

THE NEW ZEALAND BEEKEEPER



OFFICIAL ORGAN *of the*
NATIONAL BEEKEEPERS' ASSOCIATION
OF NEW ZEALAND

*(An Organisation for the advancement of
the Beekeeping Industry in New Zealand)*

Better Beekeeping

Better Marketing

THE NATIONAL BEEKEEPERS' ASSOCIATION.

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SUBSCRIPTIONS:

1	—	15 hives	5/-
16	—	50 hives	10/-
51	—	100 hives	15/-

Five shillings extra for each additional
100, with a maximum of £2.

INSURANCE PREMIUMS:

1/6 per apiary per annum. (Insur-
ance is voluntary, but, if taken, all of
a member's apiaries must be covered.)

**JOIN YOUR NEAREST BRANCH
AND DERIVE FULL BENEFITS.**

The New Zealand BEEKEEPER

Published Quarterly on the 20th January, April, July and October,
by the National Beekeepers' Association of New Zealand.

W. J. Lennon, Editor.

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VOL. 5, No 1

JANUARY 20, 1948

A STABILISATION PLAN — MARKETING REGULATIONS.

Following on the announcement of the new Honey Marketing Regulations, the Prime Minister has made an important statement showing that a policy of stabilisation of prices, costs, salaries, and wages is to be brought into force at once. Beekeepers have been wondering whether the Government would have any plan for the marketing of this season's honey crop. It seems that the announcement of the regulations has been delayed to fit in with the recently-announced stabilisation plan.

Some sections of the community, particularly the wage earners, have been enjoying an increased income, and, in spite of some rise in the cost of living, have also enjoyed increased spending power. It is this increase of spending power, competing for fewer goods, which is the beginning of inflation, that the Stabilisation Plan is designed to check. Beekeepers on the other hand do not need to be told that costs have been rising faster than prices. Our only hope of recovering these costs has been from the illusory bigger honey crop, as prices have been frozen while costs were not. Referring to the price of farm products which are not to be increased, the Prime Minister says that this means in effect "internal prices divorced from export parity and any excess will be paid into pool accounts." He also says that "the major items of farmers' costs will correspondingly be held and the cost of holding them will be debited to the appropriate accounts." As beekeepers are not likely to have a pool account being built up from higher export prices—even if any honey is exported—we will be anxious to know

where the "appropriate account" will be held to which added costs are to be debited. The Government has made a commendable move, but beekeepers, in common with many primary producers, feel that the intended relief is somewhat cancelled out by the fact that our costs have risen faster than prices in the past two years. Beekeepers will loyally do their share in providing honey for the armed forces, and will be anxious to see both the Stabilisation Plan, and especially the Honey Regulations, work out successfully.

We are entitled to point out, however, that we consider 7d per lb., pro rata, too low on present costs. Last year's disastrous season has left producers with a loss to be recouped from this season's production, and no regulations, however wisely devised or expertly implemented, will bring stabilisation to our industry, if the basic price is too low. We are not wanting to be treated as exceptions when we suggest that a closer examination of the beekeepers' economic status is necessary in view of these Regulations. A large crop will alleviate but obscure the position, while another poor one will indicate all the more clearly that some revision of the basic price is wise. The payment of a bonus, even if factory costs do not allow it, would meet the position without affecting the Stabilisation Plan as announced. Beekeepers will then be in a position to contribute to the war effort by maintaining or even increasing production. An expanding production on a higher basic price is the best means of maintaining our industry in an efficient state and ensuring its stability when peace-time conditions return.

A MARKETING PLAN FOR 1943

On December 8th, 1942, the Government announced a Marketing Scheme for the control of the honey output in the coming year. Power is taken under The Honey Emergency Regulations 1942 to bring this control into effect. The most important point noted by beekeepers, having twenty hives or more, is that 70% of the crop produced by them is to be supplied to the Marketing Division; the time, place, and type of package for delivery to be announced later. The remaining 30% of the crop may be disposed of as the beekeeper desires, although there may be restrictions on this disposal if conditions indicate its necessity. It is to be noted with satisfaction that the restrictions are to be made as flexible as possible, especially to the extent of utilising the present facilities for packing by producers to the order of the Marketing Division. Many producer-packers depend on their packing business for all-the-year-round work. By using their experience, labour, and plant, the Government has been wise. Of course one consideration has been the saving in transport to be effected by packing more or less where the honey is to be consumed.

For many years, our Association has endeavoured to have proposals considered that would improve not only the production of honey but also the marketing as well. The present marketing scheme goes much further than any proposals we have previ-

ously considered. At our annual conference in July, a motion on marketing was passed, although by a small majority, asking the Government, through the Marketing Division, to take 50% of crops in order to attain the present objective. Ways and means were not discussed as consideration was given only to establishing the principle. Just a year ago, the Government announced that it was going to introduce the zoning scheme, but the scheme proceeded no further than the announcement. Some of the lack of enthusiasm for another scheme at last conference could be explained by the failure of the Government to work its scheme as announced. In fact, the announcement of the present scheme will come as a surprise to most beekeepers as our Association has not been consulted further in the implementing of the regulations.

It does not appear this time that the Government will be accused of vacillation in the manner of the introduction of this scheme. Explanatory circulars have followed promptly on the original announcement, and a representative of the Division was in the South Island within a few weeks to arrange storage depots and to meet producers. We congratulate the Government on the comprehensive nature of the scheme and especially on the decision to make the regulations as flexible as possible. We realise the scheme is introduced as a war measure, and as such requires the support of all in the industry.

