

THE
NEW
ZEALAND

BEEKEEPER

NOVEMBER, 1964



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Mr. T. S. WHEELER
Otewa Road, Otorohanga

Executive :

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Pio Pio, King Country

Mr. D. A. BARROW
44 Baycroft Av., Tauranga

Mr. J. GLYNN
Box 5, Balfour, Southland

Mr. G. WINSLADE
1H R.D., Oamaru

General Secretary :

Mr. R. A. FRASER
F.C.C.S., F.Comm.A.
P.O. Box 19, Foxton

Editor :

Mr. L. W. GOSS
P.O. Box 3561, Auckland

Hon. Librarian :

Mr. CHRIS DAWSON
P.O. Box 423, Timaru

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THE
NEW
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BEEKEEPER

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ELECTION RESULTS

"GOVERNMENT of the people, for the people, by the people" loses its significance when the declared result of the poll is inconclusive—as is instanced by the recent election results in the United Kingdom, where opposing factions have gained almost equal support from the electorate. Specific action on any contentious matter cannot be said to have the support of the majority.

The election results for producers' representatives to the Honey Marketing Authority, however, are conclusive indeed, and there can be no possible doubt as to the expressed and forthright wishes of the voters in electing as their representatives two men who have made their views clear and concise.

With a polling percentage of 77.48%, J. D. Lorimer received 1640 votes, and J. W. Fraser 1588 votes, with the next contender receiving 670 votes.

Both representatives have given good service to the industry and are well known to large and small beekeepers. J. D. Lorimer was elected producer representative in 1961 and has been Deputy Chairman of the Board for the past 12 months. For six years he served on the Dominion Executive of the National Beekeepers' Association.

J. W. Fraser was appointed N.B.A. representative in 1956 and held office until 1960, when the appointment was abolished by an amendment to the H.M.A. Regulations. He was elected producer representative in 1960 until defeated at the 1963 election. Deputy Chairman of the Authority for two years, he was also on the Dominion Executive of the N.B.A. for nine years, during which time he held the office of Dominion President for four years, and Vice-President for two years.

Both North and South Islands are represented in that J. D. Lorimer farms at Hamilton and J. W. Fraser at Ryal Bush, Invercargill.

Election to the controlling board of any in-

→ Page 17.

NOVEMBER 1964

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News from the

HONEY MARKETING AUTHORITY

and the Chairman's Report

At a meeting of the Authority held on October 13th, 14th and 15th, Mr J. W. Fraser, of Ryal Bush, Southland, was elected Chairman of the Authority for a term of two years, with Mr J. D. Lorimer, of Hamilton, Deputy Chairman for a similar period.

The following payout on honey supplied during the 1963-64 season was declared:

Category	Grade Equivalent	Range of Grading Points	Advance Payment per 100 Points	Final Payment per 100 Points	Total Payment per 100 Points
A	White Clover	93.25/Over	11d	4½d	15½d
B	Clover and Mixed	91.00/93.24	11d	4d	15d
C	Extra Light Amber	87.55/90.99	11d	4d	15d
D	Light Amber 60/75	79.25/87.54	10d	5d	15d
E	Light Amber 50/59	75.75/79.24	10d	5d	15d
F	Medium Amber 40/49	72.25/75.74	10d	3½d	13½d
G	Medium Amber 30/39	72.24/Under	10d	3½d	13½d
	Kamahi Pool		8d	3½d	11½d
	Manuka Pool		per lb. 6d	per lb. 3½d	per lb. 9½d

A feature of the season was the highest average grading and the highest average payout in the history of the Authority.

Averages for the season were:

Overall	Grading Points	Payments per lb.	Tonnage
	91.34	13.911d	1297

The previous highest averages were established in the 1958/59 season:

Overall	Grading Points	Payments per lb.	Tonnage
	91.02	13.100d	397

CONDITIONS OF SUPPLY 1964/65 SEASON

Full details of the conditions of supply for honey supplied to the Authority are set out in the Authority's circular distributed to all producers.

Some changes to conventional procedure have been made, and three of them are of sufficient importance to warrant comment.

ABOLITION OF MANUKA AND KAMAHI MARKETING POOLS

Both these Pools have been abolished and honeys normally falling into these pools will be graded in the normal

manner for colour, flavour and condition and allotted the appropriate grading or payout points applicable.

This change will be of particular importance to the producers of Manuka honey who will now have an incentive to prepare their product to a higher standard than previously.

DIFFERENTIAL WITHHOLDING PAYMENTS

Certain classes of honey received by the Authority, because of their high colour grading, fall into a payout category far in excess of their market realisation. These honeys consist of a predominant nectar source which has distinctive characteristics of flavour or condition, which make the honey a more difficult marketing proposition, thus resulting in lower returns.

With the abolition of the Manuka and Kamahi Pools the Authority is immediately faced with two honeys falling into this category. Two other honeys which present a similar problem are Rata and Tawari.

To overcome this anomaly in the payout system a scheme has been established whereby at the point the grading advance payment is made, a de-

duction is made which represents the Market Differential for that class of honey. The deduction is not an outright penalty, but a withholding payment. This allows the Authority to review the situation at the close of a season, and if, because of special conditions applicable to the specific season, the Market Differential is not incurred, or only partly incurred, a refund of part or all of the withholding payment may be made to producers with the final payment.

The following are the Market Differentials declared for the coming season with comments on each class.

Rata.—This is a honey in the 96/100 colour range and the delicate flavour group. It receives grading points similar to White Clover, but because of its distinctive flavour its actual market value is in the vicinity of 1d per lb less than White Clover.

A differential of 1d per lb has been declared.

Tawari.—This is a honey in the 80/85 colour range and the Mild Flavour group. Because of its distinctive flavour and the fact that it is light bodied, it presents problems in marketing. Small quantities may be absorbed into Extra Light Amber blends, and greater quantities can be absorbed into Light Amber blends of fuller flavoured honeys. Even though light in colour it has the market value of a Light Amber Honey.

A differential of 1d per lb has been declared.

Manuka.—This is a honey in the 55/60 colour range and the Mild/medium flavour groups. Its very distinctive flavour, which tends to strengthen with age, its thixotropic characteristics and a tendency to high moisture content give it a lower market value than other Light Amber honeys of good flavour.

A differential of $\frac{1}{2}$ d per lb has been declared.

Kamahi.—Is predominantly produced in Westland but is also found elsewhere in New Zealand, together with its associate species Towai (the northern variety), is an Extra Light Amber honey. A characteristic of its flavour is its ability to dominate blends even though introduced in small quan-

ties. There are many degrees of colour and flavour involved in Kamahi honeys and it is difficult to market a consistent grade. Marketing outlets are limited and in the light of returns received over the past few years a differential has been assessed. This differential brings the payout for Kamahi honey into line with the payout already being made under the special prorate points system operated under the Pool Scheme.

The differentials declared are:
85.00 Grading Points or better—
2d per lb.
84.99 Grading Points or under—
2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d per lb.

RETURNABLE CONTAINERS

A scheme of Returnable Containers has been introduced for honey supplies to the Auckland Depot where the Authority has the ability to make available to producers bulk containers resulting from blending operations.

A container charge of £2.2.4d per 44 gallon drum and 4/10d per 5 gallon can ex Auckland Store will be made for each use of the container. These rates are in line with the price already established for second hand tins and cases, being the equivalent of .775d per lb.

Each producer participating in this scheme will be expected to enter into an agreement with the Authority to ensure that abuse of the concession given does not occur.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

At the October meeting, the Authority took the opportunity to review its rules and procedure generally. Resolutions which could be interpreted as restraining a free and proper flow of information to producers were rescinded. Members of the Authority are available, as in the past, to give further reports as may be requested.

