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F.O. Gardiner

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Apiary of Mr. S. E. Gardiner, East Oxford, Canterbury.

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ASSOCIATION OF N.Z.

New Zealand Beekeepers' Journal.

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The New Zealand Beekeepers' Journal

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

No. 8

VOL. 5

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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 matter for publication must be in the Editor's hands NOT LATER than the 20th of the month previous to publication. Address

FRED C. BAINES, Kati Kati, Bay of Plenty.

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EDITORIAL.

We think it will be generally agreed that the most important matter dealt with at the recent Conference was the re-affirmation of the principle of the proposed Apinaries Tax and the unanimous adoption of the scale of taxation as put forward by the Standing Committee. It is quite evident that the organised beekeepers as a whole are willing to be taxed, whether the principle involved is right or wrong, so the only thing we can do now is to analyse the proposal and see what it is capable of doing for the industry.

(1) The Scale.—1 to 5 hives, 1/- per hive (2/6 minimum); 6 to 15 hives, 10/- per annum; 16 to 50 hives, 15/- per annum; 51 to 100 hives, 20/- per annum; and 10/- per annum per 100 or part thereof above 100 colonies. We cannot see where this scale could be improved upon; the small man pays a nominal sum, and the commercial man according to the number of colonies owned. Under this scale it is the commercial men who will be bearing the major part of the burden, so it cannot be said we are trying to push the small man out.

(2) That one-fifth of the gross proceeds of the tax be handed to the National for

organisation purposes.—We are pretty sure that it was the inclusion of this clause that made the voting so unanimous, and that was on the Editor's suggestion that this was inserted. There can be no doubt that if this is agreed to, it is going to help the National and its organisation very, very considerably. We have pointed out before that it is only by the assistance of the Government subsidy of £100 a year that we have been able to carry on. The National could not pay its postage bill on the quarter fees received from the Branches. The term guaranteed by the Government has now expired, and if this tax is passed it will take the place of the subsidy. Another aspect of the question of refund is this:—For many years a number of men and women have been willing to pay their fees into the National and Branches for the betterment of the industry, and through the efforts of these every person owning a hive of bees has been a participant in the improvements secured by our organisation. But when the greater number is appealed to to assist us by becoming members, there is "nothing doing." But the proposed tax is going to find them if the one-fifth is handed to the National. These gentlemen will be compelled to assist the organisation, which, we are bound to confess, strikes us rather pleasingly.

(3) The remaining four-fifths of the sum raised the Government takes for the payment of salaries of additional inspection. It has been suggested to the Government that this sum be used for paying salaries only, the Government itself bearing the travelling expenses. This would practically mean a Government subsidy on the amount raised by beekeepers, and of course means that a greater number of men could be employed.

(4) It has been suggested to the Government that the tax remain in force until foul-brood disease has been eliminated, or at least thoroughly under control. We think this should take but a few years; certainly the box-hive man would be under control and eliminated. The wild hives in the bush will always be a menace to those having apiaries near standing bush; but as the settlement of the country goes on these areas are becoming less and less, so that even here we should see an improvement. When the happy time comes that we are in a position to say that foul brood in the Dominion is under control, then we shall ask the Government to repeal the tax, as they did with the sheep-farmers many years ago, when a tax was levied to cope with sheep scab.

Such, then, is the general scope of the tax, and we are bound to admit there are possibilities in the proposal for very great improvement in the industry, even if we do not altogether agree to the principle. It was surprising to find the number of members who, although not voting for the proposed tax, expressed themselves as quite willing to agree if something definite was

placed before them. We are pretty certain that as the proposal is now put forward there will be little opposition.

We were very glad to read that Mr. J. A. Campbell, late Assistant Director of the Horticulture Division had been promoted to the position of Director in place of Mr. T. W. Kirk, who recently retired. We congratulate Mr. Campbell on his appointment, and trust he will have a long and pleasant tenure of office. We have every confidence that Mr. Campbell will give any request of ours full consideration. He is fully alive to the possibilities of our industry and the handicaps we are working under, and we are sure he will do his best to help us in every possible way.

We desire to draw the attention of members of the National who are not attached to any Branch that a very large number did not pay their annual subscription last year. It is going to be a fairly hard matter to keep the Association financial this year, and we earnestly ask all members to keep themselves financial. We cannot carry on without the membership fees, and some seem to think a subscription about once in three years is near enough. It isn't!

You who are reading these remarks perhaps do not belong to any Branch or the parent body. Might we ask, Why not? We are in existence only for the benefit of those engaged in the industry, you included. All we ask is that you recognise this in a tangible way by becoming a member. **Join the Branch nearest you or send your sub. direct to the General Secretary.**

We have requested a number of leading beekeepers to contribute articles on "Spring Management" and "Queen Rearing," so we hope to give our readers some of the best advice going on these matters.

We have received a copy of the first issue of the South African Bee Journal, published at Johannesburg. It is to be the organ of the South African Association of Beekeepers. It appears the beekeepers of that country had an organisation and a Journal some years ago, but were unable to carry on. They are now making another start, and we wish them luck.

We learn that Mr. H. W. Gilling has been appointed apiary instructor, with headquarters at Wanganni, the district hitherto under Mr. P. A. Jacobsen's control having been split in two. We congratulate Mr. Gilling on obtaining the permanent position as instructor, and the beekeepers of the district that Mr. Gilling will visit are also to be congratulated, because our friend is a well-informed practical beekeeper, and one who can be relied on to give sound, experienced advice. We wish Mr. Gilling a good and pleasant term of office.

Market Reports.

Since our last report there has been a better export inquiry, but prices are still lower, 650 barrels Pile 2 and 3 Chilean having been sold at 30/- per cwt. ex store. Other piles are in retail demand from the Home trade. New crop Chilean offers at 32/- per cwt. c.i.f., U.K. or the Continent, but buyers are not interested. Some business has been done on the spot in Cuban, but the prices are not reported; 32/- to 35/- per cwt. is quoted for old crop ex store without business resulting.

Beeswax.—All stocks of Chilean have been sold to the States at £6 17s. 6d. to £7 per cwt. ex store. Some afloat offers at £6 15s. c.i.f. African and other kinds offer at low prices.

TAYLOR & CO.

Liverpool, 6th May, 1921.

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

Auckland.—The weather during June has been exceptionally fine, and the bees in this district are wintering well. Prices remain unchanged, both for honey and beeswax.—G. V. Westbrooke.

Wellington.—The rains experienced during the past month will assist materially to lay the foundation for a good honey crop during the coming season. Plant growth at this period of the year is exceptional for the district. The temperature for the winter thus far has been very mild, and brood rearing is proceeding in consequence. Honey prices are remaining firm, as reported last month. Section honey is scarce. Beeswax is quoted at 2/3 to 2/6 per lb. according to quality. Bulk lines for export continue to come forward to the grading stores, but this month should practically see the end of last season's crop for export.—F. A. Jacobsen.

Christchurch and Dunedin.—The market is firm for all lines. Pat honey is scarce, and consignments are readily taken up. No bulk lines are offering. The bulk of the crop is now forward for export. Prices are on a par with last month's quotations.—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.]

August is usually the commencement of the season, and it is necessary to give the bees a little attention.

Clear the growth round the hives; change any faulty covers which would probably mean wet mats above the frames that will need changing. Give the hives a heft at

the back to judge the stores. Those that are light, feed with a good syrup of half sugar and water, doing this at sundown.

FOUL-BROOD AND ITS TREATMENT.

It is always good counsel to advise the beginner to look out for foul-brood, as the chances are that he will meet it sooner or later. There is nothing to get alarmed over in finding a hive affected; we all expect to see it from time to time, but hope to goodness we don't! It is certainly very annoying to find, say, your best hive with a touch of disease, but it is one of the "little things sent to try us," I suppose. However, we will not get down-hearted over it. Let us first describe the symptoms. Healthy brood is all uniform in colour, capped over, slightly convex, and with a good queen a well-filled comb of brood appears like a well-built brick wall—no spaces or misses. But should disease be in the hive, you will find here and there a sunken cell rather darker than the others, and perhaps the covering is perforated. But all sunken cells do not mean you have the foul-brood disease, so it is usual to tear the capping off and insert a piece of grass, wooden match or tooth-pick. If the contents of the cell are of a dirty coffee colour and so glutinous that it sticks to the stick and pulls out of the cell perhaps an inch, you can conclude your diagnosis with the verdict that "You've got it!"

"Having got it!" the business now is to get rid of it. But if the hive is weak in bees and the disease fairly prevalent, then the best thing to do is to burn the whole lot—bees and combs. The first loss is the cheapest in the end. The hive, bottom-board and cover should be washed with a strong disinfectant, and stood in the sunlight for a few days. But if the hive is strong and the disease slight, the following treatment should be carried out in the spring, when the light honey flow is on, the work being done in the evening after the bees have finished flying:—

Prepare a new hive filled with frames, fitted with starters, that is, a narrow piece of foundation comb being put in the place of a full sheet, a fresh bottom board, cover and mat. Take these to the stand of the infected hive, and very gently move this sufficiently forward to allow you to place the new hive in its position. Take three frames out of your prepared hive to allow you room to brush the bees off the infected combs. Carefully remove cover and mat of old hive, using as little smoke as possible, remove each frame, and brush every bee off into the prepared hive; then replace the frames in the old hive. Replace mat and cover, and get it into a bee-proof shed at once. The prepared hive should have the entrance diminished, the mat and cover in position, and left thus for three days. On the fourth day the whole of the frames of starters are to be taken away and replaced with those containing full sheets of foundation, melting up the frames taken out.

