

The New Zealand Beekeeper

AUGUST 1960



The National Beekeepers' Association

(Incorporated)

PRESIDENT:

Mr. J. R. Barber, *Pio Pio*

VICE PRESIDENT: Mr. J. W. Fraser, *Ryal Bush, No. 6 R.D., Invercargill*

EXECUTIVE: Mr. D. F. Penrose, *Southbridge R.D., Canterbury*
 Mr. J. D. Lorimer, *Hoopers Road, Hamilton*
 Mr. J. I. Jay, *Reporoa R.D.*
 Mr. J. K. Bray, *Leeston, Canterbury*

GENERAL SECRETARY: Mr. R. A. Fraser, F.Comm.A., *P.O. Box 19, Foxton*

EDITOR: Mr. J. McFadzien, *29 Nottingham Cres., Calton Hill, Dunedin, S.W.1*

<i>Branch</i>	<i>President</i>	<i>Secretary</i>
FAR NORTH	Mr. W. G. McPherson, R.D. 111, Kaitaia	Mr. W. I. Haines, Bonnetts Road, Kaitaia
NORTHLAND	Mr. A. G. Tucker, 35 King Street, Whangarei	Mr. H. R. Holdaway, Alamein Ave., Onerahi, Whangarei
AUCKLAND CENTRAL	Mr. H. Belin, 88 East Coast Road, Milford	Mr. L. Reisterer, P.O. Box 45, Papatoetoe
SOUTH AUCKLAND	Mr. J. I. Jay, Reporoa R.D., Rotorua	Mr. T. S. Wheeler, Otewa Road, Otorohanga
BAY OF PLENTY	Mr. D. A. Barrow, Byecroft Avenue, Tauranga	Mr. A. H. Benson, No. 1 Rimu Street, Tauranga
HAWKE'S BAY	Mr. A. Foster, 400 Gascoigne Street, Hastings	Mrs. G. O. Dorward, P.O. Box 86, Havelock North
C/S. HAWKE'S BAY	Mr. D. L. Ward, Guy Street, Dannevirke	Mr. R. B. Jones, c/o. Hospital Board, Dannevirke
NELSON	Mr. L. T. Cropp, 7 Surrey Road, Richmond, Nelson	Mr. A. V. Hewlett, 11 Mules Street, Stoke, Nelson
WEST COAST	Mr. R. V. Glasson, Blackball	Mr. T. Holland, Wecmink Road, Karoro, Greymouth
CANTERBURY	Mr. P. R. Robins, c/o. Post Office, Tai Tapu	Mr. D. G. King, P.O. Box 353, Christchurch
SOUTH CANTERBURY	Mr. A. H. Simpson, Main North Road, Geraldine	Mr. J. G. McKenzie, Bathgates Road, Waimate
NORTH OTAGO	Mr. W. Irving, P.O. Box 65, Kurow	Mr. H. S. Wilson, 2C R.D., Oamaru
OTAGO	Mr. E. Shepherd, 31 Warden Street, Dunedin	Mr. A. J. Shaw, 40 Signal Hill Road, Dunedin
GORE	Mr. F. J. Glass, Waikaka Valley, No. 5 R.D., Gore	Mr. C. R. Donaldson, Pomahaka R.D., Tapanui
SOUTHLAND	Mr. C. Cunningham, Winton, Southland	Mrs. A. W. Cranstoun, Beecroft, Hamilton Burn, No. 2 R.D., Lumsden

THE NEW ZEALAND BEEKEEPER

Published Quarterly in February, May, August and November, by
the National Beekeepers' Association of New Zealand (Incorporated)

J. McFadzien, Editor

Subscription,
8/- per annum, post free

Registered for transmission by post
as a Magazine

Volume 22

August, 1960

Number 3

Editorial

THE AUCKLAND CONFERENCE

The important business of the 1960 Conference was to consider proposals arising from the report of the Investigating Committee. These were, first that the rate of the seal levy be increased to 1½d. per pound and its incidence extended and, second, that the Association's direct representation on the Marketing Authority, by nomination, should cease. Prior to the Conference the Executive had expressed appreciation to the Government for the overdraft facilities which have now been provided for the Authority, and had noted the failure of the application for assistance to producers by way of subsidy.

Having in mind the probability that the higher levy would have to be found by producers from the existing price schedule, and in view of the narrow margins obtainable through the present marketing channels, the Conference was not prepared even to consider an increase in the levy rate. The proposed wider scope of the levy was also rejected on the grounds that its difficulty of collection would make it impracticable and tend to bring the system into disrepute.

It is an indication of the desire for continued progress that with no other source of additional revenue in sight, the Conference then supported the proposal of an annual registration fee for apiaries as a means of promoting the welfare of beekeepers in New Zealand.

The Conference agreed to a reduction in the size of the Honey Marketing Authority by the cancellation of direct representation from the National Beekeepers' Association. This representation was originally provided for at the request of the industry and was of value in the formative years of the Authority. It is hardly necessary to stress that a close liaison between the two bodies is still of the utmost importance in our administration, and the point was well made during the discussion that producers have the opportunity of achieving this objective by electing members of the Executive to serve on the Authority. In giving its endorsement this year to the nominations of Mr. J. R. Barber and Mr. J. W. Fraser it can be said that the Executive has offered the electors two men of the highest calibre and with a clear appreciation of the Authority's functions.

ANNUAL REPORT

GENTLEMEN,

During the course of our Conference last year, we were advised that the Government had decided to adopt a suggestion made by the Chairman of the Honey Marketing Authority and set up a committee to make an investigation of the Beekeeping Industry in this country.

Full opportunity was given producers, both as individuals and groups to make submissions to the committee, which travelled widely throughout both Islands and made a thorough first-hand study of the industry and its problems. As a result of an interim report furnished late last year, the Minister of Finance agreed to the adjustment of the Stock Debt referred to by the Authority Chairman in his address.

AUGUST 1960

3

The Minister has agreed to the full report of his committee being made available to producers and we must thank him and his officers for their co-operation in helping the Executive to have copies circulated for study prior to this Conference. While no one would suggest that the Industry should necessarily order its affairs in accordance with the report of this or any other committee, it is perhaps salutary to have the power given us, to paraphrase the words of Robert Burns, "to see ourselves as others see us."

Apart from the adjustment of the Stock Debt already referred to, the committee has not recommended the forms of financial assistance which had been sought by the Executive and the H.M.A. over the past two years. It is apparent that the only form of assistance which Government is prepared to approve is by way of an increase in the incidence and/or the rate of the Seals Levy.

In view of this, and despite our past resistance to such suggested increases, the Executive was not prepared to reject the Committee's recommendation out of hand without reference to the Industry at this Conference, but at the same time a prior assurance was sought that the increase in the levy would be recovered by a commensurate increase in the Honey Price Order as the Committee itself envisaged. **This assurance has not been given.**

The Executive also felt that Conference should be given an opportunity of expressing its views on the question of Direct Representation of the Association on the Authority as you will note from the Remit Papers.

The hazardous nature of our craft and its uncertain rewards has again been demonstrated in several areas where partial crop failures have been experienced. In one area of complete failure considerable hardship has befallen producers and it is obvious that the Industry must seek some means of alleviating the financial burden of those in such disaster areas if they are to remain in production. The Executive has already initiated enquiries in Government circles to see if such assistance can be obtained.

The reasons for the apparent failure of clovers to secrete nectar in some areas, notably the Waikato, remain unexplained and have caused concern not only to beekeepers but also to farmers who have supported our efforts to have a study made of the problem. The investigations are at present in progress and we look forward to some light being thrown on the matter at an early date.

Your Executive heaved a sigh of relief with the passage of the Agricultural Chemicals Bill, with its provision for beekeeping representation on the Board set up under the Act. From the reports furnished by our representative, Mr. Pearson, it will be seen that all parties concerned are proceeding to administer the Act in a spirit of goodwill, and it is indeed comforting to know that the interests of beekeepers are being fully considered in this important and expanding phase of agricultural activity. Some disquieting losses of bee-stocks apparently attributable to chemicals and hormone preparations still come to notice and it is obvious that a considerable amount of further work will be required before losses are reduced to a satisfactory minimum. To date one of the chief obstacles has been the lack of research staff to conduct post-mortem analyses to establish the exact causes of death and the Executive will continue to press for an improvement in this necessary service.

However, your Executive feels that the importance we have attached to pesticides over recent years, justifiable though it has been, has tended to overshadow an older and ever present danger: Those diseases to which bees have always been subject in this country.

The incidence rates disclosed in departmental reports cannot be accepted as showing the true position by anyone with a practical knowledge of beekeeping, and must tend to encourage a dangerous complacency, for which we as beekeepers must accept some share of responsibility.

Beekeepers have not been making the fullest use of the part-time inspection system. Apart from the question of pay and allowances, one of the chief factors making beekeepers reluctant to undertake this work seems to be a sense of

futility. Year after year, busy commercial producers engaged on part-time inspection spend much valuable time opening hives which are broken apart only on these visits and for the remainder of the year serve only as a source of swarms, sending hundreds abroad to irregular shelters, creating an everwidening circle of problems.

Commercial honey production in this country has surely reached a stage when we should be freed from the plague of neglected hives in the hands of amateurs and a much higher standard of apiary management insisted upon. If the present Act is not strong enough to permit of prosecution in gross cases, then the Act should be strengthened.

It should be added that there are many hundreds of amateur beekeepers whose hives are inspected for whom commercial producers have sincere admiration.

ASSOCIATION ORGANISATION:

The appreciation felt by producers for the work and function of the Association in Industry affairs continues to be reflected in the maintenance of a healthy membership. The level of income from all sources has been preserved during the past year and in some cases improved although the rising level of expenses under today's conditions is proving a restricting influence on the present work of the Association.

Considering the limitations of finance, our quarterly journal, "The New Zealand Beekeeper," has been retained to a commendable standard, reflecting great credit on the Editor who was obliged to work under a considerable handicap in excluding valuable material in issues of reduced size. Branch activities, at least in the case of the larger branches, appear to have been maintained to a satisfactory level by comparison with previous years. There is apparent, however, a very real need for a complete re-organisation of our thinking on branch functioning if the Association is to fulfill its purpose of assisting beekeepers with their problems and of equipping beekeepers to meet the challenge of growing competition in the business world. Being an efficient honey producer is no longer a sufficient guarantee of success and the future programming of branch activities should be designed to assist members in gaining a much broader experience in commerce, public speaking, activity planning, public relations and associated matters if both beekeepers as individuals and the Association as their corporate strength are to progress. A tremendous stimulus can be given to branches if present draft schemes for re-organisation can be implemented. Regrettably their introduction again depends on the adequacy of Association finance.

We must again record our appreciation of the services rendered by officers of the Apiary Section. It seems that some reorganisation is taking place within the Department of Agriculture. We have not been advised of its nature, and can only guess at its ultimate effects. In this connection it is disturbing to read, in the "Commercial Grower" of December, 1959, that a deputation of growers should have been told by the Deputy Director of Agriculture in the presence of the Minister, that changes within the Department were no business of producers. This attitude we must emphatically protest; the maximum benefits of the advisory service provided by the Department can only be gained by a close link between producer and Department, such as obtained in the past, and will certainly not be increased by clumsy administrative procedures, imposed without reference to producers the Department is to serve.

I would like finally to express my thanks to the members of the Executive for assistance given me throughout the year and to acknowledge on your behalf the Association's appreciation of many hours and some personal expense which they have devoted to the Industry's problems. To this I add a sincere acknowledgement to our Editor, Mr. McFadzien, and to the General Secretary for the manner in which they have attended their respective duties, in many cases undertaking considerably more than their appointments required of them.

Despite the sacrifices involved, I too have enjoyed the opportunity for service and look forward to the possibility of making further contributions to the Association and the Industry's welfare in the future.

J. W. FRASER, Dominion President.

REPORT OF INVESTIGATING COMMITTEE

The Report of the Committee set up by the Minister of Agriculture is a document of 113 paragraphs which gives a comprehensive review of honey marketing in New Zealand and makes recommendations on future policy.

After the Minister had studied the Report he supplied copies to the Executive and the Marketing Authority for their consideration.

On June 20 and 21 the Executive met and decided that Conference should be given the opportunity of considering the Committee's recommendations.

Before placing the recommendations on the Conference agenda, however, the Executive took the following steps:—

- (1) It obtained from the Minister permission to publish the Report and it circulated copies, together with comments from the Executive and the Authority, to members of the Association.
- (2) It held interviews with the Investigating Committee and the Secretary of the Price Tribunal to seek clarification regarding the incorporation of the seal levy in the price structure.
- (3) It agreed that consideration of any increase in the seal levy should be subject to prior assurance of a compensating increase in the price.