OVERSEAS MARKETING

In order that negotiations may be entered into with Kimpton Bros., for variation in some of the terms of the existing marketing agreement, notice has been given that it is the intention of the Authority to terminate the present contract in December 1965.

Negotiations for a new agreement will proceed during this period.

An approach from the London firm of D. J. Scott & Co. Ltd., to act as the Authority's agent has been received and carefully considered by the Authority. No action has been taken.

INCREASED EXPORTS — TAXATION INCENTIVE

Consideration was given by the Authority as to whether it would recommend that the Taxation Incentive for Increased Exports be extended to include beeswax and extracted honey in retail containers. Inclusion of comb foundation and comb honey is already being considered in this respect.

It was decided to recommend the inclusion of beeswax but not extracted honey in retail containers, because restrictions existed which might allow some producers to export packed lines whilst others were excluded, and that inequity could arise if one section of producers was in a position to enjoy these incentives, while others were denied the privilege.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO N.B.A.

During the course of its meeting the Authority met the Dominion President of the N.B.A., Mr H. Cloake, and the Dominion Vice-President, Mr T. Wheeler, who were invited to attend at the expense of the Authority to discuss ways and means whereby interim financial assistance could be given to the Association until a long term scheme could be fully planned and put into operation.

In accordance with the function of the Authority, whereby it is expected "to assist in the orderly development of the Honey Producing Industry," the Authority has agreed to offer to the Association the following assistance for a period of two years from June 1, 1964:

- (a) That the Authority acquire a half interest in the Association's Journal, "The N.Z. Beekeeper", by:—
 - (1) Assuming responsibility for the payment of 50% of the costs of production, printing and distribution.
 - (2) Assuming responsibility for the payment of 50% of the Editor's salary.
 - (3) The Association paying to the Authority 50% of the income from advertisements in the publication.

- (4) The banner heading of the journal associating the Authority with the Association in its publication.

- (5) Agreeing to the editorial policy and full control being retained as the responsibility of the Association.

- (b) That the Authority undertakes the responsibility for the costs of meetings or any other costs directly associated with any action of the National Executive of the Association, taken to plan, obtain the views of the Industry, and to implement a scheme for financing the activities of the Association on a long term basis.

CONDITIONS OF SUPPLY

The General Manager has already sent to producers full details of certain changes in methods of payment to ensure an equitable payout to producers of those honeys which present marketing problems. He has also presented details of a scheme involving the availability of returnable bulk containers at the Auckland depot.

No further comment on these schemes are necessary, except to say that the proposals are in accordance with established policy principles of the Authority:—(1) that the payout on each grade of honey should have a direct relation to the realisations obtained from the marketing of that grade, and (2) that every use should be made of the facilities available at the Auckland depot, and that any economies that can be effected should be returned to the producers of those honeys which have to carry the costs of blending.

It is a fact that in establishing the payout for those types of honey which require to be blended, the full costs of blending are treated as a direct charge against those honeys. It seems only fair, therefore, that the benefits arising from the availability of used containers should belong to this group.

USE OF 44 GALLON DRUMS

While the Authority has authorised the supply of honey in 44 gallon drums to the Auckland depot without any restrictions, it has been necessary to restrict the supply of honey in these containers in the South Island.

Supply at this stage is restricted to those producers who have actually made

APIMONDIA
AL XX-LEA CONGRES INTERNATIONAL DE APICULTURA —
JUBILIAR, BUCERESTI 1965



PICTURED HERE are stamp designs produced by the Roumanian postal authorities in honour of the 20th International Congress of Beekeeping to be held in Bucharest in 1965.

A feature of each stamp is an artist's impression of a honey bee working blossom, prominently incorporated into stamp design.

The two stamps in the left are printed in soft shades of mauve for the background with the flowers in orange, with pale blue lettering, while the stamp on right has a bright blue ground with the bee and flowers in shades of orange, black and white.

A letter received from the organising committee points out that the General Assembly of Apimondia elected Roumania as the country to offer hospitality to the 20th International Beekeepers Jubilee Congress and that the end of August has been decided upon as the most satisfactory time of the year to meet the convenience of the majority of apiarists.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

alterations to their plant, and have already supplied drums last season. It is not envisaged that the list of suppliers will be extended; in fact, it may even be necessary to restrict supply from those already authorised.

The market for South Island White Clover in 44 gallon drums is definitely restricted. At the present time a seasonal production of any more than 100 tons would be an embarrassment to the Authority and its selling agent. It must be appreciated by producers of this type of honey that high prices are mainly maintained by a large number of sales to small users, to whom the 44 gallon drum is unacceptable.

TRANSPORT COSTS OF CONTAINERS TO SOUTH ISLAND

The Authority has recognised that the

high costs involved in the transport from Wellington to Blenheim of empty drums (both 5 gallon and 44 gallon) make the use of these containers in the South Island an unattractive proposition.

Every endeavour has been made to obtain concessions from the operators of this service, and investigations have been made into alternatives. To date, no real satisfaction has been obtained, and the most economical form of transport is still by the Cook Strait Air Services.

The Authority have also made representations to have 5 gallon drums manufactured in the South Island, but it would appear that this is out of the question due to limited demand.

National Beekeepers' Association

A one-day meeting of the General Executive was held in Wellington on September 13. Present were Messrs. H. Cloake (Dominion President), T. S. Wheeler, G. E. Winslade, J. R. Barber, J. Glynn, D. A. Barrow and the General Secretary (Mr R. A. Fraser). The business arising from the Dominion Conference in August was reviewed and agreement expressed with the action taken by the General Secretary on various conference resolutions.

B.L. Disease: The draft of proposed legislation designed to give effect to the 1961 B.L. Committee recommendations received close scrutiny, and was the subject of further discussions with the Director of Horticulture. With appropriate safeguards to protect the reasonable rights of individuals, the legislation, when passed, should considerably improve the disease position and ensure effective control. It is hoped to have it operative this year.

Research: Submissions to the National Research Advisory Council by the General Secretary on the industry's needs in the field of research received complimentary endorsement. It is hoped that the submissions may result in more realistic research activity of benefit to the industry.

N.D.Ap. Examinations: Arrangements have been completed with the Royal N.Z. Institute of Horticulture for assistance to be given by some of the industry's "senior citizens" with various examinations, and the Institute has expressed its appreciation of this help.

The Overseas Study Bursary scheme is also developing well as a result of numerous exchanges of correspondence between the General Secretary and the Canadian Beekeeper Council, the Department of Agriculture in Canada and the Alberta Beekeepers Association. Arrangements are being developed with the Alberta Association for the hosting of a first New Zealand bursar in 1965, and they are evincing considerable interest in the project. On current indications the lucky candidate will be assured of a warm welcome amongst hospitable people.

Association Finances and the Levy Scheme: The President reported on his interview with the Minister of Agriculture (Mr. Talboys) and officers of his department after Conference. Following the suggestion of the Minister, further discussions are to be held with the N.Z. Honey Marketing Authority on 14 October, and the Executive will probably meet again shortly thereafter to evaluate progress on the feasibility of an Association Levy to meet financial working requirements. Accounts totalling £191-2-5 were passed for payment at the meeting but the Treasurer's Statement showed further accrued liabilities for salaries, honoraria and other charges amount to £477-10-0, some of which would have to be held over pending receipt of annual grant moneys.

The "Tutu" Problem has not been lost to sight. A further specialist meeting of officers of D.S.I.R., Health and Agriculture Departments is to be convened in Wellington on October 15 and 16. As in the past, the industry will have an invited representation from both the Association and the H.M.A. Messrs H. Cloake and R. A. Fraser have been appointed to represent the Association.

Future Administrative Services were also the subject of lengthy consideration by the Executive, and although some progress had been made with investigations up to the date of the meeting, no new appointment was possible at that stage.

(see page 27)

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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.

