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E.A. Fay

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The New Zealand Beekeepers' Journal

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

No. 9

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.

With September the beekeeper starts another season, and this year it is pretty difficult to judge what is going to happen. The winter has been a very mild one all over the country, and the spring promises to be an early one. Provided we do not get a spell of cold and wet weather during this month or next, hives should be in rather too forward a condition in districts where the flow doesn't start until about Christmas. In any case, we hope all shall experience one of the best seasons, despite certain ominous prophecies

re droughts, sun-spot storms, and all that "foul brood" of things. Were it not for the existence of our H.P.A. we should feel very seriously on the question of market values, if the report as received from Liverpool is anything to go by. Messrs. Taylor's report is very uninteresting reading for anyone that has honey to export. Even the best figures quoted are very little above what we are receiving as our first advance, without the expense of getting the honey to England. We believe the N.Z. beekeepers are the best served in the whole world on the selling end, and we must do everything in

our power to maintain this splendid position.

Elsewhere will be found a letter from Mr. W. B. Bray bearing upon his paper ("Acquisition of Apiary Sites") read at Conference. We agree with Mr. Bray that it is only by learning of the difficulties beekeepers have had in acquiring sites that we can present a case to the Government with justification. If nobody writes that they have experienced any trouble, that would indicate there was no need to go to the Government for anything. The Editor can only speak for himself and state that he has experienced no difficulty. (Perhaps because he lives in the back-blocks!) We shall be most happy to publish all correspondence, not only that we all may know the trouble that some have experienced, but that the Executive and Standing Committee may have some idea of how far and necessary legislation is desirable.

Without attempting to resuscitate the Apiary Boundaries question, it is our opinion that it was the absence of any proved necessity for the proposed legislation that caused it to be dropped. And it will be the same with the question under review unless those who feel and see the necessity make their views public.

We tender our best thanks to those ladies and gentlemen who so kindly responded to the Editor's request for articles on Spring Management and Queen Rearing, and we trust our readers will find them helpful.

The new season's price-list of the H.P.A. is to hand, and we note with pleasure a slight easing off in the prices of many appliances. Beekeepers would be wise in securing a copy of this list, and look up the supplies they need.

Market Reports.

During the past month there has been a fair demand for Chilian honey for export. There have been about 700 barrels sold—Pile 2 and 3 at 30/- to 29/3. The Home trade merchants have been buying Pile X at 54/- to 55/- per cwt., and Pile 1 at 45/-. Bids have been sent to Chili at 28/3 for shipment direct to the Continent. So far there are no sellers under 30/- c.i.f. June/July shipment. There are enquiries for Cuban and West Indian, but no offers.

Beeswax.—Chilian: Five tons June/July shipment have been sold at £6 15s. c.i.f. This price cannot now be obtained. Other kinds are in retail demand.

TAYLOR & CO.

Liverpool, 2nd June, 1921.

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

Auckland.—From reports to hand it seems to promise a fair prospect for the coming season. Bees have wintered well, and are now building up fairly strong in the mild districts. There has been a slight drop in the wholesale price of honey locally. Beeswax remains unchanged, being from 1/9 to 2/.—G. V. Westbrooke.

Wellington.—The wet weather experienced during the past month has laid the foundations for good pasture later in the season, thereby assisting the beekeeping industry, which requires good growth amongst the clovers and nectar-bearing plants. Nothing further can be said at this season, which is one of small activity for the inmates of the hives. Honey is still remaining firm in price. Beeswax is quoted at from 2/- to 2/6 per lb., according to quality. English markets are dull. Lines for export are still coming forward to the grading stores.—F. A. Jacobsen.

Christchurch and Dunedin.—Present indications point to a good season. Excellent rains have been experienced in most parts of my district. Owing to the mildness of the weather lately experienced, breeding has started in earnest. In the northern bush districts bees are working the early native flora. Reports to hand from beekeepers indicate that their bees are wintering well. Prices are firm.—E. A. Earp.

Beekeeping for Beginners. ^e₂

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

From all parts of the country the same report comes to hand—that a mild winter has been experienced, with the bees more or less active the whole time. This will have had the effect of a heavy drain on the winter stores, and our chief concern just now will be to see that no hive is short of food, as this would mean that breeding would be retarded, which is not desirable at all just now.

Whilst honey is the proper and natural food for bees, there is so much risk of the presence of disease germs in it that one hesitates about advising to feed back honey. Honey that has been extracted can be boiled for not less than twenty minutes to render it harmless; but one needs be careful when boiling honey, as it rises as quickly as does milk, and if you should happen to run liquid honey all over your wife's kitchen stove, there would be "something doing" besides feeding bees.

The safest food is sugar syrup; one pound of sugar to a pint of water is just about right for this time of the year. I like to get the water boiling, and mix whilst hot. If you do this about an hour before feeding, the syrup will be just warm by the time it is wanted—at sundown.

A most satisfactory feeder can be made of any tin with a press lid. Punch a number of holes in the lid, fill the tin full of syrup, press on the lid, and invert on the top of the frames. This will necessitate a super to accommodate it, and it will be necessary to cover the frames snug with sacking.

Weak colonies are as a rule only a prey to robbers at this time of the year, and are best got rid of by uniting. Keep the youngest queen, killing the others, and place a sheet of newspaper over the frames of the hive with the young queen in, and put the others on top. If you have two or three to unite, place the brood and bees all together in one super; there's nothing to be gained by stacking up a crowd of weak colonies.

F. C. B.

Railway Concessions.

The following is the reply to the request for concessions on railway travelling to delegates attending the Conference, as per resolution passed last June:—

9th August, 1921.

F. C. Baines, Esq.,

Sec. National Beekeepers' Assn.,
Kati Kati, Bay of Plenty.

Sir,—With further reference to your letter of 29th ultimo addressed to the Minister of Railways and which has been referred to me for attention, regarding the resolution passed by your Association that delegates travelling to attend the annual Conference of the National Beekeepers should be granted tickets at concession rates, I have the honour to inform you that no reduction in fares is granted to members travelling to such Conferences. I regret that I am unable to agree to make any exception in favour of your Association.

I might mention that the financial stringency and the enhanced cost of working expenses, make it impracticable to grant concessions in any direction at the present time.

I have the honour to be, Sir,
Your obedient servant,

R. W. McVILLY,
General Manager.

Apiaries Act :

PENALTY FOR BREACHES.

Wellington, 15th August, 1921.

F. C. Baines, Esq.,

Secretary National Beekeepers'
Association of N.Z.,
Kati Kati, Bay of Plenty.

Dear Sir,—

With reference to that portion of your letter of 29th ultimo referring to the resolution passed at the last Annual Conference of your Association—

“That the penalty for breaches of the Apiaries Act be increased to £20’—

I beg to inform you that I agree that the maximum of the present penalty is low.

As already advised you, the matter has been noted for consideration, and when a suitable occasion arises an alteration to the maximum amount of the penalty will be included in an amendment to the Apiaries Act for submission to Parliament.

Yours faithfully,

C. J. REAKES,
Director-General.

Spring Management.

For the purpose of this paper, the term “spring” refers to that period of the season after the winter rest until the opening of the main honey flow, when the swarming tendency begins to assert itself.

Whilst it may be true that spring management begins in the autumn in so far as “preparedness” goes, yet in the writer's experience at any rate each season varies and brings with it different problems, which have to be met as they occur.

Given a cold winter, with about a foot of snow, there is not much to worry about in the spring if the autumn management has been right; but after an exceedingly warm and sunny winter, like the one we have just experienced, the conditions are very different—bees spread out over the combs when they should be clustered tight, and three frames of brood when there should not be by any means something doing in the way of using up stores; consequently in such a case an extra early examination of the food supply will be necessary.

This is carried out as follows:—With smoker in hand, the hive-cover is removed with as little jar as possible, and the quilts turned over a couple of inches from the back. The bees being mostly towards

the front over the entrance, a glance under the top bar of the combs will be sufficient to see if there is plenty of stores in the hive, and the quilts are let back and cover replaced, which completes the inspection in that case. If little or no honey can be seen, the cover is turned upside down to mark it. The whole apiary is gone through in a short time in this fashion, after which the marked colonies are supplied with honey by either slipping a comb of honey in at the side, or, what is better, as it does not disturb the bees, a half-super with combs of honey is placed underneath the hive-body. Simply lifting the hive, or "hefting," cannot be relied on in this locality, as there is too much pollen about, and "yours truly" has been "had" that way, hence the preliminary examination, which has saved many a colony from starvation.

The spring work will begin in earnest when the willows begin to show their catkins and there is that contented hum in the air which is such sweet music to all true beekeepers.

With reasonable weather, colonies may now be opened up and inspected without resentment on the part of the bees, and consequently much comfort to the operator. I wonder if all beekeepers experience that feeling of eager delight when the time comes for them to light up their smokers and disclose the contents of the hive in the spring? I must confess that after twelve years that feeling has not worn off. When it does, I guess it will be time to retire in favour of the other fellow.