In effect, the Executive gave Conference the prerogative of deciding the issues after discussion among Branches, and it went out of its way to provide members with the fullest possible information on which to base their decisions.

H.M.A. ELECTION

An election of two producer representatives for the Honey Marketing Authority will be held during September. Nominations were to close on August 17.

The Marketing Regulations are designed to assist honey producers; therefore every elector should exercise his right to take part in their administration. A full poll will indicate a vigorous industry.

New Executive Members

Messrs. J. D. Lorimer and D. F. Penrose are the two new members on the Executive this year. Mr. Lorimer, who has served previously, is a prominent Waikato beekeeper who needs no introduction. Mr. David Penrose, of Southbridge, is a young member, a competent and thoughtful speaker, and a son of one of our best and best-known beekeepers, Mr. T. F. Penrose. (Tom is now living, let us say in semi-retirement, in Christchurch).

U.K. HONEY MARKET

(Reprinted from the Bank of New Zealand Produce Report of July 15, 1960).

Supplies of New Zealand have continued very scarce on this market and only the darker grades have been available. White Clover Canadian is in good demand at prices ranging from £140 to £147 10s. per ton according to quality, the lower price being for a slightly off-colour honey. Big sales continue in Argentine and prices have advanced. Australian also has advanced in price and Light Amber quality is scarce. Medium Amber is quoted at about £85 per ton, c.i.f. U.K., London.

An earlier Report, dated 20/5/1960, states that supplies of New Zealand honey have been practically unobtainable. Unfortunately, the market which had been built up both in the United Kingdom and on the Continent of Europe for better grades of New Zealand honey now appears to have been almost entirely lost owing to no supplies coming forward from New Zealand. White Clover Canadian is now being supplied for this trade and good sales have been made in the region of £146 per ton.

Pollination Trials

An important part of the Auckland Conference was that devoted to a talk by Mr. T. Palmer-Jones, of Wallaceville Research Station, describing the results of recent trials in pollination by honeybees. This matter is one of great significance to beekeepers as it gives an assessment of the place of beekeeping in the Dominion's agricultural economy. The results of Mr. Palmer-Jones' work in this field and the conclusions drawn from it are being prepared by him for publication.

Hormonised Fertilisers

Claimed to be Harmless

Hormonised fertilisers are not harmful to bees in spite of recent publicity on the subject, Dr. B. W. Doak, director of the New Zealand Fertiliser Manufacturers' Research Association has said.

He was commenting on statements made at the annual conference of the National Beekeepers' Association in Auckland.

"It is quite unfair to single out hormonised fertilisers, as the inference is that these are more harmful than hormone sprays," he said. "Actually, neither is toxic to humans, animals, birds or insects, as has been proved repeatedly in several countries."

—Press Assn.

Sir Edmund Hillary

Sir Edmund's forthcoming expedition, which includes seven New Zealanders and five Americans, will leave London for the Himalayas in September.

Among equipment will be tripwire cameras and two air guns firing hypodermic syringes loaded with a knock-down drug. These will be used if the expedition comes face to face with the legendary snowman.

The attempt to climb Mt Makula without oxygen will probably be made in the spring, after the party has spent several months living at high altitudes to test the effects on the human body.

Personal

We have learned with regret that Mr. W. B. Bray has taken ill on his return home from Conference and at the time of our going to press he was receiving treatment in hospital. We know all readers will join with us in sending him a word of cheer and our best wishes.

N.S.W. Marketing Policy

A proposal to set up a Honey Marketing Board has been the subject of earnest discussion among New South Wales beekeepers and the annual conference of the Commercial Apiarists' Association, on the motion of Mr. A. Eastley, approved the proposal in principle. Subsequently, however, when a poll of beekeepers with over 100 hives was held the project was turned down by a small majority.

N.Z. Tariff

Australian beekeepers are pressing for a reciprocal tariff on honey imported from New Zealand.

The Carton Makers

Visitors to Conference viewed honey cartons in the making when a large gathering accepted the hospitality of Messrs. Frank M. Winstone Ltd., at their Cardea factory. Courteous guides were on duty to demonstrate the intricate and highly mechanised processes of turning out the finished cartons, and the guests were later entertained at a sumptuous spread of refreshments.

Another party had the pleasure of visiting the Mono carton factory in Panmure, where they received a cordial welcome from the management.

Mr. Chudley Retires

Mr. W. H. Chudley retires shortly from the position of Manager of the Honey Marketing Authority. Coming to the Authority at its inception in 1953, Mr. Chudley has been a loyal and conscientious officer during the difficult formative years of the organisation. It was largely due to his efforts that the Authority was able to secure the favourable building site now in use, and he has had the satisfaction of seeing the property becoming established as the marketing headquarters of the industry in New Zealand.

Mr. and Mrs. Chudley are planning an extensive trip overseas in the course of which they will stay with members of their family living abroad. We wish them many years of interest and relaxation in their retirement.

New Manager Appointed

Mr. Colin T. Gosse has been appointed as the new Manager of the Honey Marketing Authority and he commenced duties on August 22. Mr. Gosse is 35 years of age, married, with three children.

An Aucklanders by birth, Mr. Gosse was educated at the Seddon Memorial Technical College. At the age of 16 he joined the staff of the Auckland Farmers' Freezing Company but continued his studies at evening classes and completed the examinations of the Chartered Institute of Secretaries (A.C.I.S.) and the N.Z. Society of



CARDEA HONEY CARTONS are PRECISION MADE

You can have complete confidence in CARDEA Honey Cartons because they are high quality containers. They are precision made to the highest possible standards and are subjected to rigid inspection and testing at every stage of manufacture. CARDEA Honey Cartons are sturdy, less expensive, have high sales appeal.

Promote your honey the modern way. Pack it in attractively designed and printed CARDEA Honey Cartons and watch your sales grow and grow!

Made by CARTON SPECIALTIES LTD., Auckland, and distributed by—

Frank M. Winstone (Merchants) Ltd.

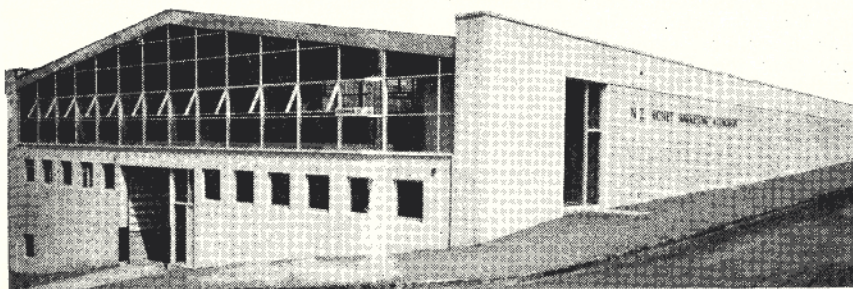
71-79 CUSTOMS STREET EAST, AUCKLAND.

South Island Representatives: C.S. Agencies Ltd., 249 Moorhouse Avenue, Christchurch.

Accountants (A.R.A.N.Z.). During his 16 years with the company he gained experience in the processing, packaging and marketing of meat products. In 1957 he was appointed secretary of the Alliance Freezing Company, the new £4,000,000 works recently commissioned just out of Invercargill. Actually he was the third member of the staff to be appointed and he saw the works grow from nothing to a fully productive concern in the last 3½ years.

Mr. Gosse has been an active member of the N.Z. Institute of Management and at the time of his appointment he was secretary of the Southland Centre of the Chartered Institute of Secretaries.

As a newcomer to the honey industry we welcome Mr. Gosse to his new position and we hope he will have a long and pleasant association with the beekeeping fraternity.



VISIT TO AUCKLAND BUILDING

At the invitation of the Chairman, Mr. W. W. Nelson, those attending Conference visited the new building of the Honey Marketing Authority in Parnell. Situated on sloping ground the building is a substantial and attractive structure, the main floor and smaller basement having a total floorspace of over 20,000 sq. ft. On a mezzanine floor are the spacious offices of the Authority and the building also includes a laboratory and modern staff facilities. The plant includes fork-lift trucks, ovens, blending equipment and cool-rooms.

There was general admiration of the

fine property now at the service of the industry. Some disappointment was expressed that the opportunity had not been taken to invite representatives of the trade and the press in order to gain some prestige and helpful publicity for the honey industry. There was also some criticism of the packing procedure and the results being achieved by it, and suggestions as to means of bringing about improvements were discussed.

Members of the staff served afternoon tea and co-operated in the display and their assistance was very much appreciated by the visitors.

HONEY TINS

We can promptly supply your requirements
ALL SIZES MAY NOW BE SUPPLIED

J. GADSDEN & Co. Ltd.

P.O. BOX 94, AUCKLAND

P.O. BOX 216, CHRISTCHURCH

P.O. BOX 14, PETONE

P.O. BOX 669, DUNEDIN

New Executive Meets

A brief meeting of the Executive was held at the close of Conference when all members were present except Mr. J. W. Fraser who was absent on Conference business.

REPRESENTATION ON H.M.A.

The matter of liaison between the Association and the Marketing Authority was considered in the light of the decision terminating direct representation by nomination. In view of the general opinion expressed at Conference that the Executive should offer candidates for election to the Authority in order to maintain a close understanding between the two bodies, it was agreed that the Executive should adopt the policy of giving its endorsement to approved candidates.

The forthcoming election was then discussed and it was decided unanimously that the candidature of Messrs. J. R. Barber and J. W. Fraser should be endorsed by the Executive.

CARTON PRICES

The possibility of an increase from 3% to 25% in the duty on imported board for carton manufacture was viewed with deep concern by the Executive as this is an important factor in honey marketing costs. The Secretary was instructed to write to the Minister of Customs protesting against the proposed increase, at least until such time as New Zealand board is available to meet local requirements.

Nominations Endorsed



Mr. J. R. Barber is a commercial beekeeper in South Auckland and has taken an active part in industry affairs for over 20 years. As a producer of bulk honey he has been directly concerned with the operations of the Authority and the interests of

suppliers. As far back as 1939 Mr. Barber was elected to the Dominion Executive and he has been prominent in Association work since that time. For the last three years he has held the office of Vice-President and the Conference this year conferred on him a well deserved honour by electing him Dominion President.



Mr. J. W. Fraser commenced commercial beekeeping in Southland after returning from World War II. He packs a limited amount of honey for his local market and is a supplier to the Authority. Mr. Fraser's energy and progressive outlook

are known throughout New Zealand and for the past four years he has been Dominion President and the Association's representative on the Marketing Authority. In his conduct of Association affairs his dignity and assurance have brought credit to the beekeeping industry. Mr. Fraser is this year Vice-President of the Association.

BEESWAX

**BEST MARKET PRICES FOR
PURE CLEAN WAX**

*CASH on receipt of Wax and Invoice.
Write NOW Stating Quantity available.*

C. O. PRODUCTS LTD.

P.O. Box 7035
WELLINGTON
Telephone 88-199

ANNUAL CONFERENCE

The annual Dominion Conference was held in Auckland on July 26, 27 and 28. The President, Mr. J. W. Fraser, was in the chair and there was a good and representative attendance.

The Mayor of Auckland, Mr. D. M. Robinson, was present to extend a cordial welcome to delegates and he wished them a successful Conference and an enjoyable stay in the city.

A message was received from the Minister of Agriculture, the Hon. C. F. Skinner, expressing regret that he was unable to attend and open the Conference.

A letter conveying greetings from Mr. A. L. Eastley, of Goulburn, Australia, was read by the President.

Apologies were received from Messrs. H. Belin, L. Riesterer, W. I. Haines and Chris Dawson.

Opening Address

Mr. A. M. W. Greig, Director of the Horticulture Division, in the opening address gave a survey of the beekeeping industry and the work of the Division during the past year.

Marketing Authority Address

The Chairman of the Honey Marketing Authority, Mr. W. Nelson, gave an address dealing with the operations of the Authority. The Conference went into Committee while a number of questions were answered, and delegates were then invited to visit the Authority's new building and plant that afternoon.

At a later stage of the Conference, in the light of the inspection of the premises, there was a further period of questions and discussion.

Agricultural Chemicals

Mr. T. E. Pearson, the Association's representative on the Agricultural Chemicals Board, gave a full report of the inaugural meetings of the Board and its approach to the problem of controlling pesticides to prevent harm either to humans or to beneficial insects. Delegates expressed satisfaction with the steps which have been taken and appreciation of the work of Mr. Pearson in the interests of beekeeping.

Report and Financial Statement

The President presented the Annual Report and the Secretary read the Financial Statement and after a full discussion these were adopted.

The General Account showed a credit balance of £111 7s. 10d., compared with a debit of £128 3s. 1d. last year. The credit in the Trust Fund stands at £447 15s. 0d.