This method is known as the McEvoy treatment, and is generally recognised as the safest and sanest method of dealing with this disease.

Get rid of the diseased combs at the earliest possible opportunity, as it is so easy to leave the shed door open, and the bees soon find the honey there, which means the spread of the disease over, perhaps, the whole of the apiary.

Do not forget to sterilise your hive tool after using on a diseased colony. Open your smoker and put your tool into the embers, giving a puff or two, then drive it into the ground three or four times.

By the way, do you want a cheap hive tool? An old 10-inch flat file makes a dandy one. Take it to the blacksmith and ask him to cut to nine inches, flatten and curve one end, and sharpen both, and you have a splendid implement. I use two, so I know.

F. C. B.

Comments on the Papers Read at Conference.

By FRED C. BAINES.

Ventilation (E. W. Sage.)

I am afraid I cannot agree with my friend on this matter, which he terms "a pet theory." I would rather call it a universal practice, advocated by every known authority in the beekeeping world. I do not think every writer would simply copy what has already been said without having experienced that the advice to give ventilation was sound.

I have used the reversible bottom board for years now, and sometimes I have let the hive get too heavy before reversing, and after a good day it is remarkable to see the difference between the hive having a narrow and one having a large entrance. The former has the alighting board black with fanning bees, and by putting the ear to the hive one can hear the tremendous amount of work being done inside to keep the hive cool. But the latter is comparatively quiet. There is, of course, a certain amount of fanning inside the hive, but the difference in the wear and tear of the bees must be enormous.

Mr. Sage's paper gives me an opportunity to record a peculiar occurrence bearing upon this matter of ventilation. Last fall I transferred some nuclei into large hives, putting the three frames of brood, bees and queen at one side, and filling up the hive with the necessary stores to carry them through the winter. The entrance is blocked up so that a space of 1 inch by $\frac{3}{8}$ is left at the same end as the brood and queen.

June 4th (Sunday) was a beautiful sunny day, and as I was leaving home for Conference early on the Monday morning, I thought I would look round the apiary to see that everything was all right, the entrance blocks in position, &c., &c. The bees were flying very freely, and in more than one of the hives with a small entrance ($1 \times \frac{3}{8}$) there were bees fanning! Now, please bear in mind this was in mid-winter, yet in a hive with a small entrance and the bees a bit active, they evidently found the hive required ventilating.

Our friend says, "Should the bees cluster out during the heat of a summer day, it is better by far to do that than to have them continually exposed to draughts."

The late Dr. Miller had a phrase that will apply here: "I wonder; now I wonder!"

Lack of Co-operation Among Our Beekeepers and Its Cause (I. Hopkins)

I made a few comments on this paper last month, and will add but very little. It has pleased one or two persons (other than Mr. Hopkins) to criticise very harshly the National Association, its officers, its Journal, and its (alleged) uselessness! One of the gentlemen who has written thus publicly for the years ending 1920 and 1921 subscribed not one penny piece to the funds, but has since joined a Branch and paid 5/- to carry him until May, 1922. Of this 5/- his Branch receives 3/9, so that the actual amount of cash the National has had to work on from this particular member is 1/3 in three years! And yet he has the effrontery to write in the public press that the National has not done what it should! I say this sort of thing is neither fair nor honest!

The National Association represents the beekeeping industry. By that I mean that practically the whole of the commercial beekeepers in New Zealand subscribe to its funds or its Journal. The best men in the industry are not only willing to subscribe to its funds, but also to render all assistance possible—Messrs. Rentoul, Allan, Barker, Ward, Ireland, Penny, Bates, Cotterell, Gilling, Davies, Sage, to mention only a few of the past officers of the National. Are they all fools, and do not know what is necessary for the industry? One would really think so, judging from the criticisms that have been made.

However, to get back to Mr. Hopkins' paper. Our old friend seems to think we shall end up disastrously if we do not "wake up." During the past year five new Branches have been started. The previous year one was started, and the year previous to that four were added to our strength. Of the original Branches, only one has died out—Taranaki. Of those formed since 1917, one has not lived—Wairarapa. In the year 1916 there were five district Branches; to-day there are fourteen and four sub-branches. What is the matter with the National?

But I am going to say this: That whatever we have done in the past, there is always a hope of doing better in the future. We have an Executive composed of men of experience in the industry, in business, and organisation. Send along your proposals to increase the usefulness of the National; they will get a good hearing.

Honey-house Construction (A. B. Trythall).

I must congratulate Mr. Trythall on his paper and model. The latter, by the way, I first saw at the Hamilton Show, when a young lady came along and, after looking for a moment, said to her friend, "Oh, Maudie! come and look at this bungalow for bees!" If I were well off, I would certainly plan my honey-house a la Trythall. I suggest to Mr. Trythall that he send a plan and elevation of his model for reproduction in the Journal.

Queen-Rearing (Y. H. Benton).

This is a very good paper on a popular and important subject. Mr. Benton's appliance for punching out the cell is efficient, and enables him to get the necessary eggs without the trouble of transferring. I must confess I do not like the job of transferring larvae; I always think my work such a "botch" when compared to the bees' work.

Regarding the number of cells a colony can raise and take care of, there is a great difference of opinion. Some think 12 to 15 plenty; others will set two or three dozen grafts. Some years ago Mr. Hopkins raised queens by laying a whole comb of young larvae flat just above the frames in a strong queenless and broodless colony. He reproduced the photo of a frame containing 80 cells, the majority being well built and good.

Isle of Wight Disease and Its Causes (Mr. I. Hopkins).

This was a most interesting and instructive lecture; the lantern slides were splendid. There must have been an enormous amount of work entailed in getting the facts established. I am sure the whole beekeeping world is indebted to Mr. A. H. E. Wood, of Glassel, Aberdeenshire (who, by the way, is a subscriber to this Journal), who generously financed the research work by £500. I take it upon myself to convey to him through these remarks the thanks of the National Association for his great assistance to the industry; also for enabling us to spend a very pleasant and instructive time during the Conference.

Concrete and Its Uses in the Apiary (C. F. Horn).

I had no idea one could put this substance to so many uses—from making a shed bee-proof to building a drinking fountain for the bees.—A good, instructive paper.

Acquisition of Apiary Sites (W. B. Bray).

Mr. Bray has made out quite a good case. There is no doubt that at times beekeepers have found it very hard to secure a site to start operations; and if this paper opens up the way to make this easier, Mr. Bray will have earned the thanks of the community. Personally, I think the beekeeper just starting is usually rather more inclined to lease than buy until he has proved the district. This feeling also applies to the commercial man running out-apiaries; the location sometimes does not turn out what one would expect, and a change is desirable.

However, the matter is now receiving attention at the hands of the Executive and Standing Committee, and something will probably eventuate.

Queen-Rearing and Queen-Breeding (W. B. Bray).

The lines advocated by Mr. Bray in breeding by selection are very good indeed. There can be no doubt that, if one paid particular attention to breeding from queens who have, say, for only two generations, been superseded quietly in the hive—other qualities, of course, being present—one is going along a pretty sure road in raising as near a non-swarming strain as is possible.

Why I Like Large Hives (J. Banks).

It is to be regretted that Mr. Banks was unable to be present to give this paper, as it bears upon a question that is exercising the minds of the beekeepers of England and America. Mr. Banks makes out an excellent case for the large hive, which with him means less swarms, less work and more honey—three pretty solid reasons for adopting any appliance.

Management of Out-yards (H. R. Penny)

I have no hesitation in declaring this to be one of the best papers ever given at a Conference or that has appeared in print on this particular subject. It is clear, concise and thoroughly practical right through, and one can see at a glance that Mr. Penny is a thorough, systematic and successful apiarist. I believe Mr. Penny "topped the score" for crop this year, he having raised somewhere about 24 tons. (Good for you, Reg!)

Economy in Production (A. R. Bates).

The many tips given in this paper make it valuable reading. There is no doubt we beekeepers often lose a lot of money by neglecting certain apparently little matters. Regarding re-queening, I wonder if other beekeepers are like me in this respect—I sometimes get a bit sentimental over killing queens; they have done well the previous season, well-mated good queens, and I am afraid I have sometimes given them a longer lease of life than I should. Re-queening in the fall has a lot to recommend it, only one must not leave it too late—that is, if rearing the queens—otherwise there is a danger of losing the drones.

Present and Future Market Prospects (C. P. Ryland).

The actual cash return obtained for honey is the most vital matter to commercial beekeepers. Mr. Ryland's remarks indicate that he has the pulse of the markets of the world, and apparently they all are pretty weak just now. The strongest is our own local trade in the Dominion, which is capable of such infinite expansion.

I notice that M. C. Richter in "Gleanings" thinks we are optimistic in regard to anticipated results, caused by some remarks of Mr. Ryland's published in the Journal. I think all who know Mr. Ryland will agree that he is an optimist, and as a rule, after hearing him lay his case before any meeting, one becomes imbued with a similar spirit.

Mr. E. Brickell was "billed" for a paper, "How Not To Do It by One Who Did It," but he did it not! I have a suspicion that he was "pulling the leg" of the Secretary when he gave the title. I suggest to Mr. Brickell that he can only save his reputation by putting his intended paper through the Journal.

The National Association: Some Criticisms and Helpful Suggestions (H. Bartlett-Miller).