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HAVE YOU ORDERED YOUR HIVE MATS YET?

Made from N.Z. Hemp—better wearing than ordinary sacking. Order direct from manufacturers:

N.Z. WOOLPACK & TEXTILES LTD., FOXTON

Delivery of not less than bale lots, F.O.R., Foxton.

£1/6/- per bale of 250 mats—cash with order. Please add exchange to cheques.

National Beekeepers' Association of N.Z.—Sole Agents.

THE HONEY (1942-43 SEASON) EMERGENCY REGULATIONS 1942

C. L. N. NEWALL, Governor-General.

ORDER IN COUNCIL.

At the Government House at Wellington, this 9th day of December, 1942.

Present:

His Excellency the Governor-General in Council.

PURSUANT to the Emergency Regulations Act, 1939, His Excellency the Governor-General, acting by and with the advice and consent of the Executive Council, doth hereby make the following regulations.

REGULATIONS.

1. These regulations may be cited as the Honey (1942-43 Season) Emergency Regulations 1942.

2. In these regulations—

“Apiary” means an apiary registered under the Apiaries Act, 1927:

“Department” means the Marketing Department established under the Marketing Act, 1936:

“Director” means the Director of the Internal Marketing Division of the Department:

“Season” means the period of twelve months commencing on the 1st day of December in any year.

Application of these Regulations.

3. These regulations, in so far as they relate to the disposal of honey, apply only with respect to honey produced in an apiary during the 1942-43 season.

Disposal of Honey Produced in the 1942-43 Season.

4. (1) Except as provided in subclause (3) hereof, and notwithstanding anything to the contrary in

any contract of sale or in any agreement to sell entered into before the commencement of these regulations, no honey produced in any apiary during the 1942-43 season shall be sold or otherwise disposed of by the producer except to the Department or pursuant to the authority of the Director.

(2) Any authority given by the Director for the purposes of the last preceding subclause may be absolute or conditional, and may be of general application or may be limited in its application to any specified person or persons (whether producers or purchasers of any honey to which the authority relates). Any such authority may be given by public notice or in such other manner as in the circumstances the Director thinks sufficient.

(3) Nothing in subclause (1) of this clause shall apply with respect to retail sales of not more than 60 lb. of honey in any case, if actual delivery of the honey is taken by the purchaser at the apiary where the honey was produced:

Provided that the Director, by notice in writing given to the occupier of any apiary, may prohibit the sale by him of any honey in accordance with this subclause, or may limit the total quantity of honey that may be sold by him during the season in accordance with this subclause or may reduce the maximum quantity that may be sold by him in any one transaction.

Returns to be Made by Apiarists.

5. (1) Every apiarist, being the occupier of an apiary in which there are not less than twenty hives, or of two or more apiaries in which there are not less in the aggregate than twenty hives, shall from time to time, as required by the Director, furnish returns showing:—

- (a) The quantity of honey produced during each of the three last past seasons in the apiary or in each of the several apiaries occupied by him, or the annual average quantity of honey produced in any such apiary during the said seasons:
- (b) The actual quantity of honey produced in his apiary or in the several apiaries occupied by him during each month of the 1942-43 season:
- (c) Any other particulars that the Director may require in relation to the production or disposal of honey produced in his apiary or in any apiary occupied by him during the current season or in any former season.

(2) Notice of any requirements under this clause shall be given by the Director to the apiarist or apiarists concerned, and may be given by public notice or by personal notice as in the circumstances the Director thinks fit.

(3) Every return made for the purpose of this clause shall be in a form to be supplied by the Department for the purpose or in a form acceptable to the Department.

Department to Notify Apiarists as to Disposal of Honey of 1942-43 Season.

6. (1) The Department shall from time to time, by public notice or otherwise as the circumstances may require, notify every apiarist whether or not all or any of the honey produced in his apiary during the 1942-43 season is or will be required for the purposes of the Department. Any notice given for the purposes of this subclause may be at any time amended in like manner.

(2) With respect to honey that is required for the purposes of the Department, the Department shall as soon as possible give instructions to the apiarist with respect to the packing and delivery of such honey, and it shall be the duty of the apiarist to comply with all such instructions.

(3) With respect to honey that is not required for the purposes of the

Department, the Department may, if it thinks fit, require the honey to be packed and disposed of in such other manner as it directs, and it shall be the duty of the apiarist to comply with all directions given by the Department for the purposes of this subclause.

Price of Honey Acquired by Department.

7. The price to be paid by the Department for any honey acquired by it under these regulations shall be fixed in accordance with section 7 of the Marketing Amendment Act, 1937:

Provided that if the wholesale price of honey of the 1942-43 season is fixed by the Price Tribunal, acting under the authority of the Control of Prices Emergency Regulations 1939,* the price to be paid by the Department shall be not less in any case than the wholesale price so fixed.

Appointment of Agents of Department.

8. For the purposes of these regulations the Department may establish receiving depots for honey and may appoint such representatives or agents as may be necessary for the purpose of taking delivery of any honey, whether intended for supply to the Department or to be otherwise disposed of with the concurrence of the Department.

Records to be Kept by Apiarists.

9. (1) Every apiarist for the time being in occupation of any apiary containing not less than twenty hives, or of two or more apiaries containing not less in the aggregate than twenty hives, shall, for the purposes of these regulations, keep for a period of not less than two years, records showing:—

- (a) The quantity of honey produced in his apiary during the 1942-43 season:
- (b) The manner in which such honey has been disposed of:
- (c) All directions given by the Director or the Department in respect of such honey:
- (d) Any other particulars that the Department may require.

