

THE
NEW
ZEALAND

BEEKEEPER

MAY 1964



THE WELL DRESSED WOMAN OF LONG AGO
(Story on inside back cover)

The NATIONAL BEEKEEPERS' ASSOCIATION of N.Z. Incorporated

B R A N C H E S

President :

Mr. H. CLOAKE

Fairview, 2 R.D., Timaru

Vice-President :

Mr. T. S. WHEELER

Orawa Road, Otorohanga

Executive :

Mr. J. R. BARBER

No. 110, King Country

Mr. P. BERRY

Box 10, Havelock North

Mr. J. GLYNN

Box 5, Balfour, Southland

Mr. G. WINSLADE

1H R.D., Oamaru

General Secretary :

Mr. R. A. FRASER

P.C. 63, F.Comm.A.

P.O. Box 12, Foxton

Editor :

Mr. L. W. GOSS

P.O. Box 3561, Auckland

Hon. Librarian :

Mr. CHRIS DAWSON

P.O. Box 423, Timaru

FAR NORTH

President : Mr. W. G. Macpherson, R.D. 111, Kaitaia, Nthland.

Secretary : Mr. D. Matthews, Awanui Road, Kaitaia, Northland

NORTHLAND

President : Mr. A. G. Tucker, 35 King Street, Whangarei

Secretary : Mr. D. A. Winter, 4 R.D., Whangarei

AUCKLAND CENTRAL

President : Mr. S. Broadhead, 5 Penney Av, Mt Roskill, Auck

Secretary : Mr. C. Aylward, 13 Tiraumea Dr, Pakuranga, Auck

WAIKATO

President : Mr. W. L. Holt, P.O. Box 52, Ngongotaha, Rotorua

Secretary : Mr. H. N. Tuck, Kihikihi, Waikato

BAY OF PLENTY

President : Mr. D. A. Barrow, 44 Baycroft Avenue, Tauranga

Secretary : Mr. J. C. Higgins, Bradford Street, Waihi

HAWKES BAY

President : Mr. G. F. R. Gordon, P.O. Box 252, Hastings

Secretary : Mrs. G. O. Dorward, P.O. Box 86, Havelock North

C/S. HAWKES BAY

President : Mr. D. L. Ward, Guy Street, Dannevirke

Secretary : Mr. R. B. Jones, c/o. Hospital, Dannevirke

NELSON

President : Mr. V. L. Rawson, Ruby Bay, R.D.1, Upper Moutere

Secretary : Mrs. I. M. Cropp, Lr Moutere, RD 2, Up Moutere

WEST COAST

President : Mr. R. V. Glasson, Blackball

Secretary : Mr. T. Holland, Weenink Road, Karoro, Greymouth

CANTERBURY

President : Mr. D. F. Penrose, Southbridge R.D., Canterbury

Secretary : Mr. D. G. King, P.O. Box 353, Christchurch

SOUTH CANTERBURY

President : Mr. H. Knibb, Geraldine

Secretary : Mr. R. Davidson, Hadlow, 4 R.D., Timaru

NORTH OTAGO

President : Mr. G. E. Winslade, 1H R.D., Oamaru

Secretary : Mr. H. S. Wilson, 2C R.D., Oamaru

OTAGO

President : Mr. E. Shepherd, 31 Warden St., Opoho, Dunedin

Secretary : Mr. A. J. Shaw, 40 Signal Hill Rd., Opoho, Dunedin

GORE

President : Mr. D. C. Todd, Naumai Street, Gore

Secretary : Mr. Ian K. Spence, Wendonside, No. 7 R.D., Gore

SOUTHLAND

President : Mr. J. deWit, Woodlands, Southland

Secretary : Mrs. M. C. Cranstoun, Beecroft, Hamilton Burn,
No. 2 R.D., Lumsden

THE
NEW
ZEALAND

BEEKEEPER

VOL 26 No. 2

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

Subscription :
8/- per annum, post free.

Registered for transmission by post as a Magazine.

Editor : Leslie W. Goss

May, 1964

CONTENTS

	page
125 Years of Beekeeping	2
Insurance Cover	3
Dominion Conference	4
Shipping and Marketing	6
Editor's Desk	10
1080 Poison Baits	15
Book Reviews	16
Cases for Shipment	17
Can Bee Milk Make Us a Race of Giants?	18
Anatomy of the Bee	20
Letters to the Editor	24
Honey Gold Review	28
Photonews	31
Branch Notes	32
Editor's New Address	33
Beginning the Beginner	34
Presentation Fund	36
Honey Gold Distribution	37
Odd Items	38
Technical Library	39
Classified Ads	39 and 40

Dominion Conference 1964 at Hastings

THE ORGANISING COMMITTEE of the host branch at Hawkes Bay is busy preparing a programme and timetable for the Dominion Conference next August. The venue is to be the Wesley Hall, Hastings Street, Hastings, and a useful list of hotels, boarding establishments and motels has been provided to suit all tastes and pockets.

It is a human failing to put off until tomorrow arrangements which are not essential for today's needs, and there will be the inevitable disappointments for delegates who leave their reservations too late. To be sure of obtaining a booking of your choice, and to avoid unnecessary work for host members in running around making last-minute arrangements, please write to the management of the hotel or other place concerned TODAY. A comforting thought is that there is no additional cost for being early; on the contrary, delay may not only result in disappointment but costliness as well.

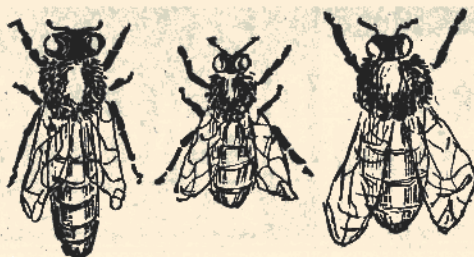
Full details have not yet been announced for the social entertainment of delegates and guests, but a varied and interesting program has been promised by the hard-working organisers.

On the essential and paramount business side, branches are reminded that their remits must reach the General Secretary not later than Saturday, May 30, and will then be circulated to branches for consideration.

NOW THAT WE ARE in the month of May and the first half of the year looms immediately in sight, before we know where we are Christmas will be on the near horizon with its busy season of extracting a (we hope) bumper crop, as well as the enjoyment of traditional festivities.

(Continued on page 36)

125 YEARS of BEEKEEPING in N.Z.



DURING THE COURSE of his summer holiday this year, Mr. C. Dawson, of Timaru, addressed a number of Field Days and at the Bay of Plenty on March 14 made interesting reference to the fact that New Zealand's first bees were released 125 years ago, to the day, on the coast to the north of that meeting. The following is an extract from Mr. Dawson's address:—

THIS IS SUCH an historic day for Beekeepers throughout New Zealand, for on this day, March 14, in 1839, that is, 125 years ago, on the West Coast 230 miles to the north from where we now stand, the first bees ever to be brought to New Zealand sallied forth to collect their first nectar from our native flora, and gave to their owner the joy of knowing she had accomplished something never done before.

If you will close your eyes and allow your mind to travel back to those far-off days, I will try to describe the scene for you.

On March 13, (yesterday) a sailing ship had pulled towards the shore and the passengers were landing from the ships boats.

One of the passengers, an English lady named Miss Bumby, who has come with a party of missionaries is walking up the beach not caring that her long skirts are bedraggled by sea water and sand because she is carrying ashore her most precious pieces of luggage—two hives of bees—straw skeps.

She places those hives of bees, the first in New Zealand, on a temporary stand and, just as every beemistress of today would do on such an occasion, she leaves the hive entrances covered for the night to allow her precious charges to settle down.

First thing this morning, March 14, she opens the entrances and the first

British bees ever to fly in New Zealand go out to bring home their first loads of nectar.

And she stands, and watches them . . . just stealing valuable time . . . just enjoying her bees . . . just as the modern beemistress does . . . just as we all do.

She is not worrying whether they are rushing out to bring home loads of Manuka honey at sixpence per pound or clover honey at eighteen pence per pound. She is just supremely happy that, after their long journey, she and they have all arrived safely.

Those bees were the sturdy black British bees that start work earlier each morning and are still working later each afternoon than the later importations of the much more colourful Italian bees that we like to own because they are so much more gentle to handle.

Yes! and those bees were the forbears of the thousands of wild black bees that can be found today throughout our land. They seem to be everywhere except on the bare mountain tops.

You in Tauranga also have a particular connection with another of New Zealand's earliest beekeepers because your Mr. D. H. Maxwell has in his archives at the Mission House, correspondence from William Charles Cotton who was the first person to produce a book on beekeeping in New Zealand and who also produced a book on the same subject in Maori to encourage

INSURANCE COVER AGAINST RISK OF DESTRUCTION

THE DEVON BEEKEEPERS Association are urging their members to support the scheme of Bee Disease Insurance Ltd., whereby beekeepers are insured against loss of colonies destroyed under the order affecting *Baccillus Larvae*.

All members of the association are automatically covered to the extent of £1 per colony, since a premium of 1s.

is paid by the association from their membership fees, but additional coverage is recommended to give adequate cover against the misfortune of infection.

Bee Disease Insurance has arranged a sliding scale for beekeepers with less than 20 colonies, and a separate commercial scheme. For the hobbyist the rates are as follows:—

No. of Colonies	Annual Premium	Maximum Compensation
1	3/-	£5
	4/-	£8
2	5/-	£11
3	6/-	£14
4	7/-	£17
5	8/-	£20

the craft amongst the native population. Those books were printed in Wellington, (and I give this date from memory) in 1850.

If anybody would like to give me one of the rarest of pleasures, it would be to send either or both of these books to the New Zealand Beekeepers Library where they would be treasured as they deserve.

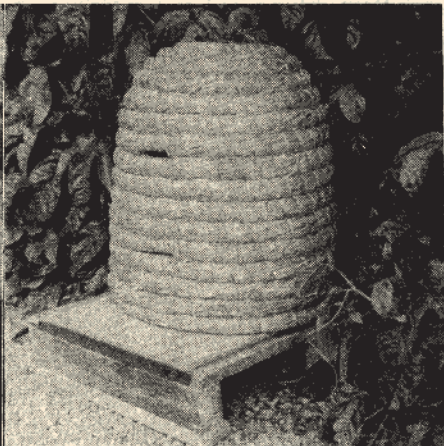
The introduction to my address is, I fear, far removed from the subject of breeding of bees but it was appropriate that the occasion should not pass unnoticed as this is an historic commemoration of the beginnings of beekeeping history in New Zealand.

and £3 for each shilling up to 20s., which gives £56 maximum compensation.

Subject to obvious safeguards to prevent abuse by the unscrupulous (are there any amongst beekeepers?), the scheme seems to be a thoroughly sensible one worthy of very careful consideration. To see one's colonies destroyed by fire is heartbreaking enough, without the attendant financial loss involved.



Beekeepers at Bay of Plenty Field Day —discussing Benzaldehyde.



A new straw skep on exhibition at Manawatu Field Day at Massey College.

DOMINION CONFERENCE

at HASTINGS now AUGUST 5-6-7

BECAUSE OF POSSIBLE CLASH with other National organisations meeting in Hastings in July next, the date of the Annual Dominion Conference has been changed to AUGUST 5, 6 and 7 when accommodation will be easier for delegates and guests.

Full information concerning the business side of Conference will be circulated to Branches, and Secretaries will have informed their members at Branch Annual General Meetings. Branch remits must reach the General Secretary by May 31, and they will then be circulated to Branches for consideration.

To assist members who will be attending Conference at Hastings this year, the host Branch has provided the following list of suitable accommodation. Early reservations are advised, and reservations should be made DIRECT to the management concerned.