This paper is on the same lines as Mr. Hopkins', but Mr. Miller puts a constructive idea with the criticism, which makes all the difference in value. And not only so: Mr. Miller recognised that work cannot be done for nothing, so he generously donated £10 to the funds of the National.

Mr. Miller's paper appears in this issue, as owing to illness he was unable to attend it in time to be embodied in the printed report of the Conference Proceedings.

To-night (July 20th) The Domestic Beekeeper for June came to hand, and under the heading "Some Pertinent Questions," Mr. E. G. Le Stourgeon says:—"Nearly two years ago a movement was started to band all of the beekeepers of America together in Sure Enough League to work out the problems of mutual interest in our industry, and seek a sane marketing scheme for our product. Last month a bulletin was published by the American Honey Producers' League, and exactly 2,280 copies could be mailed out, because that was the total number of beekeepers in the whole country, who had taken enough interest in the movement to let their identity and address be known.

"A dozen or more beekeeping statisticians have repeated the statement again and again 'that there are over 80,000 beekeepers in this country!'"

The above bears out the editorial remarks made last month that the National, compared with similar organisations, is not such a "dead 'un" as some would make out.

I "do believe" that two more Branches will be started in the immediate future in the vicinity of Hauraki Plains and Otorohanga.

What is the matter with the National?

The National Association :

SOME CRITICISMS AND HELPFUL SUGGESTIONS.

(Paper read at the 1921 Conference by H. Bartlett-Miller.)

Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen,—

My paper is not written to pay compliments to any one of you. I want, should it be necessary, to tread hard on the pet corns of each and every person listening to me to-day. I want you to feel that Bartlett-Miller was sincere enough to risk losing your friendship rather than have you fail to learn the lesson contained in this paper through my pandering to your vanity by platitudes.

In this day and generation there is no such thing as standing still. Standing still is a mere misnomer for the word "obliteration." That being so, our National Association is in process of obliteration—slowly, if you like, but none the less surely.

Just you ask any one of we elder members of the National who put in such a strenuous time of it saving our beloved Association from fizzling out in 1913 whether we are satisfied with that progress toward the goal we all hoped and expected the National would ultimately attain? Not one of us would give you an affirmative answer! The National to-day is decisively not controlled by each and all of its members.

Look up, as I have done, the back files of our Journal. How many different persons have we elected—(or, rather, not we, but those fortunate enough to be able to attend the Annual Conferences, and that does not include those among us who have businesses to attend to, which are too important to be left for a whole week, while it does include those who have no business at all)—who have by word or deed, recorded in the same Journal, given one solitary idea or originated one motion for improvement of the aims and objects of our Association?

Surely there are sufficient original minds among our ranks to obviate this appalling paucity of imaginativeness. It is actually disgusting to realise how very little those placed in the seat of honour in our Association have had in creating any spirit of enthusiasm, or even of mere interest in its affairs. Except for the initial article sent in by each successive President, as a kind of apologetic introduction of himself to the members, the articles really worth reading can be counted on the fingers of both hands. And you will find only about

four men responsible for those you can count. Well, just go on this way for a year or so longer, and more progressive minds will, in sheer desperation, carry out that (ever-by-me-contended-against) suggestion to start an opposition Association; unless our rankers will wake up to the ridiculous method at present adopted whereby you elect officers without first of all deciding their capabilities.

Now, when the present lack of system can result in such absolutely apathetic persons being elevated to official positions in the National, do you not think that the time has arrived to either mend or end the Association; your only alternative to the creation of a new Association by those who realise that if this Conference does not wake up and put a stop to the lackadaisical method of election of officers of the National, they will be compelled to disassociate themselves with it—not because they may be jolly good fellows, but because, whether you like them personally or not, they have business experience, a pushful temperament, power of originality, force of character, and all those generally accepted qualities which go to prove business qualifications? The individual who never bothers anyone is usually the one who never bothers progress either. To put a stop to this ridiculous method of appointment of officers to our Association is the real reason for the motion of motion I have to speak to at this Conference, so that further reference to this part of my subject may well be left to them.

I want to bring now to your notice the outstanding fact that if you want to awaken interest in the minds of members of our various Clubs and Branches, you must positively give the members something to do, or at least think about. The idea of the various Branches voting for the officers of the Executive is not new, but (particularly in the U.S.A., and with a much vaster membership than we shall ever attain) this method had to be adopted before the membership could be galvanised into efficient life. Yet this election alone will not create a lasting interest in the Branch meetings, and we must invent some other means of maintaining an acute activity among such members. Let me suggest that through the Journal there may be made suggestions for discussion by Branches of subjects that can be mentioned very easily if only a little mental application be brought to bear upon the subject.

There should be one definite subject for all Branches to discuss at each monthly meeting, and such discussion should be disallowed after the lapse of the given time—say, one month after its appearance in the Journal. Then another subject should be given, and the results of the deliberations by the respective Branches published in the Journal, so that everybody may get a good grasp of the mind of the whole National Association upon whatever subject was discussed—e.g., sup-

pose we made the apary boundaries question the subject for next month. We should obtain an exact vote upon this much-vexed subject by every Branch in the Dominion, and we should definitely know how we stood as a whole membership. At present we do not know definitely anything at all about what the majority of our members want. It might just depend upon a catch vote at a Conference. Why not make it a serious business with all the Branches, to be decided by vote at a regular Branch meeting, at which that subject, in addition to the general business, should form the main business of that particular meeting; and so on, with every matter concerning the National's progress? We do not know for absolute certainty that the legal protection of members for antagonistic prosecution by neighbours or ill-disposed persons either is or is not the ideal of the minds of our members. But if these subjects, instead of being at the mercy of a catch vote of some Conference, was made a business proposition by all the various Branches of the National, who would be bound by a fixed date to send in their vote upon the subject, then we should see such a movement for increase of interest in its affairs as would delight each of those among us who now are wondering whether it would not be better for the brainiest among us to form a subsidiary Association, not necessarily antagonistic to the National but subsidiary to it, although working off its own bat, and attracting the best in our ranks in the line of business experience and of education. If any such Association is formed, it will very soon put the old National Association in the shade by the mere natural process of the survival of the fittest. I have ever combated the idea of a North versus South Association, which has been idly mooted any time these past five years, because I positively know that any such parochial cleavage could not possibly be entertained by minds which would count in any such newly formed clique.

On the other hand, a new banding together of shrewd minds interested in the higher aims of our progress is by no means an impossibility; indeed, unless this Conference wakes up and proves the National capable of better business sense and capable of grasping the present nettle of idle indifference as exhibited by the apathetic manner in which its affairs are conducted, for we only seem to wake up at Conference time, then without that renaissance, you may take it from me that that new Club, or Association, or Society, or whatever name it may come to be called, will most assuredly be created. It all depends upon whether at this very Conference you wake up to the necessity of incorporating real serious business application to your National business.

For so long now as to almost destroy hope have the real capable business minds among us deplored the non-progressive action in matters which really count in the

affairs of the National. As I remarked some time back, where is the one among those who worked so hard in 1913 to place the National upon its present foundation who is satisfied with the present state of things? Echo answers "Where?"

Now I want to broach entirely new ground; I want to broach a subject which I venture to think will appeal to every business head in our ranks.

We must have each and all recognised that those among us who receive a trade benefit immediately and directly from the beekeeping fraternity, as a class distinct from all others from whom we derive our livelihood owe as a more or less obvious point of business honour, at least so it appears to me, to support in a material sense the financial side of that Association, from which undoubtedly we gain considerable benefit. At least we must be candid enough to admit that we should do considerably less business with the beekeepers of the Dominion if the National did not exist. We cannot help benefitting from the existence of the Association even if we would. The better organised any body of producers is the greater the amount of business possible among the members of that organisation. Nobody will question that statement.

Well, then, I put it up to every supply firm, to every foundation maker, to "Thoroughwork" Apiaries, and each and all of those making all or part of their livelihood by direct trading with beekeepers, even to our H.P.A. as well, that a contribution to the funds of the National would not exactly kill us stone dead. Furthermore, I hold as part of my personal creed that no person should accept an office entailing the oversight of any mutual Association unless he is willing to adopt that fatherly protection and interest that our gaddies accorded us. Our dad's had to shell out many a time and oft for the needful until we were able to ourselves supply our own requirements. To that end I hold that the office of President entails the moral necessity of assisting the funds of whatever body one may be willing to exercise that office on behalf of, and should as a mere matter of honour be ready to support it in a financial sense, as well as in the matter of brain power.

By way of practising what I preach, I was able to obtain from "Thoroughwork" Apiaries an appropriation for funding the newly formed Waipa Bee Club to the extent of £10 for certain, with an assurance that if they actually needed up to £25 the firm would not be found saying much about it, provided that sound business had been the cause of the expenditure. By this means we have a weekly advertisement of four inches published in our local paper setting out the assistance the Club is willing to give beekeepers in the locality and the dire penalties to be expected if foul-brood or non-registration was indulged in. I have also been able to gain an appropriation of £10 for the National funds,

because we recognise that it is sound business sense to subsidise those Associations, from which much of our business success is derived. We hate the mean person, and beekeepers as a class are not mean. That is an accusation that can never be levelled at our fraternity. That is why I am so sure that now I have started the ball rolling, the others will join in in proportion to the extent of their business. We can never have too much, or indeed even enough, in the funds of the National Association.