(2) All records kept pursuant to this clause shall be open for inspection at all reasonable times by any Inspector appointed for the purposes of the Apiaries Act, 1927, or by any other person authorized in that behalf by the Director.

Offences.

10. Every person commits an offence against these regulations, and shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding £100, who—

- (a) Being duly required to furnish any return for the purposes of these regulations, refuses to furnish the return, or fails without sufficient excuse to furnish the return within the required time or in the required manner, or who furnishes a return that to his knowledge is false or misleading in any material particulars; or
- (b) Interferes with any officer of the Department or any other person in the performance of his duties under or for the purpose of these regulations; or
- (c) Refuses or fails to comply with any regulations, or with any directions of the Department or the Director given for the purposes of these regulations.

*Statutory Regulations 1939, Serial number 1939/275, page 1057.

Saving Provisions.

11. (1) Nothing in the Honey Marketing Regulations 1938* shall

apply with respect to any honey that is acquired by the Department pursuant to these regulations (whether such honey is delivered to the Department at Auckland or elsewhere).

(2) Except as provided in the last preceding subclause, nothing in these regulations shall be construed to affect the operation of the Honey Marketing Regulations 1938.*

C. A. JEFFERY,

Clerk of the Executive Council.

*Statutory Regulations 1938, Serial number 1938/149, page 668.

Issued under the authority of the Regulations Act, 1936.

Date of notification in Gazette: 10th day of December, 1942.

These regulations are administered in the Internal Marketing Division of the Marketing Department.

DESTROYING WAX-MOTHS.

To destroy wax-moths attacking combs in storage, pour one tablespoonful of Sandpie in crude form (a disinfectant produced by Reckitts & Sons, Hull) on to a piece of absorbent material and place on floor under supers. This may with safety be left in position till supers are required next season. You can have the pleasure of watching the moths die as they hatch.

Storing supers wet is not the best solution, as even these have been destroyed with me.

—T. J. Hunter in "The Scottish Beekeeper."

ITALIAN QUEENS

Reared under ideal conditions and of Highest Quality. Guaranteed free from all disease, and bred from Pure Stocks which have been carefully selected for good working and non-swarming qualities.

Ninety-five per cent. of Untested Queens guaranteed purely m.a.d.

	1	2	3	4	5	10	20 or more	50 upwards
Untested	7/-	13/6	19/6	25/-	30/-	57/6	5/6 each	5/3 each
Tested	11/-	21/-	30/-	39/-	48/-	90/-		
Select								
Tested	14/-	26/-						

Breeders 25/-

Delivery.—Tested, from September 20th; Untested, from October 20th (as weather permits) to April 30th.

Orders filled in rotation as received.

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

C. A. GREIG POSTAL ADDRESS & **Richmond, Nelson**
P.O. ORDER OFFICE

A PERSONAL NOTE FROM THE NEW EDITOR.

I wish to thank Mr. Field and the executive of the N.B.A. for asking me to edit the N.Z. Beekeeper. I hope they will find that their confidence is justified.

Mr. Kirker, as the first editor, is deserving of the gratitude of all subsequent editors for the spade work to which he so conscientiously bent his back in establishing this magazine. For the preparation of this issue he had compiled a new mailing list, selected material and done all in his power to make the work of the new editor as easy as possible.

I hope as editor to be allowed some little liberty in the expression of ideas or criticisms. If everything that comes from the editorial pen is to be judged by the letter instead of the spirit of Association policy, then one is unduly cribbed, cabined, and confined. It is not always possible to contact the President before the journal is published if important material arrives at a late date. The ideal would be to have the editor submit his material to the Executive quarterly before each publication, and to contact other organisations interested at the same time. As the Executive meets only annually, readers will, I am sure, understand that the editor must sometimes speak with a lone voice.

Without difficulty, I can assure readers that I will follow faithfully the policy laid down by Conference but still encourage that spirit of fair criticism to which any worthwhile policy should be submitted.

With all good wishes for the New Year,

I am, yours sincerely,
W. J. LENNON.

"The Indian Bee Journal" is India's only bee journal and Official Organ of the All India Beekeepers' Association. 7/6 p.a., post free.

The Editor, "Indian Bee Journal,"
Jeolikote, Nainital, U.P., India.

DEATH OF MR. G. S. KIRKER.

It will come as a painful shock to our readers to learn of the death of Mr. Gilbert Kirker, until just recently our General Secretary and Editor of this magazine. Gilbert had just resigned these positions to enter the Army. We have no details of the circumstances of his passing, but the shock to a wide circle of his friends is a painful one. Many of us knew him personally through contact at the Annual Conference; many others knew him only at a distance through postal and editorial contact. To all he impressed himself as efficient, courteous, and gentlemanly. Our sympathy is extended to his parents. The loss of such a fine character is one that we of the beekeeping craft, and our community in general, can ill afford to lose.

Our President, Mr. Field, has conveyed our sympathy to his parents and sent a wreath on behalf of the executive to his funeral.

Will all those concerned please notice that the positions of secretary and editor are now held separately. The address of the new Secretary is Mr G. V. Fraser, FOXTON.

The address of the new Editor is Mr. W. J. Lennon, OMAKAU, CENTRAL OTAGO.

SALT.

Salt has many uses. It is indispensable to life. It preserves life. It can also be made to destroy life. This is why it is useful to the beekeeper. It has been used by some beekeepers for many years.