COMMENTARY

from the Editor's Desk and Mail



ACCORDING TO THE "Survey of Bee Health and Beekeeping in England and Wales, 1963," over 4,500 queen bees were imported into England and Wales under the Importation of Bees Order during 1963. A break down of countries of origin gives over 3,900 from Italy, 490 from the U.S.A., 62 from Australia and 42 from France. Unfortunately, the report cannot be viewed as representative for the United Kingdom, because neither Scotland nor Northern Ireland release similar information.

Samples of worker bees accompanying queens were inspected by Ministry of Agriculture technicians, and it was found that of 75 packages sampled, 15 had Nosema, 2 had Nosema and Amoeba, and 58 were entirely free from all trace of disease.

The numerical strength of beekeepers is shown as 3,500 less than in 1962, which is attributed to the fact that so many suffered severe losses in the previous winter and who have become disheartened or demoralised through their loss, or who have not yet had time to make replacements through imported packages or other means. There is no doubt about the fact that New Zealand beekeepers, in comparison with their European counterparts, are extremely fortunate, and do not experience the disappointments and set backs which so often happen "over there". When things are amiss and not running as smoothly as we would like, it is as well to pause for a moment and look upon our undoubted bright side.

THE DANISH BEEKEEPING journal TIDSSKRIFT FOR BIAVL in an editorial recommends readers to stir their honey harvest 100 times twice a day before bottling, and suggests that to ensure accuracy, it is best to count out loud. Unfortunately, the writer's knowledge of Danish is too meagre for accurate interpretation, so that it has to be left to the imagination to decide whether the suggestion to count out loud is given as an antidote to aching arms or to prevent the operator falling asleep from exhaustion.

Only a very small percentage of losses have been reported from the past Northern winter, and the summer season at the time of writing in late June had been very satisfactory. Another interesting fact to emerge from the journal is that comb honey is unknown in Denmark, and a foreign resident is advertising to buy some for his own use.

Bee equipment suppliers offer frames for the equivalent of ninepence each, virgin queens for between five and seven shillings, and laying queens for eighteen shillings.

Non-standardisation of hive equipment is apparently a problem in Denmark, and complaint is made that there are too many sizes of frames and hives in general use. A suggestion is made that a standard size plastic hive be produced for use in all Scandinavian countries, so that interchange would be easy. Would a plastic hive cause other problems

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. We are obtaining good supplies for this coming season.

Price : 1lb. 12/6
5lbs. 50/-

MOTORISED HIVE BARROWS :

The "Ward" Hive Barrow has been proved over the last five years by N.Z. Beekeepers to be a very practical and economical piece of equipment for moving hives and loading honey.

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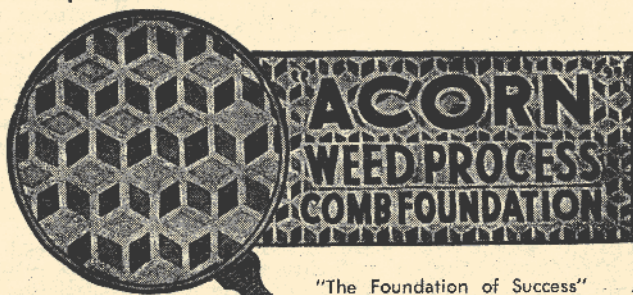
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PAPANUI



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and difficulties such as excess condensation and dampness, particularly in a country with very low winter temperatures?

The fact is recorded that one particular area had never experienced Bacillus Larvae until three years ago, when the local authority started a rubbish dump in the district, and that the disease has been present each year since. No mention is made as to whether destruction of stocks is compulsory in Denmark.

Mr Henning Christensen, of Bregentved Alle 20, Gentofte, Copenhagen, Denmark, an ardent beekeeper interested in New Zealand bee-keeping activities regularly forwards the Danish journal and his co-operation is much appreciated.

THE BRITISH BEE JOURNAL reports that this year has been a rare harvest for chemists in the sale of medicants for the relief of hay fever, and that large quantities of drugs and medicines of various kinds have found their way down sufferers' throats.

Concentrations of pollen have been high, and one report states that a pollen count in June reached as high as 820 in one day, whereas 120 is considered to be high.

There is no possible doubt but that those who are afflicted by hay fever suffer considerably, and it is little wonder that they hurry to their doctor and on to the chemist in search of relief.

The Bee Journal reports that experiments based on the work of the American, Dr. Jarvis, have been conducted for the past two years whereby honey cappings have been given to hay fever clinics where doctors have been prescribing them for children in place of injections.

Sufferers are recommended to consume small quantities of cappings for six or eight months prior to the hay fever season, to enable sufficient anti-bodies to be built up as a result of the small amounts of pollen present in the cappings to resist full scale discomfort later in the year. It is emphasised that last minute resort to the treatment will not relieve or ward off an attack.

As well as causing acute discomfort to the patient, the condition is one which causes no little concern and difficulties for the medical fraternity, for a cure can be elusive and hard to find, and eventual ridance of the condition is not always easily explained.

Some years ago the writer's wife suffered each year from attacks of hay fever, and close proximity to hives inevitably worsened the condition to such an extent that the apiary was given a wide berth.

During a particularly severe attack, a neighbour phoned to advise that a prime swarm had settled on their property and a request was made to remove it. Loyalty overcame personal discomfort, and the swarm was duly put into a skep but not, unfortunately, without three stings on the scalp from unexpected intruders through the veil.

Although stings had been part and parcel of summer life for several years, and no ill effects other than purely local swelling had ever been experienced, on this particular occasion palpitations and nausea quickly ensued followed by unconsciousness. In fact, the two children who were both of tender age at the time, ran to a nearby neighbouring doctor with the alarming information that their mother was dead! The doctor quickly found that the inert figure on the floor was, in fact, still very much alive though unconscious; and an injection of adrenalin remedied the situation.

The extraordinary and puzzling result is, however, that my wife has never ever suffered from hay fever again. The three bee stings at the height of her last bout of the fever were well worth having in the long run.

THE BULGARIAN Ministry of Farm Production has registered a discovery by a Dr. Choukanov, a veterinary surgeon in the village of Bardarski Geran, of a preparation for combating bee lice (*Braula coeca*). The preparation is called Phenotiazin, and is claimed to rapidly destroy all lice on bees without any harmful effect to the colony.



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IT WAS PLEASING to see the timely advice given by the editor of **THE ORCHARDIST** to readers in the September edition of that journal in the form of the following notice:

SAFEGUARD THOSE HONEY-BEES

THEY ARE IMPORTANT TO YOU AND THE APIARIST

Fruitgrowers are reminded to take all possible care this season in applying the early season D.D.T., lead arsenate and other toxic insecticidal sprays.

ORCHARDISTS should not apply toxic sprays during the flowering period unless almost all the blossoms have fallen, or preferably **until petal-fall is completed**.

BERRY-FRUIT GROWERS are reminded that application of toxic sprays should be completed on raspberries, boysenberries and loganberries **before any blossom appears**.

PROTECT ESSENTIAL POLLINATORS.

Similar co-operation by publishers of journals devoted to the interests of agriculture and gardening would be very much appreciated.

FLY-IN-THE-OINTMENT, spanner-in-the-works, or call it what you will, the fact still remains that Argentine honey prices have had a depressing effect on the London market with offerings at low prices.

In September, little interest was shown for New Zealand clover quoted at around 175/- a cwt, with extra light amber at 160/- and light amber at 150/- to 155/-.

Last year the dominant factor was the crop failure in the Argentine which helped considerably to cause a shortage on world markets.

In late January of this year the newly formed Australian Honey Board pegged the Australian minimum export price at £145 a ton for light amber, £140 a ton for medium, both prices c.i.f., with commission stabilised at 2%. Because of the good demand and favourable prices the Australian Honey Board decided to maintain the selling price, since stocks in Australia were low, and it was not thought that hardship would be entailed by packers holding on to their small stocks.