So, ladies and gentlemen, summarising my suggestions, we have these definite items to consider and put into practice, remembering that if you do not, there are others who will create another body which will.

First, and most important: Give more care and consideration to the selection of your officers, and make impossible the present reckless method.

Secondly: Awaken interest in the Branches by a cut-and-dried policy of giving them something definite to discuss and deliberate upon.

Thirdly: Arrange your Conferences so that the instructions to novices do not waste the time that should be devoted to serious deliberation.

Fourthly: Consider seriously the question of legal protection in the line of legal guarantee of costs incurred by antagonism to the keeping of bees anywhere, either in village or city.

Fifthly, but this applies only to the generous amongst us who are engaged in trade: Do not forget that it pays—and pays handsomely too—to support those who are supporting you.

Sixthly: Conjure up a little gratitude for those older heads among us whose labours in the past gave you the present Constitution, got the 1913 Apiaries Act passed for you, and have given you of their best in ideas and interests ever since, and who are looking to you to make the National something like what they expected it to become by your efforts before this number of years had slipped away. For their sakes wake up, and realise that you owe it to those pioneers to make the National a thing to be proud of.

Lastly, remember that if you still adopt that deadly policy of "laissez faire," which has so largely characterised the attitude of the younger members among us, you will regret your laziness when it will be too late.

In a word, if you love the National, then prove your sincerity—THINK for it; WORK for it; PAY for it.

[We have had to abbreviate the above paper.—Ed.]

Do not leave it all to the other man to organise the industry—lend a hand!

Canterbury Tales.

By E. G. WARD.

The weather is a topic I have avoided for some time, but a few words on the subject now will not be out of place. The winter has been mild up till the present, and we have had very few hard frosts. The rainfall has been about normal, and snow has not yet fallen on the Plains. I read a few days ago that the kowhai is in bloom on the Peninsula and *Prunus pisardi* is just bursting in bloom in Christchurch Gardens. We shall soon have spring with us.

The mention of *Prunus pisardi* reminds me that I suggested planting it as suitable for bees. It blooms very early, and in sunny weather the bees visit it in thousands. It can be raised from seed. Collect the fruits when ripe and sow three inches deep. Cuttings of soft young shoots of last season's growth put in sandy soil in late autumn will strike; but the most satisfactory method is by grafting on young plum stocks in the spring, about September.

Now that the report of the Conference is before us, I propose, with the Editor's permission, to say a few words on the papers which were read. They are all interesting, instructive, and debatable. Mr. Sage has J. L. Byer, of Ontario, on his side in regard to ventilation, but he is certainly not "orthodox." I should not like to risk a 6-inch by half-inch entrance to a strong colony when a real old-fashioned nor-wester is blowing in Canterbury. I know of several instances where the combs were melted down through the entrance being too small. I heard of several colonies being smothered last summer, although the entrance was full width of a 12-frame hive. We had a few very hot days in the early part of last January, and most of my hives had a 14-inch by 7/8-inch entrance, and as an additional safeguard I lifted the lids and put them askew on top of the supers.

Mr. Hopkins' paper on "Lack of Cooperation Among Our Beekeepers, and Its Cause," is anything but encouraging to those who have, at considerable inconvenience to themselves, tried their best to help their fellows. "Something must be done," says Mr. Hopkins. Precisely! and those who have been trying to do it get very little thanks. The fact is that apathy and selfishness among those outside the National and H.P.A. are the only reasons that the membership is not greater. The Editor in his remarks has not only put up a good defence, but in my opinion has knocked Mr. Hopkins' criticism "into a cocked hat." I believe that if the history of most organisations were written, it would be found that about 10 per cent. of the members do all the work, and the other 90 per cent. are on the look-out for

the benefits without sharing any of the cost. There is an old story about a man who made a feast, who had to send his servants to scour the highways and byways to get enough to fill his house. I doubt whether some would join the National if we offered to provide a first-class motor-car and carry them for nothing.

Mr. Frythall's paper on "Honey House Construction" is helpful and practical. It would be impossible to design a building to suit everybody, so each one must construct something to suit his particular requirements and his purse.

Queen-rearing and breeding is a subject which appeals to all progressive apirists, and any method or appliance which helps to further the aim of improvement of queens is eagerly looked for and welcomed. Most of what Mr. Benton says has appeared previously at various times in bee literature, but his queen-cell nursery is a new idea. Whether it will prove a commercial success remains to be demonstrated. Personally, I prefer that the bees have access to the cells, and although, when compelled by unfavourable weather to make use of nursery cages, I prefer cells hatched among the bees to any other method. The argument has been used that incubator chicks are as good as those hatched under a hen, but there is not unanimity of opinion among experts on this subject. Mr. Bray's paper touches on an aspect of the subject which should always be kept in mind when rearing queens, and I can fully endorse what he says on the question of swarming. I never use swarm cells for re-queening, and I don't think I have had more than 5 or 6 per cent. of swarms in my ten years' experience.

Mr. Horn's use of concrete is all right, provided you own the apiary site, but if at all likely to be asked to "move on" would make sifting a heavy job. On the whole, I think I would prefer the orthodox wood floor raised 6 or 8 inches off the ground.

To me one of the most interesting papers is Mr. Bray's on the acquisition of apiary sites. Most people will think it too socialistic in tone, but he has tackled a question which must have perplexed most intending beekeepers, and has done it with conspicuous ability. He seems to have provided for every possible objection, and it is used in carrying out his suggestions. I see no reason why it should raise opposition from any reasonable man. One point he makes which should be kept in view by those who advocate beekeeping for a living, and that is, "It is not practical to cut up one block of land into small pieces and set a beekeeper on each section." Most of the uninitiated seem to think the opposite, and sneak as though bees can be kept successfully anywhere.

Mr. Banks is evidently a disciple of Dadant on the hive question. Dadant makes out a pretty strong case in his book,

but after all I am of opinion it is not so much the size or style of hive that counts as "the man behind the gun" (or hive, eh?) Probably large hives can be run more on the let-alone plan, but after all it is the crop of honey which counts, and the man who expects a good crop of honey without work is going to be disappointed more often than not.

Mr. Penny's paper is another which greatly interested me, but the way he spreads brood fairly made me gasp for breath. I used to do a little along this line, but experience has taught me that in Canterbury the risk of chilled brood is too great, so for some years now I have cut it out. Our great teacher, Dr. Miller, says the queen will extend the brood just as fast as the bees are able to cover it, and to that I say "Amen." I am in complete harmony with Mr. Penny when he advocates medium strength colonies for winter. What is the use of having a booming colony of bees after the honey flow? They only gobble up the stores and live a life of luxury on the labours of dead-and-gone generations.

Mr. Bates' ideas on economy in production is well worth careful study. Too many people are forgetful of the saying that "a small leak will sink a big ship." I have been in apiaries where there has been evidence of sufficient waste to discount returns by at least 10 per cent. This should not be. "Look after the pence and the pounds will look after themselves" is good advice. I notice Mr. Bates is in agreement with Mr. Penny on the question of wintering medium colonies. I heartily commend his last paragraph to readers. He is a long-headed beekeeper, and, if report says true, a successful one.

Readers of the Journal will note that Canterbury has lost the services of Miss Mackay as secretary of Canterbury Branch of the National. Miss Mackay has been secretary for something like thirteen years, and has earned golden opinions from all who have come in contact with her. I speak from personal experience when I say that it will be difficult, if not impossible, to find anyone who will carry out the duties of secretary with more tact, good nature and ability than Miss Mackay. It gives me the greatest pleasure to tender my small contribution of appreciation of her ever-readiness to help in all matters for the furtherance of the beekeeping industry.

[We should like to add our appreciation of Miss Mackay's work for the National Association, who has always been ready to do everything possible for the good of the Branch and industry generally. To occupy the position of secretary for thirteen years is no small matter, because as we all know it is not only the bees that sting; but our friend has carried the position splendidly and made no enemies. Thank you very much, Miss Mackay; we very much appreciate the help you have given.—Editor.]

District Reports.

HAWKE'S BAY.

On the 9th July one of our apinrists was looking through some of his hives, and found most had commenced brood-rearing. One in particular had gone deeply into the work, and had six frames of brood. In another case, he found not only drone brood, but also hatched drones.

We do not look for so much brood as early as this. The owner can account for it only by the poor honey flow in his part of the district during the summer and the slackening of brood rearing at that time. After the long rest, the honey commenced coming in from the gums, and brood rearing was begun in earnest.

It is good to read in 'Canterbury Tales' of the interest in the Journal subscription list. Our own folk have been watching it for two purposes: first, that we may get into touch with those who take the Journal but who have not joined our Association; secondly, that, knowing which of our members subscribe, we may canvass the others for subscriptions.

J. P. BOYLE.

13th July, 1921.

TAIERI.

We had not expressed any opinion on Mr. Bartlett-Miller's proposed amendment to the Constitution; we seemed to have no particular need for it. The National has run along smoothly enough. Though the amendment is an excellent piece of machinery, we thought that the Secretary would have too much work feeding and lubricating it; wherefore we had been content to dodder along as before until reform was urgently needed. That time has come!

The Conference is in theory the annual general meeting of the National. It is never possible for every member to attend, nor possible for every Branch to send a delegate. In these conditions all they can do is to send remits, which, in this case, replace personal representation. Such remits, of course, are respected, and taken at face value. At least, so we had been told; else, why were we asked to send remits? Perhaps we have been dreaming. Perhaps!

