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E. A. Day
The New Zealand
'Beekeepers'
Journal.

Vol. 6.

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My respects to you! Basil H. Howard.

ISSUED MONTHLY
FOR
THE NATIONAL BEEKEEPERS'
ASSOCIATION OF N.Z.

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The New Zealand Beekeepers' Journal

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

No. 3

VOL. 6

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.

The season on the whole has been d's appointing, and those to whom we have spoken cannot give a reason. It seems to have been one of those seasons when the clover did not yield so well as appearances led one to expect it would. The Waikato, which had the appearance of being an absolute "hammer," yielded about half crops. The Lower Wai-

kato, towards Auckland, stood well, and we hear of some excellent yields that way. Most of the South Island is from poor to half crops. The Southland crop does not promise too well.

The Waikato beekeepers have been visited with a new disease this season, part of the brood growing up to the time of sealing over and then dying in the cells. The men who met the trouble are experienced beekeepers, and are certain it was

not chilled brood; neither have they seen anything like it before. In an article appearing in *Bee Craft* (England) of December, 1921, by Miss Annie D. Betts, the scientist, on "Chalk Brood and Allied Diseases," which seems to be something like the description given to the Editor of the hives in the Waikato, Miss Betts says:—"Cases of disease are occasionally found where the brood has apparently dried up in the cells. Drone brood is most often affected. The larvæ die in the prepupa stage—that is, when stretched out in the cell just before or after being sealed over. They shrink somewhat as they dry, till nothing is left but an oblong shaped mass with a small projection (the head of the larvæ) at one end. The colour is white, sometimes yellowish in the early stages; later black specks appear, which, according to Zander's latest work, are found principally on the hinder head of the larvæ. This is chalked brood, and is caused by a fungus (*Pericystis apis massen*) which is nearly related to *Pericystis alvei*, common pollen mould. Its spores are extremely small oval bodies, about one-tenthousandth inch long (about twice the size of foul brood spores in fact, and much like them in shape). Fortunately, the disease is not a serious one. Affected combs should be burnt, and the stock moved into a clean hive. Often the disease will disappear of its own accord, without even these measures being taken. A far more serious fungus disease, hitherto I believe unknown in Britain, is stone brood. This is caused by a fungus of the Genus *Aspergillus*, closely related to the greenish brown mould, sprinkled with yellow specks, that commonly occurs in jam-pots, &c., or on combs that have been removed from the hive with brood in them and stored in a not too dry place. The affected larvæ become mummified, as in chalk brood, but are later covered with the brownish or greenish brown mould. The adult bees are also affected, which is not the case with chalk brood, and sometimes die in large numbers. As the causal fungi (there are two species of *Aspergillus* which may cause the disease) are capable of flourishing on the human mucous membranes and causing serious inflammation, it is necessary that great care be used when treating a case of stone brood. (Zander recommends the tying of a wet cloth over nose and mouth.) Destroy bees, combs, and all fittings by fire, and thoroughly disinfect the hive if it be too valuable to destroy. Do not save the honey for human consumption, but burn it with the rest of the combs. Stone brood is not much to be feared in this country, as it is a disease of hot summers and ill-ventilated hives, but it is as well to be acquainted with its general features, so that an outbreak may be promptly suppressed should one occur."

Perhaps the above will be helpful to our Waikato friends to assist in identifying the disease.

Market Reports.

Since our last report the market has ruled fairly steady, with a moderate inquiry. The stocks here are small, and consequently prices have remained firm at our last quotations—namely:—Ordinary quality Chilean Pile I, 45/- per cwt.; extra quality Chilean, 50/- per cwt.

Beeswax.—In this article there has been little change, the market continuing quiet. Value, about £6 to £10 per cwt. for Chilean as in quality; African and other descriptions offering at much lower prices.

TAYLOR & CO.

Liverpool, 7th December, 1921.

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

Auckland.—The past month has been favourable to the beekeeper, except the last week, which has been wet and stormy. This has had the effect of stopping the flow of nectar for a while, but the rain will no doubt freshen up the pastures, and the bees renew their activity in gathering possibly a late flow. Prices remain as at last report, but there are indications of a slight drop in the price of honey on the local markets. Honey sections are realising from 10/- to 10/6 per dozen for good quality, and from 8/- for dark and poorer kinds.—G. V. Westbrooke.

Wellington.—The climatic conditions have been such as to jeopardise the honey crop for the whole of my district. The past month has been showery and generally of a nature to suppress the secretion of nectar. The colonies are in a favourable condition for gathering the crop, but fine sunny weather must be experienced before a satisfactory return can be expected. There is, however, the possibility that the season will be prolonged, as the pastures are in a splendid condition for this period of the year. Prices of bee produce remain unchanged.—P. A. Jacobsen.

Christchurch and Dunedin.—The unsettled weather conditions prevailing have been against the storage of honey, consequently the crops are likely to prove light in most districts. The clover is in good heart, the recent rains having revived the pastures. Given a spell of fine weather, the crop in Southland will be well above the average. Extracting is in progress and this season's bulk honey is now being offered. Prices are unaltered.—E. A. Earp.

What is a beekeeper?—A man who keeps a small apiary as a side-issue.

What is a honey producer?—That is a man too lazy to work, so the bees keep him. He sells his honey in ear-lots, buys town lots, and takes life easy in an automobile.—Western Honey Bee.

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.]

The honey season is now over and active work in the apiary is on the wane. All finished sections should be taken off and marketed as soon as possible, those unfit for sale being stored in a dry place to be used as bait sections when preparing for next season's crop.

With extracting combs, it is advisable to save at least one good full comb for each hive being wintered, as these are invaluable for feeding in the spring should a hive want assistance. All the same, it is essential that the bees should be left with plenty of stores, about 40 lbs. being the rule.

Any hives containing old and failing queens should either be united or re-queened as the beekeeper requires. If uniting, it is best to kill the queen not wanted, as there is just a possibility that if left to themselves the wrong one will go under. Kill the queen in the evening, then go to the queen right colony, remove cover and mat, place a sheet of newspaper over the frames, then lift the queenless colony from the bottom board and place on top of queen right colony and leave them alone. This is reckoned the safest way to unite colonies with the least loss, as the bees gnaw holes slowly and only one or two get through at a time.

