

THE  
NEW  
ZEALAND

# BEEKEEPER

MAY, 1967



THE START OF A NEW  
INDUSTRY ON NIUE

# THE NATIONAL BEEKEEPERS' ASSOCIATION of N.Z. Incorporated

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**THE  
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ZEALAND**

**BEEKEEPER**

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**Conference is a Must**

**NEVER LET IT BE SAID** that New Zealand beekeepers draw in their horns like frightened snails because of a generally poor season and a cold wind blowing through the economic scene.

When circumstances are not to your precise liking, and the weather has not favoured a good or average crop, spare a thought for fellow apiarists in the United Kingdom and most parts of Europe, where there has been a crop failure for the **fifth successive year**.

Do they grumble about conditions? Of course they do, because they are human. But they still get on with their job and have faith in their bees producing a crop that's worthwhile 'next season'.

Statistics show that the number of beekeepers in the U.K. has fallen in recent years but, like New Zealand, the trend is for more colonies to be kept by larger units. Some hobbyists have understandably found other spare time interests with less frustration.

The fear has been expressed that attendance at Conference in July may be affected because of present conditions. In fact, no active and enterprising beekeeper can afford not to be in Christchurch for the three days to learn from speakers with their expert knowledge, and to participate in the affairs of the industry.

Participation in affairs is essential. It's no use blaming the Executive or the Association for praising or castigating Government Departments on legislation or procedures, or making specific policies unless you are prepared to take the trouble to actively participate, cast your vote, and make your voice or the voice of your branch heard.

Business of the industry apart, Canterbury are determined to make this year's assembly the best ever, and a tremendous amount of work, time, energy and money has been devoted to

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# DOMINION CONFERENCE

## CHRISTCHURCH JULY 12, 13 & 14

### CONFERENCE ARRANGEMENTS

Conference will be held in the centrally heated **Guides Hall, Armagh Street**, on July 12, 13 and 14 and a full and exciting programme has been arranged by the host branch.

**HONEY WEEK** is being organised in Christchurch and surrounding districts, and sound co-operation is being obtained from the supermarkets. Eighteen observation hives are to be located in various shops to focus interest on **HONEY WEEK** and the **HONEY QUEEN** and contestants will be invited to take tea with the Mayor of Christchurch.

Free accommodation is available to Honey Queen contestants who are prepared to co-operate with group publicity, and Canterbury Branch will undertake this commitment. Branches wishing to organise their own arrangements will, of course, be entitled to the 2/1 subsidy if preferred. Free accommodation for the two days, Wednesday and Thursday, must be reserved with the Secretary of the Branch June 3, but later entries without free accommodation can be made as late as June 13.

**MISS HONEY QUEENS** are requested to contact the Secretary of the Canterbury Branch as soon as possible after their arrival in Christchurch and should telephone 326-219.

In extending hospitality to visitors, arrangements will be made if requested to meet planes and trains if advance advice of arrival time is given to the Secretary.

The suggestion is also made that visitors intending to extend their time in Christchurch after Conference for relaxation should visit the West Coast and the famous Haast Pass. Full details will be available of scenic wonderlands within easy access to Christchurch.

On Wednesday evening, July 12, a Cabaret/Social will be held at the Hei Hei "**COUNTRY CLUB**" for the entertainment of visitors, and final judging of the **HONEY QUEEN** contest.

The function at the **COUNTRY CLUB** promises to be the highlight of the social side of **CONFERENCE**, and the Canterbury Branch has generously decided that all visitors from outside areas will be admitted as guests. It is, however, essential that the organisers know how many guests to expect for catering requirements, and you must therefore make written application for reservation as soon as possible. Admission will be by ticket only, which will be sent to you free on request from:

**Conference Social Sub-Committee,  
National Beekeepers' Association,  
P.O. Box 5056, PAPANUI, CHRISTCHURCH.**

To assist visitors in obtaining suitable hotel and motel accommodation, block bookings have been made at the following recommended establishments, but individual bookings must be made not later than June 10. Accommodation at other cheaper or dearer hotels can be arranged, and information can be obtained from the Branch Secretary, A. R. Eagle, 22 Hillsborough Terrace, Christchurch, 2.



**COKER'S HOTEL:** £4 pe person all meals included.

**EMBASSY HOTEL:** £2/7/6 single £5 double including breakfast. All other meals a la carte.

**\*AVON MOTORLODGE:** (Licensed) single £2/15/- double £4 a la carte dinner 8/6d.

**FEDERAL PRIVATE HOTEL:** Full tariff £2/17/6. £2/10/- D.B.B. B.B. £1/19/6.

**\*STONEHURST PRIVATE HOTEL:** Full tariff £2/7/6 D.B.B. £2/1/6. B.B. £1/10/-.

One pound required on booking.