The following tools are found necessary:—A nucleus box smoker, hive-tool, a pair of small scissors hung round the neck, a biscuit tin, a flat and wide painter's scraper, a super full of good worker combs, and apiary barrow. I forgot the veil, but that goes without saying, as I do not happen to be one of those people for whom the bees have such reverence (or aversion, which is it?) that they refuse to sting—sometimes.

The barrow is loaded with the other articles (but the veil), and taken to the north side of No. 1 hive. As near as possible all hives are placed facing east and singly, so that it is possible to work with the back to the sun practically all the time, which is a necessity to those who are not fortunate enough to have the best eyesight.

The nucleus box with cloth cover is placed at the right hand, and the biscuit tin containing the painter's scraper at the back of the hive. The work of inspection is done in a kneeling position, which is easier on the back until supers are added. With the quilt turned partly over sideways, a few puffs of smoke are given (I prefer not to smoke at the entrance, and seldom find it necessary), and the first two frames removed and placed in the nuclei box after glancing over them.

This gives us plenty of room to work, and we are able to glance over the side of the frame nearest us for the queen before removing it. Each frame is taken out in turn and inspected, and the following conditions noted:—

First, freedom from disease or chilled brood; after that the queen found and clipped if necessary; then the general condition of the colony in relation to strength, size, shape and position of brood nest, quantity of stores, and condition of combs. Any frames containing drone comb without brood are either exchanged with good ones from the super on the barrow, or if containing more honey than the colony requires, are placed on the south side of the hive for removal later. Care is taken to see that all combs with brood are put back in their relative positions. The bottom-board is scraped, also top-bars of the frames if any burr-comb is present, and the biscuit tin receives the scraps. The quilts are made to cover the back corners of the hive to prevent draughts. If the colony is strong, a half-super may be added to catch a possible surplus of honey from spring flora, especially willows. Some beginner may ask, Why a biscuit-tin? Because it has a tight-fitting lid to keep out robbers. The queen is clipped as she walks over the combs, which is easily accomplished with a little practice. I find queens that are handled early in the season often get balled.

The colony record is kept as follows:—G: H: Cq: 4B: R, which means:—General condition is good; healthy; queen was clipped; had 4 frames of brood; and stores are right. Or it may be this:—W: H: Cta.: Req.; which means:—Colony weak but healthy; queen was clipped last year; to be requeened at the first opportunity; or instead of W it may be Mg. (medium good), and instead of Req. it may be L., indicating that the colony is preparing to supersede, in which case it may be used a little later on for raising queen-cells. I may explain here that queens are never clipped until the spring following introduction or supercedure, so that her age is known by the clipping; therefore Cta. means that she has to be superceded during the present season, either naturally or by the beekeeper. This rule has a few exceptions. Dr. indicates drone-comb for removal; L., stores light; and, of course, for our old enemy foul-brood there is only one sign, and if the beekeeper is troubled with nightmare until that sign is removed, so much the better for the apiary and everything concerned.

To inspect all colonies as described takes considerable time, but as it is the chief inspection for the season, it pays to do it thoroughly. In most cases it will not be necessary to disturb the brood nest again until the swarming season arrives, which is normally about the end of November in this district.

Where the record is normal, colonies are inspected a month later by the preliminary method to see if supers are

needed to give room, or if bad weather intervenes to see that stores are sufficient. If the weather is warm, stocks that are weak may have a frame of hatching brood given from a strong neighbour, and another one a fortnight later.

Spreading of brood by inserting empty combs among the brood would likely prove disastrous in this locality. The limit of this doubtful operation by the writer is to turn a couple of combs end for end where the brood nest is inclined to be clogged. Anything more than this will probably result in chilled brood, and the colony put back instead of forward. The object aimed at is to see that hives are dry and as warm as possible, and with plenty of stores and good queens; where they have had a fair start, further tinkering is not only unnecessary but harmful. All that is needed from this time until the honey flow opens will be to see that the queen has sufficient room, and that stores are plentiful.

Normally in November all excluders are removed for the time being, and a full super of good worker combs added on to the brood nest, which goes a long way towards checking the swarming impulse. If any feeding is necessary, and there are no combs of honey on hand, the next best thing is a 10 lb. honey-tin filled with sugar syrup; a few small holes punched in the lid, and inverted on top of the brood-nest inside an empty super, and then packed round with quilts.

When the weather does not allow work to be done in the apiary, the time is occupied with cleaning up and overhauling combs and supers and other equipment, so that everything may be ready for the great rush of honey which we are hoping for. Combs are sorted over into three classes, namely—(1) Good worker combs; (2) Combs needing repairs, such as a piece of drone comb cutting out and worker comb or foundation inserting in its place; (3) Combs that are unfit for use through being broken or containing too much drone comb to be worth repairing, and probably pollen-clogged. Pieces may be cut from these for repair work, and the remainder consigned to the melting-pot.

New supplies are generally made ready during the winter months, with the exception of putting in foundation, which is left for warmer weather.

E. SIMPSON.

P.S.—Prospects for the coming season are very poor in this district, there having been no winter rains; but of course a beekeeper never knows.—E.S.

You ask me to give my system of spring management. It's no good, Mr. Editor. What's the use of me or anyone else trying to control swarming, no matter what plan is used, and still sticking to queens with the swarming instinct. Well, that's the impossibility I have been trying to do for years.

Give me a good non-swarming strain, and I can easily control them with any of the good plans we have. Again, give me a colony with a queen with strong swarming instincts, and they simply set all plans at naught. Of course, I mean profitable control when I say swarm control; it's simple enough to control swarming otherwise. I believe it was the late Dr. Miller who said a charge of dynamite would stop a colony from swarming, but it is not profitable control.

I will give records of both types of queens, and the difference under same treatment will speak for itself:—

(In double brood chambers.)

(No. 6 colony; 2-year queen; no cells last season.)

Oct. 2.—Eight frames brood bottom; 3 frames brood top; excluder; super honey.

Oct. 13.—Eight frames brood bottom; 3 frames brood top; gave another super comb.

Oct. 27.—Took 3 frames brood from bottom; replaced with empty combs, and put queen down; excluder; 2 supers; brood top.

Nov. 5.—No cells bottom; left sealed cell top.

Nov. 6.—Put top brood super; bees and cell on 57 stand.

Nov. 16.—No cells.

Nov. 25.—Cut cells, and gave super foundation.

Dec. 4.—No cells.

Dec. 16.—No cells.

(No. 23; 2-year queen; cut plenty cells last season.)

Oct. 5.—Eight frames brood bottom; started brood top; excluder and super combs.

Oct. 17.—Put 4 empty combs bottom; cut cells unsealed; excluder; super combs; super honey; super brood top.

Oct. 27.—Cut cells all stages bottom; cut cells top; put top brood super on No. 22, and gave super empty combs.

Nov. 5.—Cut cells all stages.

Nov. 8.—Swarmed; hived with queen on 33 stand.

Nov. 15.—Left one cell.

Dec. 9.—Four frames brood; clipped queen; gave super combs.

Dec. 19.—No cells.

(No. 33.—Nov. 8: Swarm and queen from No. 23; brood chamber; excluder; super, combs, and honey.)

Nov. 17.—Four frames brood.

Nov. 26.—Six frames brood.

Dec. 5.—Eight frames brood; gave another super; combs.

I have purposely chosen records of two bought queens; one was practically a non-swarmmer, and the other with a strong swarm instinct. I also give the record of swarm No. 33 to show the queen was all right and capable as far as brood was concerned.

You will notice No. 6 was easily controlled, whereas with same treatment No. 23 swarmed only three days after I cut all cells.

What a mistake I made leaving that cell in No. 23, but how tempting it was to do so, especially when she was bought as a select untested! I still have No. 6 queen, and hope to rear quite a number of queens from her this season. I fully intend breeding from non-swarmers only this season, as I am fully convinced that breeding out the swarming trait is the surest plan of swarm control; all other manipulations are secondary.

C. A. OLDMAN.

Waiau, August 9th, 1921.

Time is fast approaching when a thorough overhaul to colonies should be made. I generally make a start "to go through" the hives the first fine days in September. As a rule, if colonies with good queens have been wintered down strong, breeding will have commenced about the latter part of July, and by the middle of August the centre combs should be getting well filled with brood.

Now, the first and most important thing in spring management is to see that there is a plentiful supply of food in the hive, as just at this time a considerable amount is used up for feeding the brood, and unless the weather is suitable for nectar gathering—which it more often is not, in these parts anyway—the stores will be considerably depleted; this must at once be attended to.