If re-queening and you have to send away for a queen, do not kill the old queen until the new one is received. Having killed the old queen, place the cage with queen and bees on top of the frames in the hive where the bees can get to her, but do not remove the wooden stopper or metal protector of the candy. Leave the queen caged 48 hours and then remove the obstruction so that the bees can eat away the candy and thus release the queen. Don't be in too great a hurry to see if she is released and accepted; leave the hive alone for at least three days, as often a young queen doesn't settle down to business for a day or two, and disturbing the hive might cause the bees to ball her. If when looking into a hive, I see the bees balling the queen, I usually give the ball a good smoking to get the queen released, and quickly close the hive, not touching the hive again for about a week. More often than not she is quite alright and happy by then.

Should you find disease in a hive in March, there is not sufficient time for the bees to build up after "McEvoying" them. My advice to an enquirer is that judgment be exercised to determine the treatment. If only a cell here and there, with a goodly number of bees and three or four combs of healthy brood, I would mark that

colony for early spring treatment as soon as the light flow of honey starts. The breeding being more or less quiescent during the winter, there is not much chance of the disease increasing to a very great extent and it should be quite safe. Should the hive be a strong one with a good queen, I should "McEvoy" them and after three days feed heavily with sugar syrup in the evening. Close the entrance very small to protect against robbing and be careful not to spill any syrup near the hive.

Any hive with only a small number of bees found with disease is best destroyed. Dig a fair-sized hole, fill with pine needles, dry leaves and anything else that will give a good flame. When well going, drop the frames in, bees and all, and after all is consumed fill the hole up again with earth so that everything of possible infection is well buried. Give the bottom board a thorough scraping and paint this, the inside of the hive, and cover with a strong solution of carbolic acid, leaving these exposed to the sunlight and air as long as possible consistent with care for your gear.

F. C. B.

Canterbury Tales.

By E. G. WARD.

I am glad to be able to report that weather conditions have improved since last month, but too late, I'm afraid, to be of much benefit to the beekeeping industry. The extremely dry spell, which had lasted practically the whole time honey should have been flowing in, broke on January 16th. The rain lasted about 12 hours and did an immense amount of good to farming generally. Fine weather lasted till February 3rd, when we had another good fall of rain after several intensely hot days. The two falls of rain with the ground quite hot from the previous sunny weather have brought on a nice growth of clover again and everything is looking nice and green. On February 15th there was another nice fall of rain, so that prospects for a late flow are good.

The rains have been of great benefit to my patch of Huban sweet clover, as the spot where it is sown is very dry. Some of it is about 4ft. 6in. high, and the whole is blooming profusely, and the bees working on it early and late. I intend to sow a larger area next season, and a neighbouring farmer is going to try it for fodder. I notice the birds have taken a fancy to it. If they assist in spreading the seed, I shall not grudge them what they eat for their trouble, but will they?

It has come to my knowledge lately that a bee thief is operating in Canterbury. He is a pretty bold customer too. One beekeeper has had a frame of brood and the queen taken from several of his best

hives. Another man in a small way had the whole of the frames and bees taken from one hive and the body left empty. This kind of thing looks very ugly, as it is evidently the work of no novice at bee-keeping. A pleasant surprise awaits him on his next visit to either of the above-mentioned apiaries.

The attached clipping relating to the beekeeping industry in Australia should be of interest and at the same time give all N.Z. beekeepers a feeling of satisfaction to reflect that such an organisation as the H.P.A. is in existence.

GLUT OF HONEY.

(From The Press, January 19th.)

Why is it that people won't buy honey? asks the Sydney Sun.

They won't, right enough—the result is only too apparent in the wholesale houses in Sussex Street. There some floors are comfortably stocked, others are uncomfortably crammed. In others there is a glut.

The layman will argue that this should not be. Of course it should not, but the fact remains that it is. The wholesale distributor looks glum and points to the stacks and tells you that tempting prices won't tempt the "honeyman" or the grocer to purchase.

Is it that the public is not accustomed to honey on its meal table, or is it that it does not realise the commodity is so cheap? Honey is cheap—cheap enough for the average worker's table.

To-day in Sussex Street one firm has on its hands large consignments of honey that were forwarded in 1920. When it was put in store awaiting sale it was the best to be had; now it is candied and dark. Imagine the loss to the apiarist.

The best honey is being sold at 4½d. a lb., so that buyers will come and help clear stocks. It is a move made necessary, but will probably end without the object being accomplished. One man, who is in charge of the sale of some of the 1920 parcels, says that if a big grocer was offered the best in one big line, say at 3d. a lb., there would be no business. The honey would stop where it is.

The whole question, therefore, seems to be that people do not want honey at any price. Retailers certainly don't, and they are the best judges of requirements.

Meanwhile, 1920 honey is awaiting sale. The prospect with the continued depressed market is that two years hence there will be 1922 consignments lying idle also.

The above should stimulate loyalty to the H.P.A. if anything will. The letter in the February issue by A. Shallah also comes in opportunely and should help the cause of co-operation materially. Unfortunately there are people outside the

H.P.A. whom it is almost impossible to impress. They want to be "free lances", forgetting that if all were "free lances" we should be fighting one another like the proverbial Kilkenny cats.

Brother Howard, your first paragraph, page 25, February issue, has my hearty approval. You made some remarks of a similar nature once before and I was with you. I desire to say with emphasis, "Them's my sentiments tew."

A prospective customer asked me recently my price for honey and when I told him, was consoled with the statement that he had been in the habit of buying for years from a beekeeper who kept bees as a sideline at considerably less than my price. Probably plenty of other commercial beekeepers have had the same experience, but it does not foster any special love for the species of beekeeper referred to. I could enlarge on this subject at considerable length, but it would be waste of ink, because these kind of people don't bother about the other fellow.

District Reports.

AUCKLAND PROVINCIAL BRANCH.

The Annual Field Day was held at the Ruakura State Apiary on Wednesday, February 8th, attracting a goodly number of visitors, although there weren't quite as many as usual.

The proceedings opened with a welcome by the manager of the farm, Mr. A. W. Green, who stated that the object of these field days was that the visitors should gain instruction on the industry, and whatever they heard should be taken home to work to their own advantage. He stated that he was pleased, and he was sure all others would be, to see Mr. Hopkins amongst them once again.

After briefly touching on the period of depression we were passing through, Mr. Green stated that it would be of interest to them to learn that he had just come from a Ram Fair, and the prices realized by some of the farm stock that morning were so good that he was sure we all were on the eve of a rise in values on all produce.

He apologised for the absence of Mr. J. A. Campbell, the Director of the Horticultural Division, whose duties would not permit him to be present.