No one will blush to acknowledge having played "shops" when a child. 'Twas great fun, wasn't it, especially when daddy joined in? You see, he sometimes played in real coppers. Then we felt quite big and important. Now some of us, many of us (who knows?) are in our infancy as beekeepers. As such we have been treated to a game. Daddy Executive unbent himself and played at meetings and conferences. He taught us to vote, to remit, to move, second, and carry unanimously. Then we, taking things quite "au sérieux" (children usually do), moved

that there was to be no paddywhack for "hooking" doughnuts. At last we were to have a say in the management of ourselves (Childhood's persistent dream)! What disgust when tactless daddy laughs "Silly! Your opinions and decisions are no good! You don't know anything about it! Anyway, we were only playing! Run off, now, and don't bother me!" The mystification passes our comprehension. "Taint fair, so there! What did he tell us all about it for?"

Ave, there's the rub! The "grown-ups the big men," conscious of infallibility, to gain their own ends, to carry their own idea, consign to the w.p.b. remits from seven Branches. "Children should be seen and not heard!"

But enough! 'Tis an arrant piece of wrangling as one could wish for. The pity of it is that we have no redress as the Constitution stands. The Conference is the National: its will is our law. The decision of the Conference on the Apiary Tax is legal then, but its legality is based on business indecency.

"Argumenti causa," we are prepared to admit that in spite of the strong opinion of Branches there was an individual minority against the proposal. Likewise, we are prepared to admit that we don't know a bee from a bull's foot; to admit that an apiary inspector and a dog-tax man are all one to us; to admit, briefly, that we are dead-heads! Does that alter things though? Not a whit! The principle is wrong. Facts don't alter cases here. Some think that our alleged ignorance is to be a footstool to conspiracy. Bah!

However, next time we are going to sulk, Daddy will have to cajole. We have had a tummyful of playing at the business!

We call for Mr. Miller's Constitution in toto. We ask opinions from other Branches.

That's the fly in the ointment. It didn't spread contagion far. For the rest that report is extremely interesting. One couldn't wish for better papers. We shall all be experts soon. Amen! There is a spice of curiosity about it too. What could be more alluring than "How not to do it by one who did it?" But we haven't heard what he did, nor how he did it. We feel danger in the air. Does one usually do it? Am I, are you, likely to do it? It is not fair, R.W.B. Out wi' it! I'm sure ye Editor will find room for you.

We cannot close without a word to the President. Not a speech! "Welcome, and 'make yourself' at our place!"

BASIL H. HOWARD.

WAIPA BEE CLUB.

A meeting was held at the Farmers' Institute, Te Awamutu, on Thursday, 23rd June, 1921.

As the Club's representative (Mr. H. Bartlett Miller) to the Conference was not present (the special reason for which the meeting had been called having been to hear his report), Mr. C. Smedley (chairman) gave a brief outline of the proceedings, and Messrs. Wm. Heald (Otorohanga) and H. C. Jones (Pirongia), who were both also at the Conference, were able to give notes. Mr. Smedley advocated affiliation with the Auckland Provincial Branch, and gave notice of motion to that effect, to be put to the vote at our next meeting. Mr. Heald considered that we should lose our individuality by doing so, and Messrs. S. G. Bishop (Te Kawa) and E. L. Jones (Mangapiko) both spoke in favour of direct affiliation as at present constituted.

The proposal for a whole series of Field Days at various members' apiaries was discussed, and the matter left over for final arrangements at some future meeting.

HUGH C. JONES,
Secretary.

Gleanings from the Recent Conference.

By WM. HEALD.

Being my first Conference, I must say how pleased I was with it; and although on one or two occasions the dark cloud of foul-brood ravagings seemed to fall on the proceedings, generally the tone was most helpful and optimistic, and it was my happy lot to be much helped in the craft by the papers read at Conference.

Though not always following the rules of debate, the chairman, with his broad reasoning and geniality, filled the bill A1.

Vice-President Sage, like the herb of same name and just as useful, seasoned proceedings very considerably.

The next to be criticised, helpfully or otherwise, is the Secretary, and for a man of his experience great was my surprise to hear and see him thump the table with some feeling and offer to tender his resignation simply because some one or two unthinking individuals out of hundreds of reasonable, thinking beekeepers chose to criticise his work. We all appreciate the Journal, and are proud of it, and the Secretary has done endless, useful and necessary work, and is a most important man to the industry, but does not to my mind realise his importance and the respect in which he is held by his fellow-beekeepers.

And of the rank and file, all that can be said is that they are good fellows, willing to impart important and money-making information to one and all.

The amending of the Constitution of the National is right, and will, I think, improve matters. Also the tax on apiaries is just, and will help considerably to eradicate the disease and organise the industry.

The supper was a top-notch! Glad that I attended.
Box 3, Otterohanga.

Spring Management.

(A Paper read before the Hawke's Bay Beekeepers' Association by H. Shepherd.)

It is to be distinctly understood that all the manipulations mentioned in this paper are adopted to meet the conditions of the Hastings district.

About the first week in August according to the season, the early gums, the early wattles, the dandelion, and the tagasaste are in bloom, and in good weather the bees will be quite busy on them. Approximately, then, this first week in August will be the best time for a first examination of the colonies. Choose a warm, sunny day, and take a clean bottom-board, a scraper, and an empty super with a temporary bottom nailed on, and if possible, provided they are known to be free from disease, some combs of all worker cells.

The first thing to look for is foul-brood. Carefully split apart the combs where the bees are clustered, and look for the disease. If it is there, put back the frames, secure the cover, and mark the hive as requiring treatment. If the colony is clean, look over the combs, putting to the side or replacing any drone comb. Do not, however, alter combs containing eggs or larvae. After seeing that everything is right, mat dry, and cover rainproof, lift the hive on to the clean bottom-board, and replace on the stand. Some hives will be found to have the brood in a compact circle; others will have the brood scattered about; and others no brood at all. These are marked respectively "Good," "Poor," and "Examine later." The entrance should now be adjusted to suit the colony. Attention must also be given to any colony that is short of stores.

Towards the end of August the weeping willows will be yielding honey. This is the first flow of any consequence, and during it the hives, if all things seem right, may be left alone.

Early in September comes the yield from the Osier willows and the peaches. This is the time for another look. Leave alone the hives marked "Good" and those requiring treatment, and open those that had no brood and those that were marked "Examine later." If there is still no brood, and either a queen looking poor and old or no queen at all, then unite

this with another colony, or give it a frame of eggs, as even as early as this there is a chance of the queen the bees raise getting mated. [Every chance of being a very poor queen reared under these conditions.—Ed.] If, however, the queen has commenced laying, look at the bees on the combs. Should they be black and shiny, the hive is probably deficient in nurse bees, and this may be remedied by giving the colony a comb of emerging brood.

When a hive marked "Poor" shows no improvement in the laying of the queen, make a note now to re-queen it, as there is no remedy for a poor queen except a better one.

From about the middle of September until October is well on, fruit bloom is in full swing, and honey comes in freely. Now is the time for treating foul-brood.

With the coming of October, the beekeeper should see that all his colonies are strong, and that brood-rearing is going on by leaps and bounds. This is necessary for a successful harvest, as the eggs laid in October and November will be the field workers for the clover flow.

When two brood chambers are used, see that the queen is using them both. If she is not, entice her to do so by placing some frames of brood in the unused chamber, the position of the brood in the one being directly over that in the other. The entrance may be enlarged according to the strength of the colony.

About this time some of the hives will show signs of swarming. Take from these hives a couple of frames of emerging brood and replace with foundation. This will tend to stop the swarming, and the brood will help to build up some weaker colony. Aim always, by whatever means possible, to control swarming.

In concluding these remarks, the writer would like to add that stimulative feeding, as practised in some parts of the Dominion, is unnecessary in this district, as, given ample stores to start with and a normal season, there are right throughout the spring ample sources from which a light flow of honey is continually coming.

(By C. SMEDLEY.)

I have no set rules or system of spring management, but instead I try and call to mind all the tricks and knowledge I possess, and apply these with my best judgment. The reason I have no set rules to follow is the difference in the seasons; I would soon be in a tangle if I introduced my queens on the same method each season.

I will give you a fair idea of my management for the season 1920-21. At the end of March, 1920, the bees in all yards were extracted close, all supers, except about 20 per cent of half-supers, taken off. My scale hive gives the best idea, it being a good average hive: May 24th, 61-lbs. (a half super on this hive); its lowest weight

was 41lbs. on October 23rd, up to 61lbs. again. Some were weaker and some stronger than this. There is one thing I make sure of each season, and that is to re-queen half the hives in each yard. This means I re-queen every second season. The lid of a 2lb. honey tin is painted, and has a hole punched near the outer edge, and is then nailed on the front of each hive with a small nail, which is bent over and serves as an indicator in regard to the queens. The hole in the outer edge is an indicator in regard to the condition of the hive. This tells me all I want to know, and after the examination of the hive is made, I quickly record what I want. I use no books. Early in the spring, when the bees are taking a cleansing flight, I walk up and down the rows to see all is well. Later, when the weeping willows are yielding nectar, a quick peep into the hives is done, and if the weather is not too chilly a peep at the brood too. Should any hive show a dark sunken cell or two, it is marked with a brick on edge and tested later on; in the meantime all precautions are taken. Any queenless hive is united either with excluder or paper plan; those weak, medium, and strong are recorded with the hole in the tin.

