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The New Zealand
Beekeepers'
Journal.

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—Extract from schoolmaster's report of pupil.

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The New Zealand Beekeepers' Journal

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

No. 12

VOL. 5

7/6 PER ANNUM.

National Beekeepers' Association of New Zealand.

The object of the Association is the improvement of the Beekeeping Industry and furthering the interests and prosperity of the Beekeepers throughout the Dominion. Membership is extended to any Beekeeper who is in accord with the aims and objects of the Association on payment of fees as follows:—1 to 15 Hives, 5/-; 16 to 50 Hives, 10/-; 51 to 100 Hives, 15/-; 100 to 200 Hives, 20/-; every additional 100, 5/- extra.

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All 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.

In the October issue of the Journal we published a letter over the signature of "Amateur," which, amongst other matters, bore upon the selling end of the honey business, and his remarks have called forth rather much comment. We do not identify ourselves with the views expressed by this or any other corres-

pondent, but at the same time we are convinced that the future of the honey industry is bound up in the crop being disposed of through a selling organisation. At every gathering of beekeepers the writer attended up to 1914 the question of marketing was a burning one. Crops were being raised that the market here could not absorb; the export trade was hazardous; the prices realised by exporting were hardly payable to the beekeeper. There were, no doubt, a few of the most business-like and competent beekeepers

who were able to get a fair price for part of their crops; but even these in normal seasons had a surplus that had to be sold at a figure that was not quite as good as at a figure that was like 1. The writer has been told that 13/6 per dozen was obtained for tins before any selling organisation was formed, and no doubt it is true, but the quantity was only small, and the number of men obtaining such a price could be counted on the one hand. Ask the largest beekeepers in the Dominion—Messrs. C. E. Hutchinson, W. Lenz, J. C. Hobbs, J. Walworth—what prices they obtained previous to the formation of the selling organisation. We guarantee there is not one who could show a nett return of 4½d. per lb. for his whole crop.

Haphazard selling was in force for about 30 years previous to the writer taking up the industry, and the prices ruling then did not return the beekeeper 4d. per lb. These figures will not apply to those who peddled their honey from door to door, which, of course, would return a bigger price. Peddling honey is quite a reasonable and possible thing for a man raising a ton or so who is handy to a large town; but when seeking for a market for the crops of the Dominion, peddling is out of the question. Therefore, we think it will be generally conceded that a nett return of about 4d. per lb. was the ruling price previous to the creation of the selling organisation. Men are now complaining of the figure being returned to the beekeepers by the selling organisation, which was 7½d. last year, and had that concern not been in existence during the war period, they would not have received 2½d. per lb., because a great deal of the honey raised during that time would still be kicking about at merchants' stores, auction rooms, and apiaries. To talk of disposing of any quantity worth mentioning at auction rooms is bordering on the ridiculous, and the prices realised at these rooms have been improved only by the existence of the selling organisation.

The question of the disparity between the price our honey is being retailed at and the return to suppliers has been raised. We cannot go very deeply into this, except that we look at it this way. We raise our crop, and instead of selling it ourselves hand it over to somebody else who can do it better, and thereby we are employing labour, which has to be paid for. Then our employees require premises to work in, and certain plant and appliances, that our produce may be marketed to the best advantage. This, too, requires capital, and the interest on the amount expended has to be found, and as it is for the benefit of the beekeepers, they must pay the bill. Then as the crop over the whole Dominion is marketable about the same time, but cannot be sold without ruining the market, a very large quantity must be held over, that the calls of supply and demand may be met without injury to the industry. Obviously there are two ways open for the selling organisation—

either to hold the honey without payment to the supplier until it is marketed, or apply to the Bank for an advance of cash on the security of the honey in store. The former method being quite unworkable, the latter is adopted; but a Bank will not advance money unless it is earning interest, so here again we must pay. Then on top of all this, nearly half the crop has to be exported overseas, and the suppliers want some cash as soon as it is shipped, although it may not be sold for six months or longer. How can this be accomplished without resorting to borrowing from the Bank? We must pay the interest, or go without the advance. The more business training the reader has had, the more he will see the justice of these remarks: you cannot run a business of any sort without money, and if you have not the capital in the business, then you must borrow, and the interest has to be paid out of the returns. Then we want our produce advertised, and this cannot be done for nothing, so we request those who talk of disparity to think a little about what is being done. We are not suggesting these items will explain the disparity, but simply how it occurs to us.

Now the question comes: Is the existing organisation doing the work it was created for efficiently and well?—because the moment it ceases to do this, it must make way for another that will. In this connection we take it that the actual return made to the suppliers is the indication as to whether a selling organisation is successful or not, and we will go into figures, taking the dairy industry as an indication as to the way prices are tending.

The South Auckland Dairy Association's payments for October were:—For butter-making—first grade 1/-, super fine 1/0½; for cheese-making, 1/1; for milk powder, 1/1. Last year the prices paid out varied from about 2/6 to 3/-; so if the price of honey is to recede in proportion, what is a fair estimate of our ultimate return? It must be borne in mind that it is the exportable value that determines the figure, and the best price ruling in England in October was 50/- per cwt. (about 5½d. per lb.), out of which has to be deducted all charges to get the honey there. Therefore, the best possible price any firm could advance on the English market value would be about 4d. per lb. with recourse. In the event of the honey not grading first class on arrival, it might not bring anywhere near the advance made, and it is very doubtful if any firm would advance 4d. per lb. on consignment. But our own selling organisation advanced 5d. per lb. without recourse, and according to the general manager's letter, published elsewhere, there is another payment being made before the end of the year, with the possibility of another on top of that. Therefore, when all other markets—meat, butter, cheese, wool, hides, &c., &c.—have fallen to pieces, the New Zealand honey market can be said to have "eased" slightly. And how has this been brought

about? Certainly not by haphazard marketing in auction rooms and similar methods, but by careful and systematic study of the supply and demand of the whole of the districts of the Dominion and regulating supplies to meet these. The figures and the state of the markets shown indicate that our own concern is doing very well indeed for those who have placed their confidence in the management, and has enabled beekeepers in New Zealand to show to the world what can be done by organisation. America and Australia are doing their utmost to get the beekeepers to organise on similar lines. Let us be jealous of our organisation, that has cost so much and meant so much to the beekeepers of New Zealand.

We are very pleased to announce that the Department of Agriculture has consented to grant the £100 subsidy on our funds subscribed by members for another period of three years or less, according to establishment of the proposed Apiaries Registration Fee. We have no hesitation in saying that this further grant was secured mainly by the good offices of our worthy President (Mr. T. W. Kirk), and the thanks of all are due to him.

The payment of all subscriptions, due either from Branches or members, will be appreciated, as our funds are low at the present time.

Last month we asked for a copy of the 1920 Conference Report, as the Department of Agriculture is in need of one. No response up to the present!

As the great festival of Christmas will have passed before our next issue appears, we take this opportunity of expressing our feelings of goodwill and fellowship to all our readers, with our sincere thanks to all who have helped us to carry on the Journal so well. We solicit a continuance of the same, that our little Journal, which now circulates almost all over the world, may reflect credit on the industry and those employed in it in New Zealand.

A VERY HAPPY CHRISTMAS
to you, with a New Year full of good things, is the earnest wish of

THE EDITOR.

Skim milk or buttermilk (fresh milk is better still) and Portland cement makes a good substitute for paint for hives. Put 10 lbs. cement to each gallon of milk; add a little colouring matter as desired. Stir well while using. Do not prepare more than is wanted for immediate use. In six hours it will set hard.—Bee World, from Nenes Schlesiisches Inkerblatt.

Market Reports.

Stocks here are much reduced; only about 200 barrels remain in first hands. Prices on the coast are higher—viz., about 36/- c.i.f. Continent. Buyers are not yet educated to these figures, their ideas not being over 33/-. We do not hear of much Chilean coming to this market. Prices on the spot are as follows:—Pile X., 50/- per cwt.; Pile 1, 45/- per cwt. There is no Pile 2 and 3 offering. The total sales of Chilean honey during the last month amount to about 850 barrels.

Beeswax—There is very little doing. The only recent sale made is 30 cwt. at £ 12s. 6d. Further buyers might be found at this price.

TAYLOR & CO.

Liverpool, October 3rd, 1921.

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

Auckland.—The month of October has been an exceptionally wet one. A few cases have been reported of bees dying out owing to lack of stores to carry them over the long spell of wet weather. Colonies that have survived, however, are in good condition, and the recent rains have brought on the clovers, thus making the prospects bright for good honey crops. Prices remain unchanged.—G. V. Westbrook.