The President of the Branch, Mr. C. Smedley, in his address, said that a Field Day was most valuable to beekeepers from a monetary point of view, and also from the social viewpoint. Happiness and not money was the main object with many, and beekeepers knew that their occupation was one from which they could derive real pleasure from life. The Field Day, continued Mr. Smedley, was just as important as the

annual conference, giving as it did to apiarists an insight into the practical working of an apiary.

The President went on to deal with the three sides of the industry which had to be developed, referring to the business side, the political side, and the exchange of ideas as the foundations and the means of advancement, not only in beekeeping, but in everything.

In conclusion, Mr. Smedley congratulated beekeepers on their good fortune in regard to the weather. He was glad to see so many people present, who evidently appreciated the opportunity offered them of securing a day of sound education, a day when enjoyment was combined with profit.

After the president's address, Mr. Trythall, instructor in apiculture at the Farm, conducted the assemblage over the newly-erected honey house and explained the general outline of work at the apiary. The method of extraction and straining was shown, the working of the different apparatus being explained by the instructor. Mr. Trythall then went on to point out the special features of the Ruakura honey-house, which provided accommodation for some eighteen cadets. The building possessed a luxury in the comb room, and was up-to-date in every respect.

Mr. Trythall's demonstration over, a short address, entitled "When and How to Re-queen," was given by Mr. W. Copsey. Three weeks before the main flow of honey was open, the hive should be inspected and the old queen placed in the lower storey of the hive. After the lower storey, another one containing empty frames should be placed, over all of which should be placed an excluder. A third storey containing the brood was then placed above the excluder. The speaker went on to show how the two broods could thus be united under the one queen—the young one.

After the address some discussion took place, in which several interesting points relative to the merits of the respective methods of re-queening were made known.

Mr. F. C. Baines, speaking on the aims of the National Beekeepers' Association of N.Z., said the Association's object was to get everyone interested in bees. The present was the time of co-operation and organisation; the day of the individual had gone. All industries were now organised, and the beekeepers found their head in the Association. The Association now had sixteen Branches throughout the Dominion. At meetings of these branches, grievances, if any, were discussed, and recommendations made to the National Executive, which, if necessary, petitioned Parliament. Pleading for the Association, Mr. Baines pointed out that there was far more chance of securing redress when a complaint was made through a body representing the beekeepers of the Dominion than if made by an individual. Even if a person kept only one hive, continued Mr. Baines, the Association was out to do him good. Therefore

beekeepers, if only for their own interests, should become members of the Association.

A short address, entitled "A Good System of Record-keeping," was delivered by Mr. Smedley, who demonstrated in a practical manner how complete records of the working of a hive could be kept by means of simple apparatus. A glance as one went through the apiary was thus sufficient to determine the condition of each hive.

Mr. C. S. Hutchinson filled the gap caused by Mr. Luke's absence and gave an interesting talk on the management of out-apiaries.

Mr. G. V. Westbrooke, Apiary Instructor, gave some excellent advice on the handling of honey from the hive to the grading store.

Mr. H. Fraser, General Manager of the H.P.A., made a few remarks relative to the position of the overseas market. Negotiations were now in progress, said Mr. Fraser, which, if brought to a successful conclusion, would result in a most profitable market being found. The man who sent in a high-class article was in future to receive a better price than hitherto.

Mr. Jordan, manager of the packing-shed, dealt with the grading of honey, explaining how it was that honey was so little understood. Honey was composed of several sugars, the specific gravity of which varied. A sample of honey seemingly in good condition on leaving New Zealand was often in a fermented state on reaching England. Investigations were now being made, which it was hoped would ensure New Zealand honey being placed on the London market in perfect condition.

All the indications, continued Mr. Jordan, pointed to New Zealand honey being even now very popular in England. In times of financial stress, as at the present, abuse was often heaped upon the Association. This was altogether unjust. Mr. Jordan dealt somewhat lengthily with the question of co-operation. There were many apiarists in the Dominion who reaped the benefits of the co-operative concern, the Honey Producers' Association, without belonging to it. Such people were doing themselves harm, and their brother beekeepers also.

A subject of much moment was that of "Foul Brood and its Treatment," dealt with by Mr. Gooding, apiary instructor, who demonstrated the mode of procedure to be followed in dealing with the disease.

A number of questions which during the day had been handed in to the secretary, Mr. H. Davies, were answered towards the close of the day by Mr. I. Hopkins.

A demonstration of Mr. C. Smedley's latest comb and capping melter with a new efficient boiler to furnish the steam for both appliance and knife was much appreciated.

At the conclusion of the day votes of thanks to the Horticulture Department, the officers of the Farm and to all others concerned in the Field Day were carried by acclamation.

TAIERI TALK.

Fortune frowns on us, it seems! Two Field Days this year, bad or suspicious weather on each occasion. However, we are content; the muster was good, the number of new members enrolled was better. What more?

I grow worried already. A Dunedin Conference is going to be a heavy responsibility. I feel that the North is looking for something out of the ordinary to justify the move. I hope their expectations are rewarded. It has been suggested that we in Otago have a surprise packet. Why the mystery? After all, we haven't so many ideas up our sleeves that we need to wear kimono to hold them! Moreover, we are the people who need the education—you bring the ideas.

First of all then, Otago must pull all at once and roll up en bloc. A good crowd always saves appearances. Now, if the Executive would consider holding the Conference immediately before or after the Dunedin Winter Show, it would be sure of a good attendance. Many beekeepers couldn't do without their visit to the Show, and could not perhaps afford a double trip. The date is suitable. We pass the information on to the Executive. We mention to help them in their decision that the attractions will be unparalleled. The National could visit in mass formation Tom Thumb, Lanky Lance, the 'armless artist, the petrified woman; see the biggest bullock, the smallest sheep, the rooster with two tails, and so on; lose their money at Wingatui and win it back in sleeve links at Hoop-la.

Secondly, everyone is expected to come with a speech, if nothing else, in his hip pocket. Success is assured!

The crop seems to be panning out well this year. It is rather early to speak, of course. Still... I am satisfied with mine. The same to you!

TAIERI BRANCH FIELD DAY.

Despite the lowering and misty weather, despite such doubtful attractions as the Sanders Cup Race and the Trots, the attendance was respectable.

When the President, Mr. P. A. McLeod, had done what he had to do, Mr. Clark, opened the proceedings with a practical demonstration on queen rearing, dodging in among the raindrops the while. Then followed "The Treatment and Shaking of Bees as for Foul Brood," by Mr. J. Pinder (note the "as for"); "Swarm Control, Various Systems," by Mr. Kaler (a welcome visitor, Mr. Kaler—many thanks, and may he come again!); afternoon tea; photographs; "Appliances, Assembling Hives, etc.," by Mr. P. A. McLeod.