Letter from Minister of Agriculture

Before introducing the remits the President read the following letter from the Minister of Agriculture:—

WELLINGTON,
July 22, 1960.

Mr. J. W. Fraser,
Chairman, National Beekeepers' Assn.,
P.O. Box 19,
FOXTON.

Dear Mr. Fraser,

I have studied the submissions your Executive presented to me on June 21 on the findings of the Committee which reported on the honey marketing scheme. It is pleasing that there is such a large measure of agreement with the Committee's conclusions. I am also glad to know that the industry approves the provision the Government has made for financial accommodation for the Honey Marketing Authority.

I welcome the Executive's decision to support the Committee's recommendations for a change in the membership of the Authority, and upon the seals levy. I believe, however, that the Association should be prepared to renounce its right to nominate a member of the Authority this year instead of in two years time. This is not to reflect in any way on the contribution which the Association's representatives have made to the Authority's affairs. On the contrary the Association has been most ably represented. I have become convinced however, that in this industry it is wrong in principle that one member of the Authority should be responsible primarily to the Association and not directly to the electorate of producers. This does not mean that leading members of the Association, or some members of its Executive, should not also hold office on the Authority. There is much to be said for this and there should be co-operation and consultation between the two bodies. In my view, however, all the producer members of the Authority should be the elected representatives of the producers, and

the proposed reduction of the membership of the Authority from six to five should be made this year.

I am glad to see that the Executive proposes to recommend to the industry that the seals levy should apply to all honey sold in retail containers, and that the levy should be increased to 1½d per lb. Confirmation of this recommendation by the industry will do much to demonstrate its support for the Authority and strengthen the Authority's reserves during the next few years. I note the qualification to the Executive's proposal on the increase in the levy but it will be necessary for the industry or the Authority to take up with the Price Tribunal any question of the inclusion of the proposed increase in levy in the price structure. If the levy is increased, I should be prepared to consider an amendment to the Regulations to increase the annual sum the Association may draw from the seals levy fund for administration purposes, but I think it would be preferable not to make hard and fast rules about the proportion of the levy which should be applied to honey advertising.

To my mind there need be no confusion about the respective functions of the Honey Marketing Authority and the National Beekeepers' Association on which the Executive asked me to express my view. The Authority is a statutory body charged with the duty of promoting and organising the marketing of honey produced in New Zealand. Its powers are restricted to those conferred upon it by the Act and the Regulations under which it is constituted, which also specify its functions. The Association on the other hand should represent the industry in all matters which concern beekeeping in general. So long as the Association can show that it commands the confidence of the great majority of producers I am sure that the Government will look to the Association to express the views of the industry.

I should like to say in conclusion that the various recommendations of the investigating Committee which I set up form an integrated whole and should not be regarded as unrelated proposals. The Government has done its part towards promoting the stability of the marketing scheme by acting on the recommendations the Committee made on the Authority's finances. I look forward now to the industry's acceptance of the measures which the

Committee recommended should be adopted on representation and on the seals levy.

Yours faithfully,

C. F. SKINNER,
Minister of Agriculture.

At this stage a delegate asked Mr. Nelson, through the chair, whether it had been found possible to enforce the embossing of seals on tins at the point of manufacture.

Mr. Nelson: No. They say it is not practicable.

REMITTS

Marketing

(Executive) "That the rate of the Seals Levy be raised to 1½d. per lb., and the proceeds be applied as follows:

- (1) Up to one-fifth to be set aside for advertising;
- (2) Up to £1500 per annum to be made available to the N.B.A.;
- (3) The balance to be used as an industry fund."

The President reminded Conference that the Executive had brought forward the remit as recommended by the Minister's Committee, but subject to the Executive's obtaining, in the meantime, an assurance that the increase in the levy would be recoverable by an adjustment in the Price Order. In the absence of such an assurance he asked permission to withdraw the remit.

A delegate objected to the withdrawal. The President then gave members the opportunity of considering the remit, but it lapsed for want of a mover.

(Executive) "That, in line with the recommendation of the Minister's Committee, the Association relinquish its direct representation on the Honey Marketing Authority at the expiration of the current term." (Moved by Mr. J. W. Fraser and seconded by Mr. G. Gumbrell pro forma).

Mr. R. Hillary suggested that the change would make the Association less effective. He felt that the benefits of representation had been shown at meetings of beekeepers and he hoped it would continue.

Mr. Gumbrell, quoting from his experience on both bodies, said that no real reason for the change had been given. There are special conditions in the beekeeping industry, he said, and if the Authority is an "industry body" surely it must bear in mind every aspect of the industry. Nothing but

good had come from N.B.A. representation and he opposed its cancellation.

Mr. J. R. Barber: I was on the Executive at a time when we were unfortunately at cross purposes with the Authority and I therefore supported the provision to promote understanding. Representation has been helpful up till now but it should not be so necessary in the future if suitable elected members are obtainable.

Mr. W. B. Bray moved as an amendment "that the words 'at the expiration of the current term' be deleted and the word 'forthwith' be substituted." He considered that as a matter of principle N.B.A. representation, if desired, should be obtained by the ordinary elective process.

Mr. J. I. Jay seconded the amendment on behalf of the South Auckland Branch.

Mr. J. Glynn claimed that the existing system had worked well in the past and the free exchange of information had been valuable in giving producers confidence in the Authority.

Mr. W. J. C. Ashcroft compared producers with shareholders in a business. He said that straight-out election was correct in principle and the electors should have confidence in their elected representatives.

After several other speakers had spoken in support, the amendment was approved and the remit, as amended, was then carried.

A remit asking for the embossing of seals on all retail containers at the point of manufacture was withdrawn in view of the statement by Mr. Nelson.

Another remit requesting that the N.B.A. allocation from seals revenue be increased from £1000 to £1500 was also withdrawn after consideration of the letter from the Minister.

(Canterbury) **"That the Government be requested to alter regulations to allow licensed transport operators to carry bulk liquid honey from producers' honeyhouses to packing plants."** (R. Newton/R. Holland).

Rail freight is entirely unsuitable for bulk honey unless it is securely cased, said Mr. Newton. Even granulated honey suffers heavy damage which could be avoided by road transport.

Mr. Holland quoted instances of damage in transport and said that the railways would probably be glad to be relieved of this class of freight in view of the trouble, and the claims for damage, they had experienced.

Mr. Lorimer warned delegates that the application might endanger the transport privileges at present enjoyed by beekeepers.

Mr. P. Berry also referred to the rights now extended to honey producers and said that care should be taken not to disturb the existing conditions.

An amendment adding the words "that further we support Federated Farmers in their move to obtain de-licensing of transport" (W. B. Bray/ T. F. Penrose) was lost.

A further amendment reading "That in view of the unsatisfactory position with the transport of bulk liquid honey by rail the Executive consider supporting the move by Federated Farmers to have transport de-licensed" (L. Holt/A. Deadman) was also defeated on the grounds that beekeepers had a special case which might be lost sight of in supporting de-licensing generally.

The remit was carried.

(South Auckland) **"That the H.M.A. reserves be kept to a minimum until such time as the Authority is in a position to pay suppliers more than the cost of production."** (T. Wheeler/A. Deadman).

Since the Authority started the Government has embarrassed us with requests for loan repayments, said Mr. Wheeler, and even now there is no assurance that the one per cent overdraft will always be available. Excessive reserves could prejudice our position and they should not be built up until realisations are sufficient to cover production costs.

Mr. D. F. Penrose: Suppliers are asking for a payout, based on assistance from seal revenue, which will be more than local packers can equal. It would upset our regular marketing channels.

Mr. R. Bennie: But the packer is at liberty, under the law, to increase his price. If the Authority can pay more it should do so.

Mr. Ashcroft: Why are reserves necessary, and what will they be used for?

Mr. Nelson: Reserves must be related to marketing conditions and supplies received; more or less might be required. Reserves are for unforeseen circumstances, for example modifications of plant and advertising programmes, and this year we have certain expenses with the change of managers. Then there are seasonal fluctuations—if we had a big season



"Don't get much time to make honey (puff)—takes me all my time getting back to the hive. Believe me, obstructed hives mean obstructed bees. We slow up and your production suffers. If you sprayed the hive approach with a Phytazol you'd get maximum production and we'd have harmony in the hive. See your Weedone Service Distributor—NOW!" *Don't waste valuable bee-hours.*

SPRAY GRASSES AND WEEDS AROUND HIVES WITH

Phytazol^{*}

Your Weedone Distributor will advise whether you want Phytazol A, C or S.



* REG. TRADE MARK

IVON WATKINS LIMITED, P.O. BOX 144, New Plymouth

with sales at a low figure overseas as much as £20,000 of reserves might be wiped out.

Mr. W. B. Bray: The remit is a drive by suppliers to dissipate our valuable reserves. Theoretically the Authority could pay out 10d. per pound more than last year and the packers could not compete against that. But the Authority could never provide the service that packers give if it received, say, 5000 tons.

Mr. R. Gregory said that the hypothetical payouts mentioned would not be possible with a prudent Authority. The form of the remit gave a sufficient safeguard.

Mr. J. K. Bray: We are approaching a position of unbalance and the problem is to see that no sections are hurt. That could have happened this year if a maximum payment had been made.

The remit was carried.

(South Canterbury) "That the H.M.A. Regulations be amended so that shareholders in a Limited Liability Company can obtain a franchise similar to that enjoyed by partners in a registered partnership." (S. Clearwater/J. Watson)

After some discussion the remit was lost.

(South Canterbury) "That all 30 and 60lb. tins of honey be exempt from honey seals." (Clearwater/Watson).

Opposing the remit, Mr. Lorimer said the industry needed more financial resources and should not lose the opportunity of revenue from sales of 30 and 60lb. tins.

Mr. A. R. Palmer moved as an amendment "That we urge revision of the Regulations to provide that seals levy be no longer payable on packs above 10lb. net weight." This is the logical dividing line, said Mr. Palmer, and the Regulations would then be self-policing, if the tins could be embossed at the point of manufacture. An unenforceable law is a bad law.

Mr. Deadman seconded the amendment which was then accepted by agreement.

Mr. J. H. Hawley, supporting the remit, said it would encourage producers to advertise their honey locally to the benefit of the industry generally.

The remit as amended was carried, Messrs. Lorimer and R. Gregory asking to have their votes recorded against it.

(Far North) "That the Regulations be amended to remove the restriction on

advertising of honey." (Rev. J. Graham/W. B. Bray). Carried.

(Central Southern Hawkes Bay) "That a receiving centre be established in Palmerston North to receive honey from the lower part of the North Island to assist the producers in this part, with the object of eliminating high freight charges, and that packers be afforded the opportunity to buy from this depot at H.M.A. graded prices." (D. L. Ward/P. Berry).

Mr. Ward said the proposal would reduce the freight charges to producers and facilitate distribution in an area remote from existing depots.

Mr. E. D. Williams, opposing the remit, said it was impossible to have depots in all districts. It was also pointed out that packers have the opportunity of going direct to producers if desired.

The remit was lost.

(Canterbury) "That the State Advances Department define in writing the ultimate ownership of the H.M.A. building when loan commitments have been fully met."

The remit was amended by agreement to read as follows: "That the Government be requested to amend the Honey Marketing Regulations to provide that when the loan from the State Advances Corporation is finally paid off, the title to the property be transferred to a limited company to be formed by the allotment of £1 shares fully paid to all producers who have contributed to the funds that have been applied to the payment of the debt, on the basis that each year all producers who have supplied honey or paid for seals for honey packed or for honey supplied to packers, be allotted provisional shares proportionately with their contributions in relation to the amount paid each year to the State Advance Corporation." (Note: Provisional shares could be transferred to other provisional shareholders with the approval of the Honey Marketing Authority). (W. B. Bray/T. F. Penrose).

Mr. Bray said that the people who contributed and paid for the property should get possession and under this remit the ownership would be defined in a just manner.

Mr. Bennie: I oppose the remit. In the first place there is confusion over who pays the levy. The building should be vested in the Authority for perpetuity.

Mr. K. Ecroyd: If the Authority ceased and the building was sold, who would receive the surplus—the consolidated fund or the suppliers and seals purchasers?

Mr. Nelson: We are paying off the building. I would say that if it is sold the equity would be at the disposal of the industry. For the Government to take the equity would be theft.

President (Mr. J. W. Fraser): I agree with Mr. Nelson. The Authority was created by statute and can be destroyed only by statute. Disposal of assets would be a matter for discussion between the industry and the Government.

Mr. Williams suggested that the Executive bring down a report. The scheme would be complicated and more details should be obtained.

Other speakers thought the proposal would prevent the loss of assets supposedly belonging to the industry, as had occurred when the Marketing Department was wound up.