I first of all go through a hive as quickly and quietly as possible to ascertain its condition. If short of stores, it is replenished with either a frame of honey or fed sugar syrup. If a frame of honey is given, I place it towards the side of the hive, not in the centre, and it must of course be taken from a clean colony; on no account whatever should honey be given from an infected colony. If sugar syrup be resorted to, I feed in the evenings so as to prevent any disturbance amongst the bees that would tend to robbing. The safest plan, I think, for whatever method of feeding is adopted is to feed in the evening. If breeding is going on satisfactorily and there are sufficient stores, after scraping the floor board and replacing any damp mats with dry ones, I close it down and leave undisturbed for about three weeks. If there are no eggs and the queen is not visible, I mark the colony for further examination later, and if then it is still in the same condition I unite it to a queen-right colony. The best method I find of uniting

is to move the queenless colony in the evening from its stand and place it gently on top of a strong one, with two thicknesses of newspaper between, first removing the cover and mat; put on cover, and leave undisturbed for a couple of days, when the bees will have eaten through the paper, joined forces amicably, and settled down quietly to work. An excluder can be used in place of newspaper, but my experience with this is that the bees pass too readily through and mix with each other too soon; then fighting generally commences, but with newspaper it takes time for them to eat their way through, and in doing so they become friendly with each other, so to speak; thus any fighting is prevented. I always unite in the evenings when the bees are all in and settled quietly. Top boxes that were left on during winter I now remove so that the bees will cluster in the brood nest. If the bees do not cover most of the frames, some are taken away and the hive contracted to the number they will cover; this helps to keep the bees snug and warm, and breeding will go on more satisfactorily. Colonies with inferior queens are noted, to be re-queened later.

D. R. HART.

Jottings.

(By B. & B., Drury.)

August 3rd.—About 11 a.m., the weather having decided to remain fine for a while, the bees got busy on the tree lucerne, while I got busy on the young nuclei. All had cosy little brood nest, and two only needed an addition of stores. If only the bees would sting the slaters to death, everything would be lovely in the garden! I was surprised to find drone cells capped in one double storey hive—a bit early, isn't it, for the lovely bumbley fellows to be developing? Maybe "she" will have to have her head off, even though not two years old yet.

That Honey Pump.—Ours worked splendidly last season. We think, however, if the honey passed through a strainer before entering the pump, it would be a great improvement. Can any of those gentlemen using a pump (Dec. 1st, 1920 *Journal*), give us a good idea how to fix such a contraption? It would be necessary to change the strainers frequently to prevent clogging with wax. The extractor outlet is about five inches higher than the intake of the pump. The honey room has a concrete floor.

Sweet Clover.—Has anyone planted any, and with what success? Is it necessary to plough and fertilize the soil before sowing, and is it necessary to sow annually?

District Reports.

TARANAKI.

I missed my notes last month, and we may as well put it down to the weather: one does not feel so interested in bees in midwinter.

We had a visitor last week in the person of Mr. R. Stewart. He tells me snow has been the order down south, and I quite forgot to tell him that there was a fall of snow at Stratford and round the mountain a short while ago.

I opened a few colonies last week, and found them in good nick, and with their stores hardly touched. I called in at three yards I had not been near for three months. Result: Two yards exactly as I left them, and at the third one colony knocked over on its side, but not hurt a great deal, and the queen laying as usual.

I notice Mr. Ward's remarks on spreading brood. Well, of course, district may account for it, but I might say I breed from a particularly hardy strain of bees I have had a golden strain which, at the first sign of cold, crowd in and leave their brood; but I find the leather yellows and some strains of goldens will stick it out. If we did not spread brood in Taranaki, we would have no end of swarms, and have to overhaul our colonies more often. I was told yesterday what causes foul-brood! The information was given me by a cow farmer, and he had acquired it from a man who kept bees twenty years ago. Simply this: Overhauling your colonies! I suppose it would be a case of too much fresh air, or, perhaps, he meant spreading it, as it would give the robbers a chance if it was present in the yard.

H. R. PENNY.

Okaiawa, 15/8/21.

HAWKE'S BAY.

The bees are working hard on the willows and early fruit. Hives are opening up well, but there is evidence that all is not right. The weather is good for apiary work, though it is too dry for a good spring.

Our Association has been pleased to give its support to the proposal of establishing a Fighting Fund. As to the postal ballot for the Executive, the following motion was passed:—

"That this meeting entirely opposes the suggested amendment re the election of the National Executive by postal ballot."

Both motions were well discussed. Most discussion, however, centred round the ballot. It was felt that it would not be good to have any alteration. This Branch has no great knowledge of the beekeepers of New Zealand, and the choice of officers from amongst them would have to be

made in ignorance. Sometimes it happens that men best known publicly are least capable of filling the position. At best, instead of a thoroughly democratic election, most would have to be ruled by the one or two who had heard of, or perhaps had chance to meet, the nominees. And so the meeting decided it wisest to let those in conference assembled, who alone have opportunities of weighing the merits of the candidates, elect the officers of the National Executive.

J. P. BOYLE.

18/8/1921.

AUCKLAND PROVINCIAL BRANCH.

A business meeting of our Association was held in Bath Hall, Hamilton, on 11th August, at 10.30 a.m. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

Two remits were received from Mr. Baines for our consideration:—

1. Re starting a legal Fighting Fund for the protection of members.—This was thought to be a good move, and members were in full accord, but it was thought that the levy should be 1/- per member instead of 1/- per apiary.

2. Re altering method of electing the National Executive.—It was felt that as the Executive were not out to favour any particular district, but to serve the industry as a whole, no good purpose would be served by altering the Constitution.

The President reported that on the 27th September, Mr. T. H. Pearson and he had visited Ngatea, on the Hauraki Plains, and were successful in opening a sub-Branch of our Association, as there is a good number of commercial men in this district, it is expected that the Branch will be a particularly strong one. Mr. J. Schmidt (Turua) was appointed President; Mr. H. Fraser Vice-President, and Mr. N. J. Bowman secretary-treasurer. We would urge all beekeepers in that district to join up and help to make the Branch a success.

A technical meeting, entitled "Feeds and Feeding," was held on 23rd July. The attendance was small, but it was thought the time was not suitable. Papers were read by the President and Secretary, an interesting discussion following.

Chief Apiarist.—It is felt by members that as they were prepared to find a large amount of the cash to provide this officer's salary, we should have some voice in the appointment. The Secretary was instructed to write the Department suggesting Mr. H. W. Gilling as a most suitable man to fill the position, and would recommend his appointment.

Notice to Members and Those Interested.

—A technical meeting will be held on the 10th September, entitled "Queen Rearing, Foul-brood Treatment, Section Raising," at Pearson Bros.' Apiary, about a quarter of a mile from Claudelands Station. An invitation is extended to all interested.

A. H. DAVIES.

WAIPA.

A meeting of the Waipa Branch was held at Te Awamutu on 4th August. Apologies for absence were received from Messrs. H. Bartlett-Miller, T. H. Clarke, W. Heald and C. F. Ryland.

The policy of the Club was thoroughly discussed, and co-operation with Hamilton or any other Branch was heartily endorsed; channels for doing so being looked forward to in the near future.

It was unanimously agreed that the Club retain its present status.

It was decided to ask Mr. Bartlett-Miller to give his Conference report at the earliest opportunity.

The secretary laid before the meeting the subject of amalgamation with the union of all classes of the farming community, and it was deemed advisable to invite an organiser to address the members of the Club on this matter, in conjunction with the meeting to hear the Conference delegate's report.

The members expressed the hope that Mr. C. Smedley would retain the position of Vice-President of the Club.

The question of Field Days was enthusiastically discussed, and it was decided to limit these to three.

One of the most important matters brought forward was the subject of local inspection. The secretary endeavoured to explain that every member of the Club was in reality a local inspector, and that the onus therefore was not shifted on to any one's particular responsibility.

Mr. Smedley proposed that a day or a few days be arranged for the inspector to visit the neighbourhood, so that we might all know when he was coming, and help him accordingly. This matter received the utmost support of all present, and the secretary was instructed to write to the district inspector and obtain all information available.

The prospects and advantages of the Waipa Beekeepers' Club were guaranteed and appreciated by every enthusiast present.

HUGH C. JONES,
Hon. Secretary.

Canterbury Tales.

By E. G. WARD.

I began last month by referring to the weather, and shall do so on this occasion. Since last issue of the Journal we have had a slight fall of snow in Christchurch, and following the snow (on August 7th) we had the severest frost known for thirty years; water pipes were burst all over

the town, and the plumbers did a roaring trade. On the whole, the weather keeps rather on the dry side, but showers have been fairly frequent. Spring seems to be making its appearance a fortnight earlier than usual, as the weeping willows are tinged with green, and the smell of wattles can be "felt" quite distinctly in many parts of the town. Several times lately I have noticed the beautiful scent (evidently carried by the wind), although no blossoms of any kind were in sight.

Too much stress cannot be laid on the following:—"Upon the queen rests all that is hopeful in apiculture." This quotation is from "Swartmore," and I am not quite certain if he did not get it from that great benefactor of all beekeepers, "Father" Langstroth. However, every beekeeper worthy of the name knows it's gospel truth, but the younger generations, perhaps, may say, "Yes, that's all right, but how can I rear good queens?" Well, my answer is, study everything you can lay your hands on relating to the subject, and then "wade right in."