Now I get on with foundation-making, sorting combs over, and stacking the good combs altogether. Repair work has been done earlier or in the winter months.

The next examination will be in October. Test any hives marked for foul-brood; if discovered, leave the brick as a signal; clean the hive tool in the ground, and then go through all hives as quickly as possible; but be sure of this—No foul-brood, enough stores, good combs, good queen, queen clipped or not; if clipped, turn indicator to second year; if not, clip, and turn indicator to first year; if bad queen, turn to re-queen; queen one year (or first season). If I miss her in this examination, the indicator is left in position; this would mean the hive was re-queened during last season, when the indicator was shifted, and when I get time I come back and hunt her up, and clip one wing, then put the indicator down a little. After this work is done, treat foul-brood first opportunity if bad; if slight and strong in bees and the hive sound, leave till the flow opens; if not, make secure.

Now, when the straight willow blooms and weather conditions are right, then is the time to push ahead some hives of pure Italians for drones, and a little later raise some cells from a breeder you have selected. I put a bottle feeder on this hive a week or two before I am ready for the cells to stimulate the bees. When ready, take out the queen and frame she is on with another frame of brood and make a nucleus. Now, select your frame of young brood, this frame being put in for this purpose a few days earlier. Shake off bees from all the other frames of brood; leave honey; keep feeder going; put brood taken

out over a strong hive, excluder under. The comb left for cells can be cut in the usual way or on the flat method. More brood is put above excluders to form nuclei in time for the cells. These early raised queens have given me a return equal to any in the same yard, and sometimes top the yard. By the time these are mated supering is started, but the flow may not be started, so all hives by now have been worked to get the 1-year queens strongest at the expense of the 2-year queens. A half-super (Jumbo) is on all. Later this super is lifted up, and a full depth with good combs from the stack of sorted is put on.

Queen-rearing is carried on from now, which is the opening of the season, till January, or extracting time. The young queens are given more room as fast as required; also the two-year old.

My bees are in twos, side by side, or, as in the case of my home yard, on a switch bottom-board, like the Hand, but one switch only. I aim at having one of these hives occupied with a one-year queen and the other with a two-year queen. All excluders are off, except where sealed brood is wanted to make nuclei.

Swarming was kept down last season in out-yards by shake method, and some on Demaree plan; home yard by the switch, which is on trial.

Re-queening is now going on as fast as possible, and in order, according to quality. At the end of December excluders were put on and queens kept below. Celerity in finding queens now, and also in the early examinations, is very important; by slow work a hive can be thrown into such a state that half the day is lost before the bees get in order again. All supers are now on; everything for extracting is got ready. Any determined cases of swarming are marked, and if not settled down to business by this time are now re-queened or otherwise treated.

Now I have to make room by extracting, taking the most advanced first in the out-yards, returning supers wet at any time while the flow lasts.

If feeding is necessary in spring, outdoor feeding is done in the afternoon (fine weather only). This is done with the old milk-dish, or the catch-tray of my old style tube melter. Set in a frame on legs; on account of the sloping sides, they are just the thing. Put dry bracken in the syrup, which is better than anything I have tried, because it is strong enough to hold up the weight of the bees. The switch board mentioned does practically the same, as described by Mr. Lake in out-apiary work, the switch doing away with the lifting of the hive to another stand. The bottle-feeder is simply this:—Put a good cork in the bottle (any sort), and with a 1/4-inch round iron (pointed) burn a hole through the cork. In this hole put a short piece of rubber tube. Bore a hole in a piece of wood for the neck of bottle

to go through, and tack this to back of hive. Now bore a hole the same size as the rubber in the hive, turn the bottle neck down in support, hold the rubber between finger and thumb, and put into the hive.

Ventilation.—My roofs are flat; entrance $\frac{1}{2}$ -inch x 14 in summer; $\frac{1}{2}$ x 4 inches in winter. In the hottest weather only the roofs are raised a little by inserting a handful of grass in the two back corners.

Te Awamutu, 15/7/21.

(By H. C. JONES.)

Look now! If you were dairy-farming, what better answer could you give to spring management than to be able to prove your ability by having sleek, well-fed stock, acres of luxuriant food crops, and stacks galore? Given a breed of high test, with clean and careful handling, backed up by intelligence, your success would be ensured.

So with your bees. As has so often been repeated, spring management begins in the autumn.

With hives stocked with a vigorous and contented strain, headed with a good queen of last year's selection, with plenty of laying room in the body of the hive (worker comb), then excluder to prevent destruction by mice, for they will get in sometimes during the winter, however careful you are, and then a half-storey full of well sealed honey (drome comb for preference), then an empty half-storey or a two and a-half inch lift containing two or three well-fitting mats left undisturbed and propolised down by the bees during the warm autumn days, and, above all, a waterproof roof, then your spring examination (when the willows are out), will make your pendulum swing courageously and soothingly, provided that you do not find too much disease. If you find disease, mark it down to be treated later, for your bees will be, if you have always been careful, in such a condition as not to be a menace to your apiary—that is, with regard to the foul-brood we experience here.

Don't tinker! Limit your operations to your thorough capabilities. Let your spring management consist in getting well ahead. Clean up the apiary and everything about. Paint the hives and buildings and all spare parts which have to bear exposure to the weather. Prepare hives, frames, &c., and get everything in readiness for the rush. (If you dust the newly painted roofs and alighting boards well with dry sand while the paint is wet, it will save many a bee from getting caught on its back in the globules of water which form on newly painted surfaces.)

There is nothing new in any of this, and therefore it will be, as so often is the case, passed by as very ancient advice,

and the very fact of its lack of originality is just why it is so very seldom carried out in practice.

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,—The enclosed newspaper clipping appeared in the Otorohanga Times of 16th March last, and is the end of one foul-brooder and his dirty bees, and I was the unfortunate beekeeper to contract disease, finding 20 per cent. of my bees affected from one inspection to the next three weeks. Needless to say, I was also the joyful onlooker and assistant to the inspectors, Messrs. Westbrooke and Goodin, when the bees were burnt. I believe this is only the second case of burning in seven years. The foul-brooder's bees were hidden away amongst tall artichokes and fruit trees, and it was some sight as Inspector Westbrooke dug a hole and started a fire, placing the first affected hive thereon, and Inspector Goodin coming from different parts of the garden, bringing with him hives rotten both in body and occupants. There will be a few more sights this spring in my district if notices to treat are not complied with.—I am, &c.,

WM. HEALD.

Otorohanga, 18/6/21.

A FOUL-BROOD CASE.

At the Magistrate's Court yesterday H. V. Hall was charged at the instance of the apiary inspector with failing to comply with an order to destroy nine colonies of bees. The defendant pleaded guilty, and said that he had cleaned the hives, but that he had a conscientious objection to killing the bees. The inspector stated that numerous notices served had not been complied with, and that the bees themselves were a source of danger to other beekeepers. He asked for the maximum penalty of £5. The Magistrate said that defendant had taken upon himself to do something different to what was required by the Act and the inspector, and he must bear the consequences. He pointed out the gravity of the offence in its consequences to other beekeepers, and fined defendant £5 and 7s. costs. The inspector subsequently destroyed the hives.

(TO THE EDITOR.)

Sir,—In turning over back numbers of my Journal, I came across a small volume with the title, "Bees: Their Habits, Management, and Treatment," by the Rev. J. G. Wood—a fairly ancient volume, from which I will make a quotation; it may be of interest to some of the readers of the Journal.

"But supposing no such fortunate accident to counterbalance the unfortunate one, the bees then resort to the wonderful power that has been given to them of, in a sense, making their own queens. Certain larvae, two or three days old, lying in the ordinary cells, and that would in the ordinary course become working bees, are selected; three of the cells adjoining to each one of them are broken down and formed into one; the nurses bring the royal bee bread, or royal jelly which is of a more stimulating pungent character than the ordinary composition, and give the larvae thus royally destined a lavish supply. They then pass through the usual stage of pupa to that of perfect queen. The discoverer, or rather, perhaps, the reviver or promulgator of this startling metamorphosis was Schirach, a clergyman of little Bantzen, and his experiments have been confirmed by Huber.

"The final experiment, which proved the most wonderful and astounding fact, is thus related by himself:—'I put some pieces of comb containing workers' eggs in the cells, of the same kind as those already hatched, into a hive deprived of the queen. The same day several cells were enlarged by the bees and converted into royal cells, and the worms supplied with a thick jelly. Five were then removed from these cells and given common worms, which 48 hours before we had seen come from the egg substituted for them. The bees did not seem aware of the change; they watched over the new worms the same as those chosen by themselves; they continued enlarging those cells, and closed them at the usual time. When they had hatched them seven days, we removed the cells to see the queens that were to be produced. Two were excluded at the same moment, of the largest size, and well formed in every respect. The time of the cells having elapsed, and no queen appearing, we opened them. In one was a dead queen, but still a nymph; the other two were empty. The worms had spun their silk cocoons, but died before passing into their nymphine state, and presented only a dry skin. I can conceive nothing more conclusive than this experiment. It demonstrates that bees have the power of converting the worms of workers into queens, since they succeeded in procuring queens by operating on the worms which we ourselves had selected.'