The afternoon tea was a success, thanks to the ladies and a gentleman (he wishes to be nameless). Being photographed in a beautiful group like a Sunday School picnic was quite a novelty, but we bore it, cheerfully unstained by expectancy as the photographer, enveloped in a veil and his

black cloth, stumbled about in the dangerous vicinity of a hive.

We have to compliment Mr. Clark on the docility of his bees. Field Days in dull and showery weather are apt to prove full of incident and activity. Not so there!

Our thanks to everyone for assistance and support.

BASIL H. HOWARD.

HAWKE'S BAY.

With the summer rains most of our beekeepers expected a good honey flow. The rainfall for January was between six and seven inches, and the honey flow was missing. We have just been looking at the maximum and minimum reading of a thermometer that has been standing out in the open, exposed to all weather. For December, the best month in our own apiary, the maximum kept about the eighties and the minimum about the fifties, thrice, however, going over 60 deg. During January the maximum was usually between 90° and 100°, but several times over 100° and even up to 109.5°. But the minimum reached only as high as 60° on three occasions. It seems we had the heat of the sun, but the night temperature was too low.

Most apiaries report a falling off in the force of bees. Our summer days have been showery days, and the bees, after answering the invitation of the sun to come out, have been exposed to a drenching rain. Before they dried, another shower or night came on, and many field workers perished.

And all the time our swarming season goes on. The problem has come up: should swarms at this time be counted as last season's swarms or next season's?

J. P. BOYLE.

14/2/22.

CLUTHA VALLEY.

The Annual Field Day took place on January 28th, at the apiary of Mr. H. N. Goodman, of Greenfield, about fifty persons attending. We were fortunate in having with us Messrs. Earp, Allan, Irwin and Stewart, all of whom need no introduction, and the demonstrations given at the hives by Messrs. Earp and Stewart were keenly followed. Messrs. Allan and Irwin addressed the meeting on the H.P.A. and National, stressing the importance of keeping together as a body for the general good of all.

Mr. Goodman's apiary is exceptional in the fact that he uses supers of $\frac{3}{4}$ depth, he finding this size more suitable to his working and the district. The honey house fitted with a 6-frame power extractor, steam knife and other up-to-date appliances indicated that he was keen in the business and an enthusiastic beekeeper. This is evident by the fact that no disease is known to exist in the Clutha Valley district, mainly brought about by the co-operation of Mr. Goodman with Mr. Earp, the Government Apiary Instructor.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Goodman went to considerable pains to make the function an enjoyable and social one and a very hearty vote of thanks to them was accorded.

SOUTHLAND.

The Annual Field Day of the Southland Branch of the National held on Wednesday, January 25th, at the apiary of Mr. L. Irwin, Woodlands, was a very decided success, and was attended by a large number of people from all parts of the district. Included amongst the visitors were Mr. E. A. Earp, Apiary Instructor; Mr. Jas. Allan; Messrs. R. Stewart and R. Gibb, queen breeders; and others well known in the beekeeping world in the South, and quite a number of returned soldiers.

The demonstration of handling bees by Mr. Earp was followed very intently, and his way of dealing with the questions asked was such that all could understand. Mr. Earp is always a host in himself at such functions as these.

Mr. Jas. Allan gave a demonstration of the treatment for foul brood disease by the McEvoy treatment.

Mr. R. Gibb, whose knowledge of all appertaining to the bees is probably as great as any in the Dominion, gave a short life history of the bees, with the marvellous egg laying powers of the queen, the wonderful eyes of the three kinds, comprising as they do of roughly 4,500 facets in the queen, 6,000 in the worker and 13,000 in the drone. The operation of wax secretion by the workers was also explained to the great interest of the hearers.

Mr. R. Stewart, whose remarks on queen rearing are always worth a very great deal, gave a very fine demonstration on this interesting side of beekeeping, and our friend was, as usual, absolutely open to give the fruits of his years of study and work in the subject to all desirous of information.

Mr. L. Irwin, the indefatigable secretary, talked on matters of the Branch and the National Association, urging all interested in the industry to join up. He mentioned the fact that the next Conference was to be held in Dunedin, and advised all to make an effort to be present, as they would then not only hear papers read by some of the best men in the industry here, but would get a clear idea of what the National was doing for the best interests of the industry.

Mr. F. Hemmingsen gave a very instructive demonstration on the making up of hives and appliances, wiring frames and waxing foundation—a most helpful item.

Luncheon and afternoon tea was supplied by the Association, under the capable supervision of Mrs. Irwin, assisted by a large number of young ladies, and the proceedings closed with a very hearty vote of thanks to those who had come to assist with the programme, the visitors for their

attendance, and to Mr. Irwin for the use of his apiary for the excellent day's instruction and pleasure.

MARLBOROUGH.

The first general meeting of the members of the Marlborough Branch was held on Wednesday, 25th January, Mr. J. A. Moreland presiding. The following beekeepers were present—Messrs. J. A. Moreland, J. Robertson, W. H. Mason, C. T. Miller, E. W. Daiper, R. James, P. J. Holdaway, Sowman, M. Johnson. Apologies were tendered for the absence of Messrs. E. H. Best and R. Hastelow.

The minutes of the previous meeting were confirmed. The election of office-bearers resulted:—President, Mr. J. A. Moreland; Vice-President, Mr. E. H. Best; Secretary, Mr. H. W. Mason; Committee—Messrs. Moreland, Mason, Sowman, James, Holdaway.

The Chairman addressed the meeting on matters bearing on the success of the local Association, stress being brought to bear particularly on co-operation and sociability, especially where visitors and intending beekeepers were concerned.

The meeting then discussed the eligibility of membership, and it was decided that on payment of subscriptions according to sliding scale, beekeepers and others qualify as members, provided they are in accord with the aims and objects of the Association.

Several new members were elected.

The Chairman spoke on the disposal of the season's output, and advised members to encourage the efforts of the H.P.A., which had been mainly responsible for the satisfactory position of the local markets of to-day.

It was decided that a meeting be held two months from date, the Committee to have the power to call a meeting on or before such date if necessary.

A hearty vote of thanks to the chair terminated the meeting.

H. W. MASON,
Secretary.

Honey Producers' Association

THE INDUSTRY IN NEW ZEALAND.

By FRED C. BAINES.

It has been my pleasure and privilege from time to time to write on the above subject, and as we have come to another period when perhaps a few remarks will be helpful in understanding the situation as it is to-day, I venture to put forth the following.