The remit was carried by 25-22.

Research and Production

(South Auckland) "That the N.B.A. apply to the Agricultural Chemicals Board to prevent the application of hormonised fertiliser, and other insecticides, affecting bees and clover production on pastures after the month of October and up till the end of February." (Jay/Lorimer).

Mr. Jay quoted cases of damage to both bees and clover and asked for every reasonable precaution.

Emphasising that beekeepers should ask for nothing except necessary restrictions, Mr. Lorimer mentioned an instance where 1300 acres had been treated with Hormophos during December resulting in decimation of the clover and a serious reduction in bees and the honey crop. It was important now to get the evidence checked on a scientific basis.

Mr. Holt: Hormones and insecticides must be used. All we should ask for is the restriction on time of application.

Mr. Gumbrell said that weeds, especially thistles, are so serious that we should not obstruct measures to combat them. He moved as an amendment "That Conference support the Executive in endeavouring to secure protection against the use of insecticides and hormones which can be detrimental to bees." The amendment, seconded by Mr. J. Watson, was lost.

The remit was then carried.

(South Canterbury) "That a permit be granted for the importation of a number of the recently developed hybrid queens from America or Australia for trial purposes. The entry of the queens bees to be under the supervision of the apilary section."

This remit was discussed by delegates in groups, each group reporting its findings to the Conference. There was general agreement that new stock was desirable, preferably under Government supervision. On the other hand there was no real evidence of the benefits to be gained, much could be achieved by breeding from proved strains in New Zealand, and the risk of disease could not be ignored.

At the invitation of the President, Mr. T. Palmer-Jones assessed the risk of introducing acarine disease. The disease had been spreading to new countries overseas, and could be carried by the queens themselves. Its introduction would be a disaster to New Zealand beekeeping.

On a vote being taken the remit was lost.

(Otago) "That the Department of Agriculture be asked to explore the possibility of finding assistant inspectors to work full time for a period of say up to three months in one area."

This remit was also considered in group discussions. It was generally agreed that a tougher inspection is needed but that more co-operation from beekeepers is desirable. The remit was carried.

(South Canterbury) "That the Apiary Instructors be under the direct control of the Superintendent of the Beekeeping Industry." (Clearwater/Watson).

Asked to comment on the position, Mr. Greig referred to two points. First, the relationship between producers and reorganisation within the Department, as mentioned in the Report. The term "not a matter for producers" had not yet been clarified, either by the Minister or by the Public Services Commission, but his Division had always regarded it as the producers' business and normally tendered proposals to producers before implementation. Second, the Public Service Commission is following more and more the policy of supervision within each district. These two points needed clarification.

The remit was carried unanimously.

(Southland) "That in all cases where American Foul Brood is discovered by

Apiary Instructors adjoining producers be advised." (Glynn/Glass). Carried.

A remit asking for a reprint of "Beekeeping in N.Z.," by Mr. T. S. Winter, was withdrawn after Mr. Smacllic had explained that existing stocks had been temporarily withdrawn for revision.

(South Canterbury) **"That the Agriculture Department's experimental apiary be moved to a more suitable location and that more use be made of it."** (Clearwater/Watson). Carried.

(Southland) **"That in view of reports from overseas of successes obtained by hybrid breeding, the Department be asked to resume its work with artificial insemination and queen breeding."** (Glynn/Ashcroft).

Mr. Glynn mentioned the good results that had been obtained in Australia from imported hybrids.

Mr. Bird: Dadant's hybrid strains take six years to develop and are not intended to produce breeding stock. Their value in New Zealand seems doubtful and a programme of selective breeding would be preferable.

Mr. T. E. Pearson: A full-scale breeding project would be an impossible task for officers in the Division and would detract from their normal work. This should be left to the queen breeders.

Mr. McFadzien suggested that in view of the import ban a modified programme within the resources available might be well worth while.

The remit was carried.

(Bay of Plenty) **"That the present policy regarding the venue of Conference be reviewed, and the previous policy be re-instated, namely, two Conferences in the North Island to one in the South Island, with every third Conference held in Wellington."** (R. Gregory/Holt).

An amendment "that the Conference be held in Wellington every year" (D. F. Penrose/Gumbrell) was lost and the remit was carried.

(Southland) With the consent of Conference this remit was altered to read **"That in the interests of better beekeeping and with a view to placing the Association in a secure financial position, Conference supports the introduction of an annual registration fee on apiaries, the amount collected, less cost of collection, to be administered by the National Beekeepers' Association."** (McFadzien/Glynn).

Mr. McFadzien suggested that an annual fee would discourage the ownership of neglected apiaries which were a constant source of danger to established beekeepers.

Mr. Glynn quoted the benefits enjoyed by non-members as a result of the Association's work and said that if the industry is to be properly organised it needs the support of all producers.

Opposing the remit, Mr. W. B. Bray described it as taxation without representation.

Mr. Nelson, in support, said that a similar proposal was made 25 years ago. On the basis of 5/- per home yard and 2/6 per outyard he assessed the total revenue at about £2000 per year. As well as providing finance it would help to eliminate the careless beekeeper.

Mr. T. F. Penrose: There are many problems such as Branch allocations, voting strength, etc., and the matter should be fully investigated before action is taken.

Mr. W. T. Herron said that the revenue from such a fee would be beneficial to the industry, especially in dealing with the spray danger, and the system would also bring to light the apiaries at present unknown.

After considerable discussion the remit was carried by 31-16.

(Gore) **"That any Government scheme for land settlement should make comparable provision for financial assistance to establish beekeepers."** (Glynn/Gumbrell). Carried unanimously.

(South Canterbury) **"That Conference investigate the desirability of obtaining N.B.A. buttonhole badges, as issued to original members of the Association."** (Clearwater/Watson).

After discussion the remit was lost by 19-21.

(South Auckland) **"That the N.B.A. undertake another crop report along the same lines as the previous one and that the paper be sent out in the May issue of the 'Beekeeper' with 'IMPORTANT, PLEASE RETURN IMMEDIATELY' boldly printed on it."** (Jay/W. B. Bray). Carried unanimously.

Advertising

(Far North) **"That the Honey Marketing Authority advertise the food value of honey."** (W. B. Bray/Watson).

Considerable discussion took place on the merits of different forms of advertising, and the remit was carried.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

President: The nominations were Messrs. J. R. Barber and J. W. Fraser, and on a ballot being taken **Mr. J. R. Barber** was elected.

Vice-President: Nominations were Messrs. J. K. Bray and J. W. Fraser, and **Mr. J. W. Fraser** was elected.

Executive: North Island nominations were Messrs. R. Gregory, R. Hillary, L. Holt, J. I. Jay, J. D. Lorimer, D. L. Ward, E. D. Williams. South Island: Messrs. J. K. Bray, D. F. Penrose, J. Watson, Messrs. G. E. Gumbrell and T. E. Pearson declined nomination.

Those elected were: N.I.—**Mr. J. I. Jay** and **Mr. J. D. Lorimer**. S.I.—**Mr. J. K. Bray** and **Mr. D. F. Penrose**.

Messrs. Moir, Campion and Mason were re-elected auditors.

Life Member

On behalf of the Executive, Mr. Jay expressed pleasure in bring forward the nomination of Mr. A. R. Bates as a Life Member of the Association. Mr. Bates was well known through his long service to the industry commencing in Taranaki in the very earliest days of the National Beekeepers' Association. He had served on the Executive and as Dominion President and was highly esteemed as a beekeeper and more recently as one of the Dominion's leading queen breeders. Mr. Jay expressed regret at Mr. Bates' absence owing to the illness of Mrs. Bates following an accident.

Seconding the nomination, Mr. E. W. Sage referred to Mr. Bates' early activities in the industry both before and after his service in World War One, and the honour of Life Membership was richly deserved.

Mr. Bates was then elected to Life Membership unanimously and with acclamation.

Mr. Bird replied on behalf of Mr. Bates expressing his regret at being absent and his keen appreciation of the honour conferred upon him. He agreed to convey to Mr. and Mrs. Bates the best wishes of Conference.

Conclusion

In closing the Conference the President, Mr. J. W. Fraser, thanked Departmental Officers for their attendance and Executive officers and Branch members for their work during the year. He particularly congratulated Mr. Barber on his election as Dominion President. "No man deserves the honour more than Jim Barber," he said, "and I am sure he will measure up to the task." In view of the decision made at Conference he said that he would now ask the Minister to terminate his representation of the Association on the Authority at the earliest convenient date. Bearing in mind the general opinion that future co-operation should be obtained through elected representatives, he announced that he and Mr. Barber had agreed to accept nomination at the forthcoming election. He extended best wishes to all in the coming year.

Mr. Barber, in acknowledging his election as President, said he was glad to have the support and assistance of Mr. Fraser and he hoped to uphold the high standard which had been set by his predecessors.

Mr. Lorimer rose to express appreciation of Mr. Fraser's services during his term as Dominion President. "Rarely have we enjoyed such efficient chairmanship and such dynamic leadership," he said, "and rarely has our organisation been so ably represented." The thanks of the Conference were conveyed by acclamation.

— NICHOLAS' — FOR ECROYD'S "ACORN" WEED PROCESS COMB FOUNDATION

— Rail Wax to Henderson Station and advise —

T. R. W. NICHOLAS

New Address : 11 COVIL AVENUE, HENDERSON

HONEY MARKETING AUTHORITY

ADDRESS OF CHAIRMAN, MR. WALLACE NELSON,
AT THE DOMINION CONFERENCE, 1960

MR. PRESIDENT, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I am appreciative of the action of your Executive in arranging this Conference in Auckland and therefore providing you all with an opportunity to visit our new premises and see for yourselves what has been established by the Authority in the matter of a building, plant and general equipment to provide a marketing service to the Industry. On behalf of the Authority I extend to you all a cordial invitation to inspect our headquarters this afternoon.

I presume those present will have read in the May issue of "The Beekeeper" the report of our operations and the financial statements for the year ended August 31, 1959. I feel therefore it is not necessary for me to take up the time of the Conference with a repetition of what has already been circulated. I will be happy, however, at the conclusion of my address, to answer any questions concerning the report or on matters relevant to the responsibilities of the Authority.

Payout on Honey Received by the Authority for Season Ended August 31, 1959

The overall average payout for graded pro rata honey reached the record figure of 13.10d. per pound. After providing for this payment to suppliers there was a surplus of £6,017. This sum was added to our general reserves which now stand at £23,770. The volume of honey received dropped to the low level of 494 tons in consequence of one of the worst producing seasons on record. The more remunerative local market absorbed a much greater proportion of our season's production than would normally be the case. As the result of a fairly heavy carry-over from the previous season the total tonnage marketed during the 1958-59 season was 1,298 tons. This represented 1,007 tons sold overseas and 291 sold locally in bulk or packed tins. The shortage of the top grade honey was a source of great embarrassment to our overseas agents. In this particular class of business our supply was short of demand.

For the 10 months period up to June 30 of this year—the closing date of acceptance—our intake was 804 tons—this figure was an obvious improvement on the 494 tons received the previous season but it is not sufficient to make our operations fully economic. The season was below average in production but better than the previous one. The fact of the new season's honey coming on to a comparatively low stocked local market no doubt adversely affected supplies to the Authority, especially top grade quality.

Pro rata Payment Increased to 10d. per lb.

In accordance with my statement at your last Conference the Authority abandoned the contract system that had previously operated and as an alternative the pro rata advance payment for the past season was increased from 9d. to 10d. per lb.

The Local Second Pack

At your Conference of a year ago I quoted figures showing the extent to which overseas prices had collapsed due to the unloading of oversupplies particularly from countries with heavily depressed currencies—the position has not improved over the past 12 months. This particularly applies to the light amber and lower colour honey and unfortunately approximately 80% of our available supplies are in this category.

These were the circumstances that brought about a unanimous decision by the Authority to launch a second pack on the local market. The price quoted for this pack will nett us a much higher price than it is possible for us to obtain under the existing chaotic conditions overseas.

I believe our efforts in this direction will inspire producers of this class of honey with renewed confidence in the Authority and will arrest the drift to competitive selling by individual producers. In an effort to increase local consumption and stabilise the price the Authority is spending a considerable sum advertising the new pack and reports to date are most encouraging.

Our New Premises and Packing Plant

It was fortunate for us that the installation of our new plant was completed and came into operation early last year.

By blending the various lines of the darker honey into a standard uniform line of colour and flavour we were able to improve our nett return well above the level that would have been possible for the honey in unblended condition as received from the producer.

Our plant has a blending and packing capacity of 25 tons per week and with some additional equipment this output could be considerably improved if necessary.