The unexpected, however, was the record crop from the Argentine estimated to be in the vicinity of 30,000 tons resulting in a sudden drop on U.K. and Continental markets to £116 a ton for light amber. Mexico joined the scramble with a further record crop, which slashed the price to £112-10-0 a ton c.i.f., and to get into the act, China was reported to be selling light amber to German buyers for £106 a ton.

Mr T. Powell, packer's representative on the Australian Honey Board, pointed out to the annual Conference of the W.A. Farmers' Union that Germany had not bought any appreciable quantity of honey for some time, and that the seriousness of this factor could be judged when it was realised that 44,975 tons were purchased in 1963 and 48,686 tons in 1962. Reports quote purchases from Argentine and Mexico in the first three months of the year totalling nearly 10,000 tons. Normal consumption of honey in Germany is between 55 and 58,000 tons annually.

Criticism was levelled at the Australian Honey Board by Mr C. S. Murdoch, a section advisory member at the same Conference, who maintained that it was quite unrealistic to expect to get even £120 a ton for Australian medium amber while better quality honey was available from other countries at £113. "It was fortunate, in fact extremely fortunate as events have since proved, that the W.A. packers agreed to sell below the Board's recommended price in January," he said. "Most of the embarrassing stocks were cleared at about £138 a ton for medium amber. This partial sell-out of stock was soon followed by the beginning of the Honey Board reign and good flows of red gum and banksia honey. With the Board forcing a minimum price of £145 a ton for light amber to be observed, and buyers objecting to be dictated to, export sales came to a halt and stocks continued to accumulate . . ."

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The speaker was of the opinion that the Board's prices should be adjusted much more frequently and in keeping with world market values so that sales could continue and embarrassing stock positions avoided.

* * *

IT SEEMS THAT two entirely new specie of bees are required to suit the varying climatic conditions of New Zealand as experienced in this year of grace.

In the North Island, and the Auckland province in particular, the cross could well be between a water beetle and a hard working Italian, whereas in Otago a drought loving tsetse fly and a Caucasian might provide the answer.

The North has experienced the wettest winter for 50 years, and the South are in dire straights for lack of moisture, giving little hope for sufficient recovery to provide effective pasture later on in the season and a possible failure from clover. Life gets tedious. Too much for one part of the country; not enough for the other.

Use attractive

HONEY LABELS

says G. N. Lansdown, Auckland.

DOES HONEY with an attractive label on the bottle or carton, sell better than honey with an unattractive label? This question has often been asked by beekeepers. I recently made an effort to find the correct answer to this important question by making a large number of inquiries at shops, besides sending out letters. The results of my investigation showed that there is a decided preference for honey with an attractive label. As one shopkeeper put it, "If I had a dozen different cartons of honey on my shelf, the same size and price, and a person came in to buy some honey, five times out of six they would choose the honey with an attractive label on it."

A good beekeeper must not only know everything there is to know about the production side of his business; he must know something about psychology and salesmanship. Here is a case in point: The influence of colour on the human mind is profound. It has been proved by colour specialists in America, that most people will respond most readily to advertising matter printed in light red, yellow or green paper, and that plain white has the weakest appeal. Colour can increase or lower "sales resistance," and can affect a man's personality and mental outlook quite as definitely as a sleepless night. This, I am afraid, may make dull reading for those not interested in psychology; the fact remains that this is a point which should not be lost sight of when marketing honey. An attractive label coloured either in light red, yellow or light green, will make the greatest sale appeal to a customer. Honey put in a white carton with the beekeeper's name and address printed in black letters, is at a great disadvantage against honey attractively labelled.

It is better to pay a little more and have an attractive label, rather than save a few shillings and have an unattractive label.

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Have You Heard About



THOSE B—— PRICES

"My wife told me how a pot of honey had gone up by 2d. Why did this happen? I didn't know that the bees had an Award increase. But apparently the other B—s did!"

These comments—not without their humour—are attributed to a convention delegate in the N.Z. Drivers' Union journal "Wheels." He was talking on how increased prices were being caused by employers and manufacturers seeking increased profits.

Whoa! Put the brakes on! It's one thing to make a statement of fact but quite another to jump to conclusions. We were sufficiently intrigued by the imputation of greed to do just a little research with illuminating results:

In the first place, honey is subject to Price Control and has been since 1950 or earlier, with the exception of a brief 6 month period some years ago. So the only time honey prices rise is when we ask the Price Tribunal for an increase to cover some increased cost which we can no longer absorb. (And transport costs, with which the driver is associated, is just one of many increases we have absorbed for many years).

We thought it would be fun, anyhow, to take out some comparisons in cost increases over the past few years and asked the local Master Grocers' Federation to help us out with some information on like consumer products.

They suggested jam and we accepted—without knowing the figures in advance.

Here are the figures they gave us:—

Commodity	Container Size (Nett Weight)	Price		Increase
		1957	1964	
Marmalade	14oz	2/-	2/4	4d or 16.6%
Apricot				
Jam	14oz	2/2	2/7	5d or 19.1%
Honey	16oz	2/4	2/5½	1½d or 5.3%

Surprising, isn't it! Yet these figures can be checked and verified by anyone.

No doubt the driver's wife had observed a 2d rise in honey prices at her local grocery store, but this was not occasioned by any greater return to the beekeeper. Grocers have "specials" every now and again and as a gimmick to attract custom they drop their profit margin on various lines for a limited period. Well, that's their business, but when the price goes back to normal, it could look like an increase to a casual honey-buyer.

The figures above speak for themselves! Or do they? Perhaps the best comparison to take is with apricot jam. Apricots are not an easy crop to grow and returns are very much dictated by seasonal and climatic conditions—JUST LIKE THE PRODUCTION OF HONEY. At face value, therefore, one might have reasonably expected honey prices to show the same level of increase over the past seven years.

Another interesting factor in comparing honey to jam, price-wise, is that jam is made from second-grade fruit and windfalls. The best of the crop is sold as table fruit at high prices! No such luck for the beekeeper! Honey is honey and the best that bees and beekeepers can produce.

Quite apart from exploding a fallacious theory of our first-mentioned consumer, perhaps this little bit of fun with figures will have some value. Because it shows quite clearly that the beekeeper has, if anything, underestimated the real value of his product (and its market potential at much higher prices!).

(Editor's Note:—An application for the removal of honey from price control is currently before Government. If granted, there is little doubt that honey prices will rise as merchants and retailers capitalise on the present price disparity in relation to other foods. Beekeepers need have no qualms therefore about asking a little more for their product. After all, the essence of trade is "a willing seller and a willing buyer" and there is no reason to believe that our buyer is unwilling to pay at least as much for honey as he or she is for foods of lesser appeal and perhaps lesser intrinsic value.)

H.M.A. ELECTION RESULTS

From Page 1

dustry carries with it serious responsibilities and is no sinecure or soft job, and it is certainly impossible to please everybody all of the time.

In expressing good wishes and good luck to the newly elected representatives let us not forget the work of predecessors in office.

In particular, the thanks of the industry are due to the retiring Chairman, George Gumbrell, for his untiring efforts to perform his allotted task to the best of his undoubted ability and at the expense of his own health and business.

Whilst also finding it impossible to please everybody all of the time, George Gumbrell carried out his obligations in a manner which could well be emulated by his successors in the immediate or unforeseeable future.

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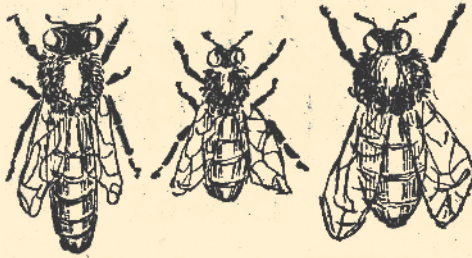
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Chris. Dawson reports outstanding success of

BEEKEEPERS' TRAINING SCHOOL



MOST AREAS of the South Island were represented at the Beekeeping School held in South Canterbury from Thursday, September 24, to Saturday, September 26.