A recent circular sent out from the H.P.A. bearing upon a change of management being necessary, was responsible for considerable misgivings on the part of the shareholders.

A change has been made which I firmly believe will be of very great benefit to the shareholders. The whole management has been overhauled, every avenue for effecting economy in the working expenses has been thoroughly explored and the pruning knife applied vigorously, that I have no doubt the balance sheet for the year 1922 will show a very considerable improvement on the 1921, now being prepared.

So much then for the affairs at headquarters. Now, what is being done for the shareholders in the matter of marketing their produce to the best advantage in England?

In the opinion of the directors it was felt necessary that a man should be sent from here to get this under way there, and as there was some business with our late agents in England to be cleared up, Mr. R. A. Spindley, after getting a groundwork in the Auckland packing depot, was sent Home. I have reason to believe that he is doing good work as the following clipping from the N.Z. Herald of February 14th, 1922, indicates:—

NEW ZEALAND HONEY.

CREATING A DEMAND.

FINE DISPLAY IN LONDON.

London, December 29th.

There is little doubt that successful commerce in this country depends very largely on advertising. Those responsible for the disposal of New Zealand honey have fortunately grasped this fact, and their initial effort in popularising this commodity is a good, though a restricted one. This week the large show window in the High Commissioner's offices in the Strand is devoted to an instructive display arranged for at the most propitious time. No one who passes down the crowded London thoroughfare can help but observe it, and a large proportion of pedestrians stop and mark its lesson, writ large for all to see.

"Eat more New Zealand honey" is the text of the exhibition. These words are displayed in gigantic lettering over an eight-foot map of New Zealand. Other large posters proclaim the fact that the honey is "packed by the New Zealand Co-operative Honey Producers' Association, Ltd., Auckland, New Zealand. Imperial bee honey is a natural product of New Zealand." From the floor of the showcase there rise five pyramids of honey pots, 6ft. in length from base to peak. The produce is packed in glass jars, in tins and in cardboard containers. In front are models

showing the equivalent food values of seven ounces of honey. Thus, possessing a jar of this desirable commodity, one has the equivalent of eight oranges or five bananas, one quart of milk, 15 ounces of cod-fish, 10 eggs, 12 ounces of beefsteak, 5.6 ounces of cream cheese or 3½ ounces of walnuts.

The display was arranged by one of London's recognised artists in window-dressing. It is all very interesting and impressive, and the immediate result has been a great influx of inquiries. If such is the result of a strictly localised advertisement of the kind, it is reasonable to expect good business from a generous expenditure in ordinary advertising. Honey at present is not looked upon as a necessity, and only advertising can convince the public that they must buy it, and preferably New Zealand honey.

Mr. R. A. Spindley has received applications from two trade journals to write articles on "The Honey Industry of New Zealand." These will accordingly appear in the Imperial Food Journal and in Grocer.

A report such as this must be read with very great interest by those engaged in the industry; but the fact must not be lost sight of that to send a man Home for nearly a year is going to cost a considerable amount of money, and the result of such an expenditure means that the returns to the suppliers will not show an immediate benefit, but of the ultimate result there is not much room for question.

Another thing that strikes me forcibly is that as yet I have not read of one other body of producers in N.Z. that have had the courage to do a similar thing, and I feel pretty certain that if they did with the meat, butter, cheese and other commodities, it would eventually mean millions of pounds gain to this country.

I learn also that England is not the only place where markets are being sought, one place in particular to get an enquiry for N.Z. honey, viz., China, caused me not a little surprise.

Therefore I think it will be conceded that the H.P.A. is doing really good work in developing the overseas trade for our produce.

Now, as regards the local markets, we are not quite so happy. I have commented before on the gradual rise of the prices here, quoting 2lb. tins chiefly, that I saw in merchants stores bought at 8/- per doz., up to the price of 27/- obtained by the Association when everything was at its peak. Since then, owing chiefly to the decrease in the cost of tins, the price was

lowered to 24/-. There was a time when the export market paid so well that the local trade was neglected by the Association, and those who were not in the Association reaped a big benefit. This policy was changed and a vigorous advertising campaign instituted, the immediate result being that the sales of Imperial Bee Honey went up splendidly and our success seemed assured.

However, it did not suit some beekeepers to throw in their lot with the Association, and they still remained outside, taking advantage of the increased price created by the Association. I am exceedingly sorry now to state that the number of competitors has steadily increased, with the inevitable result—the sales of Imperial Bee being considerably lessened. The Association was quoting to merchants 24/- per doz. less usual discounts, but a large number of 2 lb. tins were being disposed of by outsiders at 22/-. To meet this the Association is reducing to meet the competitors, when a third party comes along offering the same package at 20/-. Whilst these are being sold, another competitor is offering at 16/6 per doz. So we are now going strong in the wrong way. The H.P.A. will have to still further reduce to meet their competitors, those just under them will have to reduce to meet theirs, and so on. So that the immediate result of this competition is that years of hard work, thousands of pounds spent in advertising, organising, etc., etc., is to be swept away in perhaps a twelvemonth. For what is this tending to?

Has the H.P.A. not done what it set out to do—which was to put up a standard article and return a payable price to the beekeeper? I assert that it has. For my part it has given me a better price than I ever got when marketing my crop on my own, and that with a minimum of trouble.

I believe I could market my crop in the nearest town at a price that would return me considerably more than my return from the H.P.A.; but it would mean that another man would soon see my honey in the shops, and if he had honey to sell would soon be offering; and there is nothing any buyer has to his greater advantage than competitors in the same line; he can put one against the other until he gets the commodity at his own price, to the loss of both producers.

But some may say, "If the Imperial Bee brand is being advertised and the honey is as good, and in many cases better than unadvertised brands, why do not the sales keep up?" The answer to this is easy. The merchants do not like concerns such as the H.P.A., it takes away their control of the market, and the very last thing they intend to do is to push in any way a commodity owned by a co-operative association. It is an absolute fact that shopkeepers have been seen by the represen-

tatives of the H.P.A. and when asked how the demand was for Imperial Bee Honey, have stated that the demand was always there but they couldn't get it from the merchants. Yet the merchants had only to ring up the H.P.A. for any quantity required! No, they prefer to check sales and allow the competitive lines to take its place, knowing full well that if only they can get enough beekeepers to fight the H.P.A., the Imperial Bee Honey goes off the market, and they have matters all their own way. Take away the H.P.A. export channel and what is your honey worth on the open market in England? Look up the latest quotations and see.