I particularly desire to draw attention to an article in June "Gleanings," by Jay Smith. He gives a simple plan, which could hardly fail even in the hands of a novice. You may say, "I don't take 'Gleanings'." Well, perhaps if enough of you are interested and were to write to our worthy Editor, he might be willing to re-print the article. In the May issue of the same Journal there is another article by the same writer in which he discusses "The Value of Good Queens." He sees no reason why one who rears his own queens should not have them all equally good, but to do so, he says—and truly says—you must rear your own queens; and if you cannot do so you must learn. Now, Jay Smith is a noted queen breeder in America, and it may astonish some to learn that he should write in the strain he does; but he is evidently made of the right stuff, or would not be so generous in giving the benefit of his years of experience to enlighten ignorant humanity. We of the present generation are the debtors of those early pioneers, and I for one raise my hat in humility and thankfulness to all such.

I wonder if there will ever be a definite answer to the question, "How Far will Bees Return to their Old Location?" There is an interesting paragraph in the "Bee World" of February, 1921, bearing on this question. Thirty colonies had been moved from the home apiary to an out-piary 3½ miles distant to take advantage of a honey flow. On returning home, the owner found his bee-house black with returning bees, and they were increasing every minute. What makes the incident more remarkable is the fact that a town and some tall furnace buildings intervened. I know from personal experience that bees will return two miles, but the above may perhaps be useful information to inexperienced people.

I asked readers some months ago for information relative to the action of bees when given foundation which had been treated with carbolic acid to destroy germs of foul-brood. In answer to this, one gentleman said that he knew of a case where bees had deserted the hive. I have recently seen the gentleman who supplied me with wax to make into foundation for him, and he tells me he had no trouble, although he had used a considerable quantity of carbolic when boiling up combs. He had filled his frames in readiness some weeks before using them, and the smell had almost vanished. The experience is, perhaps, worth recording, but I would just say once again that it is quite unnecessary to use carbolic for foul-brood combs. It is conclusively proved that disease is not communicated through comb foundation.

It gives me much pleasure to introduce the new secretary of the Canterbury Branch of the National. Mr. W. A. Sillifant is so well and favourably known among Canterbury beekeepers that I am sure there will be general approval. He has kept bees for over a quarter of a century, acted in the capacity of judge of honey I am sure I do not know how often, and is highly respected by everyone who comes into contact with him. I am sure I express the sentiments of everybody in Canterbury when I say I hope he will wield the secretarial pen for many years to come.

That "Notice to Beekeepers" by the Editor, if read rightly, ought to remind some of our prominent beekeepers that a helping hand occasionally would be welcome. I am afraid that a good many people never stop to consider that to make the Journal a success a change in the "bill of fare" would be welcome occasionally. I remember once reading in "Gleanings" that the Editor was never short of first-class "copy." Brother beekeepers, I want to appeal to you to lend the Editor of this Journal a hand, and let him be able to make the same boast.

The Canterbury Branch of the National Beekeepers' Association held a meeting in the Trades Hall on 23rd July, Mr. C. A. Pope (President) in the chair. Mr. W. A. Sillifant gave an address on "Bees and Beekeeping." He dealt with the evolution of apiculture from the earliest times to the present day, and showed how the invention of the frame hive, honey extractor, and comb foundation made beekeeping a profitable commercial proposition. He particularly stressed the necessity of having young queens, a good location, freedom from disease, and plenty of winter stores as the chief essentials for success. Mr. E. A. Earp, apiary instructor, was present, and answered a number of questions, and supplemented what Mr. Sillifant had said, with much good advice. Both were accorded a hearty vote of thanks. Four new members were elected.

It was announced that papers would be contributed by prominent members of the Association at intervals during the winter months for the benefit of those contemplating engaging in the honey industry.

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,—Re my Conference paper on the Acquisition of Apiary Sites, and Mr. Irwin's letter in last issue. The Report of the Conference would indicate that there was no discussion. There was a short discussion, but it had to be curtailed owing to there being little time left for the other papers. Most of the papers had to be put through at a hand gallop. With Mr. Irwin, I should like to see a good discussion carried on now, so that the next Conference can make another step forward in the matter. Although I am not worrying about any arguments against the proposal (bricks, as Mr. Irwin calls them), what I think most necessary is that all who would like to see some such proposal in force so that they could take advantage of it, would write to the Secretary or myself and put their needs on record. The argument that will carry most weight with legislators is the extent of the demand for apiary sites that exists. I met one beekeeper (a lady) at the Conference who has been renting for the last six years, and has now received notice to move. I feel sure there is a real need generally for such a reform as I have outlined. I have had a good deal of personal experience in hunting and securing sites, and now I am pleased to say I have secured a home site of six acres and three out-yards of an acre and under—all freehold. Owing to the home separation system coming into vogue, a big dairy company in Canterbury has been selling its creamery sites, and I was fortunate in securing two of them—one with the building on it. I put a beekeeping friend on to purchasing another. The third out-yard cost me £100 for an acre worth only £50. It took the extra £50 to tempt the owner to cut it off the farm. Besides that I had to pay all expenses of survey, transfer and fencing.

I can, therefore, sympathise with beekeepers needing a permanent site, and will do what I can to help them push this matter forward. But it cannot be done without their help. They must take an active interest by supplying the arguments. All that is necessary is a short statement embodying the number of colonies held at present, number of sites and tenners, and the number of colonies the writer wants to increase to, with the number of sites required. If everyone leaves it to the other fellow to do the

writing, there will be so few replies that the National may drop the subject. I certainly will.—I am, &c.,

W. B. BRAY.

Barry's Bay.

(TO THE EDITOR.)

Sir,—Mr. Howard, in his Taieri notes last issue, makes some remarks which should not be allowed to pass unchallenged. He describes the Conference decision on the tax question as business indecency and a conspiracy. It would do good to him and any other members of his Branch who agree with him to attend a Conference. To meet beekeepers from all parts of the country would give him a new outlook on the problems of our industry, and his Branch ought to send at least one delegate if no one of the members is sufficiently interested to find his own way there. At last Conference there were only three Branch delegates present, and I would not be surprised but what they were paying their own expenses. The Conference was composed of beekeepers who do more than play at the game of beekeeping in their spare time. Beekeeping is their bread and butter, so they make it their business to attend. It is they who are most entitled to decide what is best for the industry.

Practically the only straight-out opponent of the tax is a gentleman who lives not far from the Taieri, and who, though not a beekeeper, has made himself prominent at Conferences. He has openly said that the small beekeepers are his best friends, and that he fears the tax is aimed at them. The Taieri Branch is composed of small beekeepers, and one of his employees is a member. I pointed out these facts at the Conference, and thereafter he was silent. The Taieri remit bore evidence in its elaborate construction that it was not drafted off-hand at the meeting, but rather was prepared before-hand. I missed the first part of the discussion at the Conference, but when I arrived I found that there was a danger of our southern friend persuading the Conference that Taieri and other Branches were right. The account of the discussion given in the Conference Report is out of sequence and very much condensed; but I am pleased to say that as a result of the stand taken by myself and others, the vote was unanimous in support of the tax. "Business indecency" is rather an offensive term to apply to a Conference because it does not adopt a remit. Is it indecent to reject a motion at a meeting? A remit is merely a motion. On the tax question there were no two remits alike, so Conference could not please all the Branches by adopting all the remits, which would have been a farce. Mr. Howard claims that his Branch has been made the footstool of a conspiracy. If there were any conspiracy, then they were being made the tools and not the footstool of it. I will relate the salient facts, so that they may speak for themselves.

During the year the tax question, which had been formulated at the 1920 Conference, had been the subject of interviews and correspondence between the Standing Committee and the Government. The Secretary, in his trip through the South Island last summer, was accompanied to a number of field meetings by the gentleman whom I have already mentioned as being opposed to the tax. In the May issue (on page 82), the Editor reveals how he (as Secretary) omitted to carry out a certain resolution passed by Conference. He apologizes to the mover and seconder (I was the mover), and acts belatedly on the resolution, saying there was still plenty of time. But immediately before these explanations, he has devoted two whole pages to an attack on the tax proposal, thus giving the Branches the cue to vote against it as Branches, whereas the Conference had recommended that the Branches be canvassed for "a signed petition from the members of all the Branches in support of the proposed tax on apiaries." In the face of that attack, of what value was the apology? Some of the Branches danced to the piping of the Secretary-Editor; Taieri and Rangiora (the latter was started by the Secretary on that memorable trip) were remarkable for the carefully—or, rather, elaborately—worded resolutions. At the Conference the Secretary gave the figures on the voting of the Branches. He counted those which were against the proposal "in its present form" with those who were against the principle. But the worst feature of his figures was that he had put the total number of financial members of each Branch in the one side or the other. By the time he reached the Conference, the Secretary was ready to blow cold on what the Editor had written in the May issue, because he saw a chance of getting the National out of its financial difficulties by asking for 20 per cent. of the tax. I hope he will pipe up the new tune without any change this year. I hope also that large and small beekeepers will unite in this campaign against foul-brood and agree to the apiary tax, so that the country may the sooner be rid of foul-brood.

I heard the remarks made by Mr. Geo. Witty, M.P., at the field meeting at Avonhead Apiary. The Editor has quoted them seriously, but they were made in a facetious strain, so we need attach no import to them. I have accused the Taieri men of being small beekeepers. I think they will all admit that they would be in a larger way were it not for foul-brood.—I am, &c.,

W. B. BRAY.

Our correspondent seems to delight in "throwing bouquets," particularly at the Editor. The easiest way out of any trouble is to say nothing. We take it that making all sorts of statements that are either exaggerated or untrue pleases him, so we will let it pass. The other gentlemen referred to can reply if they wish.