Wellington.—During the past month many parts of the district have suffered from heavy rains, in many places amounting to floods, and also winds of high velocity. The effect in many instances has been detrimental to the beekeeper. Many bees have been lost to the colonies, and the hatching brood has suffered in consequence. This is, however, usually a month of storm, and a "silver lining" should not be far away. Prices for extracted honey are the same as last month. Comb honey is very scarce. Beeswax is quoted at 2/3 per lb.—F. A. Jacobsen.

Christchurch and Dunedin.—Reports to hand are good, and beekeepers are looking forward to a record season. Continued wet weather has improved the clover pastures all over my district. Bees are building up well, especially in the bush districts, and surpluses are being stored. Clover blooms are making their appearance in sheltered situations, indicative of an early season. A little feeding is being done where beekeepers extracted late last season and ample stores were not left for spring breeding. Prices are firm for all lines. Bulk honey, none offering. Pat honey is in demand. Beeswax is slow at prices ranging from 1/6 to 2/- per lb.—E. A. Earp.

Beekeeping for Beginners

[As these instructions conform to the seasons in the Auckland Districts, an allowance must be made for 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.]

Since my last notes were written, the weather has been so extraordinary for this time of the year, that one is diffident about writing the monthly instructions. In my own apiary the hives have made but very little progress; in fact, I am rather inclined to think some have gone back a bit. There can be no doubt that in this locality the prevalence of high winds has accounted for a very heavy mortality amongst the flying bees, and the result is that the hives are considerably below strength. However, I hope most of my readers have fared better than I have, and that their hives are more in a condition suitable for the gathering of the honey flow, which will be on this month, but I feel sure it will be rather later than usual.

The chief concern for the beekeeper this month is that nothing hinders the bees from working and storing to their fullest capacity. In a good district it is very surprising how soon they are cramped for room, and unless extra space is given them they will swarm out, which, if you are wanting honey, is a thing to avoid.

Do not be misled by any idea of (false) economy by not using full sheets of foundation in the frames. Many people think they are saving money by using starter-strips, half-sheets, &c., but they are not. The extra time taken by the bees to secrete wax and make comb more than eats up the little cash saved by "skimping" foundation.

If you find the bees are getting crowded for room and you have no spare supers, then the only thing to do is to take out the full combs of honey and extract them, but do not take anything that is not capped over at least two-thirds to three-quarters down the frame. By doing this and replacing the empty combs, you will probably hold the bees busy.

Ventilation should be provided by giving ample space at the entrance, and if the bees are inclined to cluster on the front of the hive, put one-inch blocks under the sides at the front.

Sections should be taken off as soon as finished, else they will get travel-stained by the bees, and the appearance spoiled.

F. C. B.

Tomato leaves, whether green or dried, are stated to be very effective in keeping away both wax moths and ants.—Bee World, from Bienenwirtschaftliches Centralblatt.

District Reports.

TARANAKI.

We have just experienced three weeks of cold westerly winds, and the one word has been "sugar." To-day is the first nice day for some time. The high winds have dried things up somewhat, and we could do with some more rain to get good conditions for a flow. There is very little clover showing up so far, but warm weather will bring a change.

H. R. PENNY.

Okniawa.

[Except that we have not had to feed sugar, the conditions in the Bay of Plenty are exactly the same as Taranaki.—Ed.]

HAWKE'S BAY.

The crop prospects are fair. In most parts of the district there is a good growth of clover, and with a few more showers all will be well. Where the pasture dries up early, the main flow comes during the early part of December, so beekeepers in these districts should be quite prepared now.

Since the first honey there has been a decided break. A fair amount commenced to come in from the weeds, until there came a sequence of frosts. As soon as conditions were about normal after one frost, another happened. The bees were very much put out, so some tell us.

It is surprising, considering the few commercial men herabouts, that there should be so many wild hives. The lack of commercial apiaries may really be the cause; but the fact remains. In the back paddocks of a large run three swarms were seen—unclaimed bees from unclaimed hives. With so many away back, how great must be the number nearer the settled districts. And these tree hives are not all as clean as one would like. Those who take the honey know nothing of disease, and so spread it by their carelessness. Even if wild hives are not, as a rule unclean, those that are present a grave danger.

J. P. BOYLE.

16/11/21.

TAIERI TALK.

'Twere hardly fitting to slip quietly back into our place in the round of National life; yet, saying aught, what should we say? We fear lest saying this or that we may too much recall what were better forgotten. Let the dead past bury its dead; but—

I seem to have the impression that the Taieri Branch looks askance at commercial beekeepers—that it is composed of narrow-minded gentry who cannot see over their own hive-tops! An adjustment of ideas is necessary. That was far from our (from my) intention. It is to be remembered that whatever remarks we

may have passed about commercial beekeepers were derived from what we had seen of such men in the columns of the Journal at the time. To think that Branches desire to control the National were wrong indeed! Wisdom and experience are with the commercial man. But payment of affiliation entitles to a proportional vote. Our old Constitution framed when such Branch extension as now exists was hardly dreamed of, needed overhauling, needed spring-cleaning. Now that is in progress, what more is there to say?

We felt good after reading Mr. Allan's letter last month. (He's from the Taieri, too; so there!) You know, there are books and letters and things which, coming at the right time, make one feel satisfied with himself and in love with all the world. 'Twas even so! Somehow we always look on him as our godfather, our uncle; no, it's not uncle either. Therefore, we must tell him that our faith in the National is unchanged. Why, have we not eyes to see what it is worth? And for all our simplicity, we are shrewd enough. We can distinguish the individual from the mass. So let's be joyful!

We are holding a Field Day in Dunedin on December 3rd, I think; a little propaganda among the busy city; it should introduce them to the T.B. And then—ay, and then! A second day will be held later in the Taieri. It will be fine weather on the 3rd. I should hardly need all my fingers to count the fine days since October 1st.

BASIL H. HOWARD.

15/11/21.

N.Z. Honey Producers' Association.

The following has been forwarded for publication in the Journal:—

Marketing.—Our representative, Mr. Spinley, who left New Zealand in June, arrived in England in August, his chief mission being to make full investigations into the present systems of marketing honey, and if possible to make arrangements for New Zealand honey to be marketed in England in such a manner as to ensure the New Zealand producer receiving the highest possible returns for his product.

Very great interest was taken in the arrival of our representative, and many of the leading firms in Great Britain dealing with foreign produce were anxious to obtain the agency.

The Prime Minister, the Hon. W. F. Massey, while in London interested himself in the negotiations, and Mr. Spinley also had a great deal of help from the

High Commissioner, and was provided with office room at the New Zealand High Commissioner's Offices, also with clerical and other assistance.

Finally, after a very thorough investigation, an arrangement was made with one of the best known firms handling colonial produce—Messrs. A. J. Mills & Co. Ltd. (late Messrs. Mills & Sparrow), who are a very strong firm financially, have a large selling organisation spread throughout Great Britain, and who are agreeable to provide a packing depot or depots, with proper plant and expert staff—to pack our honey at Home and sell same direct to the grocers and other retail establishments handling honey in Great Britain.

Leading retailers have been consulted in the matter, and all have decided that it is advisable that every pound of honey sent from New Zealand should go through the one channel, so that it can be packed and marketed under one brand of uniform quality and as New Zealand honey.

There are indications that this policy, properly carried out, will meet with the goodwill of the leading retail buyers at Home, and that notwithstanding the present slump in honey prices, for top grade honey through our own depots, the returns are likely to be very much higher than pre-war prices, and very much better than prices ruling in other countries, or average prices for bulk.

It is expected that, owing to the lateness of the season, a portion of the past season's crop will be sold in bulk to selected firms, and the balance packed; but no honey will be sold in bulk unless prices are satisfactory, and once the depots and selling organisation are in full swing it is unlikely that any of the prime grades of honey sent from our Association to England will be sold in bulk.

It is to be hoped that the New Zealand beekeepers will realise that to make the marketing scheme successful in Great Britain, the whole of the New Zealand honey sent to the Old Country must go through one channel, must be of similar quality, colour, &c., and should all be packed under one label.

The beekeeper should endeavour to produce the best possible honey, and should pack same in a clean manner, using clean tins and strong cases.

During the season just ended, the Association has handled over 600 tons of honey, being an increase over the previous year's total of approximately 125 tons. Of this quantity a little more than 300 tons have been exported, chiefly to Great Britain, and the balance held for consumption within the Dominion.

Foreign Markets.—Last year we were able to sell quite a lot of honey for cash at good prices to Canada and the United States; but this year honey in America has fallen so tremendously in value that there was no possibility of doing business.

Other markets, such as India, China, Java, &c., have all been investigated, but none have proved of any value.

Supplies Department.—The Beekeepers' Supplies Department is being well patronised this year, and has become a very successful department of the main business.

The large American firm of G. B. Lewis & Co. Ltd. have appointed the Association as their New Zealand agents and representative.

The Apis Club of England have also conferred their agency upon the Association, together with the distribution of the Journal "The Bee World" in New Zealand.

