 1,100 packages were disposed of. We quote as follows:—Jamaica, liquid and setting dark to palish, 95/- per cwt. Chilian—Pile X., 95/- per cwt.; Pile 1, 87/6 to 90/- per cwt.; Pile 2, 83/6 to 84/- per cwt. There has been no Californian quality offering.

**Beeswax.**—The market has remained very quiet indeed; 210 bags Chilian have been sold at £10 15s. to £11 2s. 6d. per cwt.; Jamaican, £11 10s. per cwt.; East African, £8 10s. per cwt.; West African, £9 5s. per cwt.

TAYLOR & CO.

Liverpool, 4th June, 1920.

During the past month we have not heard of any sales being made in West Indian, except some retail sales of Jamaican at late rates. The Continent are not buying yet, but there has been some enquiry lately. Chilian honey has met with a fair retail trade, and 200 barrels have been sold:—Pile X., at 95/- to 97/6 per cwt.; Pile 1, at 89/- to 90/- per cwt.; Pile 2, at 83/6 to 84/- per cwt. The manufacturing trade does not seem to be going to use the article. It is thought a demand should come in September for stocking during the winter.

**Beeswax.**—The market is dull. We understand low prices have been taken in London for refining qualities; 150 bags Chilian sold at £10 17s. 6d. to £11 15s. Stocks of all kinds are heavy.

TAYLOR & CO.

Liverpool, July 2nd, 1920.

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

**Auckland.**—The month of July has been an exceptionally fine one. Sharp frosts at night have been the rule, followed by fine sunny days. Bees have wintered well, having been able to work the winter flowering blossoms. Prices for both honey and beeswax remain unchanged.—G. V. Westbrooke.

**Wellington.**—This being the dormant part of the season for beekeepers, there is little to report. All that may be stated is that colonies are wintering well, and conditions generally point to the fact that they should come out well in the spring. Bulk honey is scarce, as is also section honey. Beeswax is in demand at 2/6 per lb.—F. A. Jacobsen.

**Christchurch and Dunedin.**—Present indications point to a good season. Excellent rains have been experienced in most parts of my district. Reports to hand indicate that bees have wintered well. The mildness of the weather lately experienced has started breeding in earnest. In bush districts bees are working in the early native flora. Prices are slightly firmer. Prime bulk is quoted at 8½d. to 9d. per lb.; sections, to 12/- per dozen; 10 lb. tins, 9/6 to 10/-; put honey, no quotation. The distribution of this line is in the hands of wholesalers only. Beeswax is in strong demand. Current quotations, 2/3 to 2/6 per lb.—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.]

On fine days this month an inside inspection of the hives should be made. Those containing poor queens should be marked for re-queening, and the queenless ones united to queen right colonies by the newspaper method, which is very safe and little trouble, thus:—In the evening carefully remove the cover and mat from a strong colony, placing a sheet of newspaper over the frames; then go to the queenless hive, carefully lift it off the bottom board, and place on top of the newspapered colony. Do not disturb either too much, and in a day or two the paper will be gnawed away and the bees peaceably united.

Linked in peril, pride and pain,  
Australians staunch and bold;  
What we've done we'll do again,  
And what we've won we'll hold.  
In the heart of grateful France  
The memory shall endure  
Of Anzac rifle, sword and lance  
And Woods' Great Peppermint Cure.

The amount of stores must now be very carefully watched, as when breeding starts the consumption of food is heavy, and a hive is very soon reduced to starvation during a spell of bad weather. If you have frames of honey taken from clean colonies, these are the very best thing for spring feeding, and just before putting the combs into the hive bruise the cappings so that the honey is exposed. Failing store combs, use sugar syrup, two of sugar to one of water; feed warm inside the hive at sundown. Be careful not to spill any syrup or honey about the hives, else it is liable to set up robbing.

To prevent trouble with neighbours through having the bees hanging round the pump, cattle-troughs, &c., it is advisable to have a supply of water in the apiary early in the season, so that the bees can get the location. This can easily be done by having a shallow bath containing stones or slats of wood to serve as footholds for the bees. A handful of salt in the water is appreciated by the bees.

It is a good time to overhaul your gear and see what supplies you are likely to want, and get the order in at once. Every thing in this line is a high price, and no apparent chance of becoming cheaper, so there is nothing to be gained by waiting.

F. C. B.

## Work for the Winter Months.

### ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS.

62. Prevention of drone breeding is best accomplished by using only full sheets of foundation; in fact, it is false economy to use anything less. Bees left to build comb as they wish will always build a large quantity of drone cells, and although a certain number of drones are necessary in a hive, the space left—about half an inch from the bottom of the frame with a full sheet—will give the bees plenty of space to build drone cells.

63. The difference between the cappings of honey cells with those of drone and worker cells is that the former is composed of pure wax, usually white or yellow, making the cell fairly airtight. The cappings of the latter are formed by a mixture of wax and fibrous material which is porous to allow the growing larva to breathe.

64. Cutting out queen cells to prevent swarming is to our mind working about ten days behind all the while. The better plan is to manipulate your hive so that queen cells are not built. The method of cell-cutting to prevent swarming will answer more or less, but there is always a danger of overlooking a cell, rendering all your work in vain. The inspection must be done every ten days, which in itself means considerable work. There are better methods of controlling swarming than cutting out queen cells.

65. Chilled brood will appear thus, some perfectly normal—i.e., capped and good appearance, but close to this will appear cells only partly capped and the perfectly formed immature bee exposed. The larva will instead of being easily curled up at the base of the cells, be stretched out lying at the bottom of the cell; sometimes they will have crawled out a bit. Chilling of brood is brought about by—(1) Examining a hive on a cold day and exposing the brood too long; (2) spreading brood frames—i.e., inserting an empty comb between frames of brood in the brood chamber—a risky proceeding; (3) a sudden drop in the temperature, when the bees find it necessary to cluster to maintain their own life, with the consequent neglect of the brood. Combs containing chilled brood can be placed over a strong colony, which will clean it all out.

66. On the assumption that a swarm issues on the day the first queen cell is capped—the eighth—it will be another seven to eight days before the young queen hatches out. She usually takes her flight within a week, and if the flight is successful starts egg laying in two to three days.

67. Before returning to the parent hive, a thorough examination must be made that no virgin queens are hatched out save the one that issued with the cast, and every cell must be destroyed.

68. Strengthen with a frame of hatching brood and give another cell.

69. Swarming is the natural way of the bees increasing their numbers. It is also brought about by the hive becoming overcrowded and overheated.

70. There are many factors governing this, and we should say race has a great deal to do with it. A good queen in a populous hive will lay considerably better than if she were in a poor colony. In any case, she must be heavily fed by the bees to make up the enormous drain on her, and we are inclined to think that sometimes the bees do not look after the queen properly, as we have found a change of hive has made a tremendous difference in a queen's output of eggs.

71. For ventilation and drying out the superfluous moisture contained in nectar.

F. C. B.

## District Reports.

### AUCKLAND PROVINCIAL BRANCH.

A meeting of the above will be held in Bath Buildings, Hamilton, on 16th September, at 11 a.m. Business: To receive Conference report; appoint Field Day Committee; Fire Blight Restrictions; re Appointment of another Inspector; and general business.

A. H. DAVIES, Sec.

## TARANAKI.

We have experienced about fifteen consecutive hard frosts, which record I understand holds good for more than that number of years back. Just at present a southerly buster is the order of the day. However, all that is in favour of a good summer.

Say, Mr. Editor, if that record crop of Messrs. Barrett and Bray's does not happen to be "the record," then I guess the price is! Or was that £4 a tin a misprint?