From the opening introductions by **George Winslade** to the closing address by **Harry Cloake**, every moment was full and profitably used. If there was not an instructive address in progress, there was either a demonstration of a practical aspect of beekeeping or a number of groups were discussing some of the many aspects of the craft over a cup of tea.

At the opening at Timaru in Thursday afternoon, **George Winslade**, as chairman, welcomed **Mr Greig** and beekeepers present, and asked that their thanks be conveyed to **Mr Smaellie** for his co-operation, along with the best wishes of the School, for his early recovery following his return home from hospital.

Congratulations to the committee in their effort were offered by **Mr Greig** in officially opening the School and he commended the **N.Z. National Beekeepers' Association** for their enterprise in making the project possible, along with the co-operation of the Apiary Section.

"The Anatomy and Physiology of the Honey Bee" were much more easily understood after seeing the large diagrams and hearing their description given by **Vince Cook** in the first lecture of the course.

Large photographs associated by drawings illustrated the lecture by **Bob Walsh** on "Nectar Sources of New Zealand." The identification of many of our most useful nectar secreting trees and plants was made much easier through the information given.

The second day's proceedings at Timaru were opened with a lecture by **Ivor Forster** on "Beekeeping Economics," and many of those present realised, for the first time, that their production methods and costing needed careful examination.

"Steam Appliances" were discussed by **George Winslade** and his large drawings in colour made the understanding of his technical terms quite simple.

Colin Rope produced a wide range of Honey samples for his instructive lecture on "Honey Grading," and a woodwork tutor, **Mr A. Mortimer**, made a valuable contribution with an illustrated lecture on the care and use of "Woodworking Tools."

Friday's proceedings closed with an interesting session chaired by **Bob Walsh**, when a Brains Trust discussed relevant subjects and answered questions.

Although attendances on the two previous days had been excellent, Saturday's audience at the Geraldine Town Hall exceeded all expectations, and the lecturers received a very attentive hearing.

Ivor Forster gave a splendid lecture on "Bee Breeding", and this was followed by a talk illustrated by coloured slides by **George Gumbrell**, first on the selection, breeding and use of Breeder Queens, and next on the use of a Bee Breeding House.

After lunch in Geraldine, the convoy moved to Orari Gorge Road, where an inspection was made of **George Gumbrell's** Bee Breeding House. The use of this building has overcome many of the problems of raising stock in this apiary.

Bob Davidson and his son **Robert**, capably demonstrated their methods of cell raising by the grafting method.

This was followed by a demonstration and description of the building and management of "Baby Nucs" by **Tom Pearson**. **David Penrose** rounded off these practical demonstrations and lectures by showing how Queen Banks could be managed.

In the hands of these experts, all these skills appeared to be comparatively easy.

At the close of the School, the New Zealand President, **Harry Cloake**

thanked **Mr Greig** and the Officers of the Apiary Section of the Department of Agriculture for their assistance and co-operation in successfully carrying through the project, because without them it would not have been possible to achieve such success.

He also commended the committee, **George Winslade** (Chairman), **Ivor Forster** and **Vince Cook** and thanked them most heartily for their splendid efforts. It was notable that this was the first time that a member of the National Beekeepers Association Executive had worked with, and headed a Committee to promote such a project.

Only those who have had the responsibility of organising such an enterprise could realise the many hours of work and arrangement of detail that were necessary to make every activity successful.

The enthusiasm of those present could not have been greater and we hope that it will not be necessary to wait so many years for another school.

Attendances totalled about 100 on the first day, 130 on the second day, and over 200 on the third day.

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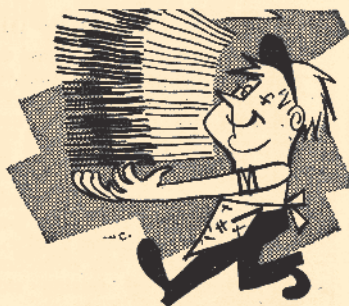
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BRANCH NOTES



WAIKATO

It's been a wet, wet time—with northwesterly conditions and many wet days and consequently there are a number of hives that have not been worked yet. Stocks have used most of their stores, with very little gathered from early sources other than where bees were very closely situated.

Barbery is flowering well, but at present more wet conditions (late October) are holding up the flow.

A new sight on the roads is Mr. Vickers' Landrover and four wheel trailer unit. Let's hope that it is strong enough to bring a load of hives out from Mercury Bay.

We are all hoping for an immediate improvement in the unseasonable weather and for a fine December-January to ensure of good crop.

—Reported by Cliff Bird.

NELSON

Our most important news is the recent arrival of our resident Apiary Instructor Paul Marshall. With the pressure of inspection duties it has not been possible for all members to meet him personally, but we will certainly give him a "special welcome" in the near future.

Two of our younger members went with Les Cropp to the Training School in South Canterbury, and returned home with increased enthusiasm.

Our last Branch meeting was highlighted by a visit from Mr. R. Davidson, of Davidson's Apiaries, Timaru. It is a pity that he lives so far away, for we would certainly be glad to see more of him.

Nelson turned on some very wet days during the blossom period, but in spite of the rain, pears have good sets. It is a little early to comment on the

apple blossom, as the fall has not been completed at the time of writing.

Bees have wintered well and very little disease has been reported. A few swarms have issued already.

—Reported by Mrs. I. M. Cropp.

NORTHLAND

About twenty beekeepers attended a successful Field Day on October 3 at our President's home apiary. We were fortunate in having Mr. J. Byers, Provincial instructor in attendance, who demonstrated hive conditioning for profitable honey production. Mr. T. Ewin also demonstrated the Spring hive operation to complete his Winter preparation demonstration given at our last Field Day.

Mr. Tucker and Mr. Ewin also demonstrated operations in Queen rearing.

Good weather helped to make the day enjoyable and profitable.

—Reported by L. G. Lovatt.

C.S. HAWKES BAY

On October 5th a meeting was held at the residence of Mr D. L. Ward, the President of C.S. Hawkes Bay Branch, N.B.A., to farewell Mr Basil Jones, who was leaving the Dannevirke district and going to Whakatane. Mr Jones had been secretary of the Branch for the past 5 years and had a keen and enduring interest in the craft of beekeeping. Mr Ward, in farewelling Mr Jones, said that he had been a great asset to the Branch and had taken a keen interest in all aspects of beekeeping and had attended N.B.A. Annual Conferences. In going to Whakatane—a "closed area" for beekeeping—was in some measure a sad occasion. In reply Mr Jones stated that he had enjoyed the friendship of all the beekeepers in the Dannevirke to Hastings area and assured the meeting that his interest in bees would not die—"once a beekeeper always a beekeeper".

N. Z. BEEKEEPER

ELECTION OF PRODUCERS' REPRESENTATIVES

The Returning Officer of the Department of Agriculture, Auckland, has announced the results of the election on September 9 for two producer's representatives to seats on the Authority, and the voting was as follows:

J. D. Lorimer	1640	votes
J. W. Fraser	1588	"
R. A. Davidson	670	"
D. Carey	614	"
G. Winslade	602	"
W. L. Holt	400	"

Messrs. J. D. Lorimer and J. W. Fraser have been Gazetted as duly elected to the Authority. The number of votes on the electoral roll was 3558, and the polling percentage 77.48%.

SOUTH CANTERBURY

It is with deep regret that this Branch records the passing of our President, Mr Endon Ball on September 2.

A member of the N.B.A. for over 20 years, Mr Ball assumed his full share of duties in the industry, and was well known and respected for his cheerful disposition and his home life.