Repayment of Overdraft and Indebtness of £71,187 to Treasury

As the Industry well knows this debt existed prior to the Authority coming into existence. The circumstances under which it was originally incurred have been frequently explained in your Journal and I am sure you will require no further elucidation from me. The terms of settlement of this debt are in accordance with the representation I made to the Minister on behalf of the Authority some two years ago.

This settlement provided that on payment of the debt the Reserve Bank would grant us a fluctuating overdraft on the same low rate of interest as granted to certain other marketing boards. As a result adequate finance to meet advance payments on all honey received by the Authority is now guaranteed to our suppliers.

Appreciation of Assistance from the Hon. C. F. Skinner, Minister of Agriculture

Our success in achieving this satisfactory solution to a major issue that so seriously affected the financial stability of our organisation would not have been possible without the support of the Honourable C. F. Skinner, Minister of Agriculture.

In my interviews with the Minister I have at all times found him keenly interested in our problems and most anxious to assist towards finding a solution to them.

Retirement of our Manager, Mr. W. H. Chudley

Some months ago Mr. Chudley intimated to the Authority his wish to retire.

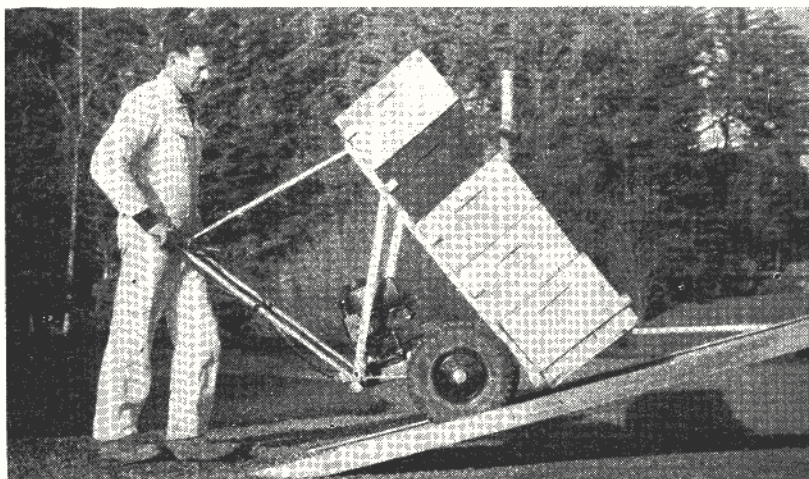
He generously offered to remain with us until the end of October and initiate his successor into the position he is vacating. This will ensure that our new Manager will have an opportunity to become familiar with every phase of our operations ere he takes over full managerial responsibility.

As you well know Mr. Chudley was appointed when the Authority came into existence about seven years ago, under circumstances when our future was extremely precarious. We were charged with the responsibility of finding new premises, designing a packing and blending plant—liquidating a carry over debt of £100,000 and finding an outlet for an accumulated surplus of over 1,000 tons of honey. The responsibility of a manager under such circumstances was very great indeed and Mr. Chudley discharged his many difficult tasks in a manner that reflected great credit on himself. I am glad to take this opportunity to thank Mr. Chudley for his unflinching support and assistance to me personally during my term as Chairman. I am sure everyone will join me in wishing Mr. and Mrs. Chudley a very happy future and we trust that their planned extensive trip to Europe will more than measure up to all they anticipate.

Mr. Chudley's successor is Mr. C. T. Gosse, of Invercargill. Mr. Gosse is a young man with a most impressive record of efficient administration in the position he is vacating as secretary and office administrator of one of the largest primary producer co-operative organisations in the country. Mr. Gosse has the highest accountancy and costing qualifications and he comes to us assured of the unanimous support and goodwill of all members of the Authority. Mr. Gosse will join us next month and at a later date arrangements will be made for him to visit the principal producing centres where producers will have an opportunity to meet him and discuss their problems.

I feel this brief review I have given you of the position of the Authority portrays a much brighter picture than has been possible at any time since the Authority came into existence. Our financial position is sound—we are assured of adequate overdraft accommodation to meet payments to our suppliers. Our stocks on hand are low—indeed to an embarrassing extent in certain grades—our premises are complete and our plant is operating satisfactorily.

This surely should encourage producers to look to the future with greater confidence in the stability of our organisation and in its stronger position to provide the Industry with an efficient marketing service.



MOTORIZED WHEELBARROW

The Answer to Shifting Hives

These machines are proving satisfactory to large operators as well as one-man concerns. Hives can be loaded in pairs, or in four or five boxes, with crop on, at the rate of one hive per minute. Honey lifted off hives onto pallets is wheeled up and right into position on the truck four supers at a time. The machine is light and can be carried on top of the load. It can also be used as a handbarrow in the honeyhouse.

Delivery in approx. three months. N.Z. Patent No. 123,398.

Hire Purchase Terms Available

North Island inquiries direct to

D. L. WARD

KINTAIL APIARIES, GUY STREET, DANNEVIRKE

**SPECIALISTS
IN HONEY AND BEESWAX
FOR OVER HALF A CENTURY**

KIMPTON BROS. (RED CARNATION) LTD.

RED CARNATION HOUSE, POULTRY, LONDON E.C.2

CABLES: KIMBROS LONDON

**Kimpton
Bros.**

**Britain's Largest
Importers of Honey**

Department of Agriculture

Horticulture Division



ADDRESS TO 1960 CONFERENCE BY MR. A. M. W. GREIG, DIRECTOR, HORTICULTURE DIVISION

In opening this conference I should like to emphasise two points—the importance of bees to New Zealand agriculture and the importance of beekeepers to the New Zealand community.

Many of the economic plants grown by man, including about 50 kinds of fruit and seed crops, require or are improved by insect pollination and of all the insect pollinators the most important and sometimes almost the only pollinating agent is the honey bee. Through recent surveys it has been shown that 95% of fruit tree pollination is done by honey bees whilst on leguminous crops such as clovers, the ratio of bees to all other pollinating insects is 20 to 1. More intensive agriculture has reduced the areas of waste land required by beneficial insects and the increased use of agricultural chemicals has reduced the numbers of pollinating insects. Agricultural crops requiring pollination are thus becoming more and more dependent on the honey bee.

The annual value of honey and beeswax are estimated at over £¾ million. But the value of bees to agriculture has been estimated at 15 to 20 times the combined value of honey and beeswax or approximately £15¼ million (£15,710,500).

But in my official capacity I associate more closely with beekeepers than with bees and it is some of your characteristics as beekeepers which are worthy of recognition. In these days of larger and larger organisations the beekeeper can be recognised by his independence and individuality, traits which should not be permitted to die out in the community. Although all farmers have to contend with or co-operate with nature yet beekeepers have a unique challenge to meet—the bee. Despite real heavy labour in handling 60lb. tins of honey of 80lb. supers of honey combs and despite back aches and bee stings the beekeeper has an independent way of life that should always be his. It was not by accident that the conqueror of Everest was a beekeeper. Although a beekeepers' conference when roused may sound like the buzzing of an angry hive yet I'm sure that as beekeepers through the new methods of discussing problems at your conferences, you should find that you can make a greater contribution towards obtaining facts and reaching decisions and at the same time be able to retain your individuality. It is my opinion that these new group methods of discussion are essential to a dynamic democracy in which everyone should think and everyone attending should have some contribution to make towards a conference decision.

Historical

This year 1960 is the Golden Jubilee of the Journal of Agriculture which was first issued in June, 1910. It is surely unique that one of the first contributors to that Journal was Mr. W. B. Bray, a Bee Instructor, who is today, 50 years later, still playing his part in the industry and attending conference.

Mr. Bray was one of the two Bee Inspectors of 1910, but N.Z. was a large area for two men to cover on bicycles in their efforts to control such a disease. A bulletin also was written by Mr. Bray in 1910 in which is fully described the

causes, symptoms and measures which should be undertaken by beekeepers to check or eradicate disease. The treatment recommended by Mr. Bray reduced the incidence of this disease and from the 1920's onwards economic beekeeping on a commercial basis became possible.

Bee Diseases

Today the most serious disease of bees present in New Zealand continues to be American foulbrood (*Bacillus larvæ*). I am assured that it is impracticable to eradicate this bacterial disease from the country so strict control measures, based on a policy of burning infected hives has been continued in conjunction with assistance from beekeepers acting as part time apiary inspectors. The monies provided in the estimates for the past three years and what was actually spent was as follows:—

	On Estimates	Spent
For year ending March 31, 1958	£ 1250	£ 1299
For year ending March 31, 1959	£ 1400	£ 1159
For year ending March 31, 1960	£ 1360	£ 1303
For year ending March 31, 1961	£ 1350	—

In relation to the number of hives inspected the degree of infestation was 1.42% but if taken as over all the registered hives the infestation was 0.31%. I am not convinced that this lower figure is realistic, although I realise that inspection is concentrated on hives which are not as well managed as by most commercial beekeepers. I think the time has arrived for a comprehensive review to be made regarding the control of and inspection for American foulbrood and will initiate discussions with your executive on the subject.

Another bee disease has been recorded during the year. This is an external acarine mite, *Acarapis externus*—NOT the mite which causes the serious Isle of Wight or Acarine disease. However it is of significance that the presence of this disease was not detected by New Zealand beekeepers, Divisional Apiary Instructors or by the Departmental diagnostic service at Wallaceville but by the Australian quarantine services which last month, identified this disease in escort bees on arrival in that country. This led to the destruction of a small consignment of queen bees to Australia last month. This mite is regarded as harmless and lives externally on the bee's neck. It has world wide distribution and failure to identify it earlier in New Zealand seems surprising. Specimens have been forwarded to Rothamsted, Hertfordshire, England, for confirmation of the Australian and New Zealand identifications.

Unauthorised Introductions of Bees

This leads me publicly to express my concern regarding the attitude in many quarters to the surreptitious introductions of bees, plants, seeds or anything which might introduce new serious diseases into this country. The advent of faster and faster air travel has made it very much easier to bring undesirable living organisms into this country. The public of Auckland has recently become well aware of a serious bacterial disease of citrus against which an eradication campaign is being waged. Acarine disease to beekeepers is what citrus canker is to the citrus grower or foot and mouth disease to the livestock producers of this country. Because of the presence of this disease in Europe and in South America (Argentina and Peru) there are strict quarantine procedures to cover the importations of bees. In fact during the past five years there have been no authorised importations of bees. Unauthorised importations could lead to the introduction of Acarine disease with serious repercussions on the beekeeping industry. It is not being smart to be a smuggler of bees into this country.

This naturally leads to the question. Why does anyone wish to import bees? The answer is to improve the breeding stock. However here it is necessary first of all to establish that new introductions would actually result in an improvement of bees. Although most commercial strains of bees in this country are Italian bees bred from imported queens it has taken many years of selection and breeding under controlled mating conditions to establish the high quality strains of Italian bees in this country. Local breeders of queen bees are doing an important and essential service for the industry and this could easily be nullified by the introduction of new strains which might prove to be undesirable as it takes a long time to eliminate undesirable strains of bees once they have become

established. I look forward to hearing the views of qualified beekeepers, queen breeders and research and advisory staff on this subject.

Agricultural Chemicals

An important Bill affecting the beekeeping industry was passed as the Agricultural Chemicals Act during the 1959 session of Parliament. This Act governs the application of all agricultural chemicals and the importance of this legislation to the Beekeeping Industry was recognised by the National Beekeepers' Association being authorised to nominate a member of the Board which has been established to administer this Act. As a member of the Horticulture Division has been appointed as Registrar, the Association and the Division are equal partners on the Board for the promotion and proper use of these chemicals and to reduce their adverse effects on bees.

Beekeeping Research, Field Experimentation and Diagnostic Services

Later at this conference Mr. Palmer-Jones, of Wallaceville, will be speaking on some aspects of recent beekeeping research so I shall only make a brief mention of a few aspects.

For many years as beekeepers you have expressed concern that some bee losses might be due to various agricultural chemicals but the major difficulty was to make a prompt diagnosis which was not too laborious either in the laboratory or in the field. I am very pleased to be advised by the diagnostic service at Wallaceville that a simple and quick method has now been devised by testing the effects of dead bees on living flies. Flies have been found to be good indicators and are very sensitive to small amounts of poisonous agricultural chemicals. This quick test on a small sample of bees will not show which chemical has affected or killed the bees but it will indicate whether the bees' distress was due to a chemical factor.

Advisory Services

The apiary section of the division has been numerically at full strength during the year but two senior members—Mr. R. S. Walsh, Honey Grader, and Mr. C. R. Paterson, Apiculturist, were seriously ill and off duty for a period. Both are now back at work but Mr. Walsh has not resumed honey grading. Honey grading duties have been undertaken by Mr. D. Roberts during the season.