Moving bees is not the hard old job we used to find it as new chums. Last week Mr. Allan Bates and I moved sixty colonies thirteen miles. It took me two hours the night before to put the screens on, and, starting at 8.30 next morning, we loaded them and had them, per horse waggon and motor lorry, all snugg and released on their new site by 2 p.m. without any excitement in the way of bolting horses.

H. R. PENNY.

\*Okaiawa, 15/8/20.

## HAWKE'S BAY.

Without doubt Hawke's Bay will experience an early Spring. In last month's notes we recorded the bursting of the willow buds. This month we find in areas of native bush that the clematis is well in bloom. The kowhai, too, is far forward, giving good promise of a great wealth of blossom.

Hard against these signs of the coming season we find the tragedy of the past. Among the rocks of these bush-clad slopes are two wild bees' nests—one healthy, one diseased—both overtaken with the disaster of last year's starvation season. Many an apiarist can tell the same tale; but few of the empty hives have the rich floral emblems at their tomb.

Those beekeepers who have opened their hives find the bees in fair condition. Brood rearing is well on the way. The Spring honey flow will be on in a very short time, and already the sun warms frequent days for apiary work.

The general meeting of the Association for August was held on the 18th inst. A fair number of beekeepers attended. The subject of discussion, "Spring Management for Best Results," was ably opened by Mr. H. Shepherd, who has had a good experience of beekeeping in this district. A splendid discussion followed.

Our forward policy for this year is to bring out-districts into touch with the Association. With the aid of instructor and members, we hope to touch most of those who keep bees in the central part of this Province. Field Days will be held in various outfields as well as evening lectures.

J. P. BOYLE.

August 18th, 1920.

## Canterbury Tales.

By E. G. WARD.

The prospects for the coming season in Canterbury have, if anything, improved since last month. There has been a general rainfall all over the Province, and the weather has turned very cold. I do not remember to have ever noted such a succession of severe frosts as we have had during the last three or four weeks, and as a consequence the Spring will not be upon us so early as it promised. I am of opinion that we are in for a rattling good season, and I am hoping we shall get that bumper crop which every beekeeper hopes to get at least once in his lifetime.

Who's been "pulling our legs?" I no sooner read ye Editor's remarks in last month's issue concerning those queens SAID to be immune to I.O.W. disease than I hunted up my "considering cap." "Yes verily," I said, "some joker has been at work here," and I have to own up that I fell in "right up to the neck." I am glad to notice though that I am not the only "tug." Whoever the humourist is, he (or is it she?) has had good value for his (or her) money, and I want all those who were as "green" as myself to join in a good laugh. Ha! Ha! Ha!

There's been a "lightning calculator" at work over Barrett and Bray's crop from their Piraki Apiary. A return of £564 from sixty hives is enough to make one's "mouth water." No wonder "those in charge" say they would be content with half if only it were an average crop. I should think they would. So would I! Just go over those figures again, sonny!

The Canterbury Branch of the National held a meeting on July 31st. Mr. C. A. Pope (President) occupied the chair, and gave a condensed report of the Conference doings. The recommendation that a tax of £1 per apiary be imposed has caused great consternation in the Rangiora district, and Mr. H. Jobstone was in great danger of losing his scalp over the matter. The President and "yours truly" did their best to show that "the Lord helps those who help themselves," but I am afraid that the nervous systems of a good many in a small way have had a severe shock.

A bookcase has been added to the assets of the Branch, and is to be kept in the Trades Hall. Any member wishing to obtain books can do so by applying to Mr. Sillifant, who has consented to act as deputy librarian.

Readers may perhaps remember that Mr. Pender, Editor of the Australasian Beekeeper, visited N.Z. last season. Among other apiaries he visited mine, and in his report of his travels he makes many complimentary references to New Zealand beekeeping generally. He thinks my hives are

too close together, but says that if space is limited this is unavoidable. Now, I do not put my hives close together for want of space, but chiefly for the reason that I do not see any good is done by spreading them over too much ground. Mr. Alkai said after he had visited my apiary a couple of years ago that "the only fault, if it is a fault, was that the hives were too close together." I have in mind an apiary that was laid out with the hives 6 ft. apart and 10 ft. between the rows, but I was never able to see that there was any advantage. I do not find my bees mix or drift or rob or swarm or get less honey than bees kept in any other way, and so long as they "deliver the goods" I am content to save as much shoe leather and physical exertion as I can.

The above suggests something which has not been given much prominence yet. If we had an experimental Government apiary (in the South Island), with a Chief Apiarist to direct investigations, this is one of the problems among many others which might be tried out. We have the opinions (and opinions of first class men too) often diametrically opposed on pretty well every subject connected with the industry; but until we get an experimental apiary we shall not get conclusive evidence of the value or otherwise of any method which is the subject of controversy. It's no use saying everyone must find out for himself. The average man has not got the time to experiment—he's after the "huddle." All sorts of experiments are undertaken by the Agricultural Department in the interests of fruit-growing, dairy-farming, grain and root crops, &c., &c.; but beekeeping, I suppose, is only looked upon as a "side line," and of no importance. I think it is about time the beekeepers began to "squeak" a little, and I am in hopes of seeing something tangible come of the labours of the Standing Committee appointed by the Conference. Who's going to help keep the ball rolling?

I have seen quite a number of advertisements in the newspapers lately of farms for sale by auction, and among the "sundries" hives of bees, bee boxes, &c. It would be interesting to know how many of these are free from disease. The Apiaries Act provides that bees must not be sold if diseased, but that old saying of driving a coach-and-four through any Act of Parliament is well illustrated here. The seller has only to say, "Please, sir, I did not know," and gets off scot free. I expressed the opinion at the Conference, and do so again—no bees should be moved or change hands till a "clean bill of health" has been given by the inspector, and to do this we want more inspectors, for it is simply impossible that the present staff can cope with the work. I suggest in all humility that we could easily do with three more inspectors at least in this part of the world, and hope if any more are appointed that the claims of Canterbury in particular will not be lost sight of.

## One of My Colonies.

By W. B. K.

I do not know if beekeepers are permitted to give their attention to any other than hive bees. If we are, perhaps my little experience with bumble bees may not prove uninteresting.

One year in October I noticed a beautiful queen frequently flying in and out of my bedroom window. Her next step was to carefully examine every corner of the room, evidently with a view of taking up her abode with me.

She eventually decided upon a dark corner in a cupboard which had a curtain in place of a door. In this place I had laid away, till a more convenient season, a hat which required renovating.

After some days of much buzzing about, I watched her majesty safely out of the way and went to investigate. In the side of my hat, among some fluffy trimmings, I found a large cell, very much like a thimble, and full of a greenish coloured fluid. I replaced the hat most carefully, but it seemed that something was not quite right. When my friend next arrived, there was a great bustling about, and some decidedly strong language.

Her majesty went in and out many times in the day, and in about a month she had reared three young bees to assist her in her arduous duties. These she carefully trained, taking them, one by one, and showing them the way out into the world of flowers.

Up to this time all the work had to be done single-handed, but now more cells were added, not fitted as the hive bees do, but each one built separately, and just touching.

The colony went on increasing until there were about thirty bees, but before the season was over I found the old queen out on the floor in a feeble condition. I placed her back in the nest, but next day she was out again dead.

It was one of our bad seasons, and my colony did not store any honey, although I tried to feed them.

My bees were very interesting, but had the rather trying propensity of wishing to share my bed. I have been more than once awakened by something large and rough scrambling over my feet. I had to keep as still as possible, get a light, and march the culprits off to their own quarters again.

Another troublesome little habit of theirs was getting out in the night and going sprawling about the floor, using most unprintable language. This meant lighting

Send for Pamphlet on "BEESWAX."