The sympathy of the branch and his many friends is extended to Mrs Ball, their two sons and daughter.

—Reported by J. G. McKenzie

CANTERBURY

In some provinces there has been too much rain, but in Canterbury prospects for the coming season are rapidly deteriorating for lack of rain. Light land is looking as it does in mid-summer, while heavy land is grazed so closely that there is little likelihood of any surplus flowering. With rainfall running about half of last years', and in many places only twenty points in the last eight weeks, even the old-timers cannot recall drier conditions. However, there is time enough yet.

—Reported by Jasper Bray.

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BEGINNING the BEGINNER

By Chris Dawson of Timaru

In this, your first season with bees, you now stand on the verge of a forest of experiences that are exciting, sometimes disappointing, but always, if used correctly, instructive. The previous article of this series offered you three paths to travel, and these notes aim to help you along your chosen path.

The budding apiarist should have been managing his colonies so that they are expanding healthily to such an extent that the supers are boiling over with well-fed bees that have been discouraged from swarming. He should also have his reserve equipment assembled and ready for the commencement of the honey flow.

According to the area in which the colony is situated, the main honey flow will be starting any time between now and the middle of January. Experience in the beginning and duration of the honey flow in any particular area is accumulated over a period of years. If you are fortunate enough to have a local beekeeper with whom you can discuss this subject, now is the time to accept his good advice.

Colony Morale

Always there is the urge to see what is going on inside the hive. Provided the frames are removed carefully and the outside temperature is warm enough for the bees to be flying freely, studying the frames of the brood nest and honey super will have no ill effect so long as they are replaced in their original position. It is an excellent opportunity to watch the progress your colony is making. You must ask yourself if the brood nest is expanding and the Queen laying a neat pattern of brood. You must make sure your colony is contented and has the inclination to work.

The creation of colony morale is partly the result of the beekeeper's management, and partly the breed of the bee. At no time of the year is the need for high colony morale more necessary than now. Within a few days your bees are going to be doing the

job for which you keep them all the rest of the year. Although your bees might be kept only for your fun, that fun will be less enjoyable if your bees do not bring home the honey; so keep them in a good mood—but how?

Colony Management

The brood nest of your colony at all times forms the shape of a Rugby football. At the centre are growing bees and brood, while the food stored in the outer frames forms a skin around them. This skin helps to maintain the hive temperature and needs to be handy to the cluster.

The Queen needs, at the peak of the breeding season, about ten frames of comb to work on. At all times the bees must have pollen and stores of honey in the comb or sugar syrup by artificial feeding. If all these are available, the only other needs for your colony are sufficient space so that it is not too crowded, and not too much space so that the bees have too large an internal area to keep warm.

Frame Manipulation

There are as many manipulations that you can now make as there are moves in a game of chess, but the bee master never moves a frame from one place to another without a good reason. Remember that the bees were managing quite well before your great grandfather grew his whiskers, and if you are going to improve this management, you must know what the bees have in their plans. As you are a beginner, may I suggest that for this year, you do not carry out any frame manipulations but use every opportunity to inspect and observe how the bees are managing without your interference.

Swarming

Should you discover Queen Cells, there is the possibility of swarming, so break down these cells and if the cell building persists, remove the fourth and seventh frames from the brood nest and replace with two frames of foundation or drawn comb. This will help to open up the brood nest temporarily. The two frames can be placed at the centre of the third super.

To detect every queen cell is not easy, and just on the loveliest of days when you have wife and family complete with picnic lunch all packed into the car, the cry will perhaps go up "The bees are swarming!" This is one job you cannot leave until later in the day, because a swarm leaving from your colony means that the most of your foraging bees and your queen are looking for other premises.

In the days of skep farming, the issue of a swarm was welcomed with rejoicing and wife, family and picnic lunch were piled out of the buggy and the horse stabled, while everybody set about beating cans and throwing dust to bring the swarm to earth.

Nowadays, we hate the sight of a swarm as it means a disturbed colony and extra work.

When your swarm issues forth, watch it carefully to locate its landing. If it lands on a neighbour's property, you are within your rights to go and claim it, provided you do no damage to your neighbour's property.

The issue of a swarm means that your colony will probably not be able to collect a surplus unless the swarm is reunited to the parent colony with a minimum of disturbance.

When the colony decides to swarm, it has developed a fever and like all fevers, it needs to be cooled. When you go to collect your swarm, take a super of frames of foundation, with one frame of unsealed brood shaken free of bees at the centre. When you shake the swarm on to this, they will welcome this partly furnished house as a new home.

While waiting for all the bees to settle, search through the parent colony for signs of Queen cells and destroy them. If you find a cell that has hatched, you have to find the virgin queen and destroy her. I realise that, for a beginner, this could be a very difficult task but if, after a thorough

search, she cannot be located, close up the hive and leave until late in the day when you can search again.

After the bees have stopped flying in the early evening, you can unite the swarm with the parent hive. The following method sounds drastic but you will find it successful. Place the super containing the swarm beside the parent hive and sprinkle about one gallon of water over it from a watering can just the same as you would your lettuces. The outside skin of bees will become a soggy mess, but they are quite all right and will have lost much of their enthusiasm for swarming. Place two sheets of newspaper over the top super of the parent hive and then place the super containing the wet swarm on top of this. By the morning, there will not be a drowned bee anywhere and your colony will be settling to its job again.

Extracted Honey Farming

Adding empty supers at the right time is what the Extracted Honey Farmer does from now on. If the colony is crowded full of bees and showing signs of nectar coming in, a super of foundation or empty comb can now be added. Before placing this super on top of the colony remove one frame from the middle of the top super and place it in the centre of the super being added. This encourages the bees to work into the new super. Add supers as necessary.

You will be anxious to harvest some honey, of course, and as soon as a frame is completely capped, it can be removed, but just remember this, that any old fool can take off honey, but the bee master knows how much to leave on.

Section Honey Farming

Along this path, the enthusiast must take considerable care to ensure that his colony is crowded with bees, and that frames needs to be selected care-the correct time to add the super of sec-fully; not before the honey flow has started and not too late so that the sections will not be filled.

When the honey flow has started and the bees are working contentedly, remove a frame from the centre of the top super and place in the centre of the section frames. This encourages the bees to start working the super of section frames when you place it on top of

the colony. Section frames can be harvested as they are fully capped.

It is important that a full super of ordinary sealed frames of honey should be collected by the colony to carry it through the winter. Make allowance for this as part of your colony's harvest.

Apiary Increase

Should the beginner be using the first year's beekeeping for increase, there are many ways to make this possible. Every encouragement needs to be given to the colony to build up strength and if Queen cells are discovered, they are not destroyed as in other forms of beekeeping, but are used to establish nucleus hives. If no queen cells are found, queen cells will be built if you remove the queen with a comb of brood and stores and place them in a nucleus hive. If there is no honey-flow, feed the bees stimulative syrup of two parts water and one part sugar and soon there will be a number of cells started and these can be used to start nuclei.

If you purchase queens or ripe cells, your colony can be divided up into ten nuclei as follows:—The day before the queens or cells arrive, place the empty nuc boxes in a circle around the colony with entrances all facing in. The circle should be about eight feet in diameter. Remove the queen with attendant bees and place her with

some stores in a nuc over 50 yards away from your circle.

Now place in each nuc box on the side nearest the entrance a frame of brood with bees attached and a frame of stores. Keep on doing this all round the nucs until you have used all your frames. There will now be two or three frames in each nuclei. Cover with hive mats and snug fitting lids and reduce entrances to $\frac{3}{4}$ inch. Remove all trace of the old colony and flying bees will distribute themselves evenly around the nuclei.

Next day, introduce your queens or ripe cells by placing at the centre of the frame of brood between the brood and the frame of stores.