Oh, there is just one little matter we will comment upon, and we will head it

A STUDY IN CONTRASTS.

"This renewal (Journal subs.) does not indicate entire or even ordinary satisfaction with the Journal; there is considerable room for improvement."—W. B. Bray.

"Glad to see the Journal carrying on strong as ever."—J. H. Heath. 3/8/21.

"Enclosed please find postal-note for 6/-, sub. to Journal. If you have any back numbers, you may date back to when my sub. ran out, as I feel that I have missed a good deal of information. Wishing you continued success."—D. G. Farmer. 13/8/21.

"Heartily thanks for your good report of Conference; it was nice to have it so full. As for the National being a failure, it compares very favourably with the U.S.A. H.P.L. commented on by yourself and set forth in the American Bee Journal 219. So please take courage and keep pegging away."—D. Campbell. 11/8/21.

"I think you are to be congratulated on editing such a bright little publication for the National Beekeepers' Association of New Zealand."—Frank C. Pellett, Asst. Editor American Bee Journal.

HOW'S THE SCORE, MR. BRAY?

THE BEE TAX.

(TO THE EDITOR.)

Sir,—Of all the absurd things I ever heard tell of, the above is the most absurd. It seems that a few beekeepers, not content with the heavy burden of taxation the people are, as Mr Massey says, staggering under, want the Government to single out the beekeeper as a class to still further tax, and so make us the laughing-stock of the whole world! I have never heard of any class of men asking their Government to impose a special tax upon them, so that they might get something that they were justly entitled to without any special taxation. It is absurd to think that two or three men, in spite of the unanimous disapproval of all the Branches, are determined to force it down our throats, whether we like it or not. It might be an easy thing to get the Government to impose a tax upon us, but it will be quite a different matter to get it removed. The promoters of this tax have added a sop to it, in the expectation that it might be more acceptable than without the sop. The sop is that one-fifth of the tax be given to the National. My idea of beekeepers as a class will have to alter very much if they accept the sop. The tax is wrong in principle; it is unjust and an oppression, besides holding us up to the ridicule of all beholders. If the tax ever became a fact, it would be the best plan for all beekeepers to organise and determine to resist it by passive measures. If all or a great majority of beekeepers refused to

pay the tax, and the Government seized portion of their property to pay the tax, it would raise such a din all over the Dominion that no Government would have the courage to try it the second time. But I feel sure no Parliament would pass it if any demonstration were made against it.—I am, &c.,

A. IRELAND.

(TO THE EDITOR.)

Sir,—It was not intended discourtesy which made me omit to reply to Mr. Bowman's query re Mason bees, as I have been on an extended tour of the North Island, the result being the matter escaped my memory. Mr. Bowman must have mistaken the variety of the bee that he observed visiting the blossoms, for the Mason bee has no caribulae; probably it was the native solitary bee he observed collecting pollen, or else some other species of the honey-producing hymenoptera.

By the way, where are all the apiaries of the vaunted North—that land of hot baths and waste lands? It struck me that it will be many years ere Mr. Bray's piratical Act would need to be put into force there. I covered a good deal of ground, but beyond a pleasant visit to the apiary of two enterprising ladies and that of friend Banks at Rotorua, where over a cup of tea he spun me a yarn of bees bringing in 300 lbs. per colony, which gave me a vision of buying a section at Whakarewarewa, sinking a 'long idea' hive in the ground over a hot spring for a bath, and utilising an Alliance Box hive and a sack as a patent cooker, grow a fig-tree and an orange-bush, and there, with a few bees to do the work, retire like Diogenes to my tub. This Utopian dream of bliss was strengthened when he produced the finest specimen of honey I have tasted in New Zealand, bar one. However, on further enquiry I found the district was already pretty well ring-staked by another enterprising bee-man. Of others, I saw none. Oh, yes, at the foot of the Ngongotaha I saw two dismal-looking hives, with the discouraging notice at the entrance, 'For Sale; enquire within.' At Drury, too, I passed the home of two more lady beekeepers, and I regretted the train would not wait to allow me to pay my respects, and a fleeting glance at Ruakura completed my disappointment of Auckland from an apiarist's point of view; in fact, most of the country I went over would break the heart and the wings of the most energetic of bees ere she filled her baskets with bread.

Inter alia, Mr. Banks gave me a good tip. I spent a hot time over a Baines capping melter in a kerosene box of a honey-house at Xmasfide; temperature 130 deg.; he takes off his honey in the daytime, and extracts of an evening. I consider I lost 14 lbs. of good honest fat unnecessarily. I think it is up to the

illustrious inventor of the machine to offer me compensation or sympathy in my sad loss.

"Humble we must be if to heaven we go;
High is the roof, but the gate is low."
I am, &c.,

W. E. BARKER.

(TO THE EDITOR.)

Sir,—The weather here is still very warm, and the bees are taking full advantage of it. They are gathering honeydew from the birch trees, and a good flow is yielded when the weather is as at present. It is a great help to brood-rearing, which is now occupying several frames.

The early spring months are the worst times for the spreading of foul-brood, so all beekeepers, beginners, and others must keep a sharp look out for robbing, especially the sly variety. Diseased and neglected colonies give way to strong stocks, and a spread of infection results. Weak colonies should have a reduced entrance, and attention should be paid to cracks through which a robber may pass.

If you have a neighbour beekeeper who is not an expert at handling bees, it pays to help him out with his foul-brood. Even if it means a few days work, it may save much infection amongst your own bees. At any rate, it pays the wrong way to let him paddle along in his own sweet way. Of course, you must use tact, because they all think or say they know what foul-brood is and how to deal with it.

Wise beekeepers will now be getting supplies ready for the coming season. It is bad practice to leave the frame and super-making until they are actually needed. Beekeepers who do generally find themselves short of supers.

The weather is now better for painting, so be up and doing those who have hives to paint. Stockholm tar is very good as a priming. If desired, it may be painted over when the tar is thoroughly dry. It does not show through as does the coal-tar, and it is the best wood preservative known. It does not leave the wood black, as is generally thought, but is a rich brown colour, which gradually pales as it dries into the wood. Give it a trial.

By his paper in the August issue, Mr. H. Bartlett-Miller proves to be an adept in the use of adjectives. He means to help the National, but may I beg to suggest that unfair criticism is likely to do the reverse.—I am, &c.

W. H. BROWN.

Staveley, August 12.

(TO THE EDITOR.)

Sir,—I have been reading the Report of the Conference, and was surprised to read in Mr. Y. H. Benton's paper some remarks concerning our fellow-craftsmen in America, which seemed rather hard in view of all the countless and useful appli-

ances and methods of queen-rearing, &c., which American beekeepers have devised and given freely to the world at large.

Mr. Benton refers to the discussion which he started on the question as to whether queens hatching in nursery cages were equal to those hatched among the bees. The question of a virgin's need for royal jelly was raised, and in your issue of January last you gave the opinions of some leading American beekeepers on this subject, and invited New Zealand queen breeders to give their experiences. I immediately sent you my views on the subject, which you published in the February number, and in that article I made it clear that I used nursery cages. Now that I raise queens for sale, I feel it is necessary to explain that I cage the ripe cells as follows:—(1) Only a few hours previous to hatching; (2) The cages are placed between frames of brood in the heart of the cluster, and the bees have room to pass between the cages.

It is my belief that a cluster of bees is able in cold weather to insulate itself against loss of heat. As proof, observe how easily brood raised above a queen excluder is chilled on a cold night if the colony is not very strong. Also I have been very disappointed at the results of the ventilated escape board. I have found that after a cold night the honey above the wire gauze escape is nearly as cold, if not quite as cold, as if it had been off the hive entirely. This proves to me that in cold weather a cluster of bees is able to a very great extent to prevent warmth escaping. Beeswax also is a very slow conductor of heat. Note how very long a 20 lb. block of wax takes to cool from melting point; the centre of the block remains warm a very long time.

I should therefore like to make it clear to your readers that while I do use the nursery cage, I only do so under the above conditions, and in this locality at any rate, where cold snaps occur any time of the year, I never cage cells in a compartment of the hive from which the bees are excluded.

The above remarks about ventilated escape-boards refer only to the question of keeping the honey warm in the supers during a cold night. In this respect I have not found them of any practical value. However, I have found them most valuable in preventing suffocation of the bees of a strong hive in the event of the escape becoming blocked. On several occasions I have had this happen with the solid board, but never once has it occurred since adopting the ventilated board.—I am, &c.,

J. H. TODD.

Renwicktown, Marlborough, July 18.

"Please send the Journal again; I find I cannot do without it."—H. S. J., Hawlock North.

Answers to Correspondents.

—Your letter to hand, which is quite all right, but for three things:—There were no insinuations; it was a definite statement. It was not ludicrous; rather the reverse. It being absolutely true, you can treat it with as much contempt as you care to; it will stand it.