Take away the H.P.A. on the local market and what is your honey worth? Previous to the war, when butter-fat was worth from 1/- to 1/3 per lb., with other commodities at equal values, the nominal price for honey was 4d. per lb. In 1913 I was offered the whole of the crop of one of the largest suppliers if I could guarantee the ultimate return of 4½d. per lb. To-day, butter-fat is being paid for at from 6d. to 10d. per lb., and all other commodities at similar values. Therefore, if it weren't for the existence of the H.P.A., our honey in N.Z. would be worth about 2½d. per lb., and those with any quantity for disposal would be scrambling over one another to sell at that figure.

What the ultimate result of this competitive business will be the future alone will prove.

Just here I'm going to pay a tribute to the small loyal shareholder. There are dozens of small men who would have no difficulty whatever in selling their surplus to the local storekeeper, yet they regularly send for their few tins and cases and stand to their word. Last conference I met a young fellow from the Wairarapa who was in his early days of beekeeping for a living (which we all know is a pretty close time), and who had secured a crop of 3 tons of honey. He was offered 9d. per lb. by the local merchants; the H.P.A. was advancing 5½d. per lb., and he was badly in need of cash. **He supplied his honey to the H.P.A., and I take off my hat to him.** The shame of the business is that on the other hand, I have in mind a shareholder (who has admitted to me that he is independent of what the bees bring in), trading on that young fellow's loyalty and competing against him.

What the solution of the difficulty is I don't know; but it seems to me that as the H.P.A. has started to reduce its price to the level of its competitors, it has got to follow it down, else there was no object in starting. It is useless we loyalists standing still and allowing the wreckers to carry out their policy to their gain and our loss. But the process is going to be expensive on both sides.

It must be the aim of every shareholder to see that the sales of Imperial Bee Honey are maintained, even if it means individual

men bottling the brand at their respective apiaries and putting them straight into the store at the price the competitor is selling, the transaction being put through the Association.

Another idea I put forward for what it is worth. If the merchants will not sell our honey when the demand is there, then we must sell it ourselves. The 10 per cent. commission allowed to the merchants would, I think, come to a considerable sum, sufficient to pay the salary of a competent traveller, whose only business would be not just to sell honey amongst a host of other commodities—but honey only—all day and every day, and that the "Imperial Bee" brand. This would entail a considerable amount of extra bookkeeping, with a risk of bad debts, &c., but we cannot possibly go on spending thousands of pounds in advertising an article that when people come to buy they are told it is not procurable; "but here is something as good and cheaper," and the demand has been created by the spending of our money.

As one of the early builders of the H.P.A., I am exceedingly sorry to see the way matters are tending, with the old competitive cut-throat business gaining ground, which was the very thing we set out to avoid.

As an ordinary shareholder not having as great a risk as many others, I earnestly ask those who are jeopardising the existence of the H.P.A., which has meant so much to them in the past, and means everything in the future, to just sit up and think seriously of the position they are creating. These remarks are made by me solely in the interests of those engaged in the industry, not from having any axe to grind, as I hold no position in the Association, neither is this publication subsidised in any way by the H.P.A. What a tragedy it would be for us to wreck a concern, the like of which is being attempted in other countries, the producers realising that it is the safest and best way for them to dispose of their produce.

Do I stand to all that the H.P.A. has done since it started? Not a bit. Those responsible for the management have made mistakes—costly mistakes too—meaning money out of my pockets and also the pockets of the other shareholders. Have I been satisfied with all the treatment received at the hands of the management? Certainly not! Sometimes it has been a case of pretty sharp correspondence on both sides, and the result not as I desired. But I remember when dealing with merchants, I sometimes got what I didn't want or expect, and because I did not get all I expected from the H.P.A. was no reason for cutting them.

But on the whole I believe the management has all along acted as it felt was in the best interests of its shareholders, and I believe that with a loyal attitude adopted by all in the industry, the H.P.A. is capable of doing the very best possible to our prosperity.

Since the above was written, the February issue of the Fruitgrower has come to hand, and under the heading of "Straight Talk" the following appears:—
"The Office of Markets and Rural Organisation, Federal Department of Agriculture, U.S.A., has recently stepped in with some honest straight talk addressed to the producers' co-operative associations. The four following extracts might well be cut out and used by the New Zealand co-operators for educational and reference purposes:—

"When a grower joins a co-operative association and then refuses to patronise it, HE IS A DRONE. He cannot excuse himself even on the ground of bad management, for it is his duty to secure the proper conduct of the business.

"If in selling through his organisation, a producer endeavours to pass off shoddy, poor-grade products which injure the reputation of the body of which he is a member, HE IS A CHEAT.

"The man who joins a co-operative enterprise, and then through subtle ways endeavours to obstruct its progress and defeat its purpose IS A TRAITOR.

"The member who uses the special information of the Association in making sales outside without contributing to its support IS A DEAD-BEAT!

"Those experienced in co-operative organisations have known these four types. They are to be found in practically every community. They are the greatest enemies of agriculture and agricultural co-operation. If allowed to dominate with their dishonest practices, they will sap the energy, brains, and spirit of the officers, exhaust the moral and financial strength of the undertaking, and reduce the whole to a state of miserable failure."

New Regulations

RELATING TO THE EXPORT OF
HONEY FROM NEW ZEALAND.

Department of Agriculture,
Horticulture Division,
Wellington,
16th February, 1922.

Mr. F. C. Baines,
Editor, N.Z. Beekeepers' Journal,
Kati Kati.

Dear Sir,—

With reference to the above regulations, which it is expected will be gazetted today, the following stores have been appointed by me as grading stores for the purpose of grading honey:—

Auckland—The N.Z. Express Co.'s Store.
Wanganui—The N.Z. Express Co.'s Store.

Wellington—The N.Z. Express Co.'s Store.
 Lyttelton—The Lyttelton Harbour Board's Store.
 Timaru—The N.Z. Refrigerating Co.'s Store, Smithfield.
 Dunedin—South Island Dairy Association's Store.
 Bluff—Harbour Board's Store.

Please make this information known as widely as possible to beekeepers, and I shall be glad if you would kindly insert in your next issue of the "Beekeepers' Journal," if possible, a paragraph to the above effect.

Thanking you in anticipation,
 Yours faithfully,
 J. A. CAMPBELL,
 Director of the Horticulture Division.

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.]

FOUL BROOD.

(TO THE EDITOR.)