HAERE RA

It has been my pleasure to write these notes for some years now but for the next issue, an abler pen will make the contribution. To those who have written criticisms, suggestions and appreciations, I wish to offer my sincere thanks. It is unfortunate that so many have observed the injunction of the philosopher who said "write your praise but state your criticisms." Very few letters of criticism have been received but they have always been helpful.

May I offer my best wishes for a pleasant Christmas and may the reward of your enthusiasm in the New Year be a wonderful crop of liquid sunshine.

It is hoped that Mr Dawson will continue to assist beginners with his valuable help and assistance.—Ed.

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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.

Timaru, October 22nd, 1964.

Sir,

Could I, through your column, express my appreciation of our Industry's very definite decision at the recent Honey Marketing Authority Election. The voting, being restricted to 10 ton of honey per producer, very definitely weighs the result in favour of the small producer, but a clear cut decision, as this was, shows the producer's wishes, and those elected should have no difficulty in formulating their policy. I wish to sincerely thank those producers who had sufficient confidence in me to cast their vote in my favour.

To Branch Secretaries who organised meetings, and to Branch members who gave me courteous and attentive hearings, my sincere thanks.

Robert Davidson

* * *

Ryal Bush, Invercargill.
October 24, 1964.

Sir,

May I express my thanks to those who supported me in the recent election of producer representatives to the H.M.A. I shall do my best.

J. W. Fraser.

* * *

Geraldine, October 21, 1964

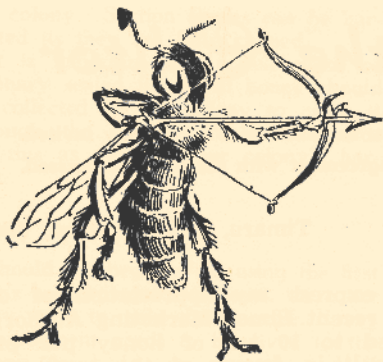
Sir,

In times of crisis the Beekeeping Industry can always be relied upon to act in a reasonable and forthright manner. This fact has been amply demonstrated by the results of the recent H.M.A. election. May I congratulate Beekeepers on this result. It was a clear cut decision and the best "send off" that the Industry could have given its retiring Chairman.

May I also express my thanks to the many beekeepers who have written to me on the eve of my retirement. These messages of appreciation have meant a lot to me and I ask the senders to accept this letter as my grateful acknowledgement.

I also congratulate Messrs. Lorimer and Fraser on their splendid victory. The alternatives have been categorically rejected and the disruptive elements in the industry have been summarily dealt with.

G. E. Gumbrell



Some thoughts about HONEY HOUSES and the FOOD HYGIENE REGULATIONS 1952

It is probable that you will be carrying out repairs and renovations to the honey house this month in preparation for the harvest ahead. Here are some suggestions to keep in mind to ensure compliance with the Health Department Regulations, and the standard a Health Inspector would expect to find.

A Health Inspector coming to see your plant for clean or sanitary preparation of a foodstuff, would be guided by what the Regulations stipulate, as he would not necessarily understand the preparation of honey. On visiting your buildings he would quickly get an impression as to whether the place seemed fresh and dirt-free and complied with the Regulations, which state:

- (a) **The building** to be in good repair and offers no harbouring for rats or mice.
- (b) **Has floors** that are impervious to spilled liquids and in the case of concrete or plaster, that the sides be continued up 3 inches (or more) to the bottom plate of the wall. Where the floor and wall meet—it is supposed to be rounded but as boxes or supers would not go close to the wall a sharp corner would be allowed in this case. A concrete floor is better treated with "Solpar" or the like, and a wooden floor is better painted with a half and half mix of turpentine and boiled linseed oil. A wooden floor not made impervious becomes damp and draws yeasts and fermentation.
- (c) **Has walls** that have a smooth surface, up to 6 ft., easily wiped down and having an impervious paint to a height of 6 feet at least, and of a light colour.
- (d) **Has a ceiling** smooth and dustproof and preferably a light colour.
- (e) **Is lighted** to comply with by-laws or to the satisfaction of an Inspector, so that it has a well lit interior.
- (f) **Has a privy** or lavatory convenient to the place of work but not within it.
- (g) Is provided with a **wash-hand basin**, having hot and cold water soap and towels.
- (h) Has proper **drainage** so that odours do not come back inside.
- (i) Has facilities for keeping **outdoor clothing separate** from indoor clothing (for packing honey) and changing rooms for each sex.
- (j) Has sufficient **hot and cold water** for cleaning appliances.
- (k) Has suitable **storage** for bottles, jars, cans and cartons (to eliminate moisture, contamination and fermentation).
- (l) Has no direct communication with sleeping quarters, privy, or opening into drain or sewer (re odours and rats).

(m) To be used only for the preparation and packing of honey for sale.

Approaches or a driveway to a honey-house to be dustless, by using concrete or asphalt or clean gravel.

A notice to be displayed near the toilet to "Wash the hands thoroughly before commencing work, or when after using the toilet."

On the premises (entrance door) a notice to be printed in capital letters—

"Dogs are not permitted on these premises."

The premises are to be kept clean and free of rubbish and from odours, and no person working to have skin-sores or subject to coughing. The inside of tins to be lacquered or treated

and no rust exposed.

In the honey-house, clean clothing is required and clean hands essential. Covering to be provided against dust and insects in honey. Foreign matter—skimmed off or strained out.

Packing Section Honey: Operators must not blow into any bag or wrapper.

Apiary Instructors are required to deputise for Health Inspectors and to make helpful suggestions which will cause honey-houses to meet with requirements or Regulations.

By keeping conditions right, a customer with a complaint about "foreign matter" would not be likely to carry the matter further.

A customer will be a good advertisement if your outfit is "spick and span".

The General Secretary

The Editor has been advised by Mr Harry Cloake, President of the National Beekeeper's Association, that no new appointment has yet been made to the vital position of General Secretary of the Association.

A number of professional applicants have been the subject of preliminary interviews for the position, following publication of advertisements in Wellington newspapers notifying the vacancy, and it is understood that an appointment will be finalised at a full meeting of the Executive towards the end of this month.

Meantime, the many and varied administrative and secretarial services of the Association will continue to be undertaken by Mr R. A. Fraser, Box 19, Foxton.

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THE ABC and XYZ of BEE CULTURE

Published by the A. I. Root Company,
Medina, Ohio, U.S.A.

The fact that a book has been published in its thirty-second edition is in itself sufficient evidence of popularity, and this "encyclopaedia pertaining to scientific and practical culture of bees" certainly lives up to its name.

Unlike most text books or works of reference, there are no specific chapters devoted to any one subject. Instead, every conceivable subject from "AFTERSWARMING" on page 1 to "ZINC IN HONEY" on page 702 is listed in alphabetical order, enabling the novice or the experienced beekeeper to refer to any particular problem connected with the craft.

Additionally, a glossary is included which concisely summarises expressions used in beekeeping parlance, as, for example, the reference "BEE LINE — The shortest distance between two points; as the bee flies". Or "RIPE HONEY — Honey left in the care of the bees until it contains 18.6 per cent of water or less, and has undergone the complete change from nectar to honey. Usually capped honey."

The comprehensive index is cross referenced, and the enquiring reader will have no problem in ascertaining answers to his never-ending questions.

The only disadvantage of THE ABC AND XYZ OF BEE CULTURE is that it brings home one's lamentable ignorance of bees and beekeeping. Here are the fruits of work and research from many corners of the world, and so much information is presented in an easily assimilated form that the temptation is to learn without the necessity for personal experiment.

The thirty-second edition was published in Medina, U.S.A., in 1962, so that whilst the book cannot be said to be a completely new release of bee literature, it has not been the writer's good fortune to receive a copy to read and study. Now, however, that the new edition has been presented to the Association's Library, every beekeeper has the opportunity to obtain the answers to his particular beekeeping problems. Requests for loan should be made to the Hon. Librarian, Mr. C. Dawson, at P.O. Box 423, Timaru.