Mr. Paterson has now prepared for the use by Apiary Instructors an excellent series of over 500 colour slides illustrating beekeeping techniques, various types of apiary equipment and the main floral sources of nectar. The present service covers 16 subjects and some additional series are in course of completion.

In addition Mr. Paterson has designed and assembled the apiary feature displayed in the Department's Show Exhibit at A. and P. Shows and Winter Farm Schools each year. These features, and particularly the one designed for this year's North Island circuit, have been of a very high artistic standard and excellent for their educational value. The theme of this year's North Island exhibit is to show the Growth of the Honey Bee in its various stages by means of models set within hexagonal panels.

Eighty-three lectures and demonstrations and 13 radio talks covering many aspects of apiculture were given by members of the Apiary Section, and 20 separate articles on beekeeping as well as the monthly seasonal notes were published in the Journal of Agriculture. This is a very good record from a small specialised section totalling 13 men in all. Visitors such as Dr. E. J. Dyce of Cornell University, U.S.A., and Mr. A. L. Eastley, of Goulburn, New South Wales, have emphasised that New Zealand beekeepers have the best advisory service they have seen in any part of the world. That qualified opinion should not be overlooked.

National Diploma in Apiculture — N.D.Ap.

After lengthy negotiations with the Examining Board of the Royal New Zealand Institute of Horticulture I am pleased to announce that the Institute is prepared to recommend the establishment of a National Diploma in Apiculture. This diploma requires that a holder must have a minimum of six years' practical experience in handling bees and have passed in nine written papers and two oral and practical examinations followed by a thesis on a special subject approved by the Examining Board. Persons over 40 years of age who have had at least 20 years' active

beekeeping experience may on application and nomination by the National Beekeepers' Association be awarded honorary diplomas. It is hoped that the syllabus for this diploma will be gazetted before the end of this year. Honorary awards are only available for two years from the time the diploma is available.

Honey Crop

For the year ended May 31, 1960, the crop of honey produced was assessed at 5,470 tons. This was slightly below average—between 3% and 4%—the average assessment for the past six years being 5,780 tons.

These figures are obtained by Apiary Instructors in co-operation with beekeepers and are based on information supplied by beekeepers after drawing the honey from the hives and is the net surplus after leaving an adequate quantity for winter feeding. Crops above average were obtained in the Waikato, Bay of Plenty, Taranaki and Southland districts whilst in all other districts honey crops were below average.

A new procedure of crop estimating was introduced during the year, and the following terms were adopted:—

CROP FORECAST — obtained in months October, November, December. Based on seasonal conditions and honey flow.

CROP ESTIMATE — obtained in months January, February, March. Based on honey crops being harvested.

YEAR'S ASSESSMENT — based on the estimated total net surplus of honey for the year ending May 31.

Trends in the Beekeeping Industry Today

Statistics relating to the numbers of beekeepers and hive holdings have for many years been subdivided into: Domestic beekeepers, with under 30 hives; Semi commercial beekeepers, with from 31 to 250 hives; and Commercial beekeepers, with 251 hives and over. The trend in recent years is for the number of domestic and semi commercial beekeepers to decline whilst the number of commercial beekeepers and their hive holdings have increased. For the two year period ending June 30, 1959, domestic beekeeping reductions are by 234 beekeepers and 1,340 hives and semi commercial beekeeping reductions are by 88 beekeepers and 4,227 hives. On the other hand commercial beekeeping figures show an increase of 5 beekeepers and 1,229 hives.

Final figures as at June 30, 1959, are 4974 beekeepers with 176,350 hives situated over 11,526 apiaries or hive sites.

The Future

During last month an Industrial Development Conference was held in Wellington and it is appropriate that the beekeeping industry too should take stock and consider what part it can play in New Zealand's development.

Beekeeping is so closely associated with agriculture and land use that future development depends more on intensive production than through new areas of land being brought into use.

As beekeepers I put this final question to you. "What would you do to improve New Zealand's beekeeping industry to meet the country's development in the next 25 years?" When you have decided the industry's greatest needs then I'll see what I can do to assist you through the Apiary Section of the Horticulture Division and its associated research services at Wallaceville.

It now gives me very great pleasure to declare the 1960 Conference of the National Beekeepers' Association duly open.

THE AUSTRALIAN BEE JOURNAL

Caters for both Amateur and Commercial
Apiarists

Subscription: 12/6 (Aust.) per annum
Published Monthly

VICTORIAN APIARISTS' ASSOCIATION
112 Whitehorse Road
RINGWOOD, VICTORIA, AUSTRALIA

I expect to pass through this world but once. Any good, therefore, that I can do, any kindness that I can show to any fellow creature, let me do it now. Let me not defer nor neglect it, for I shall not pass this way again.

BRANCH NOTES

HAWKES BAY

Our roving reporter visited Hawkes Bay on his way home from Conference and writes as follows: It is a land of surprises. Warm sunshine on July 31, lemon trees in the gardens, vineyards of 50 acres at a time, asparagus beds as big as 100 acres, and the largest bee farm outside America, 5000 colonies, managed in carefree style by Percy Berry. Well!

That brings us to the beekeepers. Ex-Editor Wilf Lennon, now in an important administrative position, the Ashcrofts with their spick and span honeyhouse, cheerful and competent Branch Secretary Mrs. Dorward—all living in a lovely area.

Heading south through beautiful country we called at the storied Shangri-la apiary of George Gordon, then visited Trevor and Mrs. Burden—well remembered for the scones at afternoon tea! At Norsewood lives Henry Adrian who knows how to make anything at all and has built a splendid honeyhouse, and at Dannevirke there is Gordon Telford, noted for his white honey and herring bone milking shed—20 cows at a time—and his enthusiasm. If you feel downhearted call at the Telfords.

Dannevirke is a thriving town and in it live the Dudley Wards—Mr. and Mrs. plus three. They have the most attractive premises one could wish for and the hottest fireside we have ever toasted ourselves at, north of the Waitaki.

Now for the rain belt, Woodville, Pahiatua, Ekatahuna—bush in the gullies and moss, or perhaps lichens, on the fence posts—and through to the Masterton plain.

The most practical beekeeper in New Zealand lives at Kopuaranga—Syd. Bubb (Mr. and Mrs. plus four, plus another very pleasant fireside). Masterton is sunny but windy. Further south we went out to Martinborough, home of veteran beekeeper Mr. A. A. Hoare, a connoisseur of country life. Then

back across the plain for a last view of the Wairarapa.

Dear Southland readers, do you know that at Featherston the trees lean away from the south wind, exactly the way they do at Orepuke and Colac Bay? If you don't believe it go and see for yourself.

One final marvellous thing to relate. We travelled far with our friend Sid Line and he put us on the train at Featherston without so much as a scratch. There is this to say about Sid's company, it is never monotonous.

It was a pleasure to be in Hawkes Bay and Wairarapa, and we thank our many friends, old and new, for their hospitality.

SOUTH CANTERBURY

Early in August the Branch held a "Winter" Field Day at the Home Apiary of Mr. H. Cloake. Canterbury and North Otago beekeepers attended in force. The morning of the day was devoted to reports of Conference, and to "free" discussion of the H.M.A. packing plant.

In the afternoon winter activities of beekeeping were dealt with, and Harry's wax rendering plant being in operation was appreciation by all. Apiary instructors Mr. I. W. Forster and Mr. G. Jeffrey supplied necessary technical advice to make the day a success for professional and amateur alike. Throughout the day the writer detected an undercurrent of apprehension at the inevitable approach of September with its seasonal apiary activity.

In conclusion the Branch President (Arnold Simpson) thanked Mr. and Mrs. Cloake for their hospitality, and expressed appreciation of the presence of so many visitors from other Branches. —Robert Davidson.

OTAGO

Among the members present at the last Branch meeting was Mr. Jim Horn who has now retired to live in Dunedin after keeping bees commercially for 21 years at Kyeburn. Mr. and Mrs. Horn are counted as friends by beekeepers throughout Otago and beyond, and their summer residence at Kyeburn was a well known and hospitable port of call on the road to Central. We wish them many years of interest and relaxation in their retirement.

The new proprietor of the Kyeburn apiaries is Mr Russell Poole, formerly a part-time beekeeper of Warepa, and also a member of the Branch. We extend our best wishes to Mr. and Mrs. Poole and their young family for a happy and successful life in their new venture.
—J. McF.

A SUGGESTION

The Editor has seen examples of the work of Mr. D. G. King (Canterbury) and Mr. R. B. Jones (Central and Southern Hawkes Bay), who are setting a high standard in Branch secretaryship. One idea they have adopted is to send members copies of the minutes either after each Branch meeting or enclosed with the notice of the following one. This is a real service to the Branch which is to be warmly commended. Perhaps a copy could be sent to the Editor!

Dunedin Convention

The Annual Convention of Otago and Southland Beekeepers was held in Dunedin on June 7. At the afternoon session Mr. J. Glass presided over a gathering of over 40, including some visitors from Canterbury. Mr. W. W. Nelson (Chairman, H.M.A.), in his address, discussed the recent operations of the Authority and outlined the main features of the new building and plant in Auckland. The second speaker, Mr. J. W. Fraser (Dominion President), dealt with the work of the Association during the past year and expressed satisfaction with the operation of the Agricultural Chemicals Act under which beekeepers have representation on the Chemicals Board. After questions had been answered the speakers were accorded a warm vote of thanks.

Mr. E. Shepherd presided at the evening session and addresses were given by Mr. D. W. A. Seal (Department of Agriculture) who spoke on queen-rearing, and Mr. Nelson who gave an illustrated talk about his recent trip overseas.

Members learned with regret that Mr. H. Winslade was in Balclutha Hospital and the meeting sent him a message of greetings and good wishes. Mr. Winslade is one of the pioneers and a highly esteemed member of the beekeeping community in the south.



ITALIAN QUEENS

1960-61

Quantity	Untested	Tested	Select Tested
1	9/-	13/-	16/-
2	17/6	25/-	30/-
3	25/6	36/-	
4	33/-	47/-	
5	40/-	58/-	
10	77/6	110/-	
20 and over	— 150/- per 20.		

SELECTED UNTESTED: Add 1/- extra per Queen.

BREEDERS: £3/3/- each (when available).

DELIVERY: November to April.

TERMS: Cash with order.

Cheques to have exchange added

Telegrams 1/- extra

Orders over 20 Airmailed free on request

Orders under 20, 2/2 extra

The development of these Queens extends over a period of 20 years, resulting in the creation of a hard working, high producing and non-swarming strain of gentle temperament.

Bred from disease-free hives under natural conditions.

Apply to —

F. D. WHITE

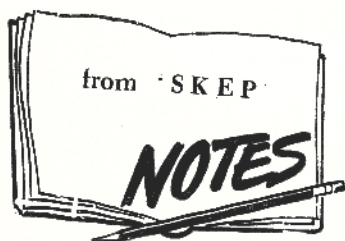
Commercial Queen Breeder,

P.O. Box 32,

KAMO, NORTH AUCKLAND.



N. Z. BEEKEEPER



for Beginners

As the first signs of spring appear you will notice your bees becoming active again and the queen laying her first hatch of brood. In the colder regions of New Zealand where no early spring flora is available little activity will be noticed till mid August. Take particular note of the brood pattern. It should be uniform and shaped in a semi-circle, varying in its stage of growth. Any cells with hollow caps, and discoloured, should be examined closely, by inserting a dry straw and ascertaining if the substance adheres, is ropery, or elastic, and brown in colour. If so, you have a case of Foul Brood. Pickled Brood responds differently, is watery in appearance, and does not adhere to the straw.

A hive does recover from Pickled Brood, especially if requeened. Do not attempt to treat a hive affected with Foul Brood.

An Approved Method in the Eradication of Foul Brood

Dig a hole two to three feet deep close by, wait till all the flight bees are home, then place a heaped teaspoon of cyanogas on the bottom board—close and leave for five minutes. This kills the bees. Remove the frames and bees carefully and place in a pyramid fashion over a fire in the hole. The supers and lid may be salvaged after thoroughly scorching them. It sounds a bit grim doesn't it? But believe me your first loss in such circumstances is the cheapest and most effective method of eradicating this disease.

Some Swarm Prevention Techniques

The best way to obtain the maximum crop of honey is to eliminate swarming by your early spring management. This is a fascinating study for one pits one-

self against the natural habits of most types of bees, and has to adapt himself to the weather conditions, strength of the hive, availability of stores, pollen, etc. It is not always practical to adhere rigidly to a set plan on account of all these factors but I will now outline the method I adopt in most cases.