Sir,—I have noticed in your publication much about foul brood. From many years of careful observation, I believe we are on the wrong tack. The general theory put forward is that it is carried from one hive to another by the bees robbing and bringing the stolen impregnated honey into clean boxes. This may be so, but we have no direct proof that it is the case. I never noticed bees robbing hives to any extent, except when they were weak, and then they took away bees and all. I have had hives where the bees have died out with plenty of honey in them, yet the other bees left them alone till late in the spring, when there was no other food to be had. We are all too much inclined to "follow my leader" and take no thought ourselves. My opinion is that foul-brood does not come from within the hive to start with, but once having got there, the breeding and swarming goes on, whether of fungoid or animal growth I cannot say. In an ordinary frame diseased with foul-brood there may be 200 cells of foul-brood. The contents of these are filled with the carcase of the late grub, and seven of them weigh about 5 grains. This works out by taking the 200 cells at about 2oz. to a frame. If left alone, a tiny hole appears in the cap, and the grub that was inside disappears and leaves a little dust at the bottom of the cell. It is not known how the hole in the top of the cap was made, neither is it known who made it. We can form our own idea about it, but from a scientific view-point it is desirable to know what became of the 2oz. of grubs that were in the diseased cells. I took a frame containing a great many cells of foul-brood and placed them in an air-tight box with a glass lid, and kept them at a tem-

perature of 70deg. or thereabouts, sometimes putting them in the sun for greater heat. In the course of a week or two I opened the box and examined the inside of the glass lid. There was nothing to be seen by the naked eye, but through a powerful glass the whole of the glass lid was noticed to be covered with tiny spots like small eggs, brown in colour; whether alive or not I could not say. They had most surely come from the foul-brood, as I cut all the good cells out before putting it in the box, but there were 3 in. between the glass and brood; there was no way of them getting out except through the holes in the cell caps. I have kept bees for 50 years, and have studied them carefully, but feel very little nearer the mark of coping with the foul-brood. Perhaps some of your readers could help. Foul-brood is certainly more prevalent now than when we used the old boxes. I have many other observations on the subject if you think your readers would be interested.—I am,
 &c.,

ALFRED BURROWS.

West Oxford, Canterbury, 25/1/22.

[I am afraid I cannot agree with you, friend B., when you state that we have no proof that foul-brood disease is carried from hive to hive. It has been proved scientifically again and again, and there is no doubt about it. The contents of the diseased cells have been submitted to microscopic examination, the bacilli found and cultured, and the same bacilli found in the honey of the hive. The bacilli have been placed in honey of undoubted purity and put in a clean hive, with the inevitable result. I must confess I have never seen the diseased dead matter in a cell reduced to powder; it has always been more like a scale. Fortunately, my experience with the disease has been considerably less than that of a great number of beekeepers. We shall be pleased to hear further from you.—Ed.]

(TO THE EDITOR.)

Sir,—I am one of those who look forward to the "beginners' corner" in each issue, though there is usually plenty of other interesting matter as well. With regard to "Beekeeping for Beginners," may I make a suggestion—that for next season you set up, say, six hives, conveniently situated for yourself, but apart from your main apiary, number them from 1 to 6, and detail the manipulation of each from week to week, as if you were a beginner yourself and starting in a small way, and treat for increase or non-increase, foul-brood, re-queening, &c.

You will probably think my suggestion too tall an order, and not worth the expenditure of time and trouble; but I am sure the beginner's column would be very much more attractive. I think beginners should be better catered for, because you must have them before the industry can grow.

Now, Sir, I would like some opinions on a manipulation which was described to me as a good tip by a man who has had considerable experience in beekeeping. This was to prevent swarming, to keep a good queen without clipping her, and to save time and trouble looking for her if wanted, besides having combs free from brood at extracting time, to keep the queen in her brood nest always at the top of the hive over an excluder, when putting on a super to put it under the excluder and brood nest. Now, I have spoken to a lot of people about this. Few seem to have tried it, but nearly all seem to think it against the natural order of things, for they say the natural way is to store the honey above the brood nest. If the bees will store below, it seems to me to be a good idea, but I would like to hear some other opinions about it.—I am, &c.,

W. L. DODD.

Sawyers Bay, Jan. 26, 1922.

Regarding your first suggestion, I do not see there would be any great difficulty in doing as you suggest, only that my district is very early compared to yours and others where the climate is not so genial, and there is just the possibility that a beginner following up my manipulations may be tempted to do the same in his locality, where the conditions are totally different, and meet with disaster. However, if I get any further indication that your suggestion would be helpful, I will see what I can do next season.

As regards keeping the queen and brood confined to the top of the hive by using an excluder and placing the supers as required below, this is one of the stunts that have been tried to prevent swarming, and has been found wanting. There are objections to the idea in the fact that in the first place the brood, being above, would get the whole of the heat from the hive, and the work of keeping the hive from getting overheated would entail considerably more work for the bees, as they would have to drive the fresh air from the bottom entrance to the top of the hive. Another thing: It is usual not to place the excluder on a hive until the queen is well up in the second super, and then shake her down to the combs below that have been emptied by brood hatching out, so that she has occupied two supers for breeding before being confined. For my part, I think the suggested manipulation would tend to set up the swarming fever, and as the queen could not get out, the probability is she would be killed by the bees after one or two attempts. Neither could the virgins, after hatching, take their mating flight, so we should be in a bit of a hole, with the bees totally unsettled, and no laying queen. But when you come to think that every time you want to put an extra super on, one would have to be lifting the brood chamber about, and eventually stick it perhaps four supers high. Why, the very thought of it makes my back ache! I say at any rate the idea is no good to me, even if other details were satisfactory.

If any of our readers have tried the idea of the brood chamber being kept on top of the hive, we should be glad to hear from them.—Editor.

SPLIT TOP-BAR FRAME.

(TO THE EDITOR.)

Sir,—I have just noticed in the current month's journal an illustration and description of the Rowe patent frame. There being nothing to denote where the "inventor" resides, or where the patent was secured, I must presume it is New Zealand in both cases. The "inventor" is evidently not aware of the split top-bar being in use and illustrated in a catalogue over 34 years ago, but if he will turn up the *British Beekeepers' Guide*, published January, 1888, pages 64-5, he will see there the split-bar frame described, illustrated, introduced, and patented by Mr. Lee, of the well-known entering firm for British beekeepers of Lee's Bee Supplies. The split bar has fallen out of use in Britain owing to the split forming a suitable place for moth eggs.—I am, &c.,

I. HOPKINS.

22 Owens road, Epsom, 15/2/22.

(TO THE EDITOR.)