HASTINGS ACCOMMODATION GUIDE FOR CONFERENCE-GOERS

Hotel:	Phone:	No. Rooms:	Address:	Daily Tariff:
Mayfair	85-109	28	Karamu Rd. N.	£3/ 0/0 Plus meals a la carte
Stortford Lodge	89-039	9	Stortford Lodge	£3/18/6 inclusive
Pacific	83-129	8	Heretaunga St.	£2/15/0 inclusive
Albert	87-747	3	Heretaunga St.	£2/16/0 inclusive
Grand	84-363	19	Heretaunga St.	£2/ 5/0 inclusive
Hastings	89-734	6	Heretaunga St.	£2/15/0 inclusive
Carlton Club	87-990	12	Heretaunga St.	£2/12/6 inclusive
McDuffs	78-717	6	Havelock North	£2/ 1/0 inclusive
Fernhill	84-930	7	Fernhill	£2/ 5/0 inclusive
Windsor Private	84-565	14	Queen St. E.	22/6-23/6 Bed and Breakfast
Ranfurlly Pvt.	87-447	14	Warren St. W.	18/6 Bed and Break.
Guest Houses:				
Glendale	88-996		303 Charles St.	18/- Bed and Break.
Grosvenor	86-732		1107 Karamu Rd. N.	20/- Bed and Break.
Cosy	82-165		815 Caroline Rd.	20/- Bed and Break.
Anne Grey	85-963		610 Heretaunga St. E.	20/- Bed and Break.
Motels:				
Mayfair	86-932		Karamu Rd. N.	30/- per night per person
Raceview	88-837		307 Gascoigne St.	50/- per night for two people
Travelodge	86-050		Railway Rd.	50/- per night for two people
Stephensons	85-322		Karamu Rd. N.	65/- with breakfast 42/- per night for two people
Hastings	86-243		1108 Karamu Rd. N.	48/- per night for two people
Evron	78-700		Te Aute Rd., Havelock North	42/- per night for two people
Te Mata	77-160		Te Mata Rd., Havelock North	£3 per unit—sleeps four plus one by arrangement

Hotels require as a rule £1 per person deposit with booking but Stortford Lodge requires £2 and Pacific 30/-.

Evron Motel requires 30/- and Te Mata Motels require £2 per unit. All motels have reduced rates for more than two persons and Mayfair and Travelodge offer cooked breakfast.

The Mayfair and Stortford Lodge Hotels are almost a mile from the city but have good bus services.

Havelock North and Fernhill are approximately three miles from the city, east and west respectively.

Make your plans now to attend the Annual Conference of the National Beekeepers' Association in Hastings on August 5, 6 and 7. This is the big event in the beekeeping calendar. It will be an important Conference and an opportunity to visit attractive Hawkes Bay and to meet beekeeping friends from other parts of New Zealand.

The Conference will be held in the WESLEY HALL in HASTINGS STREET. A social function is being arranged on the Thursday evening, a bus tour on the Friday afternoon, and there will be other outings for the ladies as time is available.

Those travelling by trains, planes or buses are invited to notify the Hawkes Bay Branch of their expected time of arrival and local beekeepers will be pleased to escort them from the station or terminal to their hotel or guest house.

Members of the Hawkes Bay and Central-Southern Hawkes Bay Branches are looking forward to the Conference with keen anticipation, and visitors from other provinces are assured of a cordial welcome.

QUEENS into GREAT BRITAIN

IT'S AN ILL WIND that blows nobody any good, and the piercing Northerlies which brought snow and ice to Great Britain and Europe last winter are apparently no exception to the general rule.

Faced with a dire shortage of queen right colonies in spring, many beekeepers looked to queen raisers in the United States to provide their matriarch needs, and the result has been the development of a new and thriving business.

Whilst it has been customary to import breeding queens from France, this year French breeders found themselves in the same position as their confreres across the Channel, and were unable to supply their own needs.

As with the importation of livestock of any kind, principal hurdles to be overcome are the rightful watch dogs of the Customs and Agricultural Departments, who insist on adherence

to the law of provision of a bill of clean health by the State Apiarist where the queen and attendants were bred. In many instances, some small detail in the certificate was not correctly completed, with the result that packages died before Customs would authorise their release.

Another snag in this developing business is the high cost of air freight by jet planes across the Atlantic, which at present is 98 cents per lb. weight. Provision of too much food increases freight cost, whereas an under estimate of the required amount results in starvation and delivery of dead stock.

One breeder is apparently establishing a good reputation with British beekeepers because he always includes a few extra queens with each shipment to overcome the possibility of loss, or in case any should turn out to be drone layers.

SHIPPING and MARKETING TERMS and COSTS

By Colin Gosse, General Manager, H.M.A.

Discussing overseas returns, and nett returns with producers at the Waikato Field Day, it was apparent that few producers have a full appreciation of the significance of overseas selling terms and the costs that may be incurred between a quoted overseas selling price, and the nett return that can be expected by the producer.

At the Bay of Plenty Field Day the subject of my address was based on this theme and as several producers have since expressed enlightenment on certain points, it is hoped that this article may be of interest to other producers.

THERE ARE MANY FACTORS which influence overseas prices obtainable and the nett return from any given overseas price, of which the following are the most important: (1) Basis of Sale; (2) Quantity; (3) Availability; (4) New Zealand Blending and Packing Operations.

(1) **BASIS OF SALE:** There are many terms used to indicate the basis of sale the most common being: (a) C.I.F. which stands for "Cost, Insurance, Freight". Here the seller pays only freight and marine insurance. Landing and other charges incurred at the other end payable by the purchaser. In this case the port of sale plays an important part as this determines the rate of freight payable by the seller.

Some comparative overseas freight costs are:—

**NEW ZEALAND/LONDON, LIVERPOOL, GLASGOW, HULL,
ANTWERP, HAMBURG**

Direct Shipment 250/- per ton or 1.529d per lb.

NEW ZEALAND/DUBLIN VIA LIVERPOOL

Under 4 tons 385/- per ton or 2.354d per lb.

4 tons and over 362/6 per ton or 2.217d per lb.

NEW ZEALAND/DUBLIN VIA LONDON

Under 10 tons 410/- per ton or 2.507d per lb.

10 tons and over 387/6 per ton or 2.370d per lb.

NEW ZEALAND/BELFAST VIA LIVERPOOL

Under 8 tons 400/- per ton or 2.446d per lb.

8 tons and over 390/- per ton or 2.385d per lb.

NEW ZEALAND/HULL VIA LONDON

337/6 per ton or 2.061d per lb.

NEW ZEALAND/OSLO OR STOCKHOLM VIA LONDON

OR HAMBURG

350/- per ton or 2.140d per lb.

NEW ZEALAND/YOKOHAMA

220/- per ton or 1.345d per lb.

The effect of these freights can be shown by quoting the nett realisations from three recent actual sales of Blended Light Amber honey packed in tins and cases:—

Overseas Selling Price:	Nett Realisation:
175/- per cwt. C.I.F. Dublin	12.633d per lb.
180/- per cwt. C.I.F. Oslo	12.921d per lb.
170/- per cwt. C.I.F. London	13.060d per lb.

At a first glance it may be considered that 180/- C.I.F. Oslo is a record price. So it is, but when analysed it can be seen that it does not give as good a return to the producer, as the sale at 170/- per cwt. C.I.F. London.

(b) **Ex Warehouse:** In this instance the seller pays the costs of landing the

honey, delivering to a warehouse and paying the warehouse charges. Prices quoted "Ex warehouse" are never comparable unless the period of storage is known. Naturally, the nett return from honey that has been in store for nine months would be reduced considerably more than honey which had been in store say only one month, to the extent of the extra storage charges.

(c) **Delivered Free:** Here the seller pays all charges to the point of warehousing and, in addition, cartage to the buyers' premises. Location of the buyers' premises in relation to the warehouse, influences the nett return in this instance.

(d) **C.I.F. ex London Warehouse:** In such cases honey may have been warehoused in London then resold, for example, C.I.F. Oslo. The additional costs in such a sale would be considerable compared with a sale at the same price when the honey had been shipped direct from New Zealand.

As a general rule the overseas agent of the Authority always endeavours to negotiate such sales on a forward basis, with shipments direct from New Zealand, but circumstances sometimes necessitate incurring such costs.

Overseas market reports, which are frequently published, do not always take into account or quote the individual basis of sales, which therefore makes it impossible for the producer to interpret these prices in terms of nett realisations. After all, from the point of view of the producer, it is the nett return to him that counts, not the gross return. It can be compared with an investor deciding between buying shares of two companies and only studying the gross profit without regard to the working and overhead costs which finally determine the return to the investor.

(2) **QUANTITY:** A further factor which should be studied in conjunction with overseas prices is the quantity involved. The following headline would probably excite considerable interest in the Industry:—

"New Zealand White Clover Honey Prices Reach 215/- Per Cwt."

This statement could well be made and is factually correct, but what it does not say is that only one case was involved and that the basis of the sale was "Ex Warehouse" with as yet undetermined warehouse charges to be deducted.

Many individual sales of a similar nature could be quoted, but this does not give much satisfaction to the producer if the next sale was 100 tons at say 170/- per cwt.

In overseas market reports the quantities involved are not normally quoted, but it can reasonably be taken that the prices quoted would be average prices obtained for reasonable quantities.

(3) **AVAILABILITY:** This factor should not be overlooked in studying overseas market trends as it must be remembered that there are always top prices available for the product that is unobtainable, or in very limited supply. It is a different proposition, however, if it becomes generally known by buyers that a product is in over supply.

In other words, if good prices have been obtained for say up to 300 tons of a certain grade, it does not hold that those prices would continue to apply if double that quantity was fed on to the same market.

The marketing of an above average crop is a very exacting operation, as it is easy to depress prices but a much more difficult matter to bring them back again.

(4) **NEW ZEALAND BLENDING AND PACKING OPERATIONS:** Apart from the foregoing factors which influence the F.O.B. return (Free on Board, N.Z. Port) there are in existence further domestic factors which influence the nett return to the producers. These involve blending and packing costs which may be incurred in New Zealand.

Where honey has to be blended it naturally incurs costs which would not be involved with honey shipped as a straight line. By "Straight Line" we refer to honey that is shipped in the original containers as supplied by the producer.

Most of the honey blended is in the Light Amber range where such a variance of colours and flavours occur. Generally, however, honey is not blended through choice but because: (a) The buyer demands a line consistent in colour and flavour; (b) The necessity to incorporate honey which has been rejected for export through low specific gravity (that is honey exceeding 17.2%

moisture); (c) The necessity to incorporate honeys of strong flavour which are not desirable for sale as a straight line; (d) The necessity to use stocks of liquid honey held in the early part of the season to meet early season shipments.

In considering the above aspect it must be remembered that for every ton of strong flavoured or low specific gravity honey that has to be blended, probably four tons of good honey has to be used which could otherwise have been shipped as a straight line without incurring blending costs.

(e) A further factor that has arisen since the introduction of drums is that honey may have to be processed, because of the sales demand at a given time being for honey packed in tins and cases, while the major stocks of the particular grade of honey is held in drums. At other times the converse may apply.

A comparison of the nett realisation from honey sold as Blended or Straight Lines can best be demonstrated by quoting an actual example.

**Overseas Return for Bulk Light Amber Honey Sold at 170/- per cwt.
C.I.F. London**

Nett realisation from:—

Straight Lines	14.109d per lb.
Blended Lines — Tins and Cases	13.060d per lb.
Blended — Drums	12.922d per lb.

Producers must therefore realise that while market reports of overseas prices can be very useful in indicating general market trends, they can also be most confusing and unreliable when considered in terms of returns to the producer. Remember that it is a long way from the producer's tank to an overseas market.



To celebrate the presentation of Honorary Diplomas in Apiculture to members of the South Canterbury Branch, a complimentary dinner was given to recipients at Geraldine recently. Seen here is the presentation by Mr. A. Greig, Director of the Horticultural Division, Department of Agriculture, Wellington, of the diploma to Mr W. Jennings.

IT PAYS TO BRAND 'EM

Don't sell your
honey blind!

If you want people to
buy your honey —
not just any honey
— you must
mark it with your
brand or name.

- Branding pays, especially in CARDEA cartons because you can get bold striking designs which make your name stand out.
- With a distinctive design and a boldly displayed name, customers will be able to pick YOUR honey out AGAIN

**Frank M. Winstone
(Merchants) Ltd.**
71-79 Customs Street East,
Auckland

SOUTH ISLAND REPRESENTATIVE: P. G. COLLINGS

33 Charlcott Street, Christchurch

Phone 29-062



COMMENTARY

from the Editor's Desk and Mail



THERE WILL BE a number of beekeepers in various parts of the country who will look askance at the Department of Agriculture's publication number 61, which deals with the question of 1080 poison baits and their effect on bees and honey.

Nobody would suggest that the findings are published in other than good faith, but there are undoubtedly some points made which require clarification.

On the one hand we are told that bees are attracted to jam baits in which 1080 is used as a poison for noxious animal control, and on the other, that the baits can be laid only by, or under the supervision of, approved operators. The operators are instructed not to lay baits within a quarter of a mile of apiaries. The thought that arises and the question that must be asked is the extent to which operators or their assistants obey departmental injunction in so far as distance is concerned, and who tells the bees not to forage for more than a quarter mile from home?

If bees are attracted to jam baits, it is certain and sure that they will find them at such a short distance.