During September and up to the middle of October I remove two or three combs of brood and plenty of bees from a hive and place above a division board. There must be an adequate supply of honey and pollen in both departments, for success. If you have a young queen or cell introduce to the nucleus, and re-unite prior to the honey flow. The check given to the colony prevents swarming and the re-introduction of the nuc gives a boost of young bees, brood and a queen at the right time. What about trying this method on a limited scale with your stronger hives for this season?

If successful you can plan to extend this technique to all your stronger colonies. A word of caution—do not attempt it on a weak colony or where you have insufficient stores to make the division. Remember you have two hives to maintain over a vital period where nectar sources may be limited.

INDIAN BEE JOURNAL

Know interesting facts concerning the Honey Bees of India. The only Bee Journal of India published in English. Subscription: Rs. 12/- or Sh. 17/6 (sterling) or \$2.75 per year (INTERNATIONAL M.O.). Sample copy 2/- or 25 cents. Can be had from: The Managing Editor, Indian Bee Journal, Naini Tal, U.P., India.



**YOUR HONEY IS GOOD BUT MODERN SELLING
DEMANDS AN ATTRACTIVE PACK BRIGHTER PRINT
MONO CARTONS ARE YOUR BEST SALESMAN**

DOES YOUR DESIGN SELL YOUR HONEY?

FULL PARTICULARS FROM:-

**FOLEY BROS. (N.Z.) LTD., BRANDON HOUSE,
FEATHERSTON STREET, WELLINGTON.**

MONO (N.Z.) LTD.,

HIGHWAYS CORNER, PANMURE, AUCKLAND.

Overseas Experience of Wallace Nelson — Chairman Honey Marketing Authority

(EDITOR'S NOTE: The following article was approved for publication in our May, 1960, number but at the last moment it was held over, along with some other items, owing to pressure on our space. We now acknowledge with thanks a donation from Mr. Nelson which enables us to provide space in this issue, and we have pleasure in presenting the article to our readers.)

Following on my report which appeared in the February issue of the Journal I have received a surprising number of friendly communications from readers (some from overseas) seeking information concerning the social and economic conditions in Russia. This is a subject I am very diffident about dealing with owing to my limited knowledge. I will, however, endeavour to describe what I actually saw together with the information I was able to glean during my short visit in Moscow.

My guide placed himself entirely at my service and my every request to see what I wished was cheerfully complied with. The only restriction was that I was not to take photographs of bridges over the river which were regarded as of great strategic importance.

HOUSING: The slum conditions of Moscow, which extend over a considerable area, are on a par with the worst I have seen in many cities of Great Britain. They represent a carry-over from the days of the Czar. The destruction suffered by the nation in two world wars is given as the reason for these slums still being in existence. The authorities are proceeding as fast as labour and materials will allow to replace these slums with modern up-to-date flats. The floor space allowed per person in these flats would be regarded as very inadequate by New Zealand standards. I was told that the aim is to have the slums abolished within the present seven-year plan. When this is accomplished the next move will be to allow more floor space per person in the flats. The rents charged by the State are remarkably small. I don't know whether this was due to a state subsidy or to a very highly efficient method of mass construction and production of building materials.

MOSCOW REBUILT: Moscow appears to have been rebuilt since the war. Great wide boulevards exist in areas that were formerly slums and narrow streets. Many of these boulevards carry twelve lanes of traffic (I believe some carry fourteen). Many have grassed strips in the centre with seats. Crossing these streets is not quite as hazardous as one might imagine owing to a very efficient system of traffic control. The streets were scrupulously clean. Anyone dropping a cigarette butt or a matchbox would be told smartly by some alert policeman to pick it up.

UNDERGROUND METROPOLITAN ELECTRIC RAILWAY: This is one of the outstanding sights of Moscow. There is nothing like it anywhere else in the world. The stations are lined with marble. No two stations are alike in design. Each station is dedicated to portray some phase of Russian life; artistic mosaic work in beautiful realistic colours portrays painters, musicians, scientists, philosophers, etc. The skilful electric lighting system showed up all this work with telling effect.

THE PALACE OF A FORMER RUSSIAN NOBLEMAN: This was one of many situated outside of Moscow and conveyed some idea of the life under the old Russian regime. These palaces are now the property of the state and many serve as museums. The palace I visited was furnished with priceless works of art. The building was situated in magnificent grounds. It was one of twenty formerly owned by a member of old nobility. My appreciation of the beauty of this place got a shock when I was told that in old Czarist days the owner of this priceless edifice also owned 30,000 serfs.

THE CHURCHES: I was curious to learn something of the official attitude to religion. I learned that some form of church service is held in most churches

every morning. I attended one of these services. All church buildings are State property. The state keeps them in good condition and makes the buildings available to the Orthodox Church and to religious organisations. The religious bodies must support themselves from contributions from their own members. They receive no state subsidy but as far as I could ascertain they pay no rent for the use of the buildings. There is no religious instruction in the schools and the church does not exercise any political power as it formerly did under the Czar.

STANDARD OF LIVING: The general cost of foodstuffs seemed to be much on a par with many European countries, which is much higher than in New Zealand. Certain luxury lines were very highly priced. The people were warmly and adequately clothed but for the most part the quality of the garments was not equal to ours. The children, however, were particularly well looked after. I visited a school — the little ones gathered round me full of fun and in obvious good health.

WAGES OF WORKERS: The difference in the wage level between the skilled and unskilled workers was much greater than it is in New Zealand. I was told that a skilled, efficient tradesman could earn more than double that of the labourer or unskilled man. My guide was a young man studying languages. He said he was not in a position to own a car but his uncle who was an engine driver was awaiting delivery of a new one.

Consideration for the Journal's limited space will not allow me to describe my visit to the Kremlin and to the great retail stores the largest of which employ 3,500 assistants.

Getting into Russia involved far less red tape and official form-filling than I experienced in any other country. The customs officials did not even examine my baggage or indeed that of any other tourist as far as I could see. The statements I made in the official form were accepted without question. On leaving I had some roubles left and in accordance with the usual procedure I handed them over to an official at the airport. Two weeks after my arrival in New Zealand I was advised by my bank manager that a credit for the full exchange value of the roubles had been placed to my account. This is in sharp contrast to the harsh treatment the tourist is subject to in certain other countries I visited.

HOTEL ACCOMMODATION: My hotel had 1,500 rooms. My room was the essence of comfort in every respect with a private bathroom. The food provided was in great variety and in ample supply. Dinner in the evening was a big affair. Excellent musicians entertained the guests. A very friendly gesture (which at the same time gave me a very real feeling of nostalgia) was the playing of Auld Lang Syne and sung around the tables by many of the guests in their own language towards the close of the evening. It was an incident that moved me deeply and served as some evidence of what humanity yearns for in human relationship.

The sentiment of this famous old song that has moved the heart of millions over the years was, I think, well expressed in a sentence of a speech delivered by our Prime Minister, Mr. Nash, recently in Leningrad thus — "Let us overcome the old hatred that divides us. Let us get rid of doubts and suspicions. Let us look for the way to establish trust and seek a common language."

WALLACE NELSON, Chairman

Honey Raisin Cakes

Two ounces butter, 1 oz. castor sugar, 1 (or 2) oz. honey, 3 oz. flour, 1 egg, ½ teaspoon baking powder, 1 dessertspoon milk, 2 oz. raisins. Cream butter, sugar and honey, add egg and beat very well. Stir in other ingredients and chopped raisins. Put in greased patty pans—about 20 minutes in medium oven.

GLEANINGS IN BEE CULTURE

A 64-page monthly Bee Magazine, generously illustrated, featuring timely articles on beekeeping practices in the U.S. Rates: One year, \$2.50; two years, \$4.50; three years, \$6.50. Sample copy on request.

The A. I. ROOT Co., Medina, Ohio.

OUR PUBLIC RISK INSURANCE

What Does It Cover?

The Association's bulk policy, available to Members of the Association at very low premium rates, is what is known as a "Policy of Indemnity." By that is meant that the LEGAL LIABILITY proven against a beekeeper for damage or injury caused to other persons or property including livestock will be taken over by the Insurance Company which acts as the Association's underwriter up to the limit of the cover which is £500 for any one claim.

The cover is optional to members but if taken the premium payable is 1s. 3d. per apiary site per year with the stipulation that all of the beekeeper's apiary sites must be covered.

Cover is effective as from the time the premium is paid to the Branch Secretary of the Association (or in the case of Direct members, to the General Secretary) and operates from June 1 in each year to May 31 in the succeeding year.

In the event of a claim being made against a beekeeper insured under this policy he should immediately communicate direct with the General Secretary and with the nearest branch of the New Zealand Insurance Company after which all arrangements will be taken over by the Company.

R. A. FRASER,
General Secretary.

THE AUSTRALASIAN BEEKEEPER

Illustrated Monthly Magazine.

Published by

Messrs. Pender Bros. Pty., Ltd.

Subscriptions: Australia and New Zealand, 16/- per annum (in advance), post paid). British Isles and British Dominions, 20/- per annum (in advance), post paid. Other overseas countries, 23/- per annum (in advance), post paid.

Sample copy free on application to —

THE EDITOR, P.O. Box 20,
West Maitland, N.S.W., Australia.

'SUPERIOR' COMB FOUNDATION

Improved Weed Process

Medium Brood	28lbs. cartons	£7/14/-
	14lbs. cartons	£4/ 4/-
	7lbs. cartons	£2/ 4/-

Write us re Thin Super for Sections or cut comb Honey.

Beekeepers' own wax converted at 28lbs. 1/- per lb.,
under 28lbs. 1/3 per lb.

7lbs. and 14lbs. cartons can be posted safely anywhere in N.Z.
at Fragile Parcels rates.

Buy direct and save dealer's margin. We are holding huge stocks
and can supply immediately.

We are buyers of good clean Beeswax

PULLIN'S APIARIES LTD.

29 Belfast Street, Mt. Roskill, Auckland

Postal Address: P.O. Box 13052, Onehunga. Telephone 556950.

RAILWAY STATION, ONEHUNGA

Agricultural Chemicals

Here are the main points from Mr. Pearson's address at the Auckland Conference:—

- (1) No new Agricultural Chemical may be sold after April 1, 1960, unless registered.
- (2) All chemicals now in use will require to be registered as the Board can cope with the work.
- (3) An educational programme is envisaged.
- (4) Clear labelling of containers will be required.
- (5) D.S.I.R. will check all new chemicals.
- (6) All aerial operators will eventually require Agricultural Chemicals rating.
- (7) The applicator (ground or air) will be held responsible for damage.
- (8) Use of hormones is being investigated.
- (9) If Regulations are desired, the Board makes recommendations to the Minister.
- (10) The Apiaries Protection Regulations stand, until revoked by the Minister.
- (11) Chemicals in fertiliser are receiving the attention of the Board.

The members of the Board, from all sections, are working in harmony. All are relieved that a Board has been instituted to control the use, and prevent the misuse, of dangerous materials.

The Tape Recorder

A tape recorder was involved in one of the more dramatic episodes of the Conference.

Delegate: Mr. Chairman, a point of order! Are you aware that a tape recorder is being used in this Conference by one of the delegates? Is this to be allowed? We all know that tapes can be cut, and tampered with, and they can be put to improper use afterwards.

President (after five seconds of silence): For my part I have no objection. When we speak we expect to be heard. But the matter is one which can properly be decided by the Conference if it wishes to do so.

In the discussion which followed a motion was passed permitting the use of tape recorders except when Conference is in committee.

President: I hope at the next Conference we won't need a special Dakota freighter to bring the delegates' equipment!

The tape recorder, having recorded its own vindication, continued to revolve, and the Conference proceeded.

An incident occurred later which gave final proof that the marvels of science cannot be denied. A speaker was holding forth on an important subject. The owner of the tape recorder decided that the speech was worth recording so he quietly switched the machine on, and the thing started to play music!

Conference Prayer

Quoting the custom observed by Federated Farmers and other bodies, Mr. J. McFadzien announced at the 1960 Conference that he intended suggesting to the Executive that future Conferences should be opened with a suitable prayer. He mentioned his intention so that others would also have the opportunity of stating their opinions to the Executive if they so desired.

The President, Mr. J. W. Fraser, gave his commendation to the proposal.

Honey for Stamina

A news report says that Dr. Barbara Moore, during her trudge of 1000 miles through Britain under cold conditions, ate a wide assortment of fruit and vegetables, 9lb. of cheese, and 9lb. of honey.

Shall We Dispense with Hive Mats?

By BUCK SPINEFEX

It would seem that some of us are a little conservative in the matter of hive mats. Personally, I have always used them because of the difficulty with propolis.

I am now fitting my lids with corner blocks to lift the lids up, say, half an inch in an endeavour to obviate this trouble. What do the 'best' beekeepers do in this respect?