6d. POST FREE.

W. B. BRAY,  
Barry's Bay.



## The Benton Queen Cell Incubator

As described in  
August Issue.

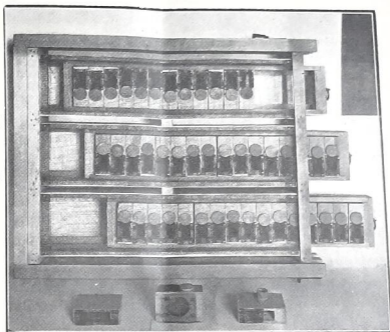


Photo kindly  
supplied by N. Z.  
Fruitgrower.

up and putting them back in the nest again before there was any chance of sleep for me. They commenced their day's work about 4 a.m., and not one ever went out silently.

They were a pleasure to me, yet I cannot say I was extra sorry when the time came for the closing scene. When the last had died off, or in the case of the queens left to go into winter quarters, they left me a cluster of cells like a small bunch of grapes.

I must say they are very untidy bees, and not exactly desirable as room-mates. When provoked—and it is easily done—their language is shocking, and the way they shake their fists at their supposed foes would be alarming if it were not so ludicrous. "Their bark is worse than their bite," however; I have never been stung by one, and they certainly had ample opportunity.

## A Near Cut in the Treatment of Foul Brood.

[Mr. C. J. Clayton has forwarded the following article, the substance of which was given orally during the Conference.—Ed.]

It must have come as a bombshell to all present at the Conference to hear that foul-brood was spreading to such an alarming extent. It behoves every one

who has the interest of the business at heart to raise his voice, however feeble, to assist in suppressing this dreadful scourge.

I fear some of the beekeepers themselves are to blame, considering the careless methods they adopt. To my mind any method that requires the shaking of the bees outside of the hive is a sure spreader of the disease. I was speaking to many at the Conference, and found that it was a common practice to put back the wet combs on the hives to clean up, regardless as to where they came off; others put them out in the apiary in slacks. This might be all right if every hive was clean, but who knows?

Some five years ago I gave to the beekeepers a method of treatment that has proved successful with me. Since then I have received numerous letters of praise; on the other hand, I have received reports of failure. In those cases I made it my business to find out how they went about the job. In every instance they had overlooked some most important part of the manipulation. I know it is very difficult to take in every detail of the manipulation of this kind just from a few remarks from the platform, and at the request of the Conference I am putting the same into print.

Among the urgent needs of life,  
Without which we could ne'er endure,  
Is one when coughs and colds are rife,  
And that is Woods' Peppermint Cure.  
It meets the need in every trace,  
It clears of symptoms every trace,  
In gastric ailments just as sure,  
Is peerless Woods' Great Peppermint Cure.

What I claim in my method is this:—The colonies can be treated at any hour of the day, preferably between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m., when most of the bees are flying. Secondly, that the bees are in no way discouraged, and settle down at once as if nothing has happened.

I will not attempt to enumerate the merits or demerits in any of the methods now in use, as no doubt they are well known to most of the readers of this Journal.

1. Provide yourself with a barrow, tray, super, a tight-fitting cover or damp cloth, hive tool, brush, and smoker; the latter two you will not have much use for.

The method of going about your work depends largely on the number you have to treat. If only two or three, it is better to dispose of the old combs at once, or as you may approve. Be sure and not allow any of the other bees to get at them.

If you have a large number to treat, it might be as well to make a hospital with the healthy brood. I do not consider a colony of less than two frames of bees worth the trouble unless it has a valuable queen. We will suppose that you have two hives to treat, and you have clean hives standing close by. Remove these to some other part of the apiary, so placed that you can bring them together, if necessary, as you never know what may turn up with next door neighbours. Some of the flying bees will return to the old stand, and will enter the foul-brood hive, but these will not be lost. I have found that the commencement of the apple bloom, if the weather is favourable, a good time to treat, and the bees will build up nicely for the honey flow. If the weather is bad, naturally they must be fed, but the operation can be carried out any time during the honey flow.

Now we will commence operations, any time between 10 o'clock and 2 in the afternoon; place your foul-brood hive on a clean bottom board, and close the entrance to about half an inch. Now, with as little smoke as possible, remove two frames from each side of the hive, and place them on the barrow, spacing those remaining at equal distances apart, and close down as usual. Leave them for two days to allow them to settle down to normal condition, as I do not want them to be gorged with honey when driven from the combs. The reason for spacing the combs is to make room for the free access for the fumes of the carbolic cloth to descend. When the two days have expired, have ready two clean hives and mats, with nine frames of wired foundation and a division board feeder, filled with warm syrup of two of sugar to one of water. Lay a piece of tin on top of this, or you may have bees drowned in the rush. On the top of all place an empty half super. Now, you will require two pieces of unbleached calico about two inches larger each way than the size of the hive. These should be dipped in water and wrung out fairly dry,

and sprinkled over on one side with Calvert's No. 5 Carbolic, folded up and placed in a billy or some close-fitted tin.

Now you are ready to commence your second operation. Lift the old hive as quietly as possible, and stand the new hive in its place, and place the old hive on top of the new one. Replace the entrance blocks, remove the cover and the mat, and in so doing follow it up with the cloth, the carbolic side to the bees, covering the top with a sack to prevent the fumes from escaping, and leave in this condition for about ten minutes. It does not often occur, but should there be a mad rush to leave the hive, as though they were swarming, commence at once. Turn the carbolic cloth back from the side, exposing one frame. The combs will be practically free from bees if there has been no rush. The bees will be found all clustered on the bottom bars. This is the reason that the half-super is put on the hive to accommodate the cluster. Remove the frames, one by one, keeping the hive covered with the cloth, give one downward shake, and this will dislodge the bees and deposit them on top of their new frames.

Now run the brush around the inside of the old hive, and push the clean mat down into the half super, put on the cover, and the job is done. All things being favourable, this colony will build up and be one of the best in the apiary.

If you have an assistant, by all means press him into service, as the quicker the operation is done the more complete will be the work. Do not place filleted hives on top of dovetailed, or vice versa. See that the new hive and bottom board correspond as near as possible with the old one. Do not think four or five sheets of foundation will do—it won't work; it gives the bees a chance to cluster in the corners of the hive (many have failed this way), and your work will practically have to be done again. If nine frames are too much for a small colony, some may, after the bees have clustered, be removed and closed up with a division board.

C. J. CLAYTON.

## Mr. A. Ireland & the National.

(TO THE EDITOR.)

Sir,—I have to you, as Secretary of the National Beekeepers' Association, given my resignation. I shall now proceed to give my reasons for doing so. I am one of the oldest members, both as to length of time and also as to age, and so it is not without strong reasons that I am resigning. The last straw was placed upon the camel's back when Mr. Allan, as President at the last Conference, treated me personally, the paper I was reading, and the subject of it with such studied opposition and discourtesy, not to use a

harsher term for his treatment. In the first place, the minutes of last Conference would have shown that nearly all the Branches sent remits asking the Conference to do something in the matter of Apiary Boundaries; secondly, they would have shown that I was the leader in the matter from start to finish; they would have shown that Mr. Allan and Mr. Gibb were about the only two who spoke against the subject; and that the motion which I moved was carried unanimously.