About one pound per hive, spread on the ground in front of the hive early in the spring, before vegetation gets well started, saves labour in cutting grass and permits bees to enter and leave the hives easily. It saves bee life and increases the honey crop and from the point of labour and bee life saved is a good investment.— ("Gleanings.")

NATIONAL BEEKEEPERS' ASSOCIATION OF N.Z.

CIRCULAR TO BRANCHES.

General Secretary: G. V. Fraser,
Foxton.
Editor: W. J. Lennon. Omakau, Otago.

Will Branch Secretaries please note the above appointments, which are for the duration of the war and effective as from December 1, 1942.

All subscriptions and receipts, together with general correspondence, should be forwarded to the new General Secretary, Mr. G. V. Fraser, Foxton.

Any news or letters for publication in "The N.Z. Beekeeper" should be addressed to Mr. W. J. Lennon, Omakau, Otago.

With the splitting of the work formerly performed by myself, there will be a need for the best co-operation of Branches, especially in the early stages, to enable the new officers to carry out their duties with the minimum of difficulty, and I would ask Branch Secretaries to do their very best to make things as easy as possible.

SUBSCRIPTIONS.

These should be remitted to the General Secretary quarterly (end August, end November, end February, and end May) vide Clause 7 (a) of the Constitution. Actually, renewals should all be in hand at least by the end of August in each year. There seems to be a number of beekeepers who have overlooked renewing their subscriptions this year, and Branch Secretaries are asked to do what they can to get these in as, although it is war time, it is important that the strength of the Association should be maintained.

When forwarding remittances, bear in mind that only 50% of the subscriptions collected by branches should be forwarded to the General Secretary, but 100% of insurance premiums must be forwarded. It is of considerable assistance to the General

Secretary if a brief statement, showing how the remittance is made up, in the following form, is included:—

50% Subscriptions	....	£	:	:
Insurance	....	£	:	:
Total	....	£	:	:

JOURNAL MAILING LIST.

This is comprised of the yellow counterfoils of receipts issued by Branch Secretaries. The yellow duplicates are filed in alphabetical order in order of Branches, so as to make a card index. A mailing list is compiled from this index and is forwarded to the printer together with "copy" for each number of the Journal.

The writer has become fairly used to deciphering indistinct carbon copies and hurried writing, but it will be a help to Mr. Fraser and to Mr. Lennon if Secretaries will renew their carbons occasionally and write plainly when making out receipts.

There have been occasions when copies of the Journal have come back through the Dead Letter Office marked "Insufficiently Addressed." Please, therefore, fill in full addresses on all receipts, as this will save quite a few hours of work searching old records for correct addresses. *Initials* are important. City addresses should include postal district designation, i.e. S.W.2, N.1, etc. For record purposes, hives owned and apiaries run should be included.

INSURANCE.

Under the Association's policy with Lloyd's agents, premiums are payable in advance. The Association pay a minimum premium in advance every year to keep the policy alive, but no beekeeper is covered until his Branch Secretary makes out a receipt for his premium. Therefore, towards the end of the financial year, Branch Secretaries should take an opportu-

BEESWAX



It's up to us to save

every ounce of Beeswax we can to meet the present shortage, due to the poor honey crop coupled with increased demands on wax for industrial and war purposes. A "Waste Drive" round your apiaries will amply reward you. If you cannot conveniently render your old combs, cappings, etc., I can do it for you on attractive terms. Write for particulars, stating approximate quantity and also whether the recovered wax is for sale or for conversion into foundation.

If you have already prepared your wax for market, please send it along. I shall need every pound I can lay my hands on, and am paying the maximum legal price, 1/6 per pound plus railage.

And don't forget that it is true war-time economy to use the best quality foundation. You can procure Acorn Weed Process foundation from the Alliance Agent in your district, or direct from the factory.

A. ECROYD

11 THORNTON ST., CHRISTCHURCH, N.1.

Telegraphic Address: "ECROYD, SHIRLEY."

PLEASE ORDER EARLY!

ity of reminding members of the necessity for renewing their subscriptions to the Association by the first of June.

JOURNAL.

As members already know, the Journal has been cut down as a paper economy measure. A number of beekeepers are still receiving the Journal despite the fact that they have not yet renewed their subscriptions. I have continued their names on the mailing list because there is a risk that, once their names are dropped, it will not be possible to increase the paper supply in getting more copies printed. This has happened in the case of one journal in England, and there is a risk that it might suddenly happen here. Obviously, however, it is not possible for the Association to continue supplying copies of the Journal to non-members, and Branch Secretaries should explain the position to ex-members.

Owing to frequent changes of addresses of members serving overseas, it is not possible to undertake to post the Journal direct to members in the Forces, but serving members should be recorded annually by Branch Secretaries by the issuance of blank receipts endorsed "On Active Service," indicating honorary membership. Journals will then be sent to the serving members' home addresses and can then be redirected by relatives.

CONSTITUTION.

The following amendments to the Constitution were confirmed at the last Annual Conference. It is not practicable to have the Constitution reprinted at this date, so will Branch Secretaries please retain this circular for reference:—

Clause 5, add sub-clause (c):—

"Life Honorary Members may be elected to the Association at an Annual Conference as a mark of esteem and in recognition of noteworthy service to the industry or the Association, and no fees shall be payable by such members who shall not, however, be entitled to vote at meetings nor shall they be entitled to the benefits of the 'No. 2 Trust Fund.'"

Clause 5, sub-clause (a), substitute the following:—

"The Branch Secretaries shall collect all fees from members of their branches and shall remit 50% of subscriptions together with insurance premiums, to the General Secretary quarterly. Receipts shall be issued on official forms by Branch Secretaries, the yellow counterfoils being forwarded to the General Secretary immediately."