D. C., Waiuku.—There is no particular art, but do not shake the combs absolutely bare of bees; leave sufficient on each comb to take care of the brood, and those hatching out will soon cover them again. Let us know how you fare, will you?

Starting in Beekeeping.

Pick up any bee-book, and in the earlier chapters you will read how the author commenced beekeeping—perhaps by boxing a stray swarm or by removing a colony out of an old tree.

Well, in telling about the commencement of our apiary, we did not start at all romantically, but by the very commonplace method of buying our stock. The person who supplied the bees could not send Italians, so sent a mixture of some with yellow bands, some with bands like French bathing suits, some with as many bands as a band contest, and, worst of all, a band of brigands—a team of "all-blacks!" They not only robbed their neighbours, but also robbed us of many a night's sleep. We were told that the different strains could be changed by using Italian queens. Very simple when so ignorant of bees and their ways that one is not sure whether a drone can sting or not! We did find out later that drones were like German Zeppelins—big fellows, all noise! Black queens always eluded us, knowing that even monarchs have been beheaded! The result was the blacks became blacker. The opening of the hives was an event of the year, and all hands turned out fully equipped. Instead of veils, old sacks were used, being placed over the head like a hood. In some books on English beekeeping we read of monasteries managing apiaries. You may rest assured that we were the nearest approach to monks you could have wished to see. The game was to shut the flapping sides together should a bee be observed to be keen on alighting, business end first, on the parts of one's face.

The bees were, of course, very interested in these new bee-veils, and took a keen delight in the game. Our smoker was a piece of smouldering chaff-bag—a brother to the gunny bag of American journals—gently fanned by the human bellows. Bees do not like the odour of human breath, as we all know now, so

that primitive smoker made them still more eager to justify the name by which they are known to some of "Eyetalianians" by alighting on some delicate part of our kind faces and planting their little lest-we-forget stings, accompanied by a humming hymn of hate. It used to get so hot at times that the bag veil would be closed for a while. We could tell that "camerad" period by our Lancashire pommy, who would call out, "Hold on a bit, mate; they're biting a bit too solid! By gum! Swish! By hech! Smack!"

Strange to say, we got honey in the storeys—sometimes too much, in those gable roofs especially, because the first year we did not use mats, and when the bees had filled up the allotted sections, they must, of course, build in the attic and chock-a-block their whole house. The youngsters on the place also became imbued with the importance of the hive opening days, and to be safe from the fiery darts were told to climb the trees near by, and so view the manipulating—perhaps too good a word for our primitive banging. Why a position up a tree should make any difference in the way of stings cannot be explained now; but we knew, or thought we knew, the bees' idiosyncrasies—and they do have as many different tempers as there are letters in that word.

However, we look back with pleasure to those beginning days, just as every beekeeper who is a man must smile at the mistakes made when first he took to bees, or they took to him!

Dominion Honey Production.

HOW TO INCREASE IT.

By W. WATSON, Geraldine.

I firmly believe the honey crop of New Zealand could be materially increased by the beekeepers if they would only experiment along the lines of introducing new nectar-secreting plants, not necessarily of a noxious character.

I consider such a plant as I am going to try to describe would be the means of adding considerably to our honey production.

I have read in the American Bee Journal how sweet clover (*Melilotus alba*), or as is sometimes called Bokhara clover, one time banned as a noxious weed, has been found to be an excellent honey plant and a real blessing in disguise. Now, if sweet clover can be grown so successfully in all parts of America with such good results, why not in such a fertile country as New Zealand? With that end in view, a few years ago I wrote to Dadant and Son (America) for a few pounds of both the white and yellow variety, which in

due time came to hand. The next question to be considered was, Would my class of soil be favourable for sweet clover-growing, the land being of a stiff clay sub-soil, and knowing that all the clover family thrive well on sweet soil free from acids, I broadcasted lime in the proportion of a ton to the acre, then ploughed and harrowed well, then scattered the seed (about 8 lbs. to the acre), and harrowed again, and the result was I got a first-class strike. I find the latter end of September the best time to sow the seed, as the frost affects it to a certain extent. If the weather is at all favourable the clover will make rapid growth, and in three months will attain a height of 3 ft.; I have had self-sown plants over 7 ft. high, and about 5 ft. or 6 ft. in circumference. The yellow variety flowers first, and the white about three weeks later; and I can assure you the way in which the bees work the blossom would gladden the heart of any beekeeper, for they are busy on it from daylight till dark. The yellow variety blossoms for about six weeks to two months; the white variety until the frosts cut it down. Once a stand is established, you need not worry about re-sowing; enough seed will fall to furnish a crop for the following year.

If one wants to grow this clover for a forage crop (and I believe it is excellent for that purpose, animals when they get used to the peculiar flavour eating it readily), if needed for hay, should be cut before the stalks harden; but if left for seed, it is advisable to cut when it is wet with dew, it has such a tendency to shake out. Another factor which bulks largely in its favour is that it is a splendid soil renovator; the root formations are very similar to lucerne, and penetrate very deeply into the ground.

In conclusion, I would like all beekeepers and others interested to procure a little seed if possible, sow it, and watch results, which I feel sure will be satisfactory.

August 15th, 1921.

The Switch Bottom Board.

By A. L. LUKE.

A year or two ago we heard quite a lot of the switch bottom boards, and it was through experimenting with these bottom-boards that I hit upon my present system of swarm control. After three seasons' trial, I decided to give them best owing to the expense and the clumsiness.

In working out apiaries to the best advantage, it is absolutely necessary that all appliances should be interchangeable and as compact as possible.

In working the home apiary, these bottom boards may be worked to an advantage, but the expense puts them out. I note a firm advertising them—usual price 12/6, reduced to 8/6. The bottom-boards I use would not cost more than 1/3 each nailed up, and suits us far better with the system I work on.

I note Mr. Smedley claims the switch bottom-board does practically the same as I do in my out-yard management, and does away with the lifting of the hive to another stand. This lifting of the hive to its stand 9 ft. away is easily done, for at that time of the season the hives and supers are light, and the system under which my yards are laid out makes quick and easy work for the rest of the season.

August 14th, 1921.

Registration of Apiaries not a New Thing.

In the Domesday Book, compiled by order of William the Conqueror and preserved intact to this day, we obtain a picture of farm life in England so many centuries ago. It gives a census of live stock—the numbers of oxen, sheep, swine and goats, even hives, each estate supported. These are the lands of Robert Greno at Rainham, in the Hundred of Chafford.

“Renahan, which was held by Alnard as a manor and as 3¼ hides, is held by Robert. Then 4 villeins; now 5. Then and afterwards 6 bordars; now 4. Then 2 serfs; now none. Then as now 2 ploughs on the demesne. Then the men had between them 2¼ ploughs; now 1. Then 14 beasts, and 6 swine, and 100 sheep; now 11 beasts, and 24 swine, and 80 sheep, and 12 HIVES OF BEES.”

Do It in Time.—The beekeeping axiom is “Learn what is to be done, and do it in time.” The importance of the last five words cannot be over-estimated.—*American Bee Journal.*

“I believe the *Beginners' Handbook* will prove a very useful book for the beginner, and congratulate you on your work.”—G. V. Westbrooke, apiary instructor, Auckland. Post free, 1/9.

The National Association is in being to help those in the industry, and asks for your support by becoming a member.

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

Beekeepers' Exchange.

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

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 as requested to communicate with

CHAPLAIN CAPT. HARDIE,
Trentbam Camp.

FOR SALE, 25 COLONIES of BEES, on 10 or 12 frames, with sufficient stores; no foul-brood.

R. H. NELSON,
Martinborough.

FOR SALE, COMB FOUNDATION MILL, 10-inch, Dipping Tank, and Boards. Sample sheet on application.

W. COPSEY,
Te Kuiti.

FOR SALE, 15 HIVES (Italian and Hybrids); free from disease; price 30/- each.

Mrs. FRANK HUNT,
Box 36, Putaruru.

Subscriptions Received.

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

H. F. Housler, Netherton, to July 22
And. Balneaves, Mataura, to July 22
L. H. Johnson, Arapito, to July 22
Adnett and Smith, Mangatera, to Dec. 22
J. Richdale, Ngahinepouri, to July 22
A. R. Nicholson, Waikaka, to July 22
Alex. Ridd, Miller's Flat, to July 22
Miss K. L. Manning, Papakura, to June 22
Mrs. Windelea, Levin, to July 22
G. H. McLean, Birchwood, to June 22
D. Collie, Tutarau, to July 22
J. Walworth, Palmerston Nth., to July 22
W. H. Ferrier, Palmerston Nth., to July 22
C. A. Pope, Christchurch (10/-), to Ap. 23
G. E. Clarke, Claudelands, to July 22
H. R. Hunt, Stratford, to July 22
D. Pethig, Rangiora, to April 22
A. E. Andrews, Waiholo, to July 22
E. Hemmingsen, Invercargill, to Aug. 22
E. P. Karl, Pukeroro, to July 22
Pearson Bros., Claudelands, to June 22
E. Jensen, Whakatu, to Aug. 22
J. Hubert, Waihou, to Aug. 22
H. C. Wedde, Raurimu, to June 22
S. Svendsen, Feilding, to Aug. 22
W. Booth, Tauherinikau, to Aug. 22
G. H. Winton, Sefton, to May 22
M. Atkinson, England, to April 22
B. Westhead, Waiuku, to July 22
T. R. Hall, Levin, to July 22
J. Perring, Kumara, to July 22
E. Parkin, Coult's Island, to Aug. 22
J. H. Anderson, Wellington, to June 22
A. Ireland, Christchurch, to Aug. 22
J. Maitland, Orari, to June 22
R. H. Nelson, Martinborough, to Aug. 22
J. Sim, Lumsden, to Aug. 22
L. Rusterer, Helensville, to Aug. 22
J. Carroll, Mongonui, to Aug. 22
V. Johnson, Linton, to Aug. 22
D. G. Farmer, Wabaroa, to Feb. 22
S. P. Parsons, Rotorua, to July 22
C. F. Werner, Kaitaia, to Aug. 22
W. Copsey, Te Kuiti, to July 22
J. Froggart, Long Bush, to Aug. 22

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.