Now the subsequent action of the President at last Conference shows why the Secretary and President did not want the minutes to be read; and although I objected to their not being read, no notice was taken of my objection. To show the studied obstruction of the subject by the two above-mentioned: In a three days' Conference only half an hour was allowed in the programme for the reading of the paper and the discussion on it. Before reading the paper I had some remarks to make, and had not proceeded at any great length when Mr. Allan stopped me, and said that as there was only half an hour allowed for the subject he could not allow me to proceed. When I remonstrated, Mr. Allan started to speak, himself taking up considerable time, also taking a motion by Mr. Bray to proceed to the next business. Mr. Allan's treatment of me caused new members and visitors to think I was a sort of unruly person who had to be kept in order. And one of them had the impudence to say that Mr. Nelson was ill-advised in selecting me as his substitute. Now, Sir, do you think I am hasty in resigning after having been treated in such a manner.

Now, the merits of Mr. Allan and myself for consideration by the National and the H.P.A. are as follows:—The first year of the H.P.A., when we wanted very much all the honey we could get, Mr. Allan gave none, but sold all his crop outside of the Association. The second year he only gave us half his crop; and the year before last he sold all his crop outside the Association again; and outside of his official position has done nothing for either Association. As for myself, I have never sold a pound of honey to any trader, merchant, or storekeeper since the Association started; although one year I had very poor honey, the Association sold it locally. I may reckon myself the father of the H.P.A., being the first who started the movement that resulted in its formation; and after we joined forces with Taranaki, I canvassed the Canterbury beekeepers and secured most of them as shareholders, at my own expense of time and money, for which I have not yet received recognition or thanks. Had it not been for me there would have been no B. and D. contract nor export trade as it now is, which Mr. Brickell can vouch for. By this action alone I have been the means of giving to beekeepers thousands of pounds which they would not otherwise

have had. Mr. Gilling can also vouch for what I have done for the Association.

I could give a more detailed account of the above, but I have reached the limit of this letter. I will just say that, after all I have done for the beekeepers, they have treated me in a very shabby manner, so much so that I cannot remain any longer associated with them.—I am, &c.,

A. IRELAND.

July 13th, 1920.

#### Mr. ALLAN'S REMARKS.

It takes two to make a fight, and I absolutely refuse to make one of them, and more especially with Mr. Ireland. I have enjoyed the hospitality of his home, and I regret exceedingly that he should write as he has done. There was no organised attempt such as Mr. Ireland seems to think there was to curtail the boundaries question. Probably what occurred was due more to my nervousness over wearisome speeches in a Conference where the time given to each question is necessarily limited, and in so far as I erred in that I freely apologise.

With regard to Mr. Ireland's work for the H.P.A., I quite admit that he has done yeoman service, and I hope it will yet meet with due recognition from the beekeepers. My record in this matter is unknown to him, and will remain so: suffice it to say that I hope we will both find our greatest reward in the outstanding success of the H.P.A.—I am, &c.,

JAMES ALLAN.

Tasman, August 2nd, 1920.

#### SECRETARY'S COMMENTS.

Save expressing my regret that the National is to lose Mr. Ireland as a member, I too would prefer to lie low and, like Brer Rabbit, "say nothin'," but as I am particularised as having helped to put on the "last straw," would just say a few words.

Re reading minutes of previous Conference: On referring to the published reports, also the minute book, in every case the same course has been adopted—viz., these have been taken "as read." The minutes of last year show only one Branch sending a remit on the Apiary Boundaries question, and that was the Auckland Provincial Branch, which Mr. C. F. Horn brought down. Messrs. Allan and Gibb were the only two who spoke on the matter when Mr. Ireland's resolution to form a committee to discuss possible legislation with the Government was passed. I had no object in view when I mentioned there were ten pages to be read, except that I was merely adopting the usual procedure, and anxious to get to business.

Regarding the time allowed for discussion on the question, if Mr. Ireland will refer to the programme, he will find that I allotted the whole of the morning session I allotted the whole of the morning session I allotted the whole of the morning session I allotted the whole of the morning session—not of the second day for this purpose—not of the second day for this purpose—not of the second day for this purpose—not of the second day for this purpose—half an hour as he states; and what happens when the Conference is sitting is nothing to do with me—that is the Chairman's business. But of this you can be certain: that there was no organised opposition on my part; what opposition was manifested came from those assembled.

As one of the pioneers of the co-operative movement, I can testify that Mr. Ireland has been to considerable trouble in getting the claims of the Association recognised by the beekeepers of Canterbury, and has also done excellent work for the National; therefore not only for these merits but the personal element make it all the more a matter of regret that he has cut himself adrift from us.

FRED C. BAINES,  
Sec. N.B.K.A.

## Answers to Correspondents.

- J. W. A., Fairlie.—Thanks for remarks re Journal. We would sooner have reduced the price.
- D. C. Wainuku.—See letter in this issue.
- P. J. Z., Oturua.—Not much luck up to the present.
- Miss E. J., Matarawa; Miss R. A. M., Lt. Hutt; J. M., Maitland.—Thanks for stamps.
- O. S., Koripuni.—Membership as per scale on front page. Thanks for stamps.
- N. M., Turiwiri.—We think you would find the sections very much soiled and the cappings dark. Dr. Miller does not advise it.
- Hamarei Penitane.—That is an extraordinary article you sent for publication, considering that your heading note reads: "The views and opinions expressed under the above heading are not necessarily those of the writer." If they are not yours, whose are they? Cannot those whose opinions they are write? You "slam" both the National and its Journal: the former has not justified its existence; the latter does not do what it should do; the Branches are in a moribund condition, &c., &c. We wonder how much of this is your opinion, because if we knew it would help us to reply. Whether the National has justified its existence or not, it is not for us to say; but there are quite a number of really good men who are willing to identify themselves with it, not name. That the Journal does not do what it should is perhaps true, and it is a pity that you did not send something to assist the Editor in sending out a more able Journal.

You seem to blame the National and its Executive because some of the Branches are in a moribund condition. Did they have anything to do with the election of the officers of, say, your District Branch? For heaven's sake be reasonable. What are the President and Committee doing to allow the Branch to become moribund. Cannot they frame a policy to keep the Branch alive? Why do these officers not put forward an interesting and educational programme that you say the National lacks? And in this connection we would ask you to refer to the issue of May, 1919, wherein we made the following comment with reference to winter classes:—

"The Editor was asked by a secretary of a newly formed Branch for suggestions for winter meetings, and as it is his opinion that all winter work should be instructional has selected and published elsewhere a list of fifteen questions, which he has submitted to the secretaries of three new Branches. . . . The Editor has always maintained that the work of the National should be organisation and instruction . . . and even if the present venture does not prove successful we can at least say—we tried."

We should like to ask our Pakeha-Maori friend whether those fifteen questions would in his opinion form a programme that would be interesting and educational? If he says no, we will quote a report from the West Coast Branch that appeared in the Journal for September, 1919, which reads:—

"The questions published in the Journal have taken on splendidly, and are proving very beneficial. The only drawback is that time does not permit the whole of them being gone through," &c., &c.

If he agrees, then his complaint falls to the ground, because the questions have been going on during the winter months; and it would be pertinent to ask why his District Branch did not use them if there is a call for education and interest. It is all very well to start slamming everybody because they do not do this and that, it would be much more to the point to show one instance where a Branch had suggested a matter that would be of help to the industry that had been treated with indifference by the Executive.

"The lack of any definite educational and political policy on the part of the National is deplorable!" Is it? We believe you have got an attack of indigestion. Just bear with us a little:—

July 13th, 1920, W. Ranstead, Matangi, writes: "What a capital Journal you are turning out these days. . . . Thanks for the entertainment you unflinchingly provide." J. A. Burns, Auckland, July 17th, 1920: "I appreciate the Journal very much." A. L. Buick.

9/7/20, says: "You are to be complimented on the improvements of the Journal." F. W. Dutch, 14/7/20: "Present number and report a 'topper.'"