As to whether the foragers will have time to return to their hive and spread the news of free provender is a mute point. It may be comforting to know that honey stores will not be polluted to the extent that there is possible harm to humans in eating the honey, but it is poor consolation indeed to the apiarist who finds his healthy stocks decimated by poisoning.

Governmental concern is primarily directed to the fact that possible cases of poisoned honey will not be in sufficient quantity to render it unfit or dangerous for human consumption.

It will be recalled that the Department of Health requested rabbit boards in July, 1963, to cease using sodium fluoroacetate to enable Wallaceville research personnel to commence field tests with jam baits placed adjacent to hives. The results and findings are summarised in the leaflet referred to above, and rabbit boards have now been advised that they may continue their campaign of poisoning.

☆ ☆ ☆
A SERIOUS CASE OF DAMAGE to vineyards at Te Kauhata has been reported through the injudicious use of herbicides, and it is stated that production would be lowered for several years to come. The newsletter of the Department of Agriculture also states that fruit trees, tomatoes and other garden crops were also affected.

The chairman of the Agricultural Chemicals Board, Mr. P. W. Smallfield, drew the attention of farmers and contractors to the fact that fines may be imposed for non-compliance with the regulations, in addition to the probability of civil claims for damage to crops.

Ill considered use of chemicals in agriculture can far outweigh their known advantages, and every conceivable effort must be made by Government officers

as well as by the manufacturers of the chemicals to ensure that the risks are known. Tremendous advances have been made by research and scientific workers in recent years, and the results of these seemingly miraculous discoveries have been handed on the proverbial plate to the ultimate user who is not, in fact, sufficiently educated to employ them properly.

The production of selective poisons is the cumulative result of some of the best scientific brains in the world, and it is unfair to expect the layman to be able to grasp and understand their far reaching effects. **THERE IS REASON IN ALL THINGS** — or should be — and careful consideration of ones neighbours' needs is a prime essential in any decent and civilised community. If the neighbour refuses to be civilised and consider the needs of others, he must be made to realise that selfishness does not pay.

Following damage to bees in the Hawkes Bay area, and particularly with a fruit thinning spray called "Sevin", orchard instructors are attaching to spray circulars the following warning note, which has the merit of being factual, and written in down-to-earth language understood by anyone who can read. It is to be fervently hoped that orchard instructors in other areas follow a similar course.

WARNING! Bees are killed by certain sprays. Beekeepers don't need more than one fright or setback with their hives, to change their policy as regards pollination of fruit trees. Beekeepers can do much better for themselves when their hives are placed near riverside willows. So don't encourage the prospect of there being NO BEES for pollination. What are the warnings on the label, about bees? If your pet spray is dangerous you could spoil things for the whole district.



IT IS ENCOURAGING to read that a recent issue of **THE LANCET**, the official organ of the British Medical Association, carried a report of success in the treatment of rheumatoid arthritis with the help of Royal Jelly.

There have been so many false claims made for this extraordinary substance secreted by the bees that the name of Royal Jelly has been brought into disrepute and regarded as a perquisite of the charlatan and quack doctor.

A Doctor E. C. Barton-Wright, a specialist in rheumatoid arthritis and a micro-biologist, has produced a preparation in co-operation with Professor Gordon Townsend, head of the Beekeeping Department of the Ontario College of Agriculture, Guleph, Ontario, Canada, and the Coton Lodge Honey Farms, Desborough, Northamptonshire, where the actual production and harvesting of the Royal Jelly took place.

Tests on a large number of rheumatoid arthritis sufferers has proved that the disease has a distinct correlation with pantothenic deficiency of the blood, and that the patient can be greatly helped by a preparation of Royal Jelly given by injection or orally.

Treatment to date has been able to remove the excruciating pains associated with the disease and restore mobility in many cases. A permanent cure cannot be promised at this stage, but a great advance has been made in the right direction and further clinical tests are proceeding.



IT SEEMS A PITY that some beekeepers in England are thinking along the lines of allowing their stocks to starve to death during the winter and replacing them each year with package bees from warmer climates. Last year's arctic conditions encouraged many hobbyists to throw in the proverbial sponge, and some have seized upon package deals as their salvation.

Before condemning such a practice out of hand, due consideration must be given to the conditions under which bees are kept in the old country. It can certainly be a heart-breaking and pocket-breaking business. Even in a "good" year, when the supers yield in excess of the average of 40lb., sufficient feed in the form of sugar has to be given to carry the stocks through to the following spring. There would just not be enough honey stocks in the brood chamber to keep things ticking over.

It is obvious, therefore, that the temptation to "let them get on with it" is strong and to follow the pattern of apiarists in Canada and other colder climes.

BEST PAINT I EVER USED FOR MY BEEHIVES

This is the opinion of a leading Beekeeper who recently used Gensacol Zinc Titanium. And no wonder! A linseed oil paint made from pure zinc and titanium, Gensacol requires no thinners or undercoats. Can be applied direct to poor wooden surfaces where it gives a *LASTING GLOSS PROTECTION*. And like all guaranteed Gensacol paints it is only sold through Factory Shops at genuine wholesale prices:—

45/- gallon, 24/- $\frac{1}{2}$ gallon for white

49/- gallon, 26/- $\frac{1}{2}$ gallon for colours

CALL PERSONALLY and



SAVE £1 PER GALLON!

at **Gensacol Factory Shops**

Auckland	C/o. J. Jones Ltd., City Markets
Petone	2 Manchester Street
Wellington	4 Cuba Street
Christchurch	146 Oxford Terrace
Dunedin	63 George Street

OR MAIL YOUR ORDER

Enclosing Cheque, Postal Note or Money Order

— to —

MAIN GENSACOL FACTORY SHOP
P.O. Box 20, PETONE.

Paint dispatched freight free to your nearest railway station.
We guarantee dispatch within 24 hours of receipt of your order.

Made by Britannia Colour Industries Ltd., Petone

I. G. McIntosh, Senior Principal Officer,
T. Palmer-Jones, Principal Scientific Officer, and
E. L. J. Staples, Technical Officer, Department
of Agriculture, Wallaceville Animal Research
Centre, claim that

1080 POISON BAITS DO NOT ENDANGER BEES or AFFECT HONEY

Decimation by 1080 poisoning has been claimed by a number of experienced beekeepers. Editorial comment on the views expressed in this Department of Agriculture publication No. 61 are contained elsewhere in this issue.

WHEN 1080 WAS FIRST introduced into New Zealand to control rabbits its effect on honey bees as a stomach poison was studied at Wallaceville. Individual bees were starved and then placed singly in small vials with feeding tubes containing various amounts of 1080 in sugar solution. It was found that the amount of 1080 in 1 oz of poisoned jam would kill up to 18,000 bees.

Solid baits of pollard, sugar, and 1080 with added molasses or jam were unattractive to bees even in the spring, when sources of nectar were limited. In similar conditions jam baits placed near apiaries were attractive. Oil of aniseed or synthetic raspberry essence added as lures did not noticeably affect this attractiveness. As nectar is moved about in the hive during the honey-ripening process, it was obvious that 1080-poisoned nectar (from jam baits), if collected, would decimate the colony.

Though a close watch has been kept during the last six years for evidence of mass mortalities of bees, in association with nearby 1080 poisoning operations, no such evidence has been obtained.

Recently, two experiments with field bees were carried out near Auckland. A single hive was used in one, and a six-hive apiary in the second.

In five days bees removed 2oz of 1080 jam bait from a dish in an empty super placed on top of the single hive. About 16,000 dead and dying bees were observed 21 hours after feeding began,

and mortality continued until only 3,000 bees remained alive out of an original population of about 24,000.

In the second experiment sufficient poisoned jam (1-3oz) to kill about 6,000 bees was placed, as before, above each of the six hives. In two hives all the jam was transferred, and dead bees were seen both in cells and outside the hives. Varying amounts of jam were transferred in the remaining hives and bee mortality occurred.

After four days bees were still dying.

These experiments confirmed the earlier opinion that bee colonies would be severely affected if field bees gathered 1080-poisoned jam.

Baits containing 1080 can be laid only by, or under the supervision of, "Approved Operators" under the Deadly Poison Regulations 1960. These operators are instructed to avoid bee mortality when using 1080 jam baits in spring by laying them not less than $\frac{1}{4}$ mile from apiaries.

The possibility of 1080 being introduced into honey by bees was considered in 1955. It was thought that storage of 1080 in honey at levels dangerous to humans would not be possible because field bees would die before significant storage could take place. Also any traces of 1080 would be diluted during extraction of honey from combs.

The two experiments already described gave an opportunity to test honey from hives to which bees were transferring poisoned jam. Uncapped

honey only was taken from all the hives for analysis, that from the six hives being bulked. Attempts were made to assay any 1080 present by dosing the sample from the single hive and the bulk sample to guinea pigs, but these animals were not affected by either sample.

CHEMICAL ANALYSIS

Chemical analysis showed that both samples contained only traces of 1080 (0.047 mg of 1080 per 100 g of honey from the single hive sample and 0.012 mg per 100 g from the other). The lowest possible fatal dose of 1080 to a man is about 140 mg. That amount would be contained in 650 lb of the honey from the single hive and in 2,500 lb of the bulked sample. Since the effects of the poison are not cumulative, both honeys could be eaten indefinitely without any possible danger.

In the experiments conditions were made as favourable as possible for poison to be stored. It is most improbable that commercial honey would ever contain even the harmless traces of 1080 found in these experiments.

The use of 1080 jam baits in noxious animal control does not present any danger to humans eating honey.

RIISING COSTS

RECENT INCREASES IN freight charges are reflected in the costs of marketing New Zealand honey overseas, and all help to make a competitive market just a little more difficult. For example:—

New Zealand to United Kingdom

Increased from	237/6 per ton
to	250/- per ton

An increase of	12/6 per ton
----------------	--------------

On bulk honey this is the equivalent of .076d per lb.

New Zealand to Kenya

Increased from	265/- per ton
to	280/- per ton

An increase of	15/- per ton
----------------	--------------

New Zealand to Malaya

Increased from	191/- + 1% per ton
to	196/- + 1% per ton

An increase of	5/- + 1% per ton
----------------	------------------



ITALIAN QUEENS

1964-65

UNTESTED	1 to 5	9/- each
	6 to 10	8/- each
	11 to 19	7/9 each
	20 and over	7/6 each

SELECT UNTESTED

1/- extra per queen

TESTED 30/- each

SELECT TESTED 35/- each

DELIVERY: November to April

TERMS: Cash with order

Cheques to have exchange added

Telegrams 2/- extra

Orders of 20 and over AIRMAILED free on request

Orders under 20, 2/9 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, NORTHLAND



Book Reviews . . .

THE HIVE and the HONEY BEE

Dadant & Sons, Illinois, U.S.A.

Edited by Roy A. Grout

It would appear presumptuous for a mundane beekeeper to review a book so extensive and comprehensive as "The Hive and the Honey Bee," for the editor and his staff of specialist writers are so eminent that there can be little of even small importance that has been overlooked.

Despite an association of many years with bees and their marvellous ways, there is so much that has been learnt from a single reading of this memorable work that time must be found to read and study each chapter again and again.

First published in 1853 as "Langstroth on the Hive and the Honey Bee, a Beekeeper's Manual" and revised in 1859 and 1875, a further edition was published in 1885 which was revised and completed by Charles Dadant and his son Camille Pierre. Charles Dadant emigrated to America in the year 1863,

and this latest edition of the "Hive and the Honey Bee" has been published as a special feature in the observance of the firm's Centennial Year.

There are twenty chapters of profusely illustrated material for assimilation by professional and amateur, and the smallest backyarder would be well advised to obtain a copy of this work for his bookshelf. If there are any beekeepers left who regard the risk of poisoning from toxic sprays as remote, they are recommended to study well the pictures published there-in of bees killed by parathion and sevin. Be assured that it is a sorry sight.

The author of this particular chapter "Injury to Bees by Poisoning" is John E. Eckert, Ph. D., Professor of Entomology and Apilcuturist, Emeritus, University of California, and the specialist writers for other chapters are similarly qualified.

The front cover design of this month's edition was from a plate contained within this wonderful book.