Arrangements have been made for the provision of tins and cases for the coming season, and these have been purchased at favourable rates.

Grading.—Conferences with the Department of Agriculture have resulted in improvements to the present system of grading, and the amended regulations will be gazetted shortly.

Payment for 1921 Honey.—It is rather early to forecast the final figures for the 1921 pay-out, but the small quantity of this season's honey which has so far been marketed at Home, has brought good prices, and our members can look forward to a further payment before the end of the year, and by that time we shall probably be able to give a fairly correct estimate of the final position.

C. F. RYLAND,
General Manager.

November 8th, 1921.

A Few Thoughts.

By BASIL H. HOWARD.

The greatest gift a man can receive is that of laughter—good honest soul-deep laughter. It breeds content and cheerful bowing to the tyranny of the great god Luck (goddess if you will). 'Tis not a wasted life, even though unnoticed, that spreads cheerfulness around its course. The eternally cheerful man, you say, is empty and shallow. May be, and a deal more may be; but he is an open-handed benefactor to those who need his ministrations. As such to be envied. All this, then, in praise of beekeepers, who are cheerful, good-humoured bodies. No reservations. For your grouchy beekeeper is not a success. Watch your beekeeper in adversity. You will see him then. Consider:—

The parish priest of Pogli di Ortovero, Don G. Favara, writes to L'Apicoltura Italiana:—"Morbo di Wight. Said She: 'The greatest sorrow man can know is the memory of former joys when fallen on evil times.'"—Dante.

"The above quotation, taken from the 'Inferno,' means perhaps that in all this round earth there is no greater sorrow than the necessity of drinking one's coffee bitter through lack of sweetening, when one is accustomed to producing honey by the hundredweight. In such annoying circumstances am I. The Isle of Wight disease has left me but a single hive. My last drop of honey is gone. My treasured rationette of a few ounces of best sugar inverted or perverted (debased) comes to the presbytery but once a month wrapped up in a scrap of paper a la Bethmann-Holweg. But what is of more importance is that after all the historic words of Francis may be applied to my apiary. 'All is lost save my honour.' A sickly and anemic attempt at consolation that."

I could have turned the last sentence in a prettier fashion for you, but the humorous effect would have been lost. The rest of the letter is a discussion on the disease itself, over which we pass. I enjoy the cheerful humour of the unfortunate man. May he win through! Which one of us would rise to the heights of that excellent and subtle joke on our friend Holweg when smitten to the uttermost by foul-brood? Which of us would turn to our Shakespeare for consolation, would adapt a weighty saying of Henry VIII. to our abject condition? (Old Hal knew all about queens, anyway!)

I must quote the worthy priest further. His summing-up may be applied to foul-brood, "mutatis mutandis." He relates an anecdote of Napoleon:—When asked what were the most important factors in war, he replied:—First, Money; second, Money; third, Money. So in the case of the Isle of Wight disease the three most important things are prevention of robbing, so the three things of prime importance in foul-brood are vigilance! Continuing, then, our writer says:—"There was once a cat . . . which had nine tails. It was made of wood and leather. It was used mainly for cultivating agility. If any of my readers who know of an old sea dog or a bo'sun who still has his cat, let him borrow it and use it in his own fashion on those beekeepers who let disease run rampant in their hives, and who do not warn their neighbours of its presence." Well, I am with you!

One of the most unfortunate aspects of civilisation is that under its mild rule Justice has fled to the mountain fastnesses, leaving a substitute fickle and glib, who will smile at you always . . . for a consideration. In the Neolithic Age, you thwacked the robber or contaminator of your bees with the tibia of a Gigantosaurus, and awaited his return from starland. Upon his recovery, you demanded reparations, laid down conditions for his future guidance. All this was very satisfactory. Your loss and honour were satisfied. You marched off with the tibia over your shoulder, leaving a wiser man behind you. Compare:—To-day your neighbour har-

hours foul brood. His few hives are the breeding ground for the locality. It costs you pounds, year in year out, to keep clean. But all to no end. At last you discover why. Rightly you set the Department on tracks of the offender. The Department does what it can. He is arraigned. His crime has cost you £6 in the last three years, to say nothing of loss of crop. The Beak says to the accused, "17/6 and costs. Next case." And you receive nothing, not even witness expenses. "Vengeance is mine," saith the law. The law is right, is just. Far be it from my intentions to cast aspersions on the methods of the Courts; but the primitive barbarian in me thirsts for a more personal and effective retribution. 'Tis not unchristian resentment, it is the call of primitive justice. But, as I say, she has fled. That is why I support the idea of the cat-o'-nine-tails. The wildest dreams are sometimes true they say. Till this one materialises, why let us have a fine worth while! However great may be my respect for law, I cannot see that a fine of 17/6, of 27/6, is adequate punishment for a man, who, by criminal neglect, is the cause of constantly recurring losses to his neighbours. I believe that in America a third conviction under the Apiaries Act is punishable by gaol. Let us not be behind hand.

I have no great respect for civilisation in so far as I have been able to discover what it is. It seems in truth nothing other than an unconscious cloak for hypocrisy. It is not right to judge progress by looking at past ages by the light of modern standards. We are no whit better off than our forebears were 300 years ago. I hear murmurs of objection but consider. It took Shakespeare a week maybe to travel from London to Stratford; it takes John Smith of 1921 but a few hours. Now John, being accustomed to trains, telephones, taxes, vaccination and policemen, looks back to 1590 with horror; but Shakespeare could not look forward to these adulterated blessings, could not look forward to 1921 with hope. What the eye does not see the heart does not grieve for. Shakespeare was content. What more would you? We talk in such proud and uplifted tones of the progress of Science. We talk as if we were intimately our concern, as if we were due participators in the overflow of the glory due to the authors of progress. We talk as so many Pasteurs, Rutherfords, Curies, Jenners, as so many Maxims. But what has progress brought us? That were an extensive field of enquiry. Limit it to one area alone. Medical science: We can die in many more ways than before. Death has ever been noted as a thing of many aliases . . . but now! The causes of death known to the sixteenth century could be written down on a sheet of paper. To-day a corpulent quarto is not too large. 'Twas enough, time past, to say that a man died. To-day you are required to state whether the cause was metabolic bouldimia, carcinoma of the cerebellum, scirrosis of the metasternus, epigrammatic salivation or hypere-

thesis of the rooptetop. (Do not bother looking up the Dictionary; it is probably out of date.)

The single worth of progress is that it supplies an outlet for the ceaseless mind activity of man. What zest would there be in life without the spur of enquiry? But watch the Danger Post—touch not Nature. Remember Horace: "Naturam expelles furca tamen usque recurret."

The above is the pleasant path to Roundabout leading to the hurdle. May you take the jump well. Beekeepers are using the pitebfork. 'Twill be their undoing. The art (science?) is progressing, they say. Whence and whither? From Nature to . . . ? We are attempting to transform living creatures into machines! Productive machines, of course!

Men have kept bees since the world began. In the ages past they knew little of the nature of bees. They held queer opinions about them—kept them in strange, unsatisfactory boxes; but they made a success of the business. How, being ignorant? By leaving the bees plenty of room; by attending to their little wants, and letting Nature do the rest. Your beekeeper then was a man of no worries.—He was not afflicted by the gibbering spectre "Efficiency." Efficiency translated means "Money," and money is the ever fertile seed of evil. You may read your own sermon into that text. My "sixthly and lastly" would be that "Nature and Efficiency" is a wild dream. 'Tis "Nature of Efficiency." And is there so bold as to assert that Nature has ought to learn from Man? For she made the Earth and Man; her wisdom roles them still. For Nature is the Art of God.

It is to be presumed that if the ancient beekeepers were troubled greatly with disease, they would have told of it. They have little to say. Occasionally we find an "Oh, by-the-way" remark casually set down. No more. But since we have set out hot-foot on the trail of "Efficiency," we find as landmarks only "foul-brood," "I.O.W.," "paralysis." The other competitors in the race are any and every member of the family Bacillus (I cannot remember all their Christian names). Save we mend our ways we shall hardly be cheerful when the numbers go up!

Set man-kept, man-ridden bees (in general, understand) beside bees in Nature's keeping. Compare. Look on this picture and on that. For instance:—

The peasantry of all countries keeps bees: keeps them in the old-fashioned way—in boxes, skeps, sawn-off tree trunks, in rejected drain-pipes. They are successful and satisfied. You find in them a grim opposition to new-fangled ideas as a departure from the natural order of things. You will be told that this is due to a lack of enlightenment (which is a polite way of saying that they are ignorant). No; it is because they are the favoured ones of the earth. In their delightful simplicity they live near to Nature; there-

fore, child-like, they look on bees as one of the dainty wonders of creation.