Clause 12. Add after the words "the General Secretary being likewise entitled to one vote," the following:—

"Provided he is a member of the Association."

Clause 18, sub-clause (1), substitute the following:—

"Each branch is to have voting power on the following basis: One vote for each 5/- of subscriptions received by the Branch, provided the Branch Secretary has remitted 50% of such subscriptions to the General Secretary before the end of the Association's financial year. The official delegate shall exercise the total voting power of the branch. In the event of the branch not being able to send one of its own members as a delegate to a meeting, it may appoint any other member of the Association to vote, provided that no member shall be permitted to exercise more than one proxy."

In conclusion, I extend to all Branches the Compliments of the Season and hope that 1943 brings the bumper crop which has been looked for for so long. I should like also to thank Branch Secretaries for helpful co-operation and assistance during my term of office, and again ask that they endeavour to make things as easy as possible for my successors.

G. S. KIRKER,
General Secretary.

Pungarehu,
28th November, 1942.

Read "The Scottish Beekeeper," Official Organ of the Scottish Beekeepers' Association. Published monthly, 3/- per annum. 186 Forest Avenue, Aberdeen, Scotland.

CORRESPONDENCE.

PUNGAREU, 1st Oct, 1942.

E. A. Field, Esq.,
 Dominion President,
 National Beekeepers' Association
 of N.Z.,
 FOXTON.

Dear Mr Field,

Since the accident to my back during the winter, I have found it practically an impossibility to carry on running my firm's hives, and have therefore made arrangements with a neighbouring commercial beekeeper to run them for the duration. This circumstance entails my notifying the Manpower Committee that the grounds for my appeal from military service no longer stand, and I expect to be called into camp some time during November.

I am taking this first opportunity of notifying you of the position as it will be necessary for the General Executive to make other arrangements in connection with my present duties.

Yours sincerely,
 (Sgd.) G. S. KIRKER.

FOXTON, Oct. 25th, 1942.

G. S. Kirker, Esq.,
 General Secretary,
 National Beekeepers' Assn. of
 N.Z.,
 PUNGAREHU.

Dear Mr Kirker,

I am sorry to hear that your accident has compelled you to give up working in your business in the meantime and that you are likely to be called into camp some time during November, and will therefore be unable to continue as General Secretary of our Association and Editor of "The New Zealand Beekeeper."

I shall notify the General Executive of this position, and I am sure that they will join with me in hoping that conditions will soon be such that you will again be able to carry on your good work as Secretary and Editor for the Association.

May I take this opportunity of thanking you for your loyalty and help to me during my term of office as President; and, as President, I ex-

tend to you the thanks of the General Executive and Members for furthering the interests of the National Association and the industry.

My kind regards.

Yours sincerely,
 (Sgd.) E. A. FIELD.

LATE CORRESPONDENCE.

PLEASE NOTE THAT LETTERS FOR INCLUSION IN EACH ISSUE MUST BE IN THE EDITOR'S HANDS ON THE FIRST OF THE MONTH OF PUBLICATION.

PERSONAL.

We are pleased to welcome as a member of our Association, Mr. L. Riesterer, until recently Apiary Instructor in Auckland. Mr. Riesterer has had over twelve years' service to his credit with the Department of Agriculture—eight and one-half years in Hawke's Bay and three and one-half years in Auckland. His many friends will be pleased to learn that he has now set up as an apiarist on his own account in the Auckland district.

ANNUAL CONFERENCE.

It is not too early to begin thinking of remits for this year's Conference. Branch meetings are not held as frequently as formerly, so it is as well to begin to get remits in order whenever meetings are held.

REPORTS OF MEETINGS.

Please forward any reports of meetings or Field Days to the Editor, in good time for publication in the next issue. Representatives of the Marketing Division will be meeting beekeepers in both Islands to explain the new Marketing Regulations. We would like to have reports from all parts of the Dominion for inclusion in the next issue.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE HORTICULTURE DIVISION

HONEY CROP PROSPECTS.

The following is a summary of reports received by the Director of the Horticulture Division from Apiary Instructors concerning honey crop prospects for the current season to end of November, 1942:—

AUCKLAND and NORTH AUCKLAND: November was a difficult month for beekeepers. Boisterous and unsettled weather conditions prevailed during the early part of the month, followed by hot, drying winds. The total rainfall was over 2½ inches below average for the month in the Auckland area; consequently the season is somewhat later than usual. White clover was yielding a little nectar towards the end of the month, and, provided weather conditions improve, normal crops may be expected from this source.

North Auckland beekeepers have had an early season from ti-tree and bush sources, and large quantities of new season's honey are already on the local market from these sources.

HAMILTON and THAMES VALLEY: Heavy feeding was necessary to keep up normal colony strength during the month, and many beekeepers who have not previously been required to feed were caught napping, not realising that supplementary feed was required until colony strength had reached a low level.

A heavy frost was experienced throughout the district early in November, and all clover growth was badly frosted. A short, fine spell a little later, however, enabled the bees to work ti-tree and buttercup to advantage. Until heavy rains fell (over seven inches) towards the end of the month, crop prospects were not bright as the bees were not strong enough to take full advantage of a short early flow. The position has now changed, and prospects are for normal to good crops.

PALMERSTON NORTH and TARANAKI: No detailed reports to hand. While heavy feeding has been necessary, conditions generally are now favourable for good crops in most parts.

HASTINGS: It was necessary to continue feeding in some areas during the month, but generally speaking colony strength was favourable.