BEE VENOM by Dr. Joseph Broadman

Published by Putnams and Co., New York

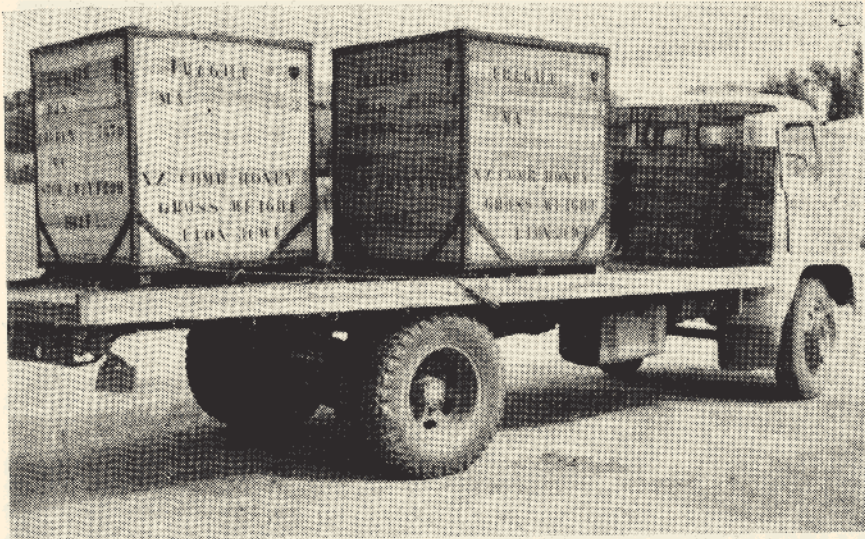
The author of this book is a Hungarian-born doctor who has spent his life practising in America. He became interested in the use of bee venom in the treatment of rheumatic complaints and obtained as much information as possible on the subject, particularly from Europe, where there was a wealth of literature available, and became convinced that the use of bee venom had its value. Without going too deeply into the theory he was satisfied that it worked.

The book is written primarily for medical men and contains much technical matter above the head of the layman. His object is to plead with fellow doctors to use the methods defined to alleviate the tremendous

amount of suffering endured by arthritics.

In 1888 an Austrian doctor published a full account of his own success with bee venom and the idea had spread in Europe but not in America. Numerous case histories cited by the Austrian doctor, as given in an address to British beekeepers in 1904, and a like number from the author's own experiences in America are quoted, and together they establish a good case for bee venom. It seems now that formic acid is not the active ingredient of bee venom and it was due to this mistaken idea that the method was condemned by early investigators in U.S.A. who used a synthetic formic acid. Alcohol destroys the active agent of bee venom. Sufferers from arthritis should ask their doctor to study this new book. (Contributed by W. B. Bray, Leeston)

N. Z. BEEKEEPER



TWO OF THE FIRST export cases of manuka honey from the 1964 season ready for despatch overseas via the Napier wharf. Each case contains 200 cartons or packets of one dozen sections, wrapped in cellophane, and weighs 1 ton 3 cwt. Two commercial producers pool their resources to guarantee continuity to overseas markets, and this particular consignment was destined for Europe where Continental demand for manuka honey is good. Supplies are also being sent to Yokohama.

CURRENT PRICES

for

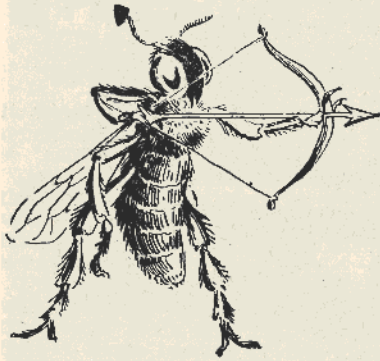
BEESWAX

If you have pure, clean beeswax take this opportunity of cashing in on today's top market prices.

Dont' delay — write to us **NOW**
stating the quantity available

SHARLAND & COMPANY LTD.
Taylors Road, Morningside, AUCKLAND

G. N. Lansdown of Auckland asks



CAN BEE MILK MAKE US A RACE of GIANTS?

A LARGE NUMBER of citizens old and young are walking around physically unfit. It is evident that they did not receive the right type of food for their development. I would like to make the (perhaps unusual) suggestion that our scientists do some research work on the food value of royal jelly (bee milk).

Those who have made a study of bee milk, say that the food of the worker larva and the queen is the same up to three days after hatching from the egg. After this the food of the worker larva is changed. It then receives pollen and honey and the amount of food given is less. The food of the queen is the same throughout the larva life, which is about five days. This being true, it would appear the only difference in the rearing of the queen bee and the worker is a difference of food for only two days.

Now let us consider for a moment what magical food this is that can work such a miracle when fed to larva. This food has been found to be very rich in all the vitamins. It must have some tremendous value from the way it causes the larva to grow.

It has been found that after hatching from the egg, the larva at five days has increased in weight 2,500 times. As far as is known, this is the most rapid growth of anything in the insect or animal world. To understand this better, let us imagine a human body to grow as rapidly. If a baby weighed

ten pounds at birth, in five days it would weigh twelve and a half tons! That would indeed be some baby!

Let us remember the immense effort of scientists to split the atom. If our scientists would now concentrate their energies on the food value of bee milk, who can tell? We may become a race of giants, twenty-five feet tall, strong as an African bull elephant and as chirpy as a cricket. You may laugh, but people laughed when the suggestion was made years ago that we would be able to fly.

The subject of bee milk or royal jelly as a human food is an interesting topic. If scientists should discover a means of turning us into giants, our very size might constitute a new menace to world peace.

Removing Honey

As far as I am concerned the ideal procedure for the removal of supers of honey during a honey flow is to remove the honey about a week, or at least a few days, after wet supers have been placed on top. The partly full super, together with most of the hive bees is set off on the ground. The few bees remaining on the sealed combs in the supers below are driven down by whatever method you choose to use, and the partly full super then replaced on the colony. This results in less disturbance to the colony, and they will usually continue to fly heavily with very few bees lying out on the front of the hive as is usually the case when driving bees from the cover on down during hot weather.

—Gordon Still, in 'Gleanings'

N. Z. BEEKEEPER

BENZALDEHYDE

(Artificial Oil of Almonds)

is being tried out as a bee repellent to clear bees out of supers for taking honey from the hives. As yet no final results have been obtained regarding the efficiency of benzaldehyde, as tests are still being carried out, but the indications are that it may be the answer for taking off honey. Most beekeepers will probably be keen to try it out, and we have small stocks on hand for those who wish to do so this season. We are obtaining good supplies for the coming season, and by then we hope to have further information which we can pass on.

SUBSCRIPTIONS TO: AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL and GLEANINGS IN BEE CULTURE

Since the last *N.Z. Beekeeper* went to print we have had advice from the above publications that owing to increased costs of publication the subscriptions have been increased. The following rates now apply: One year, £1/8/9 Two years, £2/11/3 Three years, £3/10/-

BEE SWAX :

We require beeswax in large and small quantities. Top market prices are paid. Proceeds can be paid by prompt cash, or set against goods. Send your wax as soon as you have it ready, and advise us of its despatch.

A. Ecroyd & Son Ltd.

25 Sawyers Arms Road, Papanui, Christchurch 5

Telegrams: ACORN, Christchurch
Telephone: 48-230

P.O. Box 5056,
PAPANUI



ANATOMY OF THE HONEY BEE
APIARY INSTRUCTOR Vince Cooke, of Oamaru, used this diagram to illustrate his talk to beekeepers on bee behaviour and elementary anatomy.

Vince's original drawing in colour amply demonstrated the salient factors required to illustrate the passage of nectar down the oesophagus into the honey sac, the purpose of the proventricular valve, and the regurgitation process from worker to worker.

Also shown are the pharyngeal glands, from which emanates the Royal Jelly substance.

HONEY SAC

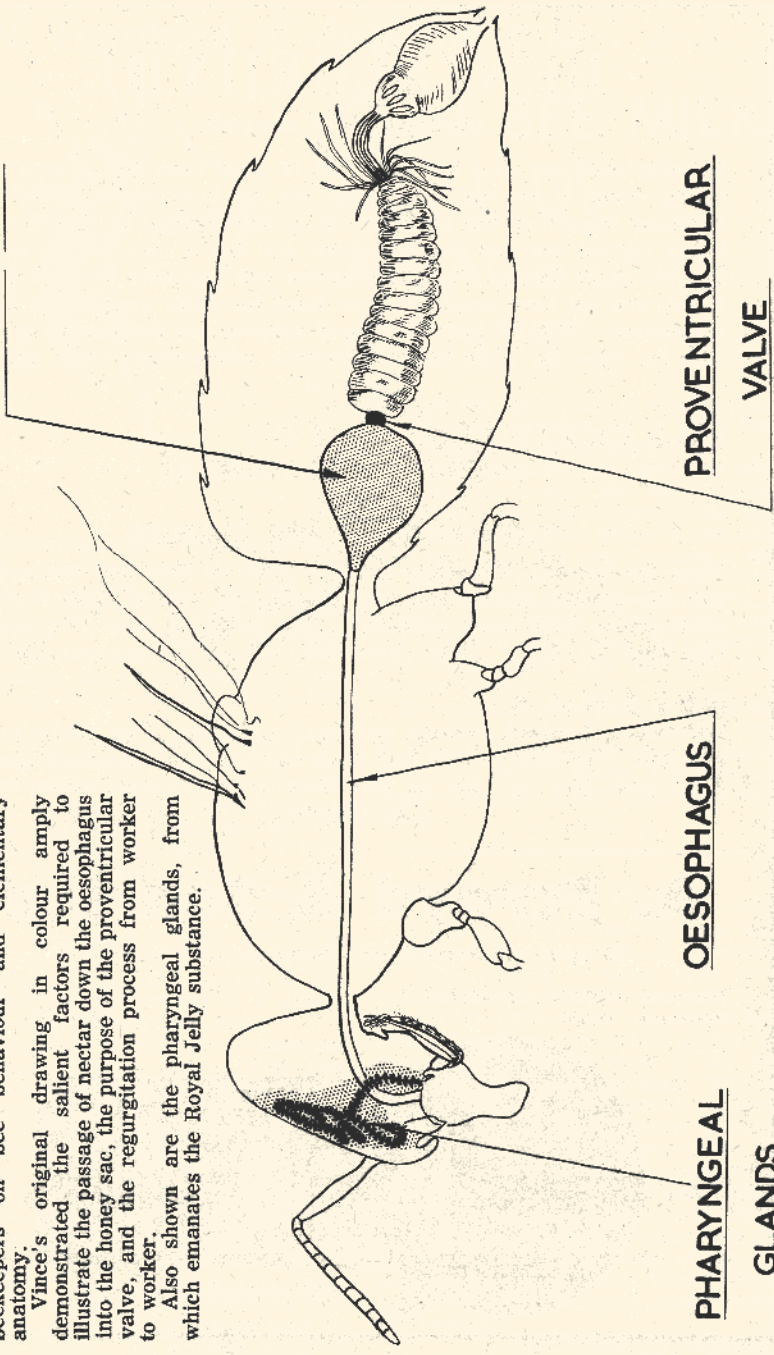
PROVENTRICULAR VALVE

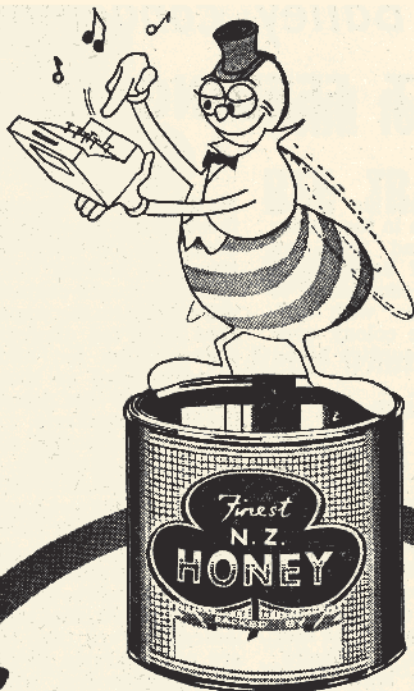
VALVE

OESOPHAGUS

PHARYNGEAL

GLANDS





*Gadsdens put the
bee in business!*

.... PACK YOUR HONEY IN A GADSDEN CAN

- * Smart, modern packaging . . .
- * Stock designs to choose from . . .
- * Easier handling . . . will not crush.
- * Available in 2, 5, 10 and 60 lb capacities . . .

**PACKAGING
SPECIALISTS**

**"PAXENE"
POLYTHENE
FILM & BAGS.**



Available from

J. GADSDEN & CO. LIMITED.

P.O. Box 216, CHRISTCHURCH.