Sir,—The following may be of interest to readers of the Journal:—Richard Holditch, aged 61, passed away at the Masterton Hospital on 23rd January, after an illness extending over several months. He had been a subscriber to the Journal for some time, and during the past sixteen years kept bees in the Masterton District, having out-apiaries at Wangaehu and Rangitama. Owing to continued ill-health, the late Mr. Holditch approached Messrs. Jessett and Bannister, who consented to look after the out-apiaries, and they are now working the bees on behalf of Mrs. Holditch.—I am, &c.,

F. H. JESSETT.

Chapel street, Masterton, 1/2/22.

Answers to Correspondents.

P. W. Nelson.—There is no need to wait until you can get to town for postal notes. Send along stamps to the value; we use plenty. Am sorry your letter is not for publication. Thanks for helpful remarks.

J. G., Edendale.—Very much appreciate your action. Good wishes reciprocated.

H. I. F., Kaitere.—You have done better than a great many, including the writer. You must remember that a beekeeper's chief commodity is Hope.

A. R. D., Rotherham.—Sorry; you are one of a large number this season. In my early days of beekeeping, everybody used to be telling me about Canterbury for making money with bees. What has gone wrong with you chaps lately? Not that I have any cause to sing a solo on my crop!

Subscriptions Received.

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

H. T. Oates, Rangiora, to Dec. 22
 F. G. Burnet, North Taieri, to Dec. 22
 A. P. Godber, Hutt, to Jan. 23
 J. Gordon, Edendale, to Dec. 22
 J. Wilson (5/-), Waingawa, to Aug. 22
 J. E. Stevens, Invercargill, to Jan. 23
 H. Dunlop, Invercargill, to Jan. 23
 D. Gedye, Timaru, to Dec. 22
 G. Thurston, Christchurch, to Jan. 23
 F. E. Stewart, Rotorua, to Dec. 22
 D. T. Cochran, Grey, to Nov. 22
 H. F. Sewell, Lower Hutt, to Jan. 23
 H. Michell, Masterton, to Dec. 22
 W. L. Dodd, Sawyers Bay, to Jan. 23
 B. W. Tisch, Hinuera, to Jan. 23
 Misses Duff, Invercargill, to Nov. 22
 Mental Hospital, Hokitika, to Jan. 23
 L. Manktelow, Ngatea, to Dec. 22
 Mrs. A. Birch, Lakeside, to Dec. 22
 E. D. Best, Rotorua, to Dec. 22
 P. Watt, Nelson, to Dec. 22
 A. B. Tryhall, Ruakura, to Dec. 22
 N. H. Bodwin, Ruakura, to Oct. 22
 F. Discombe, Hantapu, to Aug. 23
 C. F. Watson, Otoroanga, to Jan. 23
 Miss Grieve, Waitaniwa, to Jan. 23
 W. G. North, Picton, to March 23
 Mrs. M. Cuff, Blackwater, to Jan. 23
 C. Unwin, Winchester, to Dec. 22
 C. G. Kruse, Longaville, U.S.A., to Jan. 23
 T. P. Epps, Ruatiti, to Jan. 23
 T. R. Surrey, Huirangi, to Feb. 23
 E. E. Tatam, Whakatane, to Dec. 22
 L. P. Bloxham, Roxburgh, to Jan. 23
 J. Banks, Rotorua, to Feb. 23
 A. S. Gresham, Te Kuiti, to Jan. 23
 H. I. Furniss, Kaihere, to Feb. 23
 J. T. Bull, Mt. Somers, to Jan. 23
 G. Hall, Gordonton, to Feb. 23
 W. Raffills, Dunedin, to Jan. 23
 H. H. Paddon, Fairton, to Jan. 23
 A. R. Dickie, Rotherham, to Jan. 23
 Dr. A. R. Cameron, Wellington, to Dec. 22
 R. M. Hankinson, Dunedin, to Feb. 23
 Rd. Clark, Blackball, to Jan. 23
 K. R. Jameson, Pakaranga (6/-), to Dec. 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!

Dr. A. Z. ABUSHADY,
Secretary.

FOR SALE, 40 Strong ITALIAN COLONIES, Clean, with plenty Winter Stores; single storey, £2 5s.; two storey, £2 17s. 6d. Miss E. PALTRIDGE, Tower road, Mata Mata.

WANTED TO SELL, UP-TO-DATE APIARY of 100 Colonies of Bees, with plenty of gear for increase; freehold section. 2-roomed Shack, Honey House, 8-Frame Extractor, 1½ h.p. Engine, and all latest appliances; in best dairying district in Canterbury. The present season's crop will yield about 4½ tons.

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EDITOR.

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APIS,
c/o Editor.

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ATTKEN & SMITH,
Patea.

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.

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1 or 2.
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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.

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.

End of Season Sale.

PRICES REDUCED TO CLEAR.

We have one each Root Four-frame Automatic Extractor Nos. 25 B.F. and 27 B.F. for Power which we offer at twenty per cent. below list rates to clear.

These machines have all the latest improvements, including friction drive, ball-bearings, etc., and run as smoothly as a bicycle. Prices to clear:—

No. 25—£26.

No. 27—£28.

MOGUL MOTORS.—We have one each $1\frac{3}{4}$ and 1 h.p. Motor left. These motors are perfect and sold with a guarantee for twelve months. The $1\frac{3}{4}$ h.p. machine is fitted with a Bosch Magneto and has, in addition to the main drive, a reducing gear. The main drive will run the extractor at high speed, and at the same time the extra gear will drive a pump, fan, or any other appliance. A special feature of these motors is the carburettor, the machine is started up on petrol and is driven with kerosene. The cost of running is less than 1d. per hour. Prices:—

$1\frac{3}{4}$ h.p.—£35.

1 h.p.—£25.

Alliance 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.

Export Tins and Cases.

We are holding Large Stocks, and can deliver same day as the order is received. Prices at current rates.

Pat Honey Boxes.

There is a big demand, particularly in the South Island, for Honey packed in pats. Honey pats return a higher price than any other retail package. Write us if you are interested.

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—it 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 c-ombs 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 Mnori-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 slumgum; 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

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	½-Year	¼-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.

ITALIAN QUEENS.

Owing to numerous requests for my Queens, I have pleasure in quoting as under:

	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/-				

TERMS.—Nett Cash with Order. Cheques to have exchange added.
 P.O. Order Office, Edendale.

All Queens Guaranteed free from disease, and bred from the finest working stock

ADDRESS:

ROBERT GIBB, Menzies Ferry, Southland.