Now candidly, friend, put yourself in the Editor's place. The above opinions were taken haphazard from our letterfile, and the writers' names are there. Against them we put your complaint, which you for some reason expect to be published under a nom de plume. Our opinion is that if your criticism is worth anything at all, it is worth putting your name to. We will willingly publish yours or anyone else's opinion on any matter that is likely to help forward the National and Journal, but only over your own name. However, when you say that the prosperous state of the industry is due almost entirely to a certain gentleman, you are crediting him with something that he is not entitled to. That he has done very great things for us is admitted all round; but the fact that you, the Editor, and most other commercial beekeepers are in the business to-day is due entirely to Mr. H. W. Gilling and the co-operative scheme of marketing he was instrumental in starting; and please do not make any mistake about it. We KNOW what we are talking about, as the writer was secretary at the time and has a very clear recollection of the time and money spent by Mr. Gilling for the benefit of the industry, even to the extent of staking his whole belongings on a few beekeepers' honour of their pledged word. Ninety-five per cent. of the commercial men would have been compelled to quit the business through lack and poorness of markets had it not been for the H.P.A.'s agreement with the Bristol and Dominions during the years 1914-19, and this is to the credit of Mr. H. W. Gilling and no other. Had the H.P.A. not been in existence when the B. and D. made their offer, it is possible another Company would have been formed; but this does not alter the fact, and without it for five solid years honey would have been practically unsaleable, as there was plenty of jam, sugar, &c., in this country.

Then you go on to say: "The foregoing is not intended as adverse criticism."—Well, well! It is satisfactory to learn that; but at the same time it is not exactly throwing bouquets, is it?

Now look here, friend. The National perhaps has not done all that it ought to have done, or perhaps might have done, and the reason is just this—that the members have not done all that they ought to do or might do. Take your District Branch, for instance: what help has it given the Executive—not an idea, and not an ounce of help, not even troubling to answer letters sent by the secretary. It is altogether an erroneous idea to join any Association of any description for what you are

going to get out of it—without putting anything in. The more the individual puts in for the collective benefit, the more the individual benefit obtained. We believe the gentlemen who have filled the positions as members of the Executive in the past have done their best during their term of office, and those recently elected will do theirs. Can you and the members of your Branch prove that you have done your best to advance the interests of the industry? Because until you have you rather weaken your position to criticise. You openly give help elsewhere, and then complain of the National and its Journal.

In all sincerity we ask you to formulate what in your opinion would be a definite educational and political policy that would be beneficial for the National to adopt. Send it along under your own name for publication, and not only our thanks but the thanks of the whole industry will be tendered you. Kia Ora!

## 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.]

(TO THE EDITOR.)

Sir,—We are being bothered with requests for information as to where honey can be sold at 1s. 4d. wholesale, so we would be pleased if you would contradict the foolish report in your last issue, which is evidently the cause of the trouble. There is nothing to show that the paragraph was copied from a newspaper, and if the person who took the trouble to send you the cutting had also sent the contradiction which we made the newspaper responsible publish, much printers' and other ink could have been used to a more useful purpose. All our honey is supplied to the N.Z. Co-operative Honey Producers' Association, so shareholders know exactly what we get for it.—We are, &c.,

BARRETT & BRAY.

Barry's Bay, Aug. 11th, 1920.

[The printers omitted to acknowledge the clipping, which was taken from the Christchurch Press. We hope the gentleman who sent us the cutting will note the above remarks re the contradictory report.—Ed.]

A CORRECTION.

(TO THE EDITOR.)

Sir,—With reference to the remarks re Spur Brand honey contained in your article "The English Market," &c., Aug., 1920, p. 139, you assert that my correspondent in Bristol stated that this was branded on the label "New Zealand Honey." If you

will refer to my letter published February, 1920, issue of this Journal, p. 31, you will see that you have made a misstatement, as no such words were used by my correspondent—that is, that Spur Brand honey was labelled as N.Z. honey. For your information I may now state that my correspondent informs me "Spur Brand" of honey, as indicated, was sold and purchased over the counter in Bristol as N.Z. honey—the last place in England where one would look for misrepresentation as to the class of honey sold. Incidentally it may be remarked it was labelled as being packed by the B. and D. without any indication as to its origin. This opens the question—Are other honeys being sold on the reputation that we, the pioneers, have in past years had to pay so dearly for by accepting a small advance, with a microscopic bonus, in order to establish our N.Z. H.P.A. export trade? It is quite probable, as the Editor remarks that the B. and D. deal largely in honeys; but I venture to affirm that it was chiefly owing to our N.Z. united efforts in centralising our superior N.Z. honey in their hands that gave them a start in the honey business, as prior to that they had no connection, being quite a new firm.—I am, &c.,

J. S. COTTERELL,

Manawaru, Te Aroha, 7/8/20.

[Your letter reads: "We had some N.Z. honey the other day. . . . It is called 'Spur Brand,' packed by the B. and D.," &c. We took it, and are sure others did too, that it was labelled N.Z. Honey, so the solution must be that the storekeeper was misrepresenting it.—Ed.]

(TO THE EDITOR.)

Sir,—I am not the Mr. Schmidt who is importing Isle of Wight queen bees, nor am I in any way connected with the same.—I am, &c.,

J. SCHMIDT,

Turua, 4/8/20.

(TO THE EDITOR.)

Sir,—Re changing hand extractor to power, I have tried the following, and find there is absolutely no fear of breaking a comb (even a damaged one). I may say when extracting I always take a portion of honey out of one side, then reverse and clean reverse, and clean or, rather, finish off. The change I have been using for three years is a Booth-McDonald friction clutch off power separator, costing about £3 20s. First get the end of spindle dressed down to suit clutch; do away with your spring fastener so as to keep in gear; put clutch on drive direct off engine. For pulley I am using (one of leather), take a piece 3 in. wide, cut  $\frac{1}{2}$ -inch less than keyway, cut three pieces medium wire; twist tight round; now build pulley to size by tacking a long strip of leather on; drive a wooden wedge in when finished.—I am, &c.,

SUBSCRIBER.

(TO THE EDITOR.)

Sir,—I was feeding a few colonies in July last, and one colony was being robbed. I managed to stop it, as I thought, so in the evening I decided to inspect them to see how they fared. I found very few bees, but plenty of honey, and a lot of dead bees on the bottom board. The fight must have been going on for days in a small way. The colony was doomed, as there was not a handful of bees. I had one queenless colony which I was feeding, so I took the queen from the robbed colony, and introduced her to the queenless one. I just took off the cover, gave them a good dose of smoke, and sprinkled some syrup (made from brown sugar) over the bees and over the queen, and dropped her in. I opened the hive five days after, and there she was, and a fair patch of eggs and a few hatched. She was easy to pick—an Italian amongst a lot of blacks.

The bees have wintered well here; in 84 colonies I found brood in all save one—some with four frames, and some with foul-brood.—I am, &c.,

HOPKIN THOMAS,

Waikumete, August 6th, 1920.

(TO THE EDITOR.)

Sir,—Whoever was responsible for the advt. in the July issue re queen bees from the Isle of Wight deserves—one would think—far more credit than abuse. The seriousness of the fact that we are not taking sufficient precautions to keep our "free land free" struck home to me, and the following parody on "Bill 'Awkins," one of Kipling's Barrack-room Ballads, suggested itself:—

"As anyone seen the I.O. Wight disease?

Now 'ow in the devil would I know?

If it once gets in among your bees

You will not need telling so;

Gawd—bless—you,

You will not need telling so!

D'yer know what it's like, the I.O. Wight disease?

Now what in the devil would I care?

If you once get it in your apiaries

It will raise your very 'air;

Gawd—bless—you,

It will raise your very 'air!