The Taieri is a locality fairly well endowed with foul-brood germs. We do nothing but treat. Yet if I go out and remove a swarm from a house, what do I find? An age-old establishment, combs feet long, almost feet thick, as black as the face of night, litter, excreta and rubbish filling the space below. Now, we are told that these conditions are bad. Never keep old and dirty combs: they may harbour disease. However, these bees, untrained and inefficient, know nothing of these rules, and yet you could not have found disease there with the Yerkes telescope. This is not an isolated case. I know of some half-dozen swarms taken from barns, houses, and such, in this hot-bed of disease, with never a trace of infection. We know that wild swarms are fairly frequently found in the bush. They are of long standing, too. Why do wild bees never die out through disease? Efficiently treated bees do. If, as is often alleged, bush bees harbour and spread disease, why is it that infection is not more rife in bush districts? I believe they are no worse than others.

The cause seems to lie in our interference with the natural habits and instincts of the bees. We are forever prying into their affairs. We prevent swarms, we make swarms, always counter the move of the bees. We imprison the queen here, now there, meddle with her progeny, tear down the queen-cells, jab them into wire cages (they hatch better there), take them away into incubators (?)—in a word, do anything that is against the nature of things. A beekeeping friend of mine tells me that he is convinced that the trouble is due to the cramping of the wax-producing faculties of the bees. Inaction or atrophy of that function must have results sooner or later. Try it upon a human. Prevent or hinder the functioning of one of his organs or senses the result is not long to wait.

You say, no doubt, that this is all childish nonsense. It may be. It is simply a new clum's impression of things borne out by fact. You will ask what proof I have to support my statements that the ancients, that the peasants have not the trouble that we have with disease? Direct proof have I none. It is deduced. Put it in the form of a syllogism! Your major will be:—

No apiaries survive unchecked foul-brood, Peasants and ancients had foul-brood, didn't check it,

Therefore, their apiaries did not survive. Aha! But they did! What of it now? If disease is the fell thing we know it to be, why were the ancients and all the others able to withstand it. We know full well what would happen if we allowed it free rein. If it existed in the past, it had marvellous opportunities, but made no success of its run. Which assumption strains the imagination,

We may easily and well keep bees in up-to-date fashion. We can use all modern appliances and improvements in hive construction and yet keep on the right side of Nature. But at the present we are over the border line and well on our way to the other side. If we follow out present indications, we shall pitchfork Nature into the scrap-heap and proudly take control. Pride cometh before a fall.

Now not for the world would I have you think that my remarks apply to the individual beekeeper. I speak of the general aspect of beekeeping, not of the beekeeping of Smith, of Jones, not of Enzelders, not of Australians. The individual is so completely merged in the whole that he is not to be identified. Each one preserves his particular freedom, yet the composite mass so formed has a distinct and striking physiognomy. 'Tis that which I would examine.

Do I believe all this? I fear so. But what is that to you? I write this for your amusement. If my reward be a grin, a snort, a whiffing execubination, 'tis well. If I excite your derision, your scorn, your pity, 'tis well. I care not!

A Trip to Australia.

By R. WHITING.

After making the bees secure for the winter, we left Auckland on May 5th, and arrived in Sydney four days later. Spent a fortnight there, and then went to my father's farm in the Riverina district, about 300 miles southwest of Sydney. While there I was particularly struck by the way the wild bees were working the white box trees, which were then in bloom. As there were no beekeepers near, I did not have the opportunity of studying the bees as I would have liked.

I felled a tree in the bush with a bees' nest in it, and got about two benzine tins of nice white honey from it. The following day the bees were transferred to a hive, and in a week they had drawn out the ten frames of foundation and stored 14 lbs. of honey. This was during the first week in June. Every night there was a snow-white frost, but the days were nice and warm. There was so much of a honey flow on that bees would not touch honey placed out for them. I afterwards found five nests within a radius of a quarter of a mile. There was no sign of foul-brood or other disease in any of them.

In July I paid a visit to Northern N.S.W. I saw several beekeepers there, and had a good time generally.

On the Northern rivers vast quantities of honey could be raised, though a good deal of it would be second grade; but in some seasons a large quantity of clover honey is gathered.

Further west the honey is of good quality, and a great deal of lucerne honey is obtained. I was much surprised to see the quantity of lucerne that is grown there.

Another thing that struck me forcibly was the great amount of country that has been cleared of trees or ring-barked, raising it as far as the beekeeper is concerned.

There was a good winter honey flow on in most of the places I visited, mostly from yellow and white box trees. One apiarist told me he had extracted 300 tins of honey (60 lb. tins) from 75 colonies since Christmas, and he expected to take about 60 more at the time of my visit, and it looked to me as though the bees would keep him busy until well into next year. They were piling the honey in then like they do here in the height of the season.

While at Maitland Mr. Pender very kindly showed me through his works, where I spent a very interesting day. Everything a beekeeper requires is made there. The honey tins are superior to ours, being better folded and soldered, with fluted sides, which stiffen them a great deal.

The beekeepers of N.S.W. whom I had the pleasure to meet do not regard foul-brood as a very serious matter. They say it is confined to the small man about the towns, mostly box hives.

Springdale, Waitoa, 15/10/21.

Westland.

(Paper prepared by Mr. JOHN MURDOCH of Ross for Westland Progress League.)

Last week in Hokitika one of your leading citizens, after being introduced to the apary instructor, said: 'I am one of the fools who believe in Westland.' 'I am another,' said I, 'and am quite content to be counted as such until Westland comes into her own.'

Westland is capable of more development than any other part of New Zealand. We need more population, more money to organise and develop her secondary industries.

I do not know if you have had, when travelling in other parts of New Zealand, my experience when mentioning Westland, but it has been a common rejoinder in referring to Westland: 'Oh, that's the place where it is raining all the time, is it not?'

Quite a wrong impression is gained by outsiders of our climate. When we have rain, we do have some rain, but when we get sunshine (we get more of it than many folk think), there is no place in New Zealand where the air is so clear and free from high winds.

I am indebted to Mr. A. Chesney for the following six months record of rainfall and sunshine. I have chosen the months October to March as these months from a beekeeper's point of view are the months that count when your cheque comes due:—

1920.—October: Rainfall, 13.19 in. on 20 days; heaviest fall any one day, 1.82.

November.—Rainfall, 17.17 in. on 25 days; heaviest fall any one day, 3.14.

December: Rainfall, 10.86 in on 13 days; heaviest fall any one day, 3.54

1921.—January: Rainfall, 3.60 in, on 12 days; heaviest fall any one day, 1.66.

February: Rainfall, 4.54 in. on 9 days; heaviest fall any one day, 3.12.

March: Rainfall, 8.78 in. on 21 days; heaviest fall any one day, 2.02.

It is a well-known fact that the most of our rainfall falls during the night. Owing to the close proximity of our mountains to the sea when the land breeze sets in after sundown, the moisture from the mountains is drawn towards the sea. Note that the rainfall for February is 9 days' rain (totals 4.54 in.), and in one day we had 3.12 in. of rain. This is the only month in that year that was too dry for beekeepers, and if you told our Canterbury friends we had a drought, they would think you were joking.

Now for the sunshine record:—

1920.—October: Bright sunshine, 165 hrs. 42 min.; sunless days, 5.

November: Bright sunshine, 154 hrs. 6 min. sunless days, 6.

December: Bright sunshine, 197 hrs. 34 min.; sunless days, 3.

1921.—January: Bright sunshine, 259 hrs 42 min.; sunless days, 2.

February: Bright sunshine, 229 hrs.; sunless days, 1.

March: Bright sunshine, 177 hrs. 46 min.; sunless days, 4.

Only one day in February—probably the day on which we had 3.12 in. of rain—we had no sunshine, and the official figures of sunshine during the other months is a record to be proud of, particularly when Westland is the place referred to as "where it is raining all the time and the bees are covered in a solution of rubber because they cannot use umbrellas."

Perhaps I will be pardoned if I use another man's record for the benefit of those who did not see them. "Here are some figures of the bright sunshine records throughout the Dominion, which indicate how high Hokitika stands in the list. The record is for a period of six months ended June 30th last. It gives the hours of bright sunshine registered at the various stations":—Naviar, 1159hrs.; Christchurch, 1072 hrs.; Masterton, 1068 hrs.; Hokitika, 1058hrs.; Wellington, 1056 hrs.; Auckland, 1002 hrs.; Gore, 990 hrs.; Invercargill, 862 hrs.; Dunedin, 852 hrs.

Compare the hot nor'-westers of Christchurch and the gales of Wellington with Westland's clear atmosphere, beautiful bush and mountain scenery, sparkling water, singing birds, a veritable "Paradise" when the sun shines.

Amongst secondary industries capable of intelligent development is commercial beekeeping.