Pastures dried up rapidly, and good rains are necessary in both Hawke's Bay and Wairarapa districts. Owing to a long spell of dry weather conditions, crops are likely to be much lighter than last year.

CHRISTCHURCH: In North Canterbury the bees were in excellent condition up to the end of November; but feeding in some apiaries was necessary to keep up colony strength. The absence of north-west winds was beneficial, and there was an excellent show of white clover bloom. Cool easterly winds, however, prevented normal nectar secretion.

Extensive feeding was necessary in Mid-Canterbury, where dull, cold weather conditions prevailed most of the time. Colony strength was low by the end of November in South Canterbury, and the rape was a complete failure this season, due to weather conditions.

Good rains towards the end of the month helped matters considerably, and prospects are now bright for good crops in most localities throughout the district.

WEST COAST, NELSON, and MARLBOROUGH: The main sources available to the bees in Westland this spring were kamahi and fuchsia; but wet, cold weather conditions prevented the usual amount of nectar secretion.

Cool, strong southerly winds and varying temperatures checked the usual good flow of honey from clover and manuka in Nelson areas. With more rain and less wind, however,

there is still time for average crops from these sources.

Conditions in Marlborough have been very similar to Nelson, and additional rains are necessary. Prospects at the end of November were not good.

OTAGO and SOUTHLAND: No late detailed reports have been received from this district; but up to the end of October climatic conditions were very mild and the pastures in good heart. Colonies were in better condition than at this time last year.

Speaking generally, the prospects are bright for fair to good crops, depending on weather conditions from now onwards.

PERSONAL.

Mr L. H. Johnson was appointed to the temporary staff on 1st October last as Apiary Instructor in charge of the Palmerston North district, vice Mr. H. F. Dodson, retired.

Mr. Johnson completed a course in beekeeping at Ruakura State Apiary, season 1918-19, and altogether has had over twenty years' experience in New Zealand. It is confidently expected that his services will be of great value to the beekeepers in that district.

W. K. DALLAS,

Director of the Horticulture Division.

GATHERING OF BEEKEEPERS.

Arranged by the Department of
Agriculture.

A very successful Field Day was held at the apiary of Mr J. Giles, Otumoetai, Tauranga, on Saturday afternoon. Weather conditions were ideal for such a gathering, and the large number of beekeepers present thoroughly enjoyed the afternoon with the bees. Mr. C. R. Paterson, Apiary Instructor, in opening proceedings, commented how gratifying it was to see such a good attendance and specially asked those not familiar with the regulations governing

beekeepers, to read the Main Provision of the Apiaries Act which were displayed on a large printed card.

Mr. Paterson then gave a demonstration to beginners in the correct way to handle bees, and at the same time fully explained the inside working of a hive of bees.

Mr. J. H. Taylor, of Pye's Pa, then explained his method of making up nucleus colonies and the advantages to be derived by having a number of these small hives in the apiary.

Mr. Paterson then demonstrated the method of rendering beeswax by means of the Solar Wax Extractor and the Hatch Wax Press. Special mention was made of the important part beeswax was playing in certain industries, and all beekeepers were urged to endeavour to save every scrap of wax and if possible increase production of it.

Mr. T. S. Winter, Senior Apiary Instructor, stationed at Wellington, addressed the gathering and spoke on the growth of the honey industry and the important place it was now playing. At the conclusion of his address Mr. Winter mentioned how pleased he was to see such a large gathering, and pointed out the urgent need for all beekeepers to endeavour to secure maximum crops.

After refreshments had been handed round by Mr. and Mrs. Giles, Mr. Carter proposed a very hearty vote of thanks to the speakers, also to Mr. and Mrs. Giles for their hospitality. This was seconded by Mr. Ford and heartily endorsed by the gathering. Mr. Giles in reply said he was very pleased to have had the Field Day at his place, and mentioned how one could always learn something from such gatherings.

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INTERNAL MARKETING DIVISION (HONEY SECTION)

TO ALL HONEY PRODUCERS.

23rd Dec., 1942.

A price order just issued amends the prices to consumers as set out in our Circular No. 19.

The following are now the maximum prices:—

		Doz.
1 lb. Glass Jars	.... 1/5	17/-
1 lb. Cartons	.... 1/2	14/-
1 lb. Tins	.... 1/2½	14/6
2 lb. Cartons	.... 2/3	27/-
2 lb. Tins	.... 2/4	28/-
5 lb. Tins	.... 5/7	67/-
10 lb. Tins	.... 10/8	128/-

Copies of the Price Order and the Honey Emergency Regulations, 1942, may be obtained from the Government Printer.

Yours faithfully,

J. RENTOUL,

Manager, Honey Section.

P.O. Box 1293,
AUCKLAND, C.1.
8th December, 1942.

Circular No. 19.

Dear Sir/Madam,

In the past three years the matter of securing continuity of supply to the Department for local and export trade has been discussed and resolutions passed at the annual Beekeepers' Conferences requesting the Government to implement zoning regulations. For various reasons the gazetting of these regulations has been postponed. However, at the last Conference of the National Beekeepers held in Wellington in July, 1942, the following resolution was passed:—

"That as this Conference is of opinion that changed conditions indicate that the postponed marketing areas scheme is now inapplicable and an alternative plan which will give the I.M.D. continuity of

honey supplies must be sought THEREFORE it is suggested that the Division should be empowered to require all commercial producers to supply to the Division for the duration of the war and six months thereafter fifty per cent. of their crops."