P.O. Box 850, Christchurch.
Telegrams: "OAKCLIFFE."

Factory: 157 Cranford Street,
CHRISTCHURCH.

Beekeepers' Supplies.

Reduction in Prices.

We have pleasure in announcing a considerable reduction in the price of Beekeepers' Supplies. An improvement in the foreign exchange rate and a fall in the price of timber and other lines make this reduction possible. New Season's List now ready. If you have not already received our List, it will pay you to write for one.

Hives and Supplies.

The "Alliance" Dovetailed Hives and Frames, which have given universal satisfaction in the past, still maintain their excellence of quality, fit, and workmanship. The very largest Beekeepers in the Dominion year after year specify "ALLIANCE" Goods, because of their dependability. We guarantee every article sent out from our Works to be of the very best quality. We back up our guarantee with an offer to replace, free of charge, any article which proves unsatisfactory.

Comb Foundation.

One of the important factors which contribute to success in beekeeping is Comb Foundation, of which there are scores of makes—good, bad, and indifferent. Good Foundation has several outstanding features—immunity from disease, toughness, clearness, and perfect cells which, when drawn out, are all worker cells. Many of the lower grades of Foundation produce large quantities of drone cells. "Aircro" Foundation is absolutely pure and very tough, and all the cells are perfect worker cells. It is a little more costly than other makes, but it is worth the money asked for it, in that it saves the time of the Bees tearing down and reconstructing imperfect cells. A large user says:—"I have used over 200 lbs. of "Aircro" Foundation this season. The Bees accept it quicker and draw it out with less labour than other makes I have used." The Foundation has a perfectly natural basis, which the Bees do not need to re-design; the Foundation is more ductile, and at the same time tougher and less easily broken than other makes. We recommend "Aircro" Foundation to the Beekeepers of New Zealand.

We can also supply Foundation made in our own Works. The Wax is specially treated, ensuring absolute purity. Each sheet is packed between thin sheets of paper to prevent damage. We consider paper between each sheet necessary to prevent damage and strain, the strain having a tendency to produce drone cells, particularly in hot weather.

Queens.

A good Queen in each colony is absolutely essential. We supply Queens of the famous Robert Stewart strain. Tested Queens ready for delivery from the end of September onwards; Untested from November onwards. ORDER EARLY.

A FULL STOCK OF ALL APIARY APPLIANCES READY FOR IMMEDIATE DELIVERY AT HEAD OFFICE AND AT OUR AGENTS' IN ALL HONEY-PRODUCING CENTRES.

NEW SEASON'S PRICE LIST NOW READY.

Alliance Box Co., Ltd.,

MASON STREET, DUNEDIN.

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

R. W. BRICKELL, Manager.

1921-22 PRICES OF ITALIAN QUEENS

UNTESTED

DELIVERY IN ROTATION OF ORDERS MID NOVEMBER TO MID MARCH.

1 or 2.
7/6 each.

3 or 4.
7/- each.

5 or more.
6/6 each.

TESTED

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.

After considerable experience the demand for our Foundation Comb has grown to such an extent all over Southland and Otago that we have decided to supply all Beekeepers with our own Foundation Comb, or make up their own Wax.

Local Foundation always in stock.

Also Makers of Hoffman Frames, etc.

Samples and Prices on request.

Address:

Butler & Hemmingsen
83 Teviot Street, INVERCARGILL.

Notice to Beekeepers.

A SMALL STEAM BOILER is now on the market. Write C. SMEDLEY, To Awamutu, or H.P.A., Auckland, and find out more about it. Scrap the wasteful oil-drum; enquire about SMEDLEY'S Outfit—MELTER, SEPARATOR & BOILER. You can't go wrong in getting this; it has come to stay, and sooner or later you are going to have it. Now, cut this out and paste it up in your extracting shed, and see if this is true. It will give you boiling water in a few minutes.

C. Smedley, TE AWAMUTU.

Calling his Bluff.

KNOWING Mr. SMEDLEY FOR THE PAST NINETEEN YEARS, we were not exactly surprised to read on page 654 of the last issue of the N.Z. FRUIT-GROWER, in a letter over his name, the following:—

"I am sorry the demonstration of smelters was a failure, and it is time beekeepers interested in smelters should have a chance of seeing these appliances tested side by side under varied conditions—that is, in the method of heating. Now, let me tell you, although my machine is smaller in size, it is equal in capacity to Mr. Miller's Glutton, and at the same time did prove that it would work with less heat."

Now then Mr. Smedley!

I HAVE YOU WHERE I HAVE BEEN LONGING FOR THE PAST WHOLE YEAR TO GET YOU!

First, let me call the attention of my readers to the fact that I have ever refrained from mentioning by name any of the rival inventors of Reducers, for to do so reflects anything but business credit upon the person doing so;

B-u-t,

As Mr. Smedley has not failed to violate this golden rule, he must take what is coming to him.

That Demonstration at the H.P.A.

I am still waiting to be thanked for the loan to Mr. Smedley of the Hose and Boiler with which he fully demonstrated—that, so far from proving that his Reducer would equal my GLUTTON, I had to call the attention of the reporter to the fact that large pieces of Unmelted Foundation were escaping into the gutter of the Smedley Reducer, as were also other bits of Unmelted Comb.

Furthermore, the amount of heat supplied by the boiler was far and away more than sufficient for his Reducer, for many standing around the boiler saw the bubbling of water OUT OF THE SYPHON-SUPPLY TUBE, and this is a physical impossibility unless the Reducer was getting all the steam it could use and the surplus was causing back pressure in the boiler.

So this is positive proof that any failure of Smedley's Reducer (which you will notice he himself avows) was certainly not caused through lack of steam. It was not until the end of his job that the fire was inadvertently allowed to go nearly out—that the steam supply was insufficient. By that time Mr. Smedley had had ample time to show us all that his invention was capable of doing, A-N-D he DIDN'T show us that it would prevent Unmelted Comb from escaping from it.

Still Further.

It amuses me to learn what ideas some persons have of the most ordinary laws of Physics.

So far from the statement being true that Smedley's Reducer is capable of reducing Black Combs as fast as the B.M. GLUTTON, such arrant nonsense only emanates from a mind utterly ignorant of the real laws governing such matters.

The capacity of the B.M. GLUTTON is three tons per eight-hour day when reducing ordinary Combs; and from my experience, in collaboration with the late Rev. F. W. Clarke when Vicar of Te Awamutu, in his honey-room (only a-quarter mile from Smedley's Apiary), with a Reducer embodying exactly the same principle as Smedley's present Reducer, I am positively certain that you cannot in eight hours put three tons of any kind of Comb (to melt it) through Smedley's Reducer, even with a hydraulic press.

When Parson Clarke and I invented the model which Smedley now makes, we thought we had what we termed "A BOBBY DAZZLER!"

We worked night and day over that Reducer, which we made out of large milk-dishes, both steam jacketed. The invention worked all right (except for not being speedy enough) so long as no large amount of pollen and no black combs were put into it; but as soon as we got it full of black combs, such as the ordinary brood-nest consists of, the bally thing blocked up, and we had to take it apart and empty it.

After using and coaxing it for three weeks, and often working until the dawn of day at it, we very reluctantly admitted ourselves beaten once more—and the Reducer went the way of the scrap-heap.

One Man's Idea of Fair Play.

Mr. Smedley states that "It is time beekeepers interested in Smelters should have a chance of seeing these appliances tested," &c.

Now, he cannot possibly have forgotten that in this very Journal we for five consecutive months, and at an expenditure of ten lovely sovereigns, advertised a Challenge (only last season) to all and sundry to a Reducer Competition, even offering to alter the tentative rules we suggested in the event of any competitor considering either of them oppressive. **DIDN'T WE?**

Although Smedley lives and has his Apiary only two and a-half miles from THOROUGHWORK, did Smedley even let out one mouse-squeak about that Challenge, issued, as it were, right under his nose. DID HE? Not he! Yet he now whines about the necessity of just that very thing!