I do not wish to confuse readers with some men who have kept a few hives and have never seen the inside of a brood chamber. These men I can only liken to a man driving a five-horse coach, when he claps his foot on the brake and throws the reins on the horses' backs, letting them go at their own sweet will. They are to be pitied, but unfortunately their neglect of the brood chamber owing to foul-brood makes them a menace to the commercial man, who knows that if he does not keep his hives free from disease he will have a very poor crop at the end of the season.

During a recent visit of the Government apiary inspector, he called on all he could find in a town not 100 miles away from Hokitika, he says—"I found things in the town in a deplorable condition—foul-brood rampant. In every case it was found necessary to serve notices to destroy colonies. Your district should take every precaution to prevent importation of any bees from this locality."

I used to be told that the reason why these men got so little honey was that the bees were in the habit of visiting the brewery, hence no work done.

Now I can better understand that these men could not have kept their brood chambers clean, as where any disease is present in a hive it means loss to the owner.

If a man kept a horse or cow for twelve months without giving it the necessary attention, you know the results.

Do not keep bees unless you are prepared to give them the necessary attention, otherwise you become a nuisance to yourself and a danger to your neighbours.

The McEvoy treatment for foul-brood is the only treatment recommended by the Department, and should any man be anxious to treat his bees, visit Ross, where I can give him a demonstration free of charge.

The majority of men want to get the bees first and the experience afterwards, but my advice is to get the theory first then experiment afterwards.

The colour and quality of Westland honey is simply excellent, in spite of official prejudice. A sample of our honey shown at the Christchurch Conference was severely criticised. One man said it was bound to ferment if kept twelve months. I left a 2-lb. parchment pot with a Christchurch beekeeper, to be opened at Conference in Auckland 12 months later, and the Secretary reported as follows:—

"I received a sealed sample of your honey put up a year ago to test its keep-

ing qualities, and found it opened up quite sound and had a soft granulation."

Mr. Ryland, manager of the H.P.A., says of Westland honey:—"As regards colour, grain, and consistency, the West Coast honey was very good, but some of the flavours were awful."

I have been told that some people who keep bees rob the hives, and put bees, brood, grubs and pollen all into a tin, melt it down, strain through a piece of scrim, and sell it as honey.

If you see honey dark in colour at the bottom of a glass jar like No. 1 sugar, at the top in a liquid state, this is not first grade honey, and is dear at 6d. per lb., when you can get first grade in bulk for 9d. When this class of honey is sent out as Westland honey, they think it has been extracted until it has been tasted. Honey should never be melted, as it destroys the flavour, giving a burnt taste, and should any steam get into it, it is only a matter of time when fermentation sets in.

In one state in America six inspectors are employed. In one season 6669 colonies were inspected, but of the number 239 were treated by the inspectors and 48 colonies were destroyed, being too far gone to treat.

In Westland we get an odd visit from the inspector, but we need a man stationed here who has time to instruct those who put their money into the industry, and until such time as we get instruction many men will be like the man who throws the reins on the horses' backs in driving his five-horse coach.

—Hokitika Guardian.

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.]

Raumati, Paraparauau,
October 31st, 1921.

The Hon. the Minister for Agriculture,
Wellington.

Dear Sir,—

AVONHEAD APIARY.

The Executive of the National Beekeepers' Association of New Zealand has just learned with great regret that Government has decided to part with the apiary at the above farm.

It desires to bring under your notice:—

1. This apiary is the first and only attempt made by any Government to assist in solving the apiary problems of the South Island.
2. It takes some years to establish an apiary capable of undertaking experimental work and affording useful data to those engaged in the industry.

3. This apiary had got over its initial difficulties, and would very shortly, if under efficient management, have been able to render valuable service to the industry in the South Island.
4. You will remember that several years ago it was suggested that a small apiary should be started by the Agricultural Department at the Papanui Orchard. When another Department set up the Avonhead Apiary, the proposal was left in abeyance.
5. If the Soldiers' Department has no further use for this apiary and its retention at Avonhead is not practicable, why not remove it to Papanui, which is under your own control?
6. The National Association regrets that no intimation whatever was made to it as to the intention to abolish the apiary.
7. It strongly protests against an action which deprives the South Island of a means of acquiring much profitable information.

In conclusion, the Executive confidently appeals to you, as supreme head of Agriculture in this Dominion, to use your influence with the responsible Department to, even at the eleventh hour, prevent such a deplorable retrograde step.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Yours obediently,

T. W. KIRK.

President.

Office of the Minister of Agriculture,
Wellington, 18th Nov., 1921.

T. W. Kirk, Esq.,

President National Beekeepers' Assn.,
Raumati, Paraparaumu.

Dear Sir,—

With reference to your letter of 31st ult., I beg to inform you that, in view of the decreasing activities of the Repatriation Department in connection with the training of returned soldiers, the necessity for the retention of Avonhead for the purpose for which it was established, has passed away. It has not yet been definitely decided what is to be done with the property, but it has been deemed advisable, in view of the general unsuitability of the position for beekeeping, to discontinue the work, and to recommend the Repatriation Board to accept the satisfactory offer for the purchase of the bees, hives, combs, &c.—This the Repatriation Board did.

I have noted your request in connection with the transference of the apiary to the Papanui Orchard site, but would remind you that such action would not be altogether satisfactory, even were there no further objections, owing to the fact that the Department's lease of the property is only for a comparatively short period.

I fully appreciate your remarks relative to the need for encouraging the beekeeping industry, and can assure you that this will

receive my practical assistance whenever possible; but this I think can be more directly attained with respect to experimental apiaries by establishing a strong apiary branch in connection with a central horticultural station, should it become possible to establish such a station, rather than by bringing into existence small experimental apiaries in different districts of the Dominion.

Yours faithfully,

(Signed) W. NOSWORTHY,
Minister of Agriculture.

Raumati, Paraparaumu,

November 21st, 1921.

The Hon. the Minister for Agriculture,
Wellington.

Dear Sir,—

Please accept my thanks for your bearing date 18th inst., and your assurance that you will give practical assistance whenever possible.

I fully agree with your remarks concerning the desirability of a strong apiary branch at a central horticultural station. This central station has, however, been persistently urged for many years, and been so persistently postponed that those engaged in the various industries connected with the Horticultural Division of your Department are becoming convinced they will not live to see the Government establish such a station, and are therefore seeking for some help while they live.

Both yourself and your predecessor (Mr. MacDonald) have more than once expressed yourselves in favour of such a station and school. There is nowhere in this Dominion where young people of either sex can obtain systematic instruction in the various branches of horticulture, industries in which enormous sums of money are sunk, and on which large numbers depend.

It is hoped that you may be enabled to establish this school and station, so removing the cause for complaint that these smaller agricultural industries have never received the consideration their importance and potentialities demand.

Yours faithfully,

T. W. KIRK.

President.

HONORARY APIARY INSPECTORS.

Wellington, 2nd November, 1921.

Mr. F. C. Baines.

Secretary-Editor N.Z.B.A.

Kati Kati, Bay of Plenty.

Sir,—I would be glad if you would kindly publish the following:—

During the war period it was found necessary in the interests of the beekeepers throughout the Dominion to appoint honorary inspectors to assist the permanent staff in the control of foulbrood. Approximately sixty beekeepers willing to sacrifice their time were appointed under the Apiaries Act, and certain limited districts were allotted to each. The amount of work to be done each

season was optional, as only out-of-pocket expenses could be defrayed by the Department, and it was assumed that a man would not ask for the appointment, or he would not be recommended by the local Beekeepers' Association, without having the good intention of keeping an eye on the district allotted to him.

Space precludes me from going into each individual case, but I wish to thank all for their good intentions; others for the work they performed; and still others for the time they devoted and the labour they distributed so freely for the benefit of beekeeping generally.

I have for some time, however, realised that it is only fair to give each honorary inspector a chance to have a rest for a term, and in consequence have recalled all certificates of appointment under the Apiaries Act. I have several reasons, the main one being to give those who wish to retire, but who are diffident on the subject, a legitimate opportunity of doing so; another being the desire to replace those who, through lack of time or other causes have been unable to do justice to their appointment.

The "Honorary Inspector" system with some very notable exceptions, has in the past been only partially satisfactory, but nevertheless it is intended to give the system a further trial; and with this in view I should be pleased to receive applications for appointment, which in the future will be for twelve months only. The Department will pay out-of-pocket expenses, and each successful applicant will be supplied with a certificate giving him powers of entry and examination.

Yours faithfully,

J. A. CAMPBELL.

Director of the Horticulture Division.

APPEAL TO NEW ZEALAND BEE-KEEPERS

(TO THE EDITOR.)