P.O. Box 14, PETONE
P.O. Box 669, DUNEDIN

3490

Dr. Leslie Bailey condemns

FONDANT FEEDING TO BEES

Artificial feeding of bees is rather the rule than the exception in the colder climates of Europe, and with an average yield of 45lb. of honey in a season, beekeepers are compelled to replace harvested surplus with sufficient sugar to carry the colony over the rigours of winter or to survive brood rearing in spring.

SUGAR and CANDY

Sugar syrup fed to bees in autumn is customary, but conditions often necessitate the addition of sugar candy above the top quilt or board. Particularly, the beekeeper who knows that he has been unwise and greedy in failing to leave sufficient natural stores to see his stocks through, has pangs of conscience and fear that his foolishness might cost him dear in complete loss of colonies. The new and enthusiastic amateur is the most likely to fall within the category mentioned.

In recent years, a number of firms have been selling substitutes for liquid feed in the form of block candies which have an analysis closely similar to honey, and the beekeeping fraternity has been glad to be rid of a messy and time-consuming job in preparing liquid syrup. Now, however, a discordant note has been struck by Dr Leslie Bailey of Rothampstead Experimental

Station, who has published a report that these prepared candies are harmful to adult bees and under test conditions has proved to shorten their life cycle.

Control cages containing 30 bees each were used in the experiment, whereby bees were fed diluted honey or invert sugar. Bees fed diluted honey lived twice as long as those fed on invert sugars, and the latter category soon became dystenteric.

Dr Bailey points out that his tests are not yet complete, and the reasons for the harmfulness of the invert sugar solutions is not yet known. Further, the experiments were carried out on small test cages, whereas the same reaction might not result from whole colonies where alternative food sources would be available. At the same time, present indications are that the sugar candies are not desirable for feeding purposes, and beekeepers will have second thoughts as they prepare their colonies for the northern winter.

ONE EXCEPTION

One firm who markets "powdered candy" for bee feed seems to have been exonerated from general criticism, and their particular preparation contains only a small proportion of invert sugar.

Dr Bailey's latest book on bee diseases is now in the technical library.

'SUPERIOR' Comb Foundation

Improved Weed Process
Large Stocks on Hand

Beekeepers' Own Wax Converted
Medium Brood and Thin Super

PULLIN'S APIARIES LTD.

29 Belfast Street, Mt. Roskill, Auckland

Rail Station, Onehunga

P.O. Box 13052, Onehunga

Telephone 556-950



Send for this **NEW** **BEE TRANQUILISER** today . . .

*Read what a professional
apiarist says :*

"I have used "B-Calm" for 4 months in all conditions and cannot fault it. When moving a hive, spray the entrance freely and bees remain quiet and keep away from the entrance. When extracting in sheds I no longer have trouble with bees trying to steal the honey. I spray around the places where they get in and they stay away. "B-Calm" can be used on the hands or the veil without any ill effects to bees: it is quite harmless, it also has no effect on cuts

on the hands. Although the smell is persistent on the veil it washes off the hands immediately. I reckon one 6 oz. Aerosol can will last a busy apiarist for a whole season."

S.G.B. — Masterton.

PACKERS AND MANUFACTURERS CO. LTD.
BOX 295, MASTERTON

Dear Sirs, Please send me by return mail one aerosol can of "B-Calm". I enclose £1.0.0.

Name

Address

MONEY BACK GUARANTEE. I understand that if I am not completely satisfied with the results, my money will be returned in full on receipt of the part used container.

LETTERS to the EDITOR

Correspondence on any subject of interest to beekeepers is cordially invited. Publication does not necessarily imply agreement with the views expressed.

Hastings,
April 1, 1964

Sir,

Concerning the article in the last issue on "How to Handle Bees Without Being Stung", there is a preparation now supplied in an "aerosol" type of press-button container which has the title-heading "Bee-Off". This is manufactured by Hansells, producers of natural food flavours, address: Box 199, Masterton.

This might be very useful for people who have a bad time from certain hives, which may be a throw-back to the original English (or British) bee. It is a great pity that the Italian type wasn't the first and only kind introduced in the early days of settlement in this country.

This spray can be squirted on the hands and arms, and the ankles if necessary.

"Tingle"

☆

☆

☆

March 23, 1964
Canterbury

Sir,

The February "Beekeeper" has at long last, via several members of the other sex, come into my hands.

Having been at the Oamaru Conference I cannot honestly understand Mr. Berry — he orates, and I quote: "I had considerable difficulty in getting answers, etc., etc." and it goes on a good deal further. What nonsense! If he had only listened to the H.M.A. report carefully, we at Conference would have been spared the "painful" necessity of listening to his endless innuendos of incompetence. Even I (a mere woman) have a nasty nagging feeling (after being at Conference, reading Mr. Berry's election policy statement and now again having it thrust under my nose) that he is thinking of one person only—I leave you to guess who that is.

"BEEKEEPER'S WIFE"

☆

☆

☆

Hadlow, No. 4 R.D.
Timaru
April 18, 1964

Sir,

Personally, I consider that the present policy of the Honey Marketing Authority should be drastically changed. It should provide for the removal of excess honey from the local market. This would stop the present fierce competition between packers, stabilise prices and conditions of sale.

As long as the H.M.A. have the monopoly of export, they should export all available honey. Their present claim that there is a better price to be obtained locally just does not make sense, when we consider agent's commissions and the shop-to-shop salesmen employed. It is of no use H.M.A. members proclaiming loudly that local sales give the best return — let us have the actual cost figures to prove it.

I claim that the present H.M.A. policy does not look after the interests of the individual beekeeper, who could get more for his honey if the local market was kept in short supply, and a larger portion of the proceeds from overseas sales returned to producers.

Robert Davidson

35 King Street,
Whangarei.
April 6, 1964

Sir,

Having read in the AUSTRALIAN BEEKEEPER about benzaldehyde and its use, I thought you may be interested with the experience I have had with the use of benzaldehyde (artificial oil of almonds) when removing honey from the hive.

There is no tainting of honey as with the use of carbolic acid cloth. It is important that you have your hive cloth lightly sprinkled with benzaldehyde, then place it over the supers under the lid for a few moments. After a few seconds the bees have gone down, enabling you to remove the supers free of bees.

The smell of benzaldehyde has gone completely a few hours after use. Do not dilute with water. One can use benzaldehyde in dull or hot weather, and it does not hurt the skin when in contact with it.

Benzaldehyde is in use in Australia, and is used extensively in Canada with great results.

Since it evaporates fairly quickly, one needs to keep it in an air-tight container and away from sunlight. The Northland Branch is holding a Field Day at my home yard on April 18 where I am demonstrating the use of benzaldehyde so that members can watch results. Hoping this may be of interest to you and others.

A. G. Tucker,
President,
Northland Branch.

☆

☆

☆

P.O. Box 252, Hastings.
April 18, 1964

Sir,

Your February issue carries quite a lot on a subject that should give all commercial beekeepers food for serious thought. I refer to the matter of the Kimpton Bros. contract.

Mr. J. W. Fraser, in his letter, says that the sole agency principle has never been seriously challenged at Conference, or during the marketing investigation in 1959-60. I have attended numerous Conferences, and I have seldom heard a principle challenged in a more forceful or competent manner than in the case put up by Mr. Berry at last Conference. Also, Arataki Apiaries in their submissions to the investigating committee, in 1959, stated that "on the export market the industry would be better served through the normal trading channels than by the operations of the Honey Marketing Authority". Mr. Berry is challenging the sole agency principle, together with the stifling conditions of the contract, and the fantastic commissions, incentive payments, etc., amounting to as much as 20%.

Mr. Gumbrell makes references to "motives" and to "temporary gains by large packers, which might (or might not) be shared with their suppliers". I feel that these implications are quite uncalled for, and do no credit to their author. As one who has sold through Arataki for many years I have always found Mr. Berry willing to disclose all costs and details and give his suppliers all that is in it, consistent with sound business practice. As to his motive in the matter of the Kimpton contract, I would say that it is very plain. He is trying to put the beekeeping business on a sound footing where the producer can get what his product is worth, where his capital investment is worth somewhere near its proper value when he wants to sell, and where he can get a return for his labour and knowledge comparable with other sections of the community.

How do we compare with other sections of the community at present? Before taking up beekeeping I worked for a butcher. In 1940 when I commenced commercial beekeeping, mince was 4d. per lb., gravy beef 4d., stewing steak 6d. and 8d., and rump 10d. and 1s. Compare these with today's prices. Yet I could sell my honey then for 1s. per lb. in own containers, but now, when money

is worth about quarter the value, I am allowed by law to charge only 1s. 7d. — until recently 1s. 6d. My weekly wage then was £5 10s. 0d. Recently, in the same trade, I have been paid as much for less than one day's work.

Take a look at the charts in your last issue. What do they show? Top price is for best New Zealand honey which is described by Col. Kimpton as the best in the world, and so should bring the top price. But they also show increased prices for Australian and Argentine honey, greater in proportion than for New Zealand honey, presumably without the aid of a "sole agent". In fact chart No. 1 shows a **decline** in New Zealand light amber from 1961 to 1962, while in the same period Canadian and Argentine honey rose. Chart No. 2 shows New Zealand light amber at about 176s. per cwt. in December, 1963, while according to the B.N.Z. Report dated 12/7/63, "stocks of New Zealand light amber had been cleared and no further supplies would be available till next season". Where did the 176s. honey in December come from, or, in other words, how much notice can we take of these charts?

The fact remains that while honey was fetching record prices overseas the market was bare of New Zealand honey, yet the Honey Marketing Authority was selling on the local market at cut prices. This is a scandalous state of affairs while they hold the sole export rights. In fact the honey producers are subsidising the local consumers. It is high time we had some men of proven business ability at the head of our affairs, both in the National and on the Authority.

G. F. R. Gordon

☆

☆

☆

Havelock North
April 22, 1964

Sir,

The articles by Mr. Gumbrell and Mr Fraser published in the last "Beekeeper" certainly call for reply.

Following a discussion with the Minister of Agriculture in January I prepared written submissions on the case for termination of the sole agency agreement with Kimpton Bros. (Red Carnation) Limited, and asked for a statement by the Government on the merits of the changes in marketing procedure which I proposed. These submissions were forwarded to the Minister on February 14 for his consideration—I will make them available to the industry.

Mr Gumbrell writes "I have sufficient faith in New Zealand beekeepers to realise that they know the truth when they hear it." I hope they will recognise the truth when they read it in my submissions. I will no doubt be hearing about it if the Minister recognises anything in them that is not the truth.

Having spent more than two hundred hours of my time in establishing the facts and preparing these submissions I am left with little inclination to take the remarks by Mr. Fraser and Mr. Gumbrell very seriously, but I realise that I must reply. Most of the points raised by them in more than four pages of largely illogical argument and conflicting statements are taken care of in my submissions but we may gain some information, and even some amusement, by examining other points taken at random.

(1) Mr. Fraser: "The whole question of a review of the agreement was one of the prime reasons why the Authority sent the chairman overseas in 1962.

Mr Gumbrell: "However, no agreement can stand for ever without adjustments being made to cope with changing trading trends and practices, and, with this aim in view Colonel Kimpton himself will be visiting New Zealand in May of this year." (1964)

May I ask how many people must go round the world how many times and at whose expense to amend an agreement we would be better without and

which, in any case, could be amended by any able business men and their solicitors in a few hours without leaving their desks and telephones?

(2) Mr. Fraser: "The sole agency principle has never been seriously challenged at Conference."

Does anyone who attended our last Conference agree with that!

(3) Mr Gumbrell's chart shows New Zealand light amber honey overseas realisations as being 160s per cwt. June 1963.

This figure was originally assessed by the General Manager of the Honey Marketing Authority as 145s but was altered to 160s on the suggestion of Colonel Kimpton.

Who is employing whom!

(4) Mr. Fraser implies that information relating to the terms of the agreement has always been freely available to the industry. This is not consistent with events at last Conference nor with events subsequent to my election to the Authority. If he is right, then I must have been involved in a heavy battle about nothing. No sir, he is quite wrong.

(5) Mr Gumbrell: "During the year under review we have sold a record tonnage of 624 tons on the overseas market at record prices". (light amber). He did not mention that we also sold a record tonnage on the local market at prices considerably below price order levels.

But, in the November issue of the journal Mr Gumbrell had this to say. "The reduction in quantity of light amber honeys available for export has been instrumental in securing better prices overseas for these honeys, while the net returns in the Honey Gold pack exceed any export returns so far received."

(6) Mr. Gumbrell: "It is easy to make statements but it is not always so easy to justify them."