Since the passing of that resolution the necessity of securing continuity of supply to the Department is not of such paramount importance as the necessity to ensure, firstly, that the requirements of the Armed Forces and hospitals throughout the Pacific area will be fully met, and, secondly, that the remaining portion of the crop, after the fulfilment of these orders, is distributed as equitably as possible to the civilian population. Both the Minister of Marketing and the Food Controller deem it necessary and appropriate in the public interests and to permit national defence that the honey crop must be marshalled into a central organisation in order that defence and other priorities as decided from time to time may be given proper effect.

In view of past experience of the Internal Marketing Division in the handling of honey, and in view also of the fact that the Department does operate an efficient and up-to-date plant in Auckland and at which point the bulk of the supplies are required, it has been decided by the Government that the Internal Marketing Division should assume the responsibility of regulating the marketing of honey during the coming year. Accordingly, the Honey Emergency Regulations, 1942, which permit the Department to control the distribution of all or any part of the total honey crop, are being gazetted. These regulations are applicable to beekeepers having 20 hives or over!

Whilst giving complete control over the distribution of all honey, the regulations are flexible and do not mean that all honey must be consigned to the I.M.D. in Auckland. The regula-

tions as at present applied do, however, mean that the producers affected by the regulations are bound to supply 70% of their monthly extractions to the Internal Marketing Division. The remaining 30% of the crop may be disposed of by the beekeeper at prices not to exceed the following prices fixed by the Price Tribunal, the appropriate seal being attached as required:—

1lb. Glass Jars doz.	10/3	10/9	20/3	21/6	51/3	100/-
1lb. Car-tons	10/3	10/9	20/3	21/6	51/3	100/-
1lb. Car-tons	10/3	10/9	20/3	21/6	51/3	100/-
2lb. Tins doz.	10/3	10/9	20/3	21/6	51/3	100/-
5lb. Pails doz.	10/3	10/9	20/3	21/6	51/3	100/-
10lb. Pails doz.	10/3	10/9	20/3	21/6	51/3	100/-
Blended Bulk.	7 3/4d	12/6	10/3	20/3	51/3	100/-
Price to Retailer—	7 3/4d	12/6	10/3	20/3	51/3	100/-
Nett ...	7 3/4d	12/6	10/3	20/3	51/3	100/-
Price to Wholesaler—	8 3/4d	14/3	11/9	23/-	58/6	114/-
Less 2 1/2% ...	8 3/4d	14/3	11/9	23/-	58/6	114/-
Price to Consumer—	11d	17/6	14/6	28/6	73/-	142/6
Bulk ...	11d	17/6	14/6	28/6	73/-	142/6
Cut and Wrapped	1/-					

It is quite possible that the Food Controller may desire a list of your retail customers in order that he may arrange equitable distribution to the consuming public. Producers will be advised if this is required.

The regulations further provide that every beekeeper shall from time to time furnish to the Honey Section

of the Internal Marketing Division certain statistical information as set out in the forms which will be posted to you later. As soon as possible after receipt by the Department of the returns, beekeepers will receive delivery instructions either for bulk or for the packed honey held by them on account of the Department; that is, 70% of their monthly extractions. It is the intention of the Department to instruct that certain honey be sent forward to Auckland for the requirements of the Province and for the Pacific area, or that certain beekeepers will be instructed to consign their honey to certain wholesalers or retailer, or that beekeepers will be instructed to consign their honey to certain storage warehouses in the different parts of the Dominion. Where packed honey is required from any beekeeper, then special contracts for servicing will be arranged with the beekeeper.

The prices to be paid for honey purchased by the Internal Marketing Division will be determined by a price order issued under the authority of the Price Tribunal. As honey is a stabilised commodity the prices so fixed will relate in accordance with grade, packing, etc., to the prices received by producers during the 1940 season. The price to be paid to producers is, therefore, as follows:—

1. BULK HONEY:

7d. per lb. pro rata according to the grade. If, owing to the volume of honey to be packed, factory costs are reduced and a surplus results, such surplus to be paid to producers by way of a bonus.

2. PACKED HONEY:

Where honey is packed into retail containers by a producer under an arrangement with the Department, the price to be paid is the wholesale rate set down by the Price Fixing Tribunal, less 12 1/2%. Such packers to participate in any surplus payment if one should result.

The following are details of matters arising out of the Emergency Regulations:—

- (1) **BULK HONEY:** Unless otherwise arranged, the 70% of the monthly extractions to be supplied to the Department should be packed in bulk tins.
- (2) **RETURNS:** Two forms "A" and "B" will be forwarded to you as soon as possible hereafter. The information in "A" is required for statistical purposes and should be completed and sent in immediately on receipt. Form "B" is a return to be sent in at the end of each month.

These returns are necessary to enable the Emergency Regulations to be carried out, and failure to send them in promptly will constitute a breach of the Regulations.

- (3) **CONTRACTS:** These regulations CANCEL all contracts made for the sale or supply of honey for the 1942-43 season.
- (4) **FREIGHTS:** The Department will pay all rail freights over 120 miles on honey consigned to the Department or the Department's stores. Freights will be paid from the producer's nearest railway station or port on honey packed into retail packages under an arrangement with the Department and delivered to the Department's instructions.
- (5) **PERIOD OF REGULATIONS:** These Regulations apply to the 1942/43 season only. Should events make it necessary to review the Regulations at the end of next year, naturally this will follow as a matter of course.
- (6) **PENALTIES:** The Regulations are subject to the Emergency Regulations Act, 1939, and the penalty for a breach of the Regulations is not exceeding £100.
- (7) **MEETINGS:** When possible, meetings of beekeepers will be arranged in various parts of the Dominion when a representative of the Department will discuss with producers any difficulties arising out of the Regulations with a view to their smooth and efficient working.