Sir,—Many beekeepers, and particularly those who are interested in farming pursuits, will remember reading in the newspapers recently the remarks of a prominent man in the wholesale meat trade in England, who stated that, owing to the carelessness of the New Zealand farmer, this Dominion has almost entirely lost its position on the Home market for good quality beef, and to a certain extent for mutton. This was due to a shortsightedness on the part of the producer, and consequent failure to keep his stock up to the highest standard, and a desire to breed heavy cattle, &c., to obtain the largest possible return while prices were at their highest, overlooking the fact that quality is the determining factor in the long run, and that only by maintaining a high standard of quality can a commodity hold a prominent place in the world's markets.

There is a very important lesson to be learnt by the New Zealand beekeeper from the above indictment of the New Zealand farmer.

Our New Zealand Honey, when first marketed at Home, was of choice quality generally speaking, and the greatest care was taken by the few beekeepers exporting to ensure that only the best and most uniform grades of honey were sent forward, and that the packing and general get-up was as near perfection as they could make the consignments.

Subsequently, with the increase in beekeeping in New Zealand and the tremendous increase in the export trade with the development of the H.F.A., and particularly during the last two years, when costs of production have been high, many beekeepers have grown careless in regard to the manner in which they prepare and pack their honey for export.

Some beekeepers are under the impression that so long as their honey will get into prime grade, the method of packing and the type of tins and cases used are of little consequence.

Very many thin or light cases have been used, many of them knocking to pieces on the journey overseas, with consequent leakage, such leakage probably affecting the appearance of many of the surrounding cases and depreciating the value of the particular consignment. A small percentage of rusty and leaky tins have also been the cause of considerable complaint.

In regard to the honey condition, it is essential that each line sent into the grading store should be uniform throughout in colour and quality. Several instances have come to our notice where honey sent in for grading has contained light amber and medium amber in the same case, and sometimes in the same tins, with the light amber honey, of course, always on top. It may be possible at times to deceive the grader by this means, but the results of this policy, if adopted only by a very few producers will certainly injure the reputation and sale of New Zealand honey abroad.

Our Association is re-establishing business in Great Britain, and we appeal to the producers to do their part by packing their honey in clean, strong cases, sound in condition, using new tins, properly oiled or lacquered, and by packing uniform qualities, colour and weights.

If the New Zealand producer will cooperate in the manner suggested, there is little doubt but that New Zealand honey will again reach a favoured place in the Home markets, and command a higher price per pound than honey imported into England from all other countries.—I am, etc.,

C. F. RYLAND,

General Manager.

Stanley Street, Auckland, 8/11/21.

(TO THE EDITOR.)

Sir,—In the October issue of the Journal "Amateur" comments about selling honey in the auction mart, I am guilty and not ashamed to admit it, and feel I

am justified in doing anything that will popularise honey as a food and improve the price. I think it would be a good thing for the industry if every auction mart in the land had a supply of honey of the best quality in 10 and 20 lb. tins instead of the 1 lb. and 2 lb. pots I see decorating the shelves in stores, as it is the consumer that should be catered for, not the loyalists. The H.P.A. has had a good trial for six or seven years, yet it costs the producer about 100 per cent. before his product reaches the consumer. The fee charged by the auctioneer is 10 per cent.—too big a difference to encourage loyalty from a selfish individual such as I am; and if "Amateur" is solely depending upon his bees for a living, can he pay the price for loyalty's sake? I am not blaming the management at all; I believe they are doing their best, and I am doing the same for myself; and if "Amateur" can get the backing from the loyal members of the H.P.A., he will debar me from living by the loyal method. I have been accused of spreading disease while another peddles his produce in a motor car. What I have done is all above board; I put my honey up in 10 lb. tins, with my name and address on them, and have the tins put up to auction with 10d. per lb. reserve, and the honey has averaged 1/- per lb. One family, the members of which have not eaten honey for years, purchases a tin nearly every week. I fail to see where I have done anything detrimental to the industry. I believe if our produce was put on the market in tins suitable for fairly large families, it would help to get rid of our surplus, and whatever one does to induce the consumption of honey, is doing a service to the industry.

When the H.P.A. was established, it was intended to secure the Home trade, and the local trade was ignored; but it is in much the same position as when it started, 2d. difference, with a remote chance of getting any more. It is very strange that every other produce is sold in the auction mart to good advantage, and why not honey? Perhaps "Amateur" does not refer to me at all, as there are others. I do not know their names. Their honey did not bring the same price as mine, as it was inferior in quality. A good article brings a good price, even in an auction mart.—I am, &c.,

T. STEWART.

Wairoa, 24/10/21.

The manager of the H.P.A. to whom the above was submitted, replies as follows:—

The letter of Mr. T. Stewart, in reply to "Amateur" is to be commended for its straightforwardness, and does not beat about the bush. Nevertheless, he appears to have a guilty conscience, and this is a first step to grace. I am inclined to

agree that a little honey could be sold at certain times and in divers manners by auction. For nearly two months the leading produce auctioneer in one of our largest cities has offered twice weekly prime honey in 5 lb. and 10 lb. tins. Less than twenty tins have been sold, at an average price of 9½d. per lb., or a nett return, after deducting commission, cartage, and tins, of 7¼d. per lb. Obviously the average family man is not inclined to make large investments in honey at present prices, especially while the financial depression lasts. So for this season we have exported 784,000 lbs. of honey, and still have in stores in New Zealand more than sufficient to meet the requirements of the Dominion until the new honey comes to hand.

"Send your honey to the auction mart!" says Mr. Stewart. "Popularise its sale!" By all means, if it can be done. In addition to the "Imperial Bee" and other honey sold by storekeepers throughout the Dominion and the large quantities sold privately by beekeepers, place 800,000 lbs. of honey in the auction marts, and what would happen? Either the price of honey in New Zealand would drop by 50 per cent. or else half the honey would remain unsold until Doomsday. That is why, after pushing New Zealand sales to the utmost, we export the surplus, and incidentally allow our friend Mr. Stewart (and doubtless others) to show their business sleight of hand, and put one over the loyal beekeeper by rushing in for tenpence when the other chap is standing fast—win or lose—to the co-operative marketing principle.

Anyhow, if Mr. Stewart's auctioneer can obtain 1/- per lb. or even a little less, we can send him any quantity up to 500,000 lbs. right now, and the £25,000 thus realised would enable us to make a further advance of over 4d. per lb. to our suppliers.

Mr. Stewart states there is a "remote" chance of a further advance on 1921 honey, but we anticipate being able to make a further payment in December, and possibly a bonus after that.

Already there are indications that our new marketing arrangements in England will prove very successful, and, given the loyal support of producers in both Islands, I have little doubt but that we shall be able to return to suppliers prices which will enable commercial beekeeping to become a profitable enterprise.—I am, &c.,

C. F. RYLAND,

General Manager N.Z. Co-op. H.P.A.
Stanley street, Auckland, 14/11/21.

(TO THE EDITOR.)

Sir,—I was somewhat amused at the crude methods outlined in "Amateur's" letter, published in your October issue, page 179, and of the threat conveyed therein that unless apinists fell into line and toed the mark to a certain Honey

Co-op., they (the apiarists) were only inviting trouble for themselves. Mr. Adams, in the November issue of the Journal, page 200, takes up the cudgels on behalf of his district in a very able manner, and hammers it well in.

My reply to "Amateur" is "Lit for tat"; what is "saucy for the goose is sauce for the gander," for as soon as the above-indicated concern adopts the tactics mentioned, the directors will be faced with a few hundred hives of bees within striking distance of their own apiaries, and will be glad enough to call quits and "finis."—I am, &c.,

FIRST AID,

14/11/21.

(TO THE EDITOR.)

Sir,—Mr. Ward's remarks in the last Journal re bees not rearing much brood in bad weather in spite of there being sufficient stores in the hives, coincides with my observations for the last two seasons. I find, however, that there is a noticeable difference in their favour where usable stored pollen is present. If the bees were allowed to make their own winter nest, there would probably be plenty; but we are always out to improve on Nature's methods, and during the honey flow to give the queen laying room, the side combs heavy with pollen and honey, are raised to the super and not returned. I have been taking out heavy pollen combs to the out-yards this spring to a small extent, and find that the bees use every scrap of it. We nearly always have one to two months continual bad weather at this period of the year, and the bees gather very little; we fed them syrup, but the pollen shortage has up to now not had consideration, though pollen is as necessary for brood-rearing as honey or syrup. It is a bit of a problem to store pollen combs so that the contents are usable. Either it gets too dry and hard, or else a mite burrows into it, and one finds most of it on the floor after it has been stacked for a few months. It keeps best, of course, with a little honey on top and sealed over. At the last extracting there are dozens of combs with considerable pollen that could with advantage be saved for spring feed rather than be put through the machine.

I intend next autumn sorting out all heavy pollen combs for late spring feed, and hope to avoid the disappointment of going round the yards and finding the bees with plenty of honey and practically no brood.