"These facts seem wonderful enough, but Mr. Pettigrew, a well-known practical apiarist, will not allow this strange power to be explained by the assertion that the metamorphosis is accomplished by permitting the female grub to attain full development, but makes it even more extraordinary by denying that it is merely the eggs of workers that can be thus metamorphosed. He says: How startling so ever it may seem, how doubtful so ever my friends may be, I were I worth a thousand pounds and given to betting, would wager it all that I would cause the bees to metamorphose all the eggs that a

queen may lay into drones exclusively; nay, I would cause them to be metamorphosed into working bees in March, and into drones in April, and so on alternately, and a few into queens at any time.* This is a point to which it would be well if scientific men would give renewed attention. All the known facts appear at present to favour Mr. Pettigrew's statements."

There is a footnote on the bottom of this page, and an asterisk after the word 'time.' "Gardner's Chronicle," Vol. for 1834, p. 501.—Yours truly,

HOPKIN THOMAS.

Waikumete, July 9, 1921.

[We think we have travelled a bit along the lines of knowledge since Mr. Pettigrew's time.—Ed.]

(TO THE EDITOR.)

Sir,—I must congratulate you on your report of Conference; it gives one a very fair idea as to what one misses by not attending Conference and participating in the deliberations. However, with such an excellent printed report, one can only thank the Editor that one knows in detail everything that was done at Conference.—I am, &c.,

HERBERT A. JOHNSTONE,

Pres. Rangiora Branch N.Z.B.A.

Atholhurst, Rangiora, 13/7/21.

APIARY SITES.

(TO THE EDITOR.)

Sir,—In common with many other beekeepers, I have been deeply interested in the report of the Conference, and would like to express my appreciation of the very valuable papers that were read on that occasion. I notice that one gentleman was doubtful as to whether those who subscribe to the National get value for their money. I am not, of course, able to speak for others, but my own opinion is that the practical knowledge of different phases of a beekeeper's work to be obtained from that report is worth more to me than all the money the National has received from me in the four years I have been a member. It is always useful to have a few candid friends. They help to keep us humble. They may possibly incite us to do better work in future.

There are many points in all the papers contributed that should prove helpful, but for the present I wish only to refer to the paper contributed by Mr. W. B. Bray and dealing with the question of apiary sites.

Mr. Bray, I think, took a wise course when he stated that he did not wish to waste time in discussion, but would simply move that Conference endorse the principle and refer the matter to the Standing Committee to act. Conference endorsed the paper, and the subject might, now I think, be profitably discussed in the Journal. I

would therefore suggest, Sir, that criticism of the scheme should be invited in future issues.

As Mr. Bray has foreseen the problem of settling when a location is sufficiently stocked will be one difficulty in arriving at working details of the scheme. This is a difficulty that may, like many others, be got over if we are anxious to get the results aimed at by Mr. Bray. But the thing that is, I think, most necessary at this stage is that those who do not approve of the proposal should begin throwing bricks at it. Please do not throw any at Mr. Bray; throw as many as you can at his scheme, and throw them quickly. When the fusillade ceases, we shall be able to pick up the pieces, and probably a very serviceable proposal can be evolved, and the Standing Committee will know what they can expect when they endeavour to get the proposed legislation passed into law.

My reason for inviting criticism of what I regard as a good scheme is that our experience with the apiaries tax should suggest that we try to decide what we do really want before we ask our Committee to approach the Government. It seems to me that in the apiaries tax proposed we did not get the bricks thrown early enough; and when the throwing began, it was so vigorous that it nearly wrecked the whole scheme. Conference fortunately did not endorse the proposal to throw the tax overboard, so there is still good reason to hope that we may get a Chief Apiarist and efficient inspection during the coming season.

To avoid a similar surprise attack on Mr. Bray's suggestion, before next Conference let us have it brought on in the next issue of the Journal. Then let the Branches have a shot at it, and publish their condemnation in unmistakable terms. When these preliminaries are successfully achieved, I have no doubt a very good scheme will be the result, but the urgent demand is for bricks!

Now, then, who will be first?—I am, &c.,

LESLIE IRWIN.

Woodlands, 16th July.

Whether you are beekeeping for a living or a hobby, the National is your friend. Be friendly and join up!

Mr. A. B. Trythall, apiary instructor at the Ruakura Farm, says:—“The Beginners' Handbook is a very excellent one. The author knows what beginners need.” 1/9, post free.

I would just like to say how much I appreciate the Journal, and also the marked improvement in same under your able management.—W. H. W., Maxwelltown.

Subscriptions Received.

[NOTE.—Should there be found any discrepancy, please write the Editor.]

- J. W. Gedney, Makarewa, to June 22
 C. F. Raine, Inaha, to June 22
 W. H. Fussell, Lepperton, to June 22
 J. A. Smith, Masterton, to June 22
 R. Watson (5/-), Kojonup (W.A.), to March 22
 W. A. Lilburne, Milton, to June 22
 A. H. Emerson, Halswell, to June 22
 J. P. Heaps, Owaka, to May 22
 A. J. Riddiford, Blackball, to June 22
 W. H. Winter, Maxwelltown, to July 22
 Miss R. A. Meek, Lower Hutt, to June 22
 J. Gledhill, Timaru, to Sept. 22
 R. S. Hutchinson, Kerepahi, to May 22
 Miss W. Shepherd, Rangiora, to June 22
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 W. Lenz, Masterton, to June 22
 L. V. Shepherd, Paroa, to June 22
 T. A. Stewart, Te Aroha, to June 22
 Miss J. Mackay, Christchurch, to June 22
 J. Schmidt, Turua, to June 22
 J. W. Nicholson, Te Kuiti, to June 22
 H. Bryans, Masterton, to June 22
 N. Ferguson, Carterton, to May 22
 T. Barr, Tuapeka Mouth, to July 22
 F. Smith, Dunsandel, to June 22
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 Mrs. J. Nicholson, Te Pu, to June 22
 C. Smedley, Te Awamutu, to July 22
 C. E. King (5/-), Ruawai, to Feb. 22
 Mrs. H. A. Earp, Timaru, to June 22
 S. Gardiner, East Oxford, to July 22
 C. Larson, “The Hummories,” to July 22
 E. Macdonald, Te Kowhai, to May 22
 J. S. Bates, Kakahi, to July 22
 A. W. Westney, Mangere, to July 22
 J. Barraclough, Woodlands, to July 22
 J. Rentoul, Cheviot, to June 22
 J. Stuart, Dunedin, to July 22
 H. A. Johnstone, Rangiora, to June 22
 Rangiora Branch, to June 22
 T. C. Irving, Claudelands, to June 22
 F. Chave, Christchurch, to June 22
 E. S. Quicke, Palmerston North, to June 22
 C. Beavan, Waihao Downs, to July 22
 J. Mander, Wanganui East, to May 22

Journal for one year and Handbook for Beginners, 7/- post free.

Beekeepers' Exchange.

[Advertisements on this page will be inserted at the rate of 3/- per 30 words per insertion. Cash must accompany order or will not be inserted. Addresses care Editor 6d. extra to cover cost of postage of replies.]

THE APIS CLUB.

Port Hill House, Benson, Oxon., England.

Two of the chief planks in the platform of the above Club are—the stimulation and conduction of research work in Bee Culture and the creation of International scholarly relations amongst progressive apiarists in all countries.

Membership fee, 10/6 per annum, which includes one year's subscription to the "Bee World," a paper that has by sheer merit come right up to the front rank of Bee literature. ENROL NOW!

Dr. A. Z. ABUSHADY,
Secretary.

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 (by Returned Soldier, established in Waikato Township), Another Returned Soldier with a capital of at least £500 to ENTER INTO PARTNERSHIP.

Replies, stating age, married or single, and experience to

APIS,
C/o Editor.

WANTED, STRONG YOUTH for Apiary Work; Auckland Province. Address
EDITOR.

WANTED, Young Lady Wishes POSITION as CADET in Commercial Apiary in the Auckland Province.

Please state conditions to
M. KELLAND,
Waipipi, Waiuku.

WANTED TO BUY, GOOD APIARY; with or without House, &c. Write, giving full particulars, to

APIARY,
246 Tinakori Rd., Wellington.

WANTED, about 60 COLONIES BEES, in good clover district; free from disease; North Island.

Write, price and particulars, to
G. HENDERSON,
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Jervois Quay, Wellington.

1921-22 PRICES OF ITALIAN QUEENS

UNTESTED

DELIVERY IN ROTATION OF ORDERS MID NOVEMBER TO MID MARCH.

1 or 2.	3 or 4.	5 or more.
7/6 each.	7/- each.	6/6 each.

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DELIVERY IN ROTATION OF ORDERS FROM THIRD WEEK IN OCTOBER.

12/- each.

TERMS.—September to March—Cash with Order; Cheques to have exchange added. April to August—Orders for the following Season may be booked; payment at time of delivery.

Any Queen arriving dead at original address replaced Free if Cage is returned unopened.

REPORT OF LAST OFFICIAL INSPECTION:

Dept. of Agriculture, Industries & Commerce,
Blenheim, Sept. 15th, 1920.

Mr. J. H. Todd, Renwicktown.

Sir,—Having examined every hive at your Apiary at Renwicktown, I have found no evidence of Foul-brood.

(Signed) A. P. YOUNG,
Apiary Inspector.

POSTAL ADDRESS:

J. H. TODD, Renwicktown, MARLBOROUGH.

Tackling Foul Brood.

Inspection *vers* s Self Help

That the design of a Comb Reducer should play any part in the eradication of Foul-brood is almost a new idea among Beekeepers; yet this phase of the question is of vastly greater importance than that of the appointment of an army of Inspectors, for the following reasons:—

We are all pretty well satisfied in our own minds that Foul-brood is spread, in ninety-nine times out of a hundred, by robbing. Yet not all of us admit how-much of it is spread by those bees which pester around while wax melting is going on. Granted that the bees obtain very little honey when wax is being melted, yet the little they do get works more harm than is ever dreamed of.