The significance of that statement will not be lost on readers.

(7) Mr. Gumbrell refers to pressure by me for termination of Kimpton Bros. contract. The pressure Sir, is by a substantial proportion of the electors. At the moment I seem to be their "Sole Agent" but Mr Gumbrell may rest assured that they will have more agents after the election next September.

(8) Mr. Fraser cannot accept the mere statement of my conviction that termination of the agreement is essential to our best interests and he looks forward with interest to learning the reasons which lead me to such a belief.

My declared reasons which lead me to such a belief were sufficient to satisfy many electors last September. I hope Mr Fraser is still open to conviction and that if he tries to regain his position on the Authority next September he will have a declared policy of terminating the present situation in which the Authority has in effect abdicated its authority in favour of a commission agent.

P. Berry

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

HONEY MARKETING AUTHORITY

HONEYGOLD REVIEW

By G. E. Gumbrell, Chairman, H.M.A.

In view of the differences of opinion concerning the marketing of a light amber honey in retail packs by the Honey Marketing Authority, I feel that the time is opportune to review the history of HoneyGold and to place on record some of the facts that have led up to the returns that are now obtained for this grade of honey.

To get a proper appreciation of the factors that prompted the Authority to embark on this enterprise, it is necessary to think back a number of years and remember the prices then ruling for light amber honey on the overseas market, and compare these prices with what could be obtained by packing and selling these honeys on the New Zealand market.

When Mr. Wallace Nelson was chairman of the H.M.A., he was instrumental in placing this light amber honey on the local market under the name of "HoneyGold." Considerable discussion took place as to grade, price, etc., etc., and it was eventually decided that the honey should be a maximum of 75 points in colour, and should retail at 2d. per pound below the ruling price for top grade honeys. Steps were taken to inform the public what price they should pay for this new brand of honey, full publicity was given to the venture, our selling agents got busy and in May, 1960, "HoneyGold" appeared on the market. Alack and alas, all was not as it should have been and after a promising start, sales fell off and it was obvious that something was wrong.

At this stage of proceedings there was a big change in the personnel and management of the Authority, and a decision had to be made as to whether or not to proceed with the pack. It must be remembered that a lot of money had been spent in promoting this grade of honey, and as our agent reported "that the HoneyGold pack had a definite future but had been the victim of its own undoing — viz.— quality," it was unanimously decided to proceed with the marketing of "Honeygold," and that "steps be taken to acquire the necessary plant to deal with the Authority's retail packing requirements." There were many other matters that influenced this final decision but it must suffice to state that very exhaustive enquiries were made before reaching this decision.

The general manager and I immediately started on the development of the present packing plant and advice was sought from recognised experts in this field of activities. From a small prototype, the present highly efficient plant has been evolved and the industry has overcome the handicap of poor quality that so nearly wrecked its efforts to secure a market for the new "HoneyGold" brand.

Although a maximum of 75 colour points was agreed to, in practice only a 70 colour was used, but subsequent improvements to processing made it possible to use a 60 colour point honey. This standard pertains today. Not only are we using a darker honey than was previously thought advisable, but we are using types of honey that were previously deemed unsuitable for retail packs.

Our activities along these lines have not only been instrumental in developing a market for light amber honey that has materially assisted the suppliers of this grade of honey, but have paved the way for producers who were previously bulk suppliers to enter this field of marketing.

FACTS, FACTORS AND FIGURES: Any business being efficiently run must pay proper attention to overhead costs and the H.M.A. is no exception to this rule. Producers generally will be aware that in the course of a year we receive a considerable tonnage of honey that cannot be exported unless it is processed. There can be varied reasons for this such as low specific gravity, flavour, liquid condition, etc., etc. These honeys are in no way inferior in food value, but to put them in a marketable condition costs money. If they are processed and exported, the net returns are reduced by the cost of processing, but by absorbing these honeys into a "Honey Gold" pack we are achieving the necessary correction at no extra cost beyond ordinary retail packing charges. This is a very vital factor when comparing returns from export and local sales, and one that does not show in any figures. Also, the producers of these honeys have an opportunity of buying second-hand tins and cases, thus materially reducing their production costs. This factor cannot show in the H.M.A. accounts but, nevertheless, is a saving to the beekeeper of approximately .666d. per pound.

Other intangible factors that must appear on the credit side but for which no figure can be shown are:

- (1) Establishment of a brand name
- (2) Reduction of quantity for overseas market
- (3) Stabilising factor on local market
- (4) Industry prestige
- (5) Development of new packs — viz. plastic

and, no doubt, several others as well.

NET RETURNS: Over the past few months a lot of speculation has gone on as to the relative return of the export market versus the "HoneyGold" pack. Over the last 19 months the overseas market has made a net realisation of 10.646d. per pound as compared to a "HoneyGold" retain pack realisation of 11.444d. per pound. Admittedly, there were two occasions (May and December, 1963) when the overseas market bettered the local return by over 1d. per pound, but these were peak prices and occurred before the new price order was issued in New Zealand. The local market cannot be turned on and off like a tap, and all marketing must be conducted on a long-term policy. Even if the overseas prices again reach the December, 1963, levels (which is very improbable) the new price under which "HoneyGold" is sold is a better net return than the December prices overseas. Producers do, I know, appreciate that local prices are a steady return whereas overseas prices can fluctuate very considerably. Your Authority is constantly analysing the trading position, developing new techniques, and doing everything possible to increase efficiency. A very detailed costing system is in operation, and even a possible loss on seals revenue, due to the Authority's trading, is taken into account. This is an intangible factor and is open to dispute either way, but it is one of the many factors which must be considered when drawing comparisons.

Any facts and figures that the Authority places before you are compiled with the utmost care and attention to detail, and are correct to three places of decimals.

Our aim (and duty) is to obtain the highest possible return for suppliers, and at the same time bear in mind the overall picture of industry development. It is a matter of simple arithmetic to calculate the fall in revenue that would have eventuated if we had not sold 377 tons of light amber in retail packs during the last 19 months. This could well have been accentuated if that extra honey had been placed on the overseas market. Without any doubt whatsoever producers of light amber honey would have received less for their product if the Authority had not traded as it did.

(continued on Page 30)

ANALYSIS AND COMPARISON OF AVERAGE MONTHLY NET REALISATIONS FROM LIGHT AMBER HONEY SOLD OVERSEAS AND "HONEYGOLD" RETAIL PACKS SOLD ON THE NEW ZEALAND MARKET, SEPTEMBER 1, 1962, TO MARCH 31, 1964

Month of Sale	Total Tons	Average Net Realisation, Pence per Pound	
		Average Net Realisation, Pence per Pound	"HoneyGold" in Retail Packs
September, 1962	67	9.641	10.764
October	115	9.767	10.929
November	110	9.837	11.254
December	29	9.124	11.219
January, 1963	3	10.198	10.889
February	11	9.507	10.811
March	33	10.053	10.934
April	41	10.624	11.141
May	70	11.903	10.689
June	—	—	10.499
July	25	11.153	11.231
August	—	—	12.031
September	—	—	12.239
October	15	11.723	12.454
November	30	11.576	12.357
December	18	13.753	12.357
January, 1964	—	—	13.889
February	—	—	13.793

CURRENT SEASON'S SHIPMENTS

Month Shipped	Estimated Net Realisation	
March		
Forward Sales	50	13.358
March		
On Consignment	20	—
April		
On Consignment	5	—

AVERAGE NET REALISATIONS — 19 MONTHS

Overseas in Bulk	617 tons	10.646d. per pound
Local in Retail Packs	377 tons	11.444d. per pound

ECROYD'S 'ACORN' WEED PROCESS COMB FOUNDATION

Good stocks of Medium Brood and Full Depth
Thin Super now on hand.

Obtainable from

T. R. W. NICHOLAS

235 Te Atatu Road

HENDERSON

Phone 1314

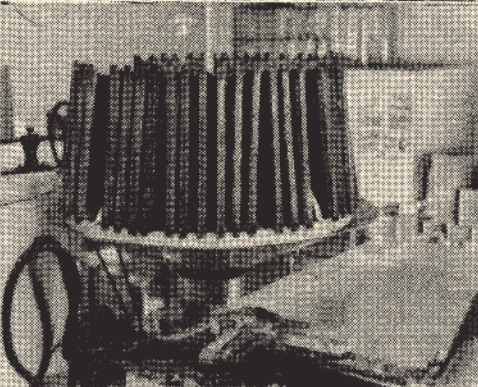
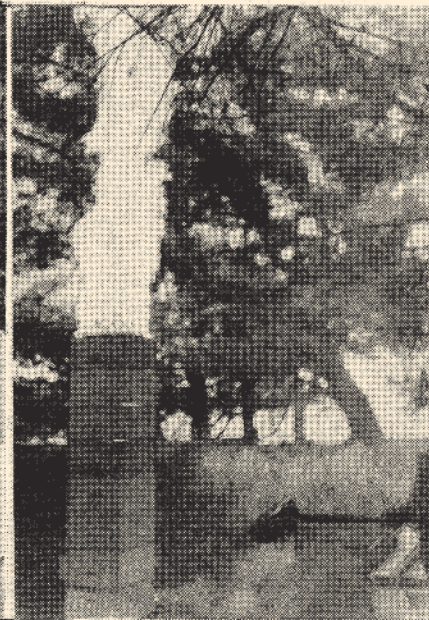
(Rail wax to Henderson Station)

PHOTONEWS



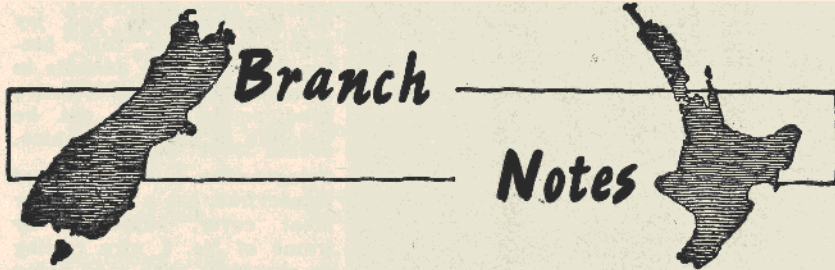
No feminine pride and joy here, but proof that beekeepers are clean animals in their own right. Protective head screen would not be welcome in washing machine.

Octogenarian J. Aitchinson, of Dannevirke, has a new use for meat cover, supported by frame of No. 8 wire resting on shoulders, with cord fixing to waist.



Chimney fire of intentional origin is at the apiary of Syd Bubb, Masterton, in a staunch attempt to keep disease to a minimum. Syd has shovel at the ready for the essential push-over.

Revolving drip tray, fully loaded, at the honey house of Mr and Mrs Aschroft, Havelock North. Uncapping tray is in foreground and extractor at rear. (Photos by courtesy of Syd Line, Apiary Instructor, Hawkes Bay).

The image shows a stylized map of New Zealand, split into North and South Islands, enclosed in a rectangular frame. The word "Branch" is written in a large, bold, serif font across the top of the map, and the word "Notes" is written in a similar font across the bottom. The map is shaded with fine lines to indicate landmasses.

Branch Notes

HAWKES BAY

The branch held a well attended Field Day on April 11 at the honey house of Mr. W. J. C. Ashcroft, in Havelock North, and the Apiary Instructor, Mr. S. Line, gave an interesting talk on the detection of diseases and bacillus larvae in particular, and methods of destruction of infected hives.

John McFadzien's theme was on the production and preparation of honey for marketing, followed by a talk on comb honey production for the overseas market by Percy Berry and demonstrations by Ian Berry of the types of foundations and sections used in the production of comb honey.

Dudley Ward of Dannevirke ably demonstrated the use of a motorised honey barrow, and an open wire Queen rearing cage which he has proved successful this season.

Continued dry weather has had an adverse effect on Hawkes Bay pastures, but on the average, beekeepers in the area have had a reasonably good crop.

—Reported by Mrs. Freda Maultsaid

WAIKATO

The annual Field Day of the Branch was held on March 7 at Opal Springs, Matamata, at which over 100 people attended. The President, Mr L. Holt, welcomed everyone and in particular the visitors, who came from Auckland, Bay of Plenty and elsewhere, including six from the South Island.

First demonstration of the day was by our Apiary Instructor, Mr A. Bennett, who showed a honey heater suitable for amateurs, made by Mr J. Hishon. Mr C. Dawson, from Timaru, gave an address on queen rearing and answered many questions.

The gadget display was a good attraction and included were: Barrow

for 40 gallon drums, steam boiler, glass honey removing board, latest Australian hive fastener, tin opener, and aluminium foundation and plastic combs.