An' s'pose you 'ad the I.O. Wight disease,

Now what in the devil 'ud you do?

You'd 'ud 'ave to git out o' the business

An' pay more'n yer back debts too;

Gawd—bless—you,

An' pay more'n yer back debts too!

Look 'ere, if it comes, the I.O. Wight disease,

What in the devil will you say?

It will be a bad look-out and you'll turn about

An' give bee-farming over for aye;

Gawd—bless—you,

An' give bee-farming over for aye!"

I. O. W.

(TO THE EDITOR.)

Sir,—We have had very little winter here so far, and the bees are in very good condition. On the question of bees visiting gorse, I have watched them gathering both honey and pollen the whole time it is blooming.—I am, &c.,

C. M. SATHERLEY,

Hope, Nelson.

(TO THE EDITOR.)

Sir,—I was very interested in Conference report. I notice it was proposed to tax all beekeepers to the extent of £1. I do not think that amount sufficient; I would suggest that the tax be £5—it would do away entirely with the beekeeper who kept bees for fun and to breed foul-brood and the tax would go a long way to pay for extra inspectors, which are badly needed.—I am, &c.,

O. SHUTE.

P.S.—I have your booklet "Beekeeping for Beginners." I think it a very excellent production.—O.S.

Masterton, 8/8/20.

(TO THE EDITOR.)

Sir,—Re Mr. I. Hopkins' answer to my queries re boundaries. In last Journal he states that in the May number of "The Fruitgrower" he gave the full text of the queries and his reply, "which he has every reason to believe I saw." I have only seen two copies of "The Fruitgrower" in my life—one copy (April number) was sent to me from Auckland; the other I received over twelve months ago. As this Journal is the official organ of the Beekeepers' Association, will Mr. Hopkins please give his good reason for believing that I saw his article in the May "Fruitgrower"? I have not seen it to date. Mr. Hopkins also states that everyone (including Mr. Nelson) knows his views on this subject. My answer to that is if I had known his views I most certainly should not have sent him the circular. Regarding the wisdom of circularising such amateurs at the game as Ernest Root, Dandant, Major Shalbard, &c., I can safely leave that to the majority of commercial beemen of New Zealand. Mr. Hopkins seems to be deeply concerned that his fellow-craftsmen are drowning—"clutching at one straw after another." Poor chaps! Mr. Nelson and his confreres (the agitators) are still swimming strong, and have no intention of drowning; they are supported by truth and honesty of purpose.—I am, &c.,

R. H. NELSON.

Hauauroro rd., Martinborough, 12/8/20.

(TO THE EDITOR.)

Sir,—I am going to copy the good example of some of your subscribers and send you the extra "bob" for the Journal: it is worth it.

For the benefit of beginners, I will give you an experience I had recently. I was moving my bees a short distance, and

wanted first to get them all into the brood chamber. As one of the colonies had been bad-tempered, I gave the next one a fairly good dose of smoke, and on lifting them clear so as to clean the bottom board, I found it covered with bees, evidently very sick—some on their backs, some kicking, some almost dead, some crawling, but none actually dead. I thought they had some disease, and covered them up again just as they were, intending to make some enquiries. In the afternoon I uncovered them again to let a friend look at them, and they had all recovered. The fuel I used was dried cowdung, which I have found very effective, and not too strong previously, but evidently on this occasion it knocked them over. This hint may prevent some other new chum from getting a scare.

My bees have wintered well—brood capped already, and some hives almost full of bees. To-day for the first time in my life I have clipped a queen's wings, and managed it all right. I would like to know when you consider it necessary to allow extra room. Some of the boxes are almost full of bees, and it seems to me they may be overcrowded in one box before very long if they "carry on."—I am, &c.,

DABBLER.

Bunnythorpe, Aug. 13, 1920.

[Where in the world did you get the idea of using cowdung as fuel for your smoker; no wonder the bees were "knocked over." You deserve a scare for using it. We reckon you make your bees bad-tempered by using the filth. If your brood chamber is full of brood and bees, put on an extra super at once.—Ed.]

## Neglected Westland.

(By J. MURDOCH, Ross.)

(A paper read before the Westland Chamber of Commerce.)

At a meeting of the Westland Chamber of Commerce a letter was received from Mr. John Murdoch, Ross, forwarding article "Neglected Westland" for information of Chamber.—Received.—Mr. Wild moved that Mr. Murdoch be thanked for his excellent paper; that it be printed and copies supplied to the Government, and that application be made to the Government for the installation of an apiary experimental station in Westland.—Seconded by Mr. Bruce and carried.

In the bad old days, when gold was first discovered in Westland, men from all parts of the world flocked to its shores in anything that would float. If they could not enter the port at once, an earlier landing on the beach suited them just as well. They knew no fear, faced any foe, dared any risk in the lure for gold. Many of these same men, satiated with the gold

fever, migrated to other parts of "God's own country," serving their King, and upholding the very best traditions of our race. Many of them have and still are filling responsible positions in other parts of this Dominion. For go, grace, and gumption, you only have to turn to some of our early pioneers. When travelling through other portions of New Zealand one often comes across a man who claims to have been either born or lived on the West Coast, and if you enquire you will always find that he is quite able to hold his own amongst his fellow workmen. Westland claims to have sent the most progressive Prime Minister that New Zealand has ever produced to guide our destinies in Parliament. To-day, our greatest need is more men of this type—men who are outspoken, who know what we want, and are not afraid to demand our rights. At present we are in the transition stage, between the age of glittering gold and the glory of the cow-yard and milking shed.

Our vanishing gold has to give place to other industries—timber, butter, cheese—and last, but not least, honey. The last-named has reached the dawn of a new era. In the old days, if the "cockie" wanted to take some honey from his bees he had recourse to the sulphur pit. After the bees were sulphured, he strained the mixture of dead bees, brood, grubs, larvae, &c. Foul-brood he knew nothing about. The result was sold as honey. Is it any wonder that the children did not like it? To-day the honey receives different treatment in a commercial apiary. The combs, when taken from the hives, are uncapped, placed in an extractor, the honey is thrown out as the extractor revolves at high speed, the combs are returned to the hives for the bees to fill again, the honey is strained, ripened in a tank, and when it is granulated it is ready for shipment.

Westland honey has gained 98 points out of a possible 100. The remaining two points can be accounted for by the usual prejudice. A certain Government official in Wellington was asked after tasting a sample of Westland honey where he thought it came from. His reply was "From Waikato." When he was told it came from Westland, he said, "Ha, ha, no you don't; that's where it is raining all the time, isn't it? At the National Beekeepers' Conference held in Christchurch in June, the President of the Auckland Branch asked leave to bring before the Conference certain statements circulated broadcast throughout the whole Dominion regarding the possibilities of beekeeping in Westland. He considered such statements were misleading, as in his district such returns were not possible. The Chairman asked a Westland delegate to reply. The Auckland man admitted he had never been in Westland. He was offered a cheque for £100, to be given to any charity, if he could prove that the returns published were not correct. The Chairman, in commenting on the discussion, considered it was a splendid advertisement

for the bee industry in Westland, and hoped shortly to see for himself this wonderful Westland.

Views of "Beautiful Westland" were handed round amongst men and women from Auckland to the Bluff. Several stated they had no idea we possessed such beautiful scenery, and intimated their intention of visiting us when the tunnel was through the hill. Last week we had a visit from two returned soldiers we met at the Conference—one still carries a bullet in his breast—who are looking for a location. At the close of the Conference we accepted an invitation to visit several apiaries near Christchurch.