What are we to think of such a person? I know what I think of him!

Now that I have sold out every vestige of comb I possess, and have also sold the most perfectly furnished honey-room in the Dominion, Smedley thinks it is time to have that competition.

Well, if I have no combs to supply for the Reducers, Smedley has!

If he thinks he can dodge that Competition because it is now impossible for me to supply the combs, he is making a big mistake.

I CHALLENGE HIM TO THE SAME COMPETITION AGAIN, and if he is sincere in his whining about the need for a demonstration, he can supply the combs; and if he now refuses, readers will know what to think about the matter.

The Challenge.

THE COMPETITION IS TO BE FOR A FOUR HOURS' RUN; and ONLY BLACK COMBS ARE TO BE MELTED.

Readers may say that I am betting on a surety because, nine years ago, one who had been Assay Chemist at Sydney University, and could analyse most things on earth, had, in collaboration with myself, proved the INCAPACITY of a Reducer of Smedley's pattern. Well, Smedley backs (on paper only) his Reducer against the B.-M. GLUTTON. It is of no use his drawing any red herring across the scent by discussing the relative amounts of heat, &c. The boiler he used at the H.P.A. Demonstration supplied more heat than his Reducer could assimilate, and that in the very worst place that could have been chosen—the loading entrance of the H.P.A. Depot, in a nasty wind, in the depth of winter. I regret that my interest in seeing Unmelted Foundation and Comb run from his Reducer took my attention from the fire; but the fire was Mr. Smedley's affair, not mine! He neither asked me to attend to it nor did he thank me for so doing, but seemed to take for granted that it was my job, and never put hand to either fire or boiler when it was my turn to demonstrate (which was impossible) with a boiler meant for a Reducer only as small as Smedley's, and which could never have been expected to keep at melting point of beeswax a surface of twenty-seven square feet, of which surface the two bodies of comb I had could not more than half cover, so that the heat radiating from the uncovered portion of the tubes was wasting. Of course, Smedley's Reducer has a much larger outside surface in proportion to its melting surface than the GLUTTON, which has only the two outside surfaces of the two outside tubes, whereas Smedley's Reducer has the whole of the largest circumference of the whole Reducer exposed to waste its heat. If he should argue that such surface could be lagged, then that argument applies to any pattern—only the GLUTTON would require a vastly smaller proportion of such lagging—only a little under one-sixth of the whole reducing surface, Smedley's requiring the largest of the three surfaces lagging, and that an awkward circular-sloping one; therefore Smedley's Reducer has over 40 per cent. of heat-radiating surface, while GLUTTON has less than 16 per cent. **Mind!** you can work GLUTTON with Primus Stoves if you rather would; it is made either way.

Summarising this Matter.

Cappings could (if necessary) be melted in a frying-pan, so that any Reducer capable of melting cappings only is a waste of hard cash.

The same argument applies to clean combs.

The perfect Reducer, which, like the B.-M. PATTERN, cannot be blocked up, must be able to deal with every black comb which foul-brood compels the unfortunate victim of that disaster to reduce.

We claim that when it comes to a Reducer having to accommodate and melt such black brood-nest combs, Mr. Smedley's Reducer will fall down worse than merely letting Unmelted Foundation and Comb run away not reduced. We claim that the GLUTTON (or any other size of our Reducers), having regard to its advertised capacity and price, will run rings around Smedley's Reducer. In fact, we THINK Smedley's Reducer is practically useless for black combs when black combs only are being melted. We will not have any "truck" with capping or

clean comb reduction. We are out to supply beekeepers with a Reducer which is not a mere "Fair Weather Friend." Our Reducers will handle whatever about an apiary may need melting.

If our GLUTTON does not do with the same one-horse-power boiler which Mr. Turbot and I arranged to be supplied at the H.P.A. Demonstration—and which did not turn up—more than Mr. Smedley's Reducer, which he states "is equal to Mr. Miller's GLUTTON in capacity," then we forfeit another ten pounds (£10) to the funds of the National Beekeepers' Association.

What is more, Smedley can have the same 1 h.p. boiler to use for his Reducer. When reduction of combs with a gigantic Reducer such as GLUTTON has to be done, to talk about economising by using a boiler which supplies only a little more steam than Smedley's Reducer can use, is the method of a bungler.

How any man can make so egregious a mistake as to state that a Reducer having 27 square feet of melting surface is only equal to one having about 7 square feet passes my comprehension.

However, Smedley has baulked our five solid months' advertising for a competition, but we think we have him now where he must put up a fight, or for ever hold his tongue.

Do not Forget.

FOUR HOURS' RUN. ONLY BLACK COMBS.
£10 to the National funds if GLUTTON Loses!

Our Only Agency.

Persuaded of the superiority of the BARTLETT-MILLER REDUCERS, the N.Z. Honey Producers' Association is now stocking most of our sizes.

Customers may send to either location, as freight may be savable by their distance from either warehouse.

The H.P.A. have price-lists and literature treating of the use and capacities of the various sizes.

Young Queens.

Having sold out our Honey Production Plant, we have for immediate delivery FIFTY (ONLY) QUEENS reared for us from the stock supplied by the H.P.A. in December last year. As we have not got one square inch of comb to put these queens upon, we have to sell them.

At this time of year, when queenless colonies might be worth a couple of sovereigns if only a queen were available for them, the opportunity to obtain them will be snapped up at once, so that if you can do with any or all of them, you would be well advised to wire both cash and order if you expect to obtain them before they are all gone, for they are offered only subject to previous sale, and orders will be executed in strict rotation, and for cash with order only.

Do not Mistake.

These Queens are from H.P.A. stock. They are NOT our GENETIC strain, of which it will be (at present calculations) some four or five years before the full experiment is concluded.

The price of the fifty we offer is eight shillings each—for one or the whole lot, and that beekeeper who cannot make eight shillings out of a colony worth saving from queenlessness at this time of year had better give beekeeping best.

We have not sold our Foundation Rollers yet. At present disparity between prices of Wax and Foundation, there ought to be a real good thing in making one's own Foundation; and the cost of the outfit would be made up in one batch.

Both Plain and Embossed Rolls. £25 f.o.r. Te Awamutu. Cash or order on H.P.A.

Loyal Work by the Waipa Bee Club.

Per medium of its President (Mr. Bartlett-Miller), the Waipa Bee Club is enclosing in all THOROUGHWORK advertising matter an appeal for subscriptions to this paper.

We believe in proving that we can show other Branches of our beloved Association something worth emulating. The National prints the appeal; we post them.

We mention this fact so that any present subscriber receiving a copy of the appeal may not feel offended, for it would entail too great a pressure of work in our office to go through the mailing list of the Journal, and tick off the name of every present subscriber from our private mailing list.

We feel sure that, though advisable, it is scarcely necessary to advise our friends of this. Still, better do so than give offence where only assistance is intended.

The Thoroughwork Apiaries, Kihikihi

Oh, yes! we have Apiaries run by private persons under our management, but none from which we can draw combs for a Reducer Competition.

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."

Beekeepers' Supplies.

BRANCH DEPOTS NOW OPENED AT :

DUNEDIN—Stock Exchange Buildings,
Bond Street.

CHRISTCHURCH—Canterbury Orchardists'
Buildings, Colombo Street.

Full Stocks Carried.

MAIN DEPOT : Stanley Street, AUCKLAND.

Order Supplies Early.

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

New Zealand Beekeepers' Journal.

ADVERTISING RATES.

	1-Year	1-Year	1-Year	1-issue
Whole Page	£10	£6	£3 10s.	£1 5s.
Half Page	6	3 10s.	2 2s.	15s.
Quarter Page	3 10s.	2 2s.	1 5s.	10s.
One-eighth Page	2 2s.	1 5s.	15s.	5s.
1-inch Insertion	1 10s.	16s.	9s.	3s.

NICHOLAS' FOUNDATION FACTORY.

BEESWAX WANTED in Large or Small Lots. Highest Cash Price Paid.
Foundation Comb at Lowest Cash Price.

The capacity of our Electric Power Plant has been greatly increased, and the adoption of the latest methods, combined with years of experience in making Foundation Comb, ensures a product unsurpassed by none.

Mr. H. C. Taylor writes:—"I am well satisfied with your Foundation. It seems to me quite as good as any imported I have seen. I fixed over 3,000 sheets without coming across a faulty sheet. You have saved the Beekeepers of the Dominion a large amount of cash."

Customers among the leading Beekeepers of the Dominion.

NICHOLAS, 3 CALEDONIA ST., HAWERA.

Don't Forget

Our Store when anything is wanted in the shape of

BEE MATERIAL.

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

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

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

P.O. Box 129. Phone 62.

MASTERTON, WAIRARAPA.

BAY OF PLENTY COMB FOUNDATION FACTORY

WE ARE NOW BUSY MAKING UP BEEKEEPERS' OWN WAX AT 9d. PER LB RETURNABLE CASES, 1/- EXTRA.

ALSO, A QUANTITY OF COMB FOUNDATION FOR SALE.

Excell & Hallam,

Comb Foundation Makers,

OPOTIKI

BAY OF PLENTY.