If the slumgum and wax contain no Honey, the Bees are attracted in negligible numbers by the aroma of hot wax, and there is none of that feverish arousing of the whole yard, which, alas! one sees so often when many Beekeepers are wax-melting, driving the Bees to sacrifice their lives in hundreds trying to get just that one more small lot of that unsterilised Honey which a few more fortunate of their mates are known to have flown home with. These occasionally fortunate Bees are quite enough to re-infect their colony, and so Foul-brood only increases.

All this loss of time, hope, and energy is the result of a badly designed Reducer. A Reducer that does not control the flow of slumgum from itself is a Reducer in name only, for it cannot prevent the slipping away of bits of unmelted comb, as we saw one doing at a demonstration some time ago, resulting in a positive invitation to the Bees to infect more of their hives whenever that slumgum may be melted.

Such a thing as that is an utter impossibility with the **BARTLETT-MILLER REDUCER**, except by the deliberate action of the operator, who would never dream of doing what every other Reducer ever invented positively compels the operator to do, for the Machines are designed upon wrong principles. No properly designed Reducer allows slumgum to run away with the wax and honey, and that, too, whether it is melted or only just warmed through. Yet the **Bartlett-Miller Reducer** is positively the only one invented to hold all slumgum at the will of the operator, and to deposit it separately from both honey or wax, and just whenever the operator pleases. Consequently it is the only Machine which really assists a Beekeeper to keep down the dreaded Foul-brood.

How does a well designed reducer control F.B.?

Why is the possession of a good Reducer better than an Inspector? This is how the thing works:—We are all agreed that Foul-brood is mainly spread by robbing, but very few of us admit—except to ourselves, and then only grudgingly—that the robbing is (all too often) done from diseased combs stacked up by us and waiting a more favourable time for melting. We are sure Bees will not get at them; but they always do!

But why, oh, why hold on to them?

“Well,” says the robbed-out-comb-owner, “you see, it is positively wicked in the present Beeswax famine to burn those combs, even if a really safe and sure method of burning combs had ever been devised for practice by the ordinary Beeman, and IT HAS NOT YET BEEN DEVISED! Furthermore, we have not got handy an appliance that will deal quickly and EASILY with our F.B. combs every time we all times to handle cleanly, safely, and without damage to the honey, all and every must not mix our honey with the slumgum, or else when we melt our wax we shall for their tootsies to walk over, and all our trouble goes for nothing, and our F.B. only grows worse.”

Y-e-s!

That is exactly how they used to argue, B-U-T they are not talking that way now. What they say nowadays is something like this:—“For mercy’s sake, get a **Bartlett-Miller Reducer**, which will separate all the slumgum, and hold it until every atom of honey has drained from it, and end once and for all this everlasting worry about and for all. Save the honey money and the wax, and pay for the Reducer that way, with F.B., but also to jolly well laugh at every new infection which we MAY get; but by the living Jingo, we will stop from spreading; and Inspectors—be hanged!

What did you remark about Burning Combs ?

Burning diseased combs is the biggest fraud ever Beekeepers put faith in. "Once upon a time"—it is a long time ago, though—the person dictating this advertisement threw one set of diseased combs into a furnace, so hot that it could be approached only just long enough to pitch the comb inside.

Said the operator, "That ought to settle that little lot!" But it didn't! No!—not by a long way. That honey simply melted from the wax at such a rate that it ran clean through the fire, down to the ashes, and when these were thrown out later, the Bees found those ashes and climbed all over them. Whether they got any honey or not was no matter; they took that honey home on their feet, and re-infected quite a big number of our colonies; of that we are positive. We have often shown visitors the folly of quite a big fire to burn combs containing much honey—say, a couple of inches down from the top-bar. The honey rushes clean through the fire before it can be properly heated, and no fire other than one which the average Beeman cannot afford (for it must be large enough to burn the carcass of a cow) will effectually burn F.B. combs so that you can sleep calmly about infection from that burning.

Time and time again, before we learned the truth of this infection of the soil by burned combs, did we get re-infection, and wonder where it came from.—Analysis of soil soaked with the dripped honey, and in which we found the germs of real F.B., finally proved to us the fallacy of burning comb unless you arrange for the ultimate incineration of the ashes, as well as the burning material.

Wilful Waste through Fear.

We are constantly being reminded by the "Father" of our industry in N.Z. that we are on the edge of a serious Beeswax famine. Thus it behoves every Beekeeper to stay making a rod for his own back, as he is doing by burning combs, and to use any effectual contrivance handy that will S-A-F-E-L-Y save his wax, and incidentally the honey contained in the wax.

Just pause to think how little of the wasted wax and honey would pay for a Reducer, and that it has to be paid for only once, while your waste is going on every time you get F.B. to deal with, and that only one Reducer on this wide earth has the necessary facilities to prevent all fear of re-infection, by preventing the slungum falling from the Reducer until you are satisfied that all honey has drained away from it.

T-h-e-n.

You Must Purchase one or other of the BARTLETT-MILLER REDUCERS,

B-e-c-a-u-s-e.

It is the only Reducer with the Drop-down Bottoms, and these are completely under control of the Operator.

For equal reducing capacity, the various sizes are far and away cheaper than any others ever invented.

They are wide open all over, and anything can be removed whenever desired, and everything can be seen all the time.

Any one division can be used to drain slungum, while all the rest of the Reducer is quietly going on with its own particular job.

No other Reducer possesses ONE of these specially mentioned features.

The Drop-down Bottoms are patented, and deservedly so, for they are the result of eleven years of persevering invention and thought.

Terms are Cash with Order, or an Order upon the H.P.A. with the check by the Office that at least a bonus covering cost of Order will be payable in the near future. We will do this for you. Delivery is F.O.R. TE AWAMUTU.

APPLY MANAGING DIRECTOR

The Thoroughwork Apiaries, Kihikihi

HAVING DISPOSED OF THE PURELY HONEY PRODUCTION SIDE OF OUR BUSINESS, WE HAVE FOR DISPOSAL ONE ROOT FOUNDATION MACHINE WITH ROLLERS 2 INCHES BY 10, TOGETHER WITH ONE PAIR OF PLAIN ROLLERS, BEING A CUT-DOWN PAIR OF OLD PATTERN ROLLERS WITH FLAT BASES.

THESE ARE THE SAME MACHINES THAT ALL OUR OWN FOUNDATION HAS BEEN MADE UPON, AND ARE IN GOOD ORDER AND CONDITION.

TO CLEAR READILY WE OFFER THE COMPLETE OUTFIT FOR £25, packed and placed on rail at Te Awamutu.

A. ECROYD

Manufacturer of

Acorn Comb Foundation

A Product of the Highest Quality supplied at Reasonable Rates. Clients own Wax made up at short notice.

WRITE FOR QUOTATIONS AND SAMPLES.

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Telegrams: "OAKCLIFFE."

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CHRISTCHURCH.

Notice to Beekeepers.

The Editor will be pleased to receive articles of interest to Beekeepers for insertion in the Journal.

Address all communications to the Editor,

F. C. BAINES,
Kati Kati.

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

Head Office :
Stanley Street, AUCKLAND.

Postal Address :
Box 1293, AUCKLAND.

Telegraphic Address : "Bees, Auckland."

BEES.

The Association is now prepared to supply best strain Italian Bees from end October onwards. Great care has been taken in breeding so the Bees we supply are from stock which has been tested specially for their **non-swarming** and **honey gathering** propensities. In selecting Queens for breeding these two points are kept specially in view.

NOTE.—We supply either in 10-frame standard single storey hives, or 3 frame Nuclei and guarantee all bees free from disease.

Queens.—We are again taking orders for untested Queens for delivery from middle November onwards, and can supply any quantity.

Order Early.—Orders for both Bees and Queens are already coming in freely, and we would advise clients to get in touch with us as early as possible, as we shall fill orders in rotation as received. Write us for information and prices.

Beekeepers' Requisites.—We are prepared to cater for all requirements in this respect and have full stocks of Hives, Frames, Extractors, Melters, etc. Our sales record last year is sufficient guarantee as to quality and price.

Comb Foundation.—We have large stocks of foundation made especially for us in New Zealand from our own wax, and quality and make are first grade. Also American Foundation manufactured by Messrs. Dadant and Son recognised as best quality procurable.

PRICE LIST POSTED TO ANY ADDRESS ON APPLICATION.

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

Job Lines

WE HAVE JUST FINISHED STOCK-TAKING, AND FIND A FEW LINES OVERSTOCKED. THESE WE OFFER AT VERY MUCH REDUCED PRICES TO CLEAR.

THE "HAND BOTTOM BOARD."—After exhaustive inquiries, the Department of Agriculture report:—"Swarming is prevented by this device by a simple definite process. Thirty years' experience in bees has provided no other method of swarm control so nearly effective or easy. If, in spite of everything, swarms sometimes happen, any colony shows preparation for swarming, they can be frustrated by switching the flying bees over to the other side. Any system whereby the progeny of two queens laying for six weeks prior to the honey flow can be made to work in conjunction throughout the flow with only one brood-nest should appeal to any beekeeper." 76 of these Appliances,

Usual Price, 12/6. To clear—8/6 each.

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