At present we need only to refer to the Avonhead Experimental Farm near Riccarton. It is a Government Demonstration Farm under the control of the Christchurch Repatriation Board. The Apiary section is supervised by the Government Apiary Instructor. The object is to provide a course of instruction for returned soldiers who wish to take up beekeeping as a commercial proposition. It is probable that after the soldiers have been admitted, should there still be room for more students a certain number of farmers' sons may be instructed.

The day we visited the farm we were shown through by the manager, who imparted any information he thought would interest us. We had a chat with two of the students, who both bore the cruel marks of the war in their bodies, extending an invitation to visit Westland when in search of a location. Now to the point: If the Repatriation Board in Christchurch can induce the Government to purchase this farm for experimental purposes, why should not Westland agitate for the same? Let our local Repatriation Board, backed up by the Chamber of Commerce, Progress League, &c., apply at once for £1,000 to purchase bees and appliances. The land has already been offered for this section, so that a season's training (free to returned men) may be given to those who apply.

We have several returned men who are capable of managing such a scheme, so that with our location, after the second season's work, the section would be self-supporting, and could pay back in an average season £100 per year.

We have a much better location than Avonhead, as last season's crop is still on the hives for winter feed. We are not subject to the hot north-west winds they get in Canterbury which dries up the nectar secreted by the clover in summer.

We have a rotation of bee-fodder in early Spring, which is not surpassed in any other part of New Zealand. It is quite possible to get an average return of 200 lbs. of honey per colony in Westland, whereas in many places they count 60 lbs. per colony good business. Push your barrow for Westland, and wipe out my heading—Neglected Westland—and insert in its place "Progress, Westland."

—Hokitika Guardian, July 9, 1920.



[Friend Murdoch, you're irrepresible! Practically a vote of censure was passed on you, at Conference for similar statements made, and you no sooner get home than you start again. We have not seen your district, but presume it to be something like Taranaki, only wetter! He would be a bold man who would make a similar statement for Taranaki.

The average yield as per crop reports for 1918-19 was 42.49 lbs. per hive, the best individual hive return being 1 ton 4 cwt. from 25 hives—a fraction under 1 cwt. per hive. In 1919-20 Crop Reports the average is 57.72 lbs. per hive, with the best individual return being 12½ cwt. from 20 hives, equals 70 lbs. per hive. On the face of these figures, and these are the only means we have of criticising your estimate, you are very wrong in making the assertion that it is possible to secure an average return of 200 lbs. per hive.

We have no doubt that some seasons not only Westland but many other districts will give you the average you speak of, but you must remember your published statement gets all over the Dominion without any qualifying remarks, and it is decidedly misleading. We have a fair idea of the possibilities of beekeeping all over

the Dominion, and we are emphatic in our opinion that it is not true that in Westland or any other part of the Dominion is it possible to secure an average return of 200 lbs. per hive. You must remember that to secure a return like this, every hive must be in the absolute pink of condition in every particular—a thing I venture to assert will not be found in any apiary of any commercial size. One has a poor queen, one has disease, another has swarmed, &c., &c.

If you look back in the Crop Reports for 1918-19, you will see a return of 20 tons 8 cwt. from 270 hives, which is an average of 169 lbs. per hive, and you have to bear this in mind when viewing this return that it was an exceptional season, and the apiarist is one of the best in the Dominion. Others in the same district did not get anything like such a result. But this apiarist would be the very last to attempt to mislead people that this result was a yearly one.

We admire your patriotism for your part of the country, but please, when it comes to the possibilities of beekeeping there do stick to the returns that have been shown, and not possibilities that will not eventuate.—Ed.]

## 1920-21 PRICE LIST

of

# ITALIAN QUEENS.

### PRICES:

	1	2	3	4	5
Untested .. .. .	7/-	12/6	18/-	23/-	27/6
Select Untested—1/- extra per Queen.					
Tested .. .. .	12/-	22/-	29/6	38/6	46/-
Select Tested .. .. .	15/-	28/-			
Breeders .. .. .	25/-				

Full Colonies, on ten frames, with Select Tested Queen .. £2 10s. each.

Queens Guaranteed Free from all Bee Diseases, and bred from Pure Stock, which has been selected for hardiness, disease-resisting, good-working, and non-swarmed qualities.

Eighty per cent. of Untested Queens guaranteed purely mated.

TERMS: Nett cash with order. Cheques to have exchange added.  
P.O. Order Office: Edendale.

Tested Queens for delivery from October 20th; Untested from about November 20th to end of March (weather permitting)

NOTE.—Having bought out the whole of Mr. Robert Stewart's Breeding Stock, I have decided to again enter the lists of Commercial Queen Breeders till that gentleman should establish a new apiary in another location.

Postal Address:

**ROBERT GIBB,** MENZIES FERRY,  
SOUTHLAND.

## Beekkeepers' Exchange.

[Advertisements on this page will be inserted at the rate of 3/- per 36 words per insertion. Cash must accompany order or will not be inserted. Addresses care Editor 6d. extra to cover cost of postage of replies.]

### 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.

**WANTED, CADET;** good chance for young man to learn Beekeeping; all appliances manufactured in our workshop; Out-apiaries established; motor car and truck used; can start immediately.

A. L. LUKE CO.,  
Awakeri, near Whakatane,  
Bay of Plenty.

**COMMERCIAL APIARISTS** willing to assist Returned Soldiers who have had a Course of Instruction in the industry are requested to communicate with

CHAPLAIN CAPT. HARDIE,  
Trentham Camp.

**WANTED TO PURCHASE FOR CASH** FOUNDATION MILL and OUTFIT; also to get in touch with a beginner who wishes to take up the industry for a living. Good locality.

W. J. PERRING,  
Kumara Junction,  
via Greymouth.

### NEW SEASON'S GOODS. NEW SEASON'S GOODS. NOW LANDING.

EXTRACTORS, SMOKERS AND OTHER BEEKEEPERS' SUNDRIES.

EXTRACTORS . . . from £6 8s.  
FOUNDATION . . . from 3/8 per lb.

Place your orders early; prices will probably advance.

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

### NOTICE TO BEEKEEPERS.

Owing to having disposed of my Apiary, I WILL NOT BE ABLE TO SUPPLY QUEENS this coming season.

ROBERT STEWART.

### FOUNDATION.

WE OFFER the Finest Quality FOUNDATION, MANUFACTURED FROM N.Z. BEESWAX; also American Foundation made by Dadants.

Order early, and beware of purchasing foreign Foundation without consulting the Association.

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

The blow-fly, poised on vibrant wing,  
That broods his welcome to the spring,  
Is housewife's most detested pest,  
And always an unwelcome guest.  
But not a more abhorrent foe,  
Than many other pests we know,  
Those coughs and colds we'd ne'er endure,  
Had we no Woods' Great Peppermint Cure.

Send for Pamphlet on "BEESWAX."

6d. POST FREE.

W. B. BRAY,  
Bary's Bay.

## Do not Work with Obsolete Knives.

HAGERTY'S PATENT No. 40726 STEAM CAPPING KNIFE.

IT IS A PLEASURE TO THE APIARIST.

Steam Knife, complete with Can & Tubing, posted to any part N.Z. Price 40/-

Or send your Bingham Knife and I will convert it for you. Price 30/-

Can and Tube 5/- extra.

WORKMANSHIP GUARANTEED.

WILLIAM HAGERTY, Electrician, WINTON.