In the summer time we do not need mats and it would save a lot of condensation if we dispensed with them in the winter too. Certainly we would save some money and trouble.

BEESWAX

We urgently require large quantities of beeswax at top market prices. An extra premium is paid for clean cappings wax of a light colour. Write for our current quotation immediately your wax is ready.

OLD COMBS RENDERED

We purchase or convert to foundation your share of recovered wax. Beekeepers from all over New Zealand take advantage of this efficient service. Prepare yours now and write for forwarding instructions.

COMB FOUNDATION

Beeswax is now being received for conversion for next season's use. When advising us of despatch of wax, state when delivery of foundation is required.

HIVE BARROWS Power Operated

We have now been appointed South Island agents for the power operated Hive Barrow manufactured by D. L. Ward, Dannevirke. This machine is ideal for shifting bees and loading honey on to or off a truck. Price £125 plus freight from Dannevirke. Please address South Island enquiries direct to us.

A FULL RANGE OF BEEKEEPERS' SUPPLIES AND EQUIPMENT AVAILABLE

A. ECROYD & SON LTD.

25 Sawyers Arms Road, Papanui, Christchurch, N.W.4.

P.O. BOX 5056, PAPANUI.

TELEPHONE: 48-230

AFTER HOURS:

A. K. ECROYD, 48-854

TELEGRAMS:

"ACORN,"

CHRISTCHURCH



Durock

ASBESTOS CEMENT HIVE COVERS & FLOOR BOARDS

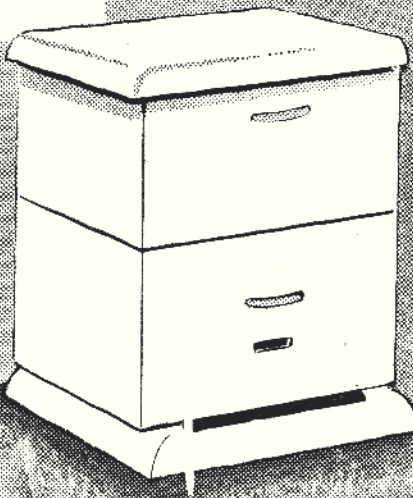
SPECIFICATION:
Durock Covers
Size 20 $\frac{1}{2}$ " x 16 $\frac{1}{2}$ " — to fit standard beehive. Thickness 5/16".
Durock Floor Boards.
Size — to fit standard beehive. Thickness 5/16".

PRICES: (Ex factory).

Covers	11/3
Crate	1/8
Floor Boards	12/3
Crate	2/-
Freight*	

*Freight costs are not heavy — for example, lower half of North Island approximately 2/3.

Orders are accepted for minimum crate lots of 6 Covers and 6 Floor Boards, and should be addressed to the nearest Sales Office.



Save costly replacement charges — give unlimited life

Carefully conducted tests have shown that Durock Asbestos Cement Hive Covers and Floor Boards are completely free from the failings associated with the normal timber hive components.

Asbestos Cement is completely resistant to rot, borer and fungoid growths. Loading tests have shown that Durock Floor Boards placed on firm

level ground are able to carry hive loads of 1,000 pounds. Durock Hive Covers are completely free from warping, shaking and splitting due to weather conditions, and consequently give the colonies full protection in wet weather.

Because of its insulating qualities Durock Hive Covers also give greater protection during summer heat.

Private Bag, Auckland; P.O. Box 1168, Christchurch;
P.O. Box 2052, Wellington;

AK3285

FLETCHER

industries

CORRESPONDENCE

To the Editor:

Sir,

In order that the Conference decision to forego the Association's right to nomination a representative on the Honey Marketing Authority may be made immediately effective, I have offered my resignation to the Minister, and have asked that any necessary steps be taken to permit my standing as a producer representative at the coming election.

As a present member of the Authority, I have given the following notices of motion:—

- (1) "That the resolution passed on March 6, 1958, appointing Mr. Nelson a committee of the whole to act in technical matters of packing and blending be rescinded." (Note: This resolution is probably superceded by a later decision of the Authority, which laid down that the manager shall be charged with the duty of

carrying out the broad lines of policy laid down by the Authority, and shall be left free to exercise initiative and drive to achieve its objects; but it would seem desirable that the former resolution should be rescinded in order that there shall be no possible confusion of responsibility).

- (2) That in view of the criticism expressed after the recent inspection of the building and plant by producers attending the N.B.A. Conference, and the apparent inability of the plant to turn out a satisfactory product, the panel of producers invited to make suggestions regarding the plant in 1957 be reconvened, and specific suggestions for any necessary improvements be sought from them."

Whether or not I am to have the opportunity of formally moving these motions, sir, will be for the electors to decide.

In conclusion, I would like to express my thanks to all those who have helped me carry out my duties as I saw them during my four years as the Association's representative on the Authority.

J. W. FRASER.

PACKAGE BEES

Packages with young Italian Queens from disease free apiaries can be supplied from late September onwards.

Replace Winter Losses Or Start New Colonies

Approximate build up 10-12 weeks. Orders forwarded airfreight and advised. Freight costs charged to customer's account.

Place Orders Now for 1960 Season

Prices :	3lb	2lb
Up to 24	32/6	30/-
Over 24	31/6	28/6
Queenless		6/- less

Terms :

Half cash before delivery, balance cash on delivery.

Weight of four 3lb packages crated, approx. 30lb.

For further particulars, write:—

W. I. HAINES

Bonnetts Road, Kaitaia, Northland.

-CLASSIFIEDS-

★ FOR SALE ★

IMPROVED HONEY FILLER
IMPROVED HONEY FILLER
IMPROVED HONEY FILLER
IMPROVED HONEY FILLER
IMPROVED HONEY FILLER

Fulfill your requirements direct
from manufacturer.

PRICE . . . £90 f.o.r. Wanganui.

WANGANUI ENGINEERING WORKS
WANGANUI ENGINEERING WORKS
LIMITED,
LIMITED,
P.O. Box 169, WANGANUI.

COMPLETE EXTRACTING PLANT,
including Ponninghouse Boiler, Pender
Cappings Reducer, 4-Frame Extractor.
Consider selling items separately or
time payment to approved purchaser.
Full list from L. M. Campbell, Bay
Road, Oxford, Canterbury.

FOR SALE: One 8-Frame Pender
Reversible Friction Drive Honey
Extractor. For particulars apply:
Pearson Bros. Ltd., 53 Coates Avenue,
Orakei, Auckland.

400 HIVES OF BEES AND
EQUIPMENT FOR FURTHER 200
Honeyhouse with all modern equipment,
and Storage Sheds. Also large Poultry
Sheds. Three-bedroom House with all
modern conveniences. Two garages.
One Truck and 1-Acre Section. Beautiful
view and section sheltered and lying
to the sun. Handy to school and bus
services past door. 30 miles from
Auckland. Sell as going concern. All
reasonable offers considered. Write:—
"CONFIDENTIAL,"
C/o. "The N.Z. Beekeeper."

QUEENS QUEENS

Limited number of
Queens available.
Thanks for orders.

CHRIS DAWSON,
11 Cain Street, Timaru.

QUEENS BREEDERS NUCLEI

As I am giving up business as a bee-
keeper and have disposed of my hives,
my ENTIRE HONEYHOUSE PLANT
is for sale. The plant is entirely steam
and items range from two Speedway
Boilers (one two-burner and one three-
burner, recently reconditioned, both
with automatic water feed), two
Extractors, Heaters, Strainers, Oven
Fittings, etc., to Scales. Detailed price
list and particulars will be supplied
on application to:—

T. W. GRIEVE,
Amedale Apiaries, Hawarden.

FOR YOUR TIMBER
REQUIREMENTS

RADIATA PINE: Standard export
honey cases carried in stock. Prices
quoted for special cases. All ordinary
building sizes stock in MACRO-
CARPA and RADIATA PINE. Special
sizes and lengths cut to order. Wide
range of dry dressed lines always in
stock. We specialise in selected
Radiata Pine mouldings and finishing
lines. Logs sawn and timber dressed
by contract. We invite you to visit
us and inspect our plant and products.
Consult:—

J. H. THOMAS & CO. LTD.,
Sawmillers, Timber Merchants,
and Boxmakers,
Te Tipua, 4 R.D., Gore.
— Phone 249, Mataura —

FOLDING WIRE GAUZE BEE VEILS
FOLDING WIRE GAUZE BEE VEILS

£1/5/-. Post Free.

Satisfaction Guaranteed.
Mail your order now to:

J. DARBY,
Hilltop Apiaries, R.D., Bombay.

HIVE MATS ——— HIVE MATS
PHORMIUM HIVE MATS

(16 x 20 inches), to fit standard hive
boxes, are available in bales of 150
mats at £4/15/- bale, f.o.r., Foxton.

ORDERS for not less than one bale,
accompanied by cash, and stating rail-
head to which delivery is required,
should be sent to:

THE GENERAL SECRETARY,
P.O. Box 19, Foxton.

(Uncut rolls of matting cloth are no
longer available).

The National Beekeepers' Association

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

'Better Beekeeping — Better Marketing'

Subscriptions

Up to	£ s. d.	Up to	£ s. d.
60 colonies	10 0	330 colonies	2 15 0
(minimum)		360 colonies	3 0 0
90 colonies	15 0	390 colonies	3 5 0
120 colonies	1 0 0	420 colonies	3 10 0
150 colonies	1 5 0	450 colonies	3 15 0
180 colonies	1 10 0	480 colonies	4 0 0
210 colonies	1 15 0	510 colonies	4 5 0
240 colonies	2 0 0	540 colonies	4 10 0
270 colonies	2 5 0	570 colonies	4 15 0
300 colonies	2 10 0	600 colonies and over	
An Associate Member shall pay 5/- per annum.		(maximum)	5 0 0



Apiary Insurance

Arranged by the Association and available to
all members.

Premium: 1/3 per apiary per annum.
(Insurance is voluntary, but if taken, all
of a member's apiaries must be covered.)

JOIN YOUR NEAREST BRANCH
AND DERIVE FULL BENEFITS



The N.Z. Beekeeper

This Journal is issued free to all beekeepers in
New Zealand having 30 or more registered hives,
and to others who are members of the National
Beekeepers' Association.

Literary contributions and advertisements
must be in the hands of the Editor, Mr. J.
McFadzien, 29 Nottingham Crescent, Calton Hill,
Dunedin, S.W.1, not later than the first of month
of publication.

Nom-de-plume letters must be signed by the
writer and address given, not necessarily for
publication, but as proof of good faith. Letters
accepted for publication do not necessarily
express the views of the Editor.

Advertisement Rates

Full Page	£6 0 0	Per Inch	10 0
Half Page	£3 6 0		
Quarter Page	£1 16 0	Minimum charge, 5/- for each insertion.	

CONTENTS

	Page
Editorial	3
Annual Report	3
Report of Investigating Committee	6
H.M.A. Election	6
New Executive Members	6
U.K. Honey Market	6
Pollination Trials	6
Hormonised Fertilisers	7
Sir Edmund Hillary	7
Personal	7
N.S.W. Marketing Policy	7
N.Z. Tariff	7
The Carton Makers	7
Mr. Chudley Retires	7
New Manager Appointed	7
Visit to Auckland Building	9
New Executive Meets	10
Nominations Endorsed	10
Conference Report	11
Honey Marketing Authority	19
Department of Agriculture	23
Branch Notes	27
Dunedin Convention	28
Notes for Beginners	29
Overseas Experience of W. Nelson (Chair- of H.M.A.)	31
Our Public Risk Insurance	33
Agricultural Chemicals	34
The Tape Recorder	34
Conference Prayer	34
Honey for Stamina	34
Shall We Dispense with Hive Mats?	34
Correspondence	37

FRONT COVER: Photo by
courtesy of 'Gleanings in
Bee Culture.'

Alliance
Quality

Bee Supplies

Commercial Type Storeys
Roofs and Bottoms
Lock Cornered Storeys
Queen Excluders
Frame Wire
Smokers
Frames
Veils
Etc.

FOR PROMPT DELIVERY
ORDER NOW!

Nails
Sections
Honey Pumps
Export Cases
Honey Cartons
Paraffin Waxers
Cappings Reducers
"Acorn" Comb Foundation

BEE SWAX :

We buy for cash or against goods, any quantity at top market rates.

ANYTHING AND EVERYTHING
FOR SUCCESSFUL BEEKEEPING

The Alliance Bee Supplies Co. Ltd.

25 Sawyers Arms Road, Papanui, Christchurch, N.W.4

Telephone : 49-841

After Hours : A. K. Ecroyd, 48-854.

Telegrams : "BEEWARE," Christchurch

P.O. Box 5056, Papanui.