I hope this may be of some interest to beekeepers who are similarly situated as regards spring weather.—I am, &c.,

A. R. BATES.

(TO THE EDITOR.)

Sir,—In the October issue of the Journal (page 175) we read: "There are hundreds, or may be thousands, of hollow fallen trees, and in large numbers of these

trees are diseased colonies." We write to ask: Is it definitely certain that foul-brood exists in bees that are in what may be called a state of nature? This is not asked in a captious spirit, but for information. No doubt some of your correspondents can furnish an answer, and any information on the dread disease will be acceptable to all who are trying to keep clear of it.—I am, &c.,

D. C.

Waikuku, Nov. 16th, 1921.

"AMATEUR" AND HIS CRITICS.

(TO THE EDITOR.)

Sir,—In your November issue appears a letter over the signature of Mr. James B. Adams, of Gisborne, in which reference is made to the H.P.A. It would seem that Mr. Adams has a grievance against the H.P.A., and possibly this feeling is shared by the Poverty Bay beekeepers.

The gist of your correspondent's letter seems to be that the H.P.A., by monopolistic means backed by coercion, were attempting to compel the Poverty Bay beekeepers to join the Association by flooding their district with "Imperial Bee" honey, and thus depriving the local beekeeper of his market.

It is a great pity that some beekeepers are not alive to the fact that the N.Z. Co-operative Honey Producers' Association (H.P.A.) is an institution which has for its main object the betterment from a commercial standpoint of the industry in New Zealand, and the welfare of every beekeeper. The Association has not a monopoly of the honey produced in the Dominion; if it had the producer would obtain a much better reward for his capital and labour. It has no antagonisms and no coercive methods; and grown-up people should not judge the organisation either by the remarks of any prominent member or by the writings of people not officially connected with the Association.

So far as Poverty Bay is concerned, it may be interesting to your readers to know that for over two years the H.P.A. has endeavoured to get into touch with the district Association through Mr. Adams, and that proposals submitted from time to time have not elicited a single acknowledgment.

Certainly a little "Imperial Bee" honey has been sold in the Province, evidently due to the fact that local beekeepers could not supply all requirements, and this has been to their advantage, because it has enabled the local beekeeper to sell his honey at very little less than "Imperial Bee," and considerably higher than he could previously obtain. Thus the Poverty Bay Beekeepers' Association cannot sustain a grievance against the H.P.A. They are free to remain outside the co-operative movement and to market their product as they see fit, and when the production of honey in their Province exceeds

the demand, the H.P.A. will still be on hand to handle the surplus, and will be glad to enrol them as members.—I am, &c.,

C. F. RYLAND,
General Manager N.Z. Co-op. H.P.A.
Stanley street, Auckland, 12/11/21.

Mr. JAMES ALLAN ON MYSELF AND
CRITICISM OF THE NATIONAL.

(TO THE EDITOR.)

Sir,—I am not going to quarrel with my old friend Mr. Allan for twitting me in your last issue by remarking that:—“He (myself) is I by name and I by nature; but we (who is ‘we’?) do not object to that; it is only what we expect.” The meaning of this sentence is rather obscure, but I take it to be that he does object to my use of the first person singular instead of plural in my conduct of the apriary columns of the New Zealand Fruitgrower. If that is the correct interpretation—and the context of his letter supports it—then I would suggest that Mr. Allan ask the proprietors why my name is at the head of the columns as “Conductor.”

The above, however, is a passing pleasantry; I am more concerned in his objection to criticism of the past conduct of the National Association, as this is a serious matter. That it has been well deserved is amply confirmed by the radical amendments in the Constitution of the Association suggested by the Executive which has only been brought about by severe criticism of its shortcomings, and which Mr. Allan has overlooked. What otherwise has caused the decline of so many of its Branches but the failure of the National to keep in close touch with them? In fact, Mr. Allan himself unconsciously bears that out where he speaks of the good work of the Secretary on his recent tour, and says:—“We want more of that kind of work.” Just so; that is exactly my contention; but whose fault is it that we haven’t had it but those who have had the conduct of the Association, including Mr. Allan himself?

I may remind Mr. Allan that I was the first to advocate the formation of the present National through the N.Z. Farmer and Canterbury Times more than two years before its initiation, and have been a staunch supporter of it ever since, and that is why I am ready to criticise it when I am sure it needs it. No institution can long survive if all criticism of its doings is suppressed, and as to the acidity of my criticism, if speaking straight out without objectional personalities is to be classed as of the “acid brand,” then so mote it be. Mr. Allan speaks of my “pulling down” methods, by which he characterises my criticism, I suppose, and wishes me to understand that “it does far more good to build up than to pull down.” Is it necessary to remind him that before one can rebuild a structure he must pull the old one down. Mr. Allan

must surely have been napping to have missed all the suggestions I have made from time to time for the improvement of the conduct of the National. At the same time, I never considered I was possessed of the combined wisdom of a select committee, hence my asking for the appointment of such a committee at the last Conference to consider the position of the Association and its betterment by improved working.

In conclusion, no reply of mine could more clearly show the false position taken up by those who considered that all was well with the National than the result of the recent meeting of the new Executive.—I am, &c.,

I. HOPKINS.

[We must take exception to one statement in the above. Mr. Hopkins says:—“What otherwise has caused the decline of so many of its Branches?” &c., &c. But there has been no decline at all; as we have pointed out before, the Branches have increased, not declined.—Ed.]

(TO THE EDITOR.)

Sir.—My bees are becoming as strong as houses. They intend to be ready for the clover flow, which will open about the 25th of this month (November). The wet weather has kept the bees from working during the spring; but we hope to benefit from it, as there is an abundance of white clover springing up everywhere.

We have lately heard a good deal about our old enemy, foul-brood. The talk is mostly on the black side, but may I introduce a side which is a little less black? I have more foul-brood this spring than I care about, but it is rapidly vanishing with my system of treating. In the spring I pick out the strongest diseased colonies, clean them, and divide the brood between the weakest ones. In about a fortnight’s time I again clean the stronger ones and stack on top as much brood on the weaker ones as they can care for, taking care that robbers cannot get in. In another fortnight we have a few roaring strong colonies that are too cumbersome to clean as one colony, therefore the big colony is split into three. I take the supers of hatching bees and put them on fresh stands, giving them a good queen cell. They must be closed for a day to prevent too many bees from going back to the old stand. The old colony is then cleaned—that is, after all the bees that will have returned from the divisions. The divisions must be closely watched for a day or two on account of robbers, as to have them robbed would spread disease wholesale. Directly the young queens are laying, I clean these divisions. By this method I lose no brood, and at the same time gain about 20 per cent. increase. It “puts the lid” on swarming, as treated colonies seldom swarm. My experience is that there is little of the honey crop lost, and the gain in wax from the rendered combs about offsets that. By my plan, the cost

of cleaning 50 colonies is three weeks' extra work and the re-making of 100lbs. of wax into foundation. But I will allow that should the season be early and short, there may be a great deal of loss in crop. However, there would be a greater loss under the usual plan of treatment.—I am, &c.,

W. H. BROWN.

Staveley, Nov. 14, 1921.

Answers to Correspondents.

J. R. W., Oamaru.—The only "sure and easy way" to find a black queen is to shake the frames of bees into an empty super that has a queen excluder tacked on the bottom. You will find this a quicker method than any other and absolutely sure, unless the queen is such a small and wizened little beggar that she can get through the excluder, in which case you have got a fairly difficult job to catch her.

Increase in Price of Journal.

Important Notice.

We very much regret that we are compelled to increase the price of the Journal. Last year we made a loss, and we were hoping that this year would see a substantial fall in prices, but this has not happened. The actual position to-day is that to print and post the Journal costs a decimal fraction of over 6d. per copy, without reckoning any salary or expenses incidental to running a publication. The National does not want to make a profit on the Journal, but it must pay its way, and we are sure our readers will see the necessity for the increase.

Proposed Apiaries Tax.

SCALE OF FEES.

The following scale has finally been agreed to by the Executive and the Department:—

Three hives and under	Free registration
4 Colonies	1/- per Colony
5 to 10	an addition of 9d. per Colony
11 to 19	" 6d. "
20 to 39	" 3d. "
40 to 63	" 2d. "
64 to 100	" 1d. "

(Both numbers inclusive.)

With a maximum charge of 25/- for 100 colonies, and 5/- for each additional 25 colonies or part thereof above 100 colonies,

Subscriptions Received.