## Honey Production and Bee Supplies.

There is no question which is exercising the minds of the statesmen of to-day more than how to meet the enormous financial burdens caused by the War. They all agree, however, that increased production in all branches of industry is essential, and will do much to ease the burdens which press so heavily. Particularly in our own Dominion is increased production an urgent necessity if we are to meet the heavy burden of post-war taxation. The sugar shortage is becoming increasingly acute; so serious is it in fact that a number of jam factories are closing their doors, and it looks as though no sugar will be available for jam-making in the homes this year. This means that there will be a very large demand from all classes of the community for honey, and it is predicted by those in a position to know that 10d. to 1/- per lb. will be the ruling price in the Autumn for fair average grades.

Herein is the opportunity and the obligation of Beekeepers everywhere to advance the standard of their own business. With the demand for honey greatly increased and its price greatly advanced, the Beekeeper should respond with the largest and best production of honey possible. The more there is produced the more there will be consumed and the market widened and steadied. It is up to the Beekeepers everywhere not only to help hold the advanced ground now won, but to enlarge the field and extend the popularity of honey as a food in every market.

The way to do this is to do better Beekeeping, and better Beekeeping means (in most cases) better equipment for the Apiary. Just at this point enters the Alliance Box Co. Ltd. Their Beekeeping Supplies are recognised everywhere as standard. They are as good as can be made. The pages of our Catalogue carefully studied will prove that Alliance equipment is more complete than any other, and that higher quality materials are used. Maintenance of quality in its goods is its first concern always. Leaders in the past, this Company will remain leaders in the future.

We wish our Friends a prosperous and successful season, and desire to express our sincere thanks for their favours.

ALLIANCE BOX CO., LTD.,

Telegrams—"Brickell," Dunedin.  
Post Office Box 572, Dunedin.

R. W. BRICKELL, *Manager.*

**New Season's Illustrated Catalogue**

**sent free on request.**

*Just drop us a line when in doubt about choice of equipment. We maintain a service department for your information.*

## It does not matter to us

WHOSE REDUCER YOU BUY, FOR WE WELL KNOW THAT YOU WILL EVENTUALLY PUT THE OTHER ON THE SCRAP HEAP AND GET A BARTLETT-MILLER PATTERN.

## How we know

We have been so many years using, testing, and making Reducers that we have learned that there is just **ONE BIG PROBLEM** to be solved in their successful construction. That problem is the one of clearing away the slumgum so that you can instantly let it all go, or keep it flowing away slowly or fast; BUT you positively must be able to keep part of the Reducer at work while you clear some other part. If you cannot do this, your release of any part allows all the rest to fall away, and some of this is bound not to be completely melted. If it is all melted, then you have been running the Reducer almost idle for far too long. While the very last lot of slumgum has been losing its honey, some other lot has been kept baking on the hot surfaces and thus discolouring your honey. There is no such thing possible to human kind as being able to judge just that amount of pollen in combs placed in a Reducer. This means that some parts get more slumgum than others, and if you let off the whole machine full of slumgum at one time, you must lose some that is not quite all melted.

There is positively no hope of inventing any Reducer that will allow every thickness of slumgum to get away with merely one single sized opening all through the Reducer. We all have solid lumps of pollen to deal with occasionally, which are far too big to pass the opening which we use as a general thing. To open the whole Reducer to permit these big lumps to pass must of course let loose lots of thinner junks that are not properly emptied of honey. What is needed is some place into which to empty this smaller stuff, and the BARTLETT-MILLER REDUCER is the only one extant to-day which has such a construction. It is the easiest thing to simply lift into another trough of the Reducer whatever of unmelted comb may remain in the trough we want to rid of slumgum, and one action in letting down the lever throws the bottom of the tube space wide open, and away goes everything on to the screen put there to catch it.

## This Device for Rapid Clearance is Patented

and since no other invention can attach it to any pattern, the BARTLETT-MILLER REDUCER positively must remain ahead of all competitors.

The openings at the bottom of the tube spaces can be regulated to any width, and are alterable at the will of the operator by simply screwing a nut up or down the lever. Even this device is far ahead of all other machines in the way of simplicity, but in addition no other Reducer can have the complete clearance obtained by letting the whole bottom fall clear away. No other machine can have a separate bottom piece, as separate from the actual tubes. The nearest that any competitor can approach the BARTLETT-MILLER invention is to alter the tubes themselves to vary the width, and as this means altering all or none, such an idea is too crude to appeal to anybody who has ever had much to do at honey melting. A machine must be able to deal easily and without fussing the whole livelong day WITH THE BLACKEST COMBS IN THE APIARY, and must work without any continual altering of tube widths, and whatever of accumulated slumgum may need releasing must be practicable with one single action, and in sections of the Reducer only just as may be needed. There can be no such thing as all-or-none in an up-to-date Reducer.

UNTIL WE SELL OUR PATENT OF THE FULL FALL-DOWN TUBE BOTTOMS, THE BARTLETT-MILLER REDUCERS WILL REMAIN THE MOST PRACTICAL HONEY REDUCERS MANUFACTURED. THEY ARE THE ONLY POSSIBLE DEVICE WHICH WILL HANDLE ALL THICKNESSES OF SLUMGUM WITHOUT LETTING PASS OTHER SLUMGUM WHICH IT MAY NOT BE DESIRABLE TO LET THROUGH.

## Regarding Proposed Competitions

If we ever do submit our Reducers to a test competition, we shall insist upon a continuous four hours working, and that for three hours the Reducers handle only old black combs. THEN there will be only one result insofar as the B.-M. Reducer is concerned, and that result will consist of the making of a glass case to accommodate the medal at our factory.

There is NO present device for Reducers on the market other than our own that we have not TESTED YEARS AGO AND THROWN AWAY.

## Future Orders

Owing to the ravages of influenza upon our staff (relapses have been frequent through starting too soon to overtake our orders), we are compelled to decline, after the 15th of this month, any orders for Reducers for delivery earlier than March 20th, 1921.

We are trying to arrange that the H.P.A. shall execute all orders until March next, but whether they will prove more successful than ourselves at obtaining manufacturers' prices anything like those we have been charging we are not sure. In any case no tinsmith can turn our machines out at what we have been quoting, so prices must be put up by the H.P.A.

We will announce the advance in next issue, but meanwhile the old Price List is hereby superseded. Prices until the 15th inst. will be given upon application.

**IF YOU WANT REDUCERS AT ONCE, YOU MUST MAKE APPLICATION BEFORE THE 15th.**

WE ARE INCREASING OUR BEES BY SIX HUNDRED COLONIES THIS SEASON, AND AS WE HAVE ALL OTHER ARRANGEMENTS MADE AND ARE NOW PUSHED FOR TIME TO FINISH THE CUTTING OUT AND MAKING UP OF THE PLANT, WE POSITIVELY CANNOT ABANDON THIS WORK TO SUPPLY REDUCERS.

## That Ruakura Public Competition

Do not be fooled. Remember that at Ruakura the only Reducer that had no slungum at the end of the demonstration was the Bartlett-Miller Reducer. What is more, all the others had all their slungum still there.

At least one of the competitors wrote stating that the slungum was only pollen, which should never be put in any Reducer, as it was only bad management that allowed pollen in the honey super.

All we have to say here is that when Beekeepers reach such a state of perfection that pollen can be kept out of supers first, and then out of the Reducer, we shall be in a position to actually order the angels to "come at once and do this melting for us!"

**POLLEN OR NO POLLEN, AND WHATEVER THE QUANTITY, THE BARTLETT-MILLER REDUCER HANDLES IT ALL WITHOUT BOTHER AND IN SEPARATE SECTIONS OF THE REDUCER AS REQUIRED. WITHOUT THIS PATENTED DEVICE NO REDUCER IS EVEN UP TO DATE, NOT TO SAY PRACTICABLE.**

# The Thoroughwork Apiaries Company

## KIHIKIHI.

# Honey for Export

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## 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."

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## 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.

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

# 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.

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.**