There were fewer entries for the "cake made with honey" competition this year, but two jars of fruit preserved with honey were on display and created considerable interest. The honey judging competition was adjudicated by Mr C. Rope, the Government honey grader.

Mr Colin Gosse, General Manager of the H.M.A., gave us an interesting insight into overseas marketing, and had to conclude his talk under the trees in difficult circumstances because of heavy rain. Despite the adverse weather, this was one of our most successful Field Days ever.

—Reported by H. M. Tuck, Kihikihi.

FAR NORTH

A meeting was held on February 19 for the presentation to Mr. Haines of his Diploma in Beekeeping. Several beekeepers, both old and new members, paid tribute to Mr. Haines and his work, especially his help and advice, given freely to any member.

Mr. Haines recalled that in 1839 the first hive of bees was introduced into New Zealand at Whangape, by a Miss Bumby, and that the beekeeping industry has advanced a long way since then.

Mr. Colin Rope, Apiary Instructor for North Auckland, showed a series of coloured slides of nectar sources in New Zealand.

Honey crops in the area have been fair to good. The prolonged spell of dry weather over most of the northern area has precluded the opportunity of a really good crop.

— Reported by D. D. Matthews

THE EDITOR IS **MOVING** TO AUCKLAND

Please alter your records and
address all correspondence to
P.O. BOX 3561 AUCKLAND
on and after July 1 1964.

SOUTH CANTERBURY

The South Canterbury Branch has arranged for Mr. Arthur S. Harrison of California to stage a practical demonstration of his automatic uncapping machine.

This will be the only demonstration of this machine in New Zealand and interested beekeepers should make every effort to attend. The demonstration will be on the afternoon of Wednesday, July 1, at the extracting plant of Davidson's Apiaries Ltd., Hadlow No. 4 R.D., Timaru.

Should the day be changed, N.B.A. secretaries will be notified, so contact your local secretary at least one week before the demonstration.

— Reported by Robert Davidson

STUDENTS LAMPOON PARLIAMENTARY APIARY.

THE BEEKEEPING FRATERNITY had an indirect plug and the powers-that-be an indirect punch in the Canterbury University's annual "Pro-cesh" held in Christchurch this month of May. A giant beehive on a float carried the words "PARLIAMENTARY APIARY. DRONES GALORE — WORKERS WANTED". Despite aspersion, it was all in a good cause to raise money for a school about to be started for intellectually handicapped children.

Part Two of a New Series

BEGINNING the BEGINNER

By Chris Dawson of Timaru

Often, while writing "Notes for Beginners", there has passed through my mind the thought, "Does anybody ever read these notes?" Not until we found ourselves holidaying in the North Island did my wife and I realise how widely they are read.

During our travels, we met over two hundred beekeepers and beemistresses and the many comments on articles which have appeared over the years showed that there is a good number of people interested in improving their beekeeping methods. One enthusiast told me he "welcomes the arrival of each 'N.Z. Beekeeper' by first of all devouring every word of 'Skep Notes'". One glance at his apiary was sufficient to prove that he had read much more widely than just "Beginners Notes".

The North Island holiday was a heart-warming experience that could only have been made more enjoyable by spending more time with those who were content to just "talk bees."

The questions most frequently asked were firstly for a simple method of rearing a few queens, and secondly for more information on the keeping of queens in Queen Banks. It is interesting to note that the Dawson style cages for Queen Banks are now being used in Canterbury and Manawatu and an inquiry has just been received from Canada for more detailed information.

At the Field Days, there was considerable interest in the increasing use of Benzaldehyde, and varying degrees of success and failure obtained. It is obvious that, in this method, there is being developed an improved technique of harvesting honey.

STARTING WITH BEES

If the beginner followed the Notes in the February edition, he will have made good progress and may be ready to purchase his bees.

There are various ways to start a hive, and success in starting will depend on skill. You could purchase a pound of bees, introduce a queen and by good

skill and slow progress have a colony of bees in two years. You also could buy a good hive of bees, and by lack of skill have it die out during the winter.

For the beginner, there are three main ways of getting started and having a crop of honey, provided the important rules are followed.

1—BUYING A NUCLEUS HIVE

A nucleus colony usually consists of three to six frames of bees with brood, some stores, and a young queen. It is advisable, when you collect your nucleus from the seller, to cage the queen for travelling and she can be released shortly after you have placed the nucleus in its new position.

2—PACKAGE BEES AND QUEEN

Provided there is a honey flow or you are prepared to artificially feed until the honey flow starts, a package of bees with a queen can be purchased. After these arrive the bees are dumped into part of a super of frames with foundation, and the queen is introduced in a cage and released when the bees are happy about accepting her. The colony must be fed adequately with sugar syrup in proportion of 2 parts of sugar to 3 parts of water until a honey flow. This system is difficult if the bees are not able to collect pollen, and it might be necessary to feed a pollen substitute.

The term "dumped" as applied to transferring the bees from the package bees container to the super of frames, means that the container is opened, turned upside down and a sharp jolt on top of the frames dislodges most of the contents into the super.

3—BUYING A COLONY

The best way to get started is to buy a colony of bees. If it is two supers high and bubbling over with bees, if it has a good queen and half a super of stores, you can make a lot of mistakes before harvest time and still get some honey. Usually a colony or hive consists of two or three supers,

N. Z. BEEKEEPER

each of nine frames and two supers should be full of bees. When making arrangements with the seller, you need to be sure it is clearly understood whether you are buying bottom board, lid and queen excluder with the hive. These all effect the price.

4 — SWARMS

Finally, you could have a swarm. This could be the most expensive way to get started owing to the risk of disease. If your swarm brings disease into your equipment, it will be of no avail to point out to the Apiary Instructor that your gear is quite new and the apple of your eye. It will all have to be burned.

Human nature being what it is, not many of us can resist a bargain, and a swarm of bees seems like a heaven-sent gift. Also human nature being what it is, you will forget all about this piece of advice until after you have learned your lesson — then you will remember.

If you want to get well and truly started, even if it is only with one hive, visit a reputable beekeeper, tell him your story and he will help you to secure a colony that will be an investment.

SITE FOR APIARY

In selecting the position for your hive, you might have to consider all of these four things—shelter, neighbours, dryness and local by-laws.

1 — SHELTER

Wet weather and strong winds make it necessary to provide shelter, and that given by a hedge that grows right down to the ground or a paling fence is best of all. High trees that allow draughts at ground level are most unsuitable.

2 — NEIGHBOURS

A high fence or hedge between your bees and your neighbours makes the bees fly high when approaching or leaving the hive and is a help in preventing annoyance to neighbours. If you must place the hive near neighbours, keep as far as possible away from clothes-lines as housewives and bees seem to have one common aim—to rush out into the sunshine when the weather clears after a wet spell. The housewife hangs the washing out, and the bees fly out to make excretia.

Little yellow splashes on nice white washing are a disturbance to good neighbour relationships that an occasional gift of honey will hardly sweeten.

3 — DRYNESS

If there is long grass around the hive, the dampness will cause mouldiness in the bottom super and rotting of the bottom board and super. If the ground underneath is softened by moisture, the hive will sink and perhaps tip over. The front entrance and landing board must be kept clear so that the bees can fly straight in without interference.

4 — LOCAL BY-LAWS

In most of our cities and boroughs are are by-laws that place obligations on all keepers of bees in those confines, and in some places it is necessary to obtain a permit.

WINTER MANAGEMENT

In her book "Life on a Five Pound Note" Evelyn Hosken tells of some good advice given by an old scots woman on the care of the twin sons of one of the pioneers. Her advice that "if she kept their mouths wet and their bottoms dry they would be all right" is equally applicable to the winter care of bees.

Well fed bees that are dry will thrive in quite cold conditions. There should never be less than four full frames of stores in a hive at any time, and if the colony is just going into the winter, there needs to be at least 40 pounds of food.

If artificial feeding is necessary use a syrup of three parts water to two parts of sugar or disease-free honey. When feeding honey syrup, place the feeder in the hive at dusk and remove any surplus in the morning. Honey syrup can be smelt by bees for long distances and can start robbing.

A dry colony will thrive in much colder conditions than one where internal dampness is present. The problem is that when the heat ceated by the cluster of bees rises and meets cold air from outside, moisture in the warm air condenses and forms droplets of water on the higher parts inside the hive. While it is necessary to have ventilation so that the foul air can escape, it needs to escape without causing dampness. Some beekeepers

remove the hive mats for the coldest part of the year while others reduce the front entrances. Your skill in this management will grow with experience.

COLONY MANIPULATION

Every beginner longs to "just have a peep" but it is advisable to disturb the cluster as little as possible during winter. When the temperature is high enough and the bees are flying freely, you can use your opportunity to check that stores are near the cluster and that all is well with your colony. You will be learning something about bee behaviour.

MOUSE GUARDS

A mouse will find a comfortable winter home in a beehive—central heating, plenty to eat and soft music. A strip of wood or tin nailed across the entrance leaving a three eighths inch gap across the full width of the front will keep Mr and Mrs Mouse out and not reduce ventilation too much.

LITERATURE

A useful leaflet produced by and obtainable from the Department of Agriculture is "What every Beginner Should Know About Bees" by C. G. Rope. This is a good start for a beginners library and its free!

John McFadzien Presentation Fund.

The name of John McFadzien is well known to every beekeeper in New Zealand and many in overseas countries. He was Honorary Editor of the Association's quarterly journal, "The New Zealand Beekeeper", for 15 years until November last when a change of personal circumstances made it necessary for him to resign from the post. During this lengthy association with the Industry, Mr. McFadzien gave service to beekeepers far in excess of the normal calls of his position as an Honorary Editor and many individuals will recall with pleasure the advice and information which he freely made available to all correspondents and personal enquirers. Certainly the modest honorarium which the Association was able to pay him never ever compensated him for the time and loyalty he devoted to beekeepers' welfare.

The National Executive feels that many would wish to have the opportunity of joining in showing their appreciation to him in a tangible manner and accordingly invites donations to a Presentation Fund.

It is intended to make such presentation to John McFadzien personally at the Dominion Conference at Hastings in August.

Please address your donations to The General Secretary, P.O. Box 19, Foxton.

First In Plaudits to the Far North Branch

Received at Head Office on May 8 were all the annual returns from the Far North (Kaitaia) Branch; Audited Statement of Receipts and Expenditure for year ended April 30, copy Branch Annual Report, Remits for Conference, Delegates' Certificate, in fact "the works".

Congratulations to Branch Secretary, D. D. Matthews, and President, W. G. MacPherson, for a very efficient job.

(Other Branches please note that the "deadline" for these returns is May 30).

(From page 1)

Since it is always easier to think of pleasures to come than it is to anticipate hard work, spare a thought NOW for the pleasure derived by both donor and recipient in the exchange of greetings to friends old and new and especially to those away from home or in distant places.

The Bee Research Association, Woodside House, Chalfont Heights, Gerrards Cross, Buckinghamshire, England, an organisation which has contributed vastly to our knowledge of bees and their wondrous ways, publishes greeting cards especially designed for beekeepers, each of which has colourful illustrations of bees and apiary scenes. They are beautifully produced, and well worth buying.

N. Z. BEEKEEPER

The Distribution of "HONEYGOLD"

PROVINCIAL PRODUCER PACKERS will be interested to see the recent schedule released by the H.M.A. of distribution details of "HONEY GOLD" Light Amber honey for the six months ending March 31, 1964. The quantities sent to provincial centres is surprisingly small, and they are as follows:

	Tons	Cwt.
Whangarei	4	0
Auckland	35	0
Hamilton		15
Tauranga		11
Rotorua		5
Gisborne		16
Napier		4
Hastings		6
New Plymouth		5

Hawera		1
Wanganui		9
Palmerston North	12	9
Wellington		7
Nelson		2
Blenheim		1
Greymouth		1
Hokitika		3
Christchurch	3	3
Timaru		6
Oamaru		3
Dunedin	5	4
Invercargill		6
	65	8
Government Stores Board	12	12
	78	0

Historical Notes . . .

CHANGES IN FIFTY YEARS

By W. B. Bray

THE PASSING of the 1907 Apiaries Act set in motion great changes in beekeeping. At that time there were very few commercial beekeepers. Most of the hundred thousand hives were owned by farmers who would put a box on a swarm in the hopes of getting a little honey later on. Colonies would swarm several times and late swarms in the harvest crops were an embarrassment when accidents occurred with horse teams. These incidents led to the present insurance scheme. But changes began to take place for the good of the industry. Tractors began to take the place of horses, and motor transport came in. Gradually the fear of bees lessened.