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

- F. Burnley, Feilding, to Sept. 22
 W. Paget, Grey, to Oct. 22
 A. Fensom, Kumara, to Oct. 22
 W. R. Entwistle, Birkenhead, to Oct. 22
 Geo. Ward, Temuka, to Sept. 22
 T. C. Fogerty, Morrinsville, to Oct. 22
 D. R. Reynolds, Bombay, to Sept. 22
 W. J. Hunt, Rongotea, to Sept. 22
 D. A. McLeod, Dunedin, to Sept. 22
 H. C. Jones, Pirongia, to Sept. 22
 F. Wroble, Allanton, to Sept. 22
 — Chafferton, Allanton, to Sept. 22
 Miss L. J. Austin, Waiuku, to Oct. 22
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 A. Middleton, Pukekohe, to Nov. 22
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 A. V. Anderson, Ngaruawahia, to Oct. 22
 Mrs. Bedford, Ruakura, to Oct. 22
 W. Willis, Ruakura, to Oct. 22
 G. Place, Ruakura, to Oct. 22
 — O'Brien, Ruakura, to Oct. 22
 Miss Fanning, Ruakura, to Oct. 22
 G. J. McCormack, Ruakura, to Oct. 22
 — Creighton, Ruakura, to Sept. 22
 — Bennett, Ruakura, to Oct. 22
 W. Barclay, Paeroa, to Nov. 22
 C. W. Houston, Lyndhurst, to Nov. 22
 Mrs. D'Auvergne, Waihao Forks, to Oct. 22
 F. W. Dutch, Whitecliffs, to Oct. 22
 H. W. Earp, Te Puke, to Sept. 22
 M. E. Buchanan, Kelso, to Nov. 22
 J. Dickson, Otautau, to Nov. 22
 C. Evetts, Oaonui, to Oct. 22
 T. J. Rowse, Moana, to Nov. 22
 E. C. Wadsworth, Takaka, to Nov. 22
 W. Farmer, Glen Oroua, to Nov. 22
 Mrs. F. Hunt, Putaruru, to Nov. 22
 C. W. Liggins, Glen Oroua, to Oct. 22
 Baikie Bros., Waihaorunga, to Oct. 22
 W. D. Hill, Havelock North, to Nov. 22
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 Miss M. A. Craig, Ahura, to Nov. 22
 H. Braithwaite, Nightcaps, to Oct. 22
 T. H. Todd, Renwicktown, to Sept. 22
 A. Mudford, Kakahi, to Nov. 22
 W. J. Linchan, Te Awamutu, to Nov. 22
 W. Ross, Waikino, to Oct. 22
 J. Reid, Lyndhurst, to Nov. 22
 A. W. Price, Fairlie, Nov. 22
 T. B. Williams, Oamaru, to Nov. 22
 G. E. Stechart & Co., New York, to July 22
 Thos. Rowe, Bell Block, to Oct. 22

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!

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Secretary.

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WANTED TO BUY, HONEY PUMP.—
State size and price to

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BEFORE Selling your Output of Honey, write us for quotations. We pay cash on delivery of order and grade certificate to your nearest Bank. Bank will make the exchange.

N.Z.B. & HONEY CO.,
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WANTED, COMPETENT MAN take charge of Packing Department. Preference given to one with knowledge tin-making and willing to make himself useful other Departments. State age, health, wages; give references.

N.Z.B. & HONEY CO.,
Manawaru, Te Aroha.

WANTED, STRONG YOUTH to help with Extracting and be generally useful; excellent opportunity for suitable youth. Apply

E. W. SAGE,
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FOR SALE, 500 lbs. MEDIUM BROOD COMB FOUNDATION, in one or more lots, packed in 25 lb. boxes. Price, 3/6 per lb. f.o.b. Ngatea. Apply
L. MANKTELOW,
Ngatea, Hauraki Plains.

1921-22 PRICE LIST of ITALIAN QUEENS

PRICES:

	1	2	3	4	5
Untested	7/6	14/6	21/-	28/-	35/-
Select Untested—1/- extra per Queen.					
Tested	12/-	23/-	33/-	40/-	50/-
Select Tested	17/6	34/-			
Breeders	30/-				

QUEENS GUARANTEED FREE FROM ALL DISEASE, and bred from Pure Stock, which have been selected for hardiness, disease-resisting, good-working & non-swarming qualities.

Ninety-five per cent. of Untested Queens guaranteed purely mated.

Delivery—Tested, from 15th October; Untested, from 20th November (as weather permits) to 20th March. All orders to be in by 1st MARCH.

TERMS.—Cash with order. Cheques to have exchange added.

P.O. Order Office, Heriot. Orders filled in rotation.

NOTE.—Owing to high cost of all materials and postage, no reductions can be allowed on list prices for larger quantities.

POSTAL ADDRESS:

R. Stewart, Crookston, Otago.

BEEKEEPERS

SPECIAL.—In "Gleanings" for July, page 47, an article appeared describing an additional attachment to the Hodgson Ventilated Escape Board for introducing queens and uniting colonies. Commercial Beekeepers who have read the article and have seen the appliance as we make it, state that the "Findlay Introducing Attachment" will make the introduction of valuable queens a certainty. In addition to its value as an introducing appliance, the Hodgson Escape may be used as a super cleaner, a Porter Bee Escape and Board, a uniting appliance, feeding-board, &c.

The Hodgson Escape has been reduced in price to 4/-; "Findlay Attachment," 1/- extra; postage to any address, 10d. extra.

SWEET CLOVER.—We have a small quantity of this Seed harvested this year. Samples free on receipt of postage (3d.).

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.

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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.

SEND FOR OUR NEW SEASON'S PRICE LIST.

BIG REDUCTION IN PRICES.

Alliance Box Co., Ltd.,

MASON STREET, DUNEDIN.

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

Why Purchase a Bartlett-Miller Reducer ?

Beekeepers need that the fact be emphasised again and again that the Honey Extractor is a boon and a blessing **ONLY WHEN THINGS GO RIGHT**, and even then only for healthy combs. One diseased comb in the Extractor, and—! There are several jobs around extracting time that the Extractor does not exactly make a botch of—if flatly refuses to tackle them at all! These jobs are by no means all of the same importance.

The least important of these "extractor-strike" jobs is the melting of cappings, and despite the fact that most producers imagine that job is the most important one which a Reducer is purchased to accomplish, **IT IS NOT SO!**

Any Reducer to be worthy the confidence and praise of its owner **MUST POSITIVELY** be able to reduce (both rapidly and without trouble) any old and solid waste every season to those who own one.

It is all very well to save the awful bugbear of the disposal of cappings, and for that job alone a Reducer saves its cost by the elimination of mess, worry and waste every season to those who own them.

S-T-I-L-L, many honey producers have allowed their minds to become obsessed by the idea that capping reduction is the be-all and end-all of a Reducer's existence. but it was the result of our experience over thirteen years ago that led to the advertising of our invention as distinctly a **COMB REDUCER**. **NEVER** did we describe it as a Capping Reducer without the additional word "Comb," for unless a Reducer will handle the blackest combs that ever were taken from the worst clogged brood-nest (with pollen, that is), it will prove nothing better than a deceptive fair-weather friend at just the very time when you need a friend in the shape of a utensil that will see you through the stiffest problem of all one's beekeeping experience, and that problem is the saving in marketable shape (without danger of infection) of the wax and honey in combs from the brood-nest infected with foul-brood. Otherwise they must be absolutely wasted, and the amount of good wax and honey wasted every year through the lack of a utensil to conveniently handle the diseased combs would pay twice over for a Reducer for every Beekeeper in the Dominion. We have a letter from one of our purchasers which we expect to publish in next issue if permission is given us to do so, stating that the owners saved seventeen pounds in reducing comb from box hives, purchased by two friends, the other one of whom saved the bees but burned the combs. Each party took half of the Maori-owned boxes, and our correspondent bought a "**BOOSTER**," and saved his £17!

Of course, the Bartlett-Miller Reducer is specially constructed to handle **F.B. combs with safety**. The solid matter is lifted by the operator into the front tube space as it accumulates in the other melting spaces, and here it is allowed to remain until all liquid has run from it that will run, only a little wax remaining with the slungum; then the patented fall-down bottom is tripped, when all matter drops on to whatever the operator has held there to catch it, and it is carried to the wax-supply cask utterly free from any honey to carry disease again by being robbed. By this means no amount of solid matter worth considering goes with the liquified honey to the separator, although the melted wax does, and is there separated from its liquid partner.

While the one space containing the solid matter is draining its honey, the rest of the Reducer is quietly going on with its job of melting cold combs. The fall-down bottoms are adjusted by means of screw nuts to whatever runaway space the operator desires—from wide open to quite shut.

ORDER IF YOU SO WISH BY ORDER ON THE H.P.A. AGAINST THIS COMING CROP. THE H.P.A. ARE OUR ONLY AGENTS.

The Thoroughwork Apiaries, Kihikihi

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:

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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.

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.

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	1-Year	1/2-Year	1/4-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.

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BAY OF PLENTY.