In the meantime, we trust that beekeepers will realise the importance of their product being classed as an essential foodstuff and that the Department will have their willing co-operation in carrying out this war measure by making honey available for supply to all services to the fullest extent.

Please note that, while it is required that 70% of the monthly product must be at the disposal of the Department, producers can supply up to 100%.

Yours faithfully,

INTERNAL MARKETING DEPARTMENT.

A. H. HONEYFIELD,
Manager.

PRICE OF BEESWAX.

Office of the Price Tribunal,
Dept. of Industries and
Commerce,

22nd August, 1942.

Mr F. Kirker,
Secretary,
National Beekeepers' Association,
PUNGAREHU.

Dear Sir,

Information has reached the Tribunal that many of the Beekeepers are selling Beeswax at prices higher than the price authorised under the Price Stabilisation Emergency Regulation, 1939, and in doing so are committing an offence under these Regulations.

Their doing such constitutes an actionable breach of the Price Regulations and the Tribunal would appreciate your pointing out to the members of your Association the seriousness of such action.

The Tribunal would be pleased to receive your acknowledgment of this letter.

Yours faithfully,

for the Price Tribunal,

H. L. WISE.
(Member.)

HONEY CONTROL BOARD.

Beekeepers have already been advised of the Regulations now in operation, that require producers to place not less than 70% of their production at the disposal of the Internal Marketing Division.

The Regulations are designed to ensure that the armed forces, prisoner-of-war parcels, military hospitals and overseas' commitments will receive a substantial portion of the season's output.

Last season the Division had no honey with which to supply the 500 tons allocation to Great Britain, and the amount available for essential war services was over 1200 tons short of requirements.

At the last annual conference of The National Beekeepers' Association, those present made it clear that steps must be taken to ensure that essential war-time services shall receive a substantial portion of the season's output, and with that object in view a resolution was passed agreeing to the Division having the protection of regulations that would provide the Division with 50% of the beekeeper's production.

Since the beekeepers held their conference, the position has become more acute due to the increased demand for honey, and producers are now asked to make 70% of their crop available to the Division instead of the 50% that was believed to be adequate some six months ago.

Beekeepers will no doubt appreciate the fact that their industry is officially recognised as of war-time importance. Adequate supplies of petrol, sugar for bee feed, special consideration in the matter of tyres and exemption from military service have been granted the commercial honey producer. This serves as clear-cut evidence of the value placed on honey by the responsible authorities. The Honey Control Board has assured the Government of the full co-operation of the producers in the matter of obtaining the objective for which the Regulations were designed.

It should be made clear that the Division will be glad to accept the

full 100% of a beekeeper's crop, provided of course that the honey measures up to the recognised minimum grading standard.

It should be emphasised that the latest Regulations now in operation are to be regarded as a war-time measure to meet an unprecedented situation created by war-time conditions.

WALLACE NELSON,
Chairman, Honey Control Board.

PRESERVED FRUIT IN HONEY SYRUP.

Written by Mrs. Herron, Waikaka,
Southland.

This is a simple way of using honey for anyone in the habit of preserving fruit.

The syrup may be made as sweet as desired, but in my home I find the following quantities sweet enough for our liking. I have only tried bottled fruit with a mild-flavoured white honey. This makes a pale, golden syrup in the lighter syrup and deepens colour if made stronger.

SWEET FRUITS.

2 lbs. honey to 6 pints of water. Gooseberries, plums, and other fruits with a sharpness about them—3 lbs. honey to 6 pints of water.

Method: Take honey and water and bring to the boil for a few minutes; then skim froth off top or strain through a cloth. Set aside till cold. Prepare fruit in usual way and pack in jars. Fill up with cold syrup and lightly screw on lids. Stand on platform in copper, in water up to the necks, bring to boil and continue boiling for usual time. Have a kettle or pot of remainder of syrup at boiling point when fruit is cooked, and overflow jars; put on rubbers and screw tight.

Last summer I tried out red cherry plums, small yellow plums (name not

known), large yellow egg plums, large dark blue plums, and Satsuma plums. These all kept well and were good to eat and did not get that bitter stone taste that so often spoils the flavour of bottled stone fruit.

I tried out various times of processing with these plums, and found that anything more than *one* minute at boiling point caused the skins to crack, and in some cases, the fruit to float. For the plums I used the syrup at the sweet rates—3 lbs. of honey to 6 pints of water. This quantity does about 8 jars, quart size.

Nectarines are delicious and do not lose their colour as in sugar syrup.

Pears look very well in the golden syrup and taste even better, with a rich flavour that is missing in sugar bottled fruit.

I also did peaches, apricots, and blackberries. All the fruit kept well. Some I have had two years, and in my opinion it has a much better flavour than sugar bottled fruit, to say nothing of the improvement in quality.

Preserving fruit with honey, when properly carried out, invariably results in a better article in every way. Preserving with honey instead of sugar is just as simple and anyone who tries it will, I am sure, be highly pleased with the results, and have the satisfaction of knowing that they are supporting home industry and producing a much more wholesome article.

When bottling fruit I have always used a mild-flavoured high-grade white honey.

With a view to a possible shortage of sugar, and to the great benefit that would accrue to the community, both honey-producers and fruit-growers should advocate the use of honey in the preserving of fruit.

(To be continued.)

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“THE N.Z. BEEKEEPER”

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