Then the farmers woke up to the value of bees in the fertilisation of seed crops, and since then there has not been difficulty in securing apiary sites on farms.

Beekeepers themselves have contributed to the changes with which bees were regarded, primarily by using Italians as being quieter to handle, and their efforts at breeding bees true to type were not lost on farmers who appreciated good stock. Between

breeding and better management to reduce swarming the nuisance of stray swarms and savage bees began to disappear. Many beekeepers have practically bred out the old desire to swarm, so that swarms are almost unheard of today.* Smaller outyards have proved an advantage, as the necessary work is done before the bees wake up to the facts and the yards are not left in an uproar. As one farmer put it: "These fellows don't spend much time with the bees, but they seem to know what they are doing."

Above all, farmers began to appreciate the necessity of getting rid of disease and have become most co-operative and are impressed with the way beekeepers have equipped themselves with the best in hives, buildings, plant and trucks.

Like the old saying, "nothing succeeds like success". The present day beekeeper does not always realise how much he owes to those who pioneered the first half of this century.

* Not according to apiary inspectors!

— Ed.

ODD ITEMS OF INTEREST

THE REAL THING . . .

A reprint of the Food and Drugs Act now available from the Government Printer is well worth reading for the interesting information it contains, and the specifications given for a wide variety of foods for human consumption, ranging from soup to mutton birds and Chinese eggs.

Of particular interest to the beekeeping fraternity is the reference to the honey product and to the inference bestowed by a newspaper writer on reading the reprint, who wrote: "No wonder that the bees have been able to maintain such high standards in the quality of their honey, and to unerringly produce the right product every time. There, for every bee to read, in the Food and Drug Regulations: 'Honey shall be the nectar and saccharine exudations of plants gathered, modified and stored by the honey bee.'" So now you know!

ITALIAN QUEEN IN INDIA

It has been reported from the Punjab that Indian native bees have at last been made to accept an imported Italian queen. Experiments have been made for many years in this direction, but without success, and efforts to establish nucleus colonies of Italian bees from Europe have similarly failed.

In the most recent and successful venture, a total of 10 mated Italian queens were imported by air and caged with Indian colonies, but of the 10 nine were killed. The tenth was accepted after the fourth day of caging, and was fed through the wire mesh and eventually accepted. The hive appears to have turned to normal activities of collecting and brood rearing, and it will be interesting to see whether the colony continues to be satisfied with their new titular head. The queen soon settled down to production, and did not seem to be affected or concerned at the different appearance of her consorts.

THIS FORM MAY BE YOUR KEY TO SUCCESS

Payment of the small sum of TEN SHILLINGS as a subscription to the NATIONAL BEEKEEPERS' ASSOCIATION entitles you to the privileges of membership, as well as receiving copies of THE NEW ZEALAND BEEKEEPER every quarter. You will derive great help and benefit from becoming a member of the Association, and fellow members will willingly assist you.

Forward your name and address today to :

The General Secretary, NATIONAL BEEKEEPERS' ASSOCIATION OF N.Z. (INC) P.O. BOX 19, FOXTON, enclosing your payment of 10/-. The address of your local branch, and full information will be forwarded to you, and your name added to the mailing list of THE NEW ZEALAND BEEKEEPER.

Name.....

Address.....

.....No. of Hives.....

BEEKEEPERS TECHNICAL LIBRARY

The following books have been added to the Library:—

Donated by THE HERALD PRINTING WORKS, Yorkshire

The Art of Beekeeping B
William Hamilton 208 p. 1951

Donated by MESSRS. OLIVER AND BOYD, Edinburgh

Bees and Beekeeping B
A. S. C. Deans 80 p. 1962

Beekeeping Techniques B
A. S. C. Deans 176 p. 1963

Donated by UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA PRESS, Berkeley, California

Queen Rearing 174 p. B
H. H. Laidlaw and J. E. Eckert 1962

Donated by CLEMSON AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE, Clemson, South Carolina, U.S.A.

Beekeeping in South Carolina C
W. H. Purser and L. M. Sparks 32 p. 1962

Donated by APIARY DIVISION, SASKATCHEWAN DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE

Beekeeping in Saskatchewan 100 p. C
J. H. Arnott and S. E. Bland 1954
Also various Pamphlets to be catalogued later.

Donated by DEPT OF ENTOMOLOGY, KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY, Manhattan, Kansas

Bee Culture in Kansas C
A. L. Parker 88 p. 1962

Honey in Your Baking 24 p. 1960 C

Donated by the BRITISH ELECTRICAL AND ALLIED INDUSTRIES RESEARCH ASSOCIATION, London
Electric Heating of Bee Hives (2) C
E. B. Wedmore 32 p. 1946

Donations have also been received of over 200 pamphlets, booklets and reprints on a wide range of subjects relating to bees and beekeeping. These will be catalogued and published later.

Members of the Association are reminded that they are welcome to borrow books from the Library and that application should be made to the Hon. Librarian, Mr. Chris Dawson, P.O. Box 423, Timaru.

MAY 1964

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS

★ SITUATION WANTED ★

EXPERIENCED MARRIED MAN

would like to work for a New Zealand beekeeper. Accommodation is essential.

Please write:

George Peneder
R.R.3 Pontypool
Ontario, Canada

★ SITUATIONS VACANT ★

YOUNG MAN WANTED

Some experience, for honey production (Two-queen system), and to learn QUEEN REARING. Good wages and conditions.

BATES APIARIES

Queen Breeders and Honey Producers, R.D.2, Matamata.

RELIABLE YOUTH OR YOUNG MAN

WANTED to help progressive commercial outfit in Central Otago. Excellent conditions. Start spring time or end of school year. Write:—

ALLAN WARD,
Box 19, Hawea Flat.

MAN for modern commercial apiary where all aspects of beekeeping worked. Good wages and bonus paid. Replies to: "Modern", c/o. N.Z. Beekeeper.

★ FOR SALE ★

SAVE THAT HEAVY LIFTING

PLAN NOW for moving your hives and your honey crop next season. The WARD MOTORIZED HIVE LOADER has been well proven in both Islands. Inquire now from D. L. Ward, Guy Street, Dannevirke. South Island Agents: A. Ecroyd and Son Ltd., P.O. Box 5056, Papanui, Christchurch.



FOR SALE



BEEKEEPING OUTFIT, SOUTH WAIKATO
 BEEKEEPING OUTFIT, SOUTH WAIKATO
 BEEKEEPING OUTFIT, SOUTH WAIKATO
 BEEKEEPING OUTFIT, SOUTH WAIKATO

SITUATED one mile from P.O. and rail. Three bedroom dwelling and honey house, etc., in tidy condition. Six acres of land, potentially very valuable for subdivision. An average production district both for quantity and quality, with room for up to 1000 hives. 75% of present crop being packed for local market. Price for land and buildings £6500. 200 hives and sundry plant for sale separately. Inquiries to:—

"TIDY,"

C/o. The Editor, N.Z. Beekeeper.

HONEY Extractor: Bates 12 frame, good condition. Offers to: M. E. A. Deadman Ltd., Okoroire Railway, No. 1 R.D., Tirau.

200 WELLDREX Queen Excluders, as new, purchased October, 1963. Standard size "Alliance" Electric Pyrotenax Top Heat Cappings Reducer in tinned steel, with tinned copper steam jacket. Owner has replaced with larger model.

D. L. WARD, Kintail Apiaries,
 Guy Street, Dannevirke.

**SMALL BEEKEEPING OUTFIT
 SMALL BEEKEEPING OUTFIT**

70 Hives and Equipment; 8 Frame Extractor and Honey House; Appliances to cope with 300 hives. All in first class condition. Also 800 Supers and 47 Supers of Feed Honey.

R. GODDARD, Raetihi

**BEE RESEARCH ASSOCIATION
 PUBLICATIONS**

COVER a wide range of subjects—Bee-keeping Methods, Breeding, Diseases, Pollination, Honey and Other Bee Products to mention a few. Free List and details of distinctive Christmas Cards available free from:

Bee Research Association Publications,
 11 Poplar Grove, Maidstone,
 Kent, England

UNCAPPING KNIFE
 Electric, unused. For sale £1 below list price.
 Write: L. J. Bradfield,
 Ruataniwha Street, Waipukurau.

**FOUR QUEEN
 COMPACTS
 GIVE UNBELIEVABLE
 HARVEST!**

Fourteen deep bodies under five feet!
NO DISMANTLING
 when inspecting brood nests!
 Investigate now, by air mail:

Gene Hinsdale, 4217 So 116 Street,
 Seattle. Washington. 98168 U.S.A.

**HIVE MATS HIVE MATS
 HIVE MATS HIVE MATS**

FABRIC HIVE MATS (16in. x 20in.), manufactured from phormium tenax (native flax fibre), are available ex MANUFACTURER in bales of 150 mats at £4/15/- per bale, f.o.r. Foxton.

Orders for not less than one bale, accompanied by cash and stating railhead to which delivery is required, should be sent direct to:—

N.Z. WOOLPACK AND TEXTILES LTD.
 P.O. Box 44, Foxton

(PLEASE NOTE: Orders should NOT in future be forwarded through the General Secretary, N.B.A.)

OVERSEAS PUBLICATIONS

THE AUSTRALIAN BEE JOURNAL

caters for both Amateur and
 Commercial Apiarists

Subscription 20/- (Aust.) per annum.
 Published monthly.

VICTORIAN APIARISTS' ASSOCIATION

112 Whitehorse Road, Ringwood,
 Victoria, Australia

GLEANINGS IN BEE CULTURE

A 64-page monthly bee magazine, generously illustrated, featuring timely articles on bee-keeping practices in the United States.

Rates: \$3.00 per annum.

Sample on request.

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

THE AUSTRALIAN BEEKEEPER

Published by Pender Bros. Pty. Ltd.
 P.O. Box 20, West Maitland, N.S.W.

Subscription 20/- per annum.

Sample copy free on application.

The National Beekeepers' Association

(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 (maximum)	5 0 0

An associate member shall pay 5/- per annum.

JOIN YOUR NEAREST BRANCH
AND DERIVE FULL BENEFITS

APIARY INSURANCE

(Public Risk Indemnity)

Free Cover for Association Members.

All financial members of the Association are automatically indemnified against Public Risk claims up to £5000 in any occurrence of injury or death to persons or livestock directly attributable to the actions of the members' bees and arising from his or her negligence as the beekeeper. The cover is underwritten by the New Zealand Insurance Company Ltd. and the premium met by the Association from consolidated funds.

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. L. W. Goss, P.O. Box 3561, Auckland, not later than the 25th of the month preceeding publication.

Non-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

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

Front Page Story

FASHIONS CHANGE. How the well dressed beekeeper wore protective clothing in that year of grace 1545, as depicted in Sebastian Munster's "COSMOGRAPHIA" and published by courtesy of Bee Research Association, England.

Due allowance must be made for hand sketching and the fact that the artist may not have been a practical beekeeper, but if the size of the bees shown is proportionately correct, then they must indeed have had some fearsome insects to handle in those far gone days.

Whilst the voluminous cloth skirt would have given considerable protection, it is a pity that some venturesome male did not advise the good woman to wear male attire to prevent creepers from ground level.

Great advances were made from the Middle Ages onwards with man's understanding of bees and his ability to control them, and it was in the year 1536 that the first description of the queen bee as a female capable of laying eggs, was published in Spain by Luis Mendez de Torres—a great break through.

Alliance Bee Quality Supplies

Winter is here . . .

and it is time to replace worn-out equipment

STOREYS, FRAMES, ROOFS and BOTTOM BOARDS

Don't delay! Place your order now to ensure early delivery.

P A I N T :

"INTERNATIONAL" HOUSE PAINT

G.P. Priming 48/- per gallon

Exterior White Undercoat 45/- per gallon

High Gloss White 49/- per gallon

Three-gallon lots and over: freight paid to nearest station.

Use "International" Paint and save money when painting your storeys.

B E E S W A X :

We are always buyers at highest current rates.
Proceeds can either be paid for by cash or set against goods.

The Alliance Bee Supplies

COMPANY LIMITED

25 Sawyers Arms Road, Papanui, Christchurch 5

Telegrams: "BEEWARE", Christchurch

Telephone: 41-699

P.O. Box 5056, Papanui

Printed by the Timaru Herald Company Limited, Sophia Street, Timaru