ECROYD'S 'ACORN' WEED PROCESS COMB FOUNDATION

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

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BEEKEEPERS' TECHNICAL LIBRARY

The following books have been added to the library:—

Donated by Mr Andries van Zuyndregt of Milford, Auckland. — **The World of the Honey Bee**, Colin G. Butler, 240 pages plus 40 pages of photos (28 opp) 1962 **B**

Donated by an anonymous donor — **City of the Bees**, Frank S. Stuart, 183 pages, 1947. **B**

Assorted copies of **Gleanings**, ABJ and N.Z. Beekeeper. **C**

Donated by the Editor — **ABC and XYZ**, 1910 edition. **B**

Honey and Pollen Plants of U.S.A., 65pp, 1939 **B**

Honey Bees in Alfalfa Seed Production, Vansell, 12pp, 1951. **C**

Physical and Chemical Properties of Beeswax, Bisson, 24pp, 1940. **C**

Productive Management of Honey Bee Colonies in Northern U.S.A., Farrar, 28pp, 1944. **C**

Two-Queen Colony Management for Honey Production, Farrar, 12 pp. 1958. **C**

A Manual for Artificial Insemination of Queen Bees, Mackenson and Roberts, 36pp, 1948. **C**

And sundry small circulars to be catalogued.

LIFE MEMBER: Mr. Philip C. Muir of Auckland.

NOTICE

Various borrowers are advised that their books are now overdue and should be sent to the Hon Librarian, Mr Chris Dawson, P.O. Box 423, Timaru.

★ ★ ★

A NEW CONTRIBUTION to beekeeping literature emanates from Australia in the form of a quarterly publication published by the Western Department of Agriculture under the editorship of Dr. Francis G. Smith.

The first two issues are informative and well produced, and an editorial points out that, whilst there are a number of excellent beekeeping journals in various parts of the world which contain much of interest and value, it is impossible for any one journal to satisfy all the needs of beekeepers in widely separated countries faced with very different problems and having other traditions.

The new publication is titled "APICULTURE IN WESTERN AUSTRALIA," and will have the good wishes of everyone interested in the welfare of the beekeeping industry for its success and prosperity.

No subscription data is given to enable readers outside W.A. to receive copies, neither do the publications carry any advertising support for revenue. Printed by the Government Printer, "APICULTURE" is a welcome addition to our library and may be obtained on loan from the Honorary Librarian at P.O. Box 423, Timaru.

OPPORTUNITY for GRADUATES

AN EXCEPTIONAL OPPORTUNITY is announced by Mr Norman E. Gary, Assistant Professor of Entomology at the College of Agriculture, University of California, U.S.A., to assist a New Zealand graduate to study for a Master's or Ph.D. degree. Whilst the fact that applicants preferably must be in possession of a B.Sc., limits the field considerably, there will probably be students anxious to take advantage of the facilities provided. The terms of the award are as follows:

"A graduate assistantship is available immediately at this department to support a graduate student for a period of three years. The assistantship is supported by a National Science Foundation grant that was awarded to Drs. Norman Gary and Harry Laidlaw for a study of 'Biology of the Honey Bee.' Either a Master's or Ph.D. programme may be undertaken. It is preferable, but not mandatory, that the student have

a B.S. in Entomology and intend to specialise in apiculture. The stipend is \$3206, 3367, and 3535 for the three years, respectively. High scholarship and satisfactory performance of duties are essential. Recipients are expected to work 20 hours per week for 9 months and full time for 2 months in the summer. Vacation and sick leave benefits are included.

"Apiculture research and graduate training opportunities are particularly outstanding at the University of California because of the favourable climate, proximity to intensive commercial beekeeping operations, large apiculture staff, approximately 300 colonies of bees for research, and the most comprehensive library of bee literature in the West. Construction of a new bee laboratory is expected soon.

"Applicants should contact Dr. Richard M. Bohart, Head, Department of Entomology, University of California, Davis, California, U.S.A."

An appeal for help

You too, can help Loo

Remember that pile of beekeeping magazines and books you never read now! And that piece of equipment that just doesn't get used any more! You do? Then spare a thought for Loo!

Eddie Loo is a 25 year old Burmese Christian who is managing a farm training school 300 miles north of Rangoon and trying to encourage his young countrymen to make good use of bees. But he has practically no books and very little equipment. Eddie is a graduate of an Agricultural Institute and learned the rudiments of beekeeping during a recent two-year agricultural course in Japan. He speaks and reads English as well as several other languages, so almost any literature on beekeeping that you can spare he can

use to add to his own knowledge, and to impart to others.

Here's an opportunity for us to show real international co-operation and goodwill.

Send any books and magazines you can spare to

Rev. David Taylor,
General Secretary,
National Council of Churches,
Box 297,
Christchurch.

(Branches might also be able to organise an equipment drive, in which case we suggest they write to Rev. Taylor to ascertain what arrangements are available for transporting.)

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Honey tanks (2), tinned steel, 1700lbs capacity, with painted covers, £11 each.
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Scales, Avery platform, weighs up to 250lbs, good order, Govt. tested, £25.

Drip Trays, (16), tinned steel with painted wooden bases and pallets for easy moving with trolley, 12/6 each.

Drip Trays (12), light metal, 2/6 each.

Sugar Syrup Tanks (2), fitted with 1½" valves, £2 and £4.

Feeders, division board type, approximately 220, 1/- each.

Honey Gate, 2", 10/-.

Motors, electric (2), Brook ¾ h.p. (one fitted with reversing switch), £12 and £15.

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Clearly A Case for Export



PICTURED HERE is a cellophane pack of section honey ready for export to Germany, where there appears to be an opportunity to dispose of large quantities of manuka honey due to the fact that Germany, and indeed several other parts of the Continent, are conditioned to heather honey, which has a similar and distinctive flavour.

An exacting standard for appearance, condition, or finish is required before export, and the pack must conform to an international standard. Sections weigh 13oz., must have no weeping cells, no travel stains, no mixed types of honey, no pollen, and must be firmly attached to the wood surround.

The sections are then packed into cardboard packages holding one dozen each, and then into large cases weighing 1 ton 3 cwt. ready for shipment. (Photograph by courtesy of Syd Line, Apiary Instructor, Hastings).

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(For the advancement of the Beekeeping
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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.

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

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Full Page	£6 0 0	for each insertion.	

Front Page Story

NOT A GROWTH BUT IT GROWS! The cover picture shows how one commercial beekeeper has a permanent reservoir of bees for immediate use during the extracting season if a nuc. is required.

Because speed is important, the fact that all bees have not been cleared from the boxes is of no consequence, and when the tarpaulin is removed from the boxes when the lorry arrives in the honey house dock, remaining bees fly to the ceiling and form a cluster. Few of them will be sisters, but they are lost, demoralised and without a queen and cluster together for companionship, warmth and food. Since they have honey, they are able to produce wax and commence comb building in the presumed hope of better things to come.

The sliding doors have been closed, there is no escape to the outside through the window, and the only alternative is to hang on in a cluster.

If a spare queen or queen cell is located surplus to requirements, what simpler than to sweep down some of the bees from the cluster into a nuc box, add the queen or queen cell, take the newly formed colony to a site outside the honey house, and both man and bees are happy.

Give a demoralised cluster just the SMELL of a queen and they would rejoice. If you need a nuc. in a hurry, it is hanging there, waiting for a queen. Just help yourself.

—Photograph and story by courtesy of Syd Line, Apiary Instructor, Hastings.

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Although we are at present completely out of stock of both wood and metal-framed excluders, limited stocks of wood framed excluders only are expected to arrive about the end of November. Place your orders as soon as possible for prompt execution on arrival of the shipment.

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