\*Within five minutes of Conference Hall.

To obtain priority bookings, members should refer in their reservation letter that they are attending Conference and are members of the N.B.A.

## **The Ladies Committee have also inspected the following:**

### **Motel Accommodation**

**CASHEL COURT MOTEL,** 451-457 Cashel Street. 4 Units, acc. 4-5 persons £3/10/- per day for 2, 30/- per person extra.

**ACE (MOTEL) FLATS,** 394 Hereford Street. 4 Units, acc. 6. £3 and £1.

**MAZEFAIR COURT,** 285 Hereford Street. 8 Units, acc. 4-5, £4 and 30/-.

**SUMMERHILL MOTEL,** 126 Bealey Avenue, 6 Units, acc. 4, £3/5/- and 30/-.

**BELMONT MOTEL,** 168 Bealey Avenue, 4 Units, acc. 4-5, £3/10/- and 25/-.

**TIKI MOTEL,** 347 Dorchester Street, 4 Units, acc. 4-5, £3/10/- and 30/-.

**GLOUCESTER MOTEL,** 263 Gloucester Street, 4 Units, acc. 4-5, £2/15/- and 15/-.

**HAGLEY MOTELS,** Dawel Street, 4 Units, acc. 4-6, £3/10/- and 30/-.

**PARK AVENUE,** 18 Riccarton Road, 6 Units, acc. 4-5, £3/5/- and 20/-.

**ASHLEIGH COURT,** 47 Matai Street, 4 Units, acc. 4-6, £3/10/- and 15/-.

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# **INTERNATIONAL BEE CONGRESS**

**Maryland, U.S.A., August 11-17**

As we close for Press for this edition, an interesting brochure has been received intended as a guide to visitors from overseas who wish to see some of the scenic wonders of the United States.

Advice is given to tourists on traffic regulations if they intend to drive their own vehicles, and details are given of bus and air transportation at specially reduced rates for visitors. For example, a low cost concession ticket lasting 99 days permits bus rides all round the U.S. and Canada at a cost of \$99.00 and for \$150 a ticket for unlimited air travel lasting 21 days can be brought covering 500 cities.

One work-with-play itinerary suggests a good start after the International Congress to take in the Walter Kelley Factory at Clarkson, Kentucky, Dadant's plant at Hamilton, Illinois, Woodman's factory at Grand Rapids, Michigan and then the A.I. Root factory at Medina, Ohio. New plant and equipment will be on view at the different manufacturers, and the Congress promises to be first class.

# NOSEMA APIS

By T. Palmer-Jones

Wallaceville Animal Research Centre, Department of Agriculture,  
Private Bag, Wellington.

## SUMMARY

The effects of *Nosema apis* are described, and adverse conditions that may cause severe outbreaks of the disease are discussed. Control measures, including fumigation of combs, and chemotherapy, are examined.

*Nosema* infection rarely builds up to serious levels in New Zealand hives, and large-scale fumigation of combs, and treatment with fumagillin, are not warranted. Less costly and simpler means of treatment should suffice.

## LIFE HISTORY AND SYMPTOMS

*Nosema apis* Zander, a protozoan intestinal parasite of adult honey bees, is of world-wide distribution. *Nosema* spores, present in excreta cleaned up by bees, enter the mid-gut of a bee. There the infective portion of a spore is apparently injected directly into the gut lining via the polar filament which is a hollow tube. It then develops and multiplies rapidly, producing numerous new spores. The new spores pass back into the gut and subsequently pass out of the host in the faeces. These spores can be taken up by a fresh host. Drones, worker bees, and, more rarely, queen bees may be attacked, but brood is immune. Field bees may become so weakened by the parasites that they are unable to return to their hives from foraging flights. In severe cases, bees show symptoms of dysentery and distress. They may crawl from the hive to die, or may even fall from the air during flight. The disease usually reaches its height in the spring, but may persist throughout the year.

## NOSEMA DISEASE OVERSEAS

During the severe winters of Europe and North America bees are confined to their hives for long periods during which cleansing flights cannot take place. If infected with *Nosema* disease they foul combs with spore-laden excreta towards the end of the long winter confinement. This excreta infects the hive-cleaning bees, particularly in the spring when the brood nest expands, and these bees are actively preparing combs for the egg laying of the queen. Queen bees are rarely infected with *Nosema* disease because they do not clean combs. However, under the special conditions of packaging or caging, queen bees may develop *Nosema* disease.

Climatic factors largely account for the spring epidemic of *Nosema* disease in European and North American countries. When summer comes infected bees are able to fly freely and defaecate away from the hives, eventually dying without transmitting their spores to healthy young bees. Usually the hive recovers rapidly and the infection rarely has more than a slightly damaging effect on colonies which are otherwise normal (Bailey, 1963).

Spores may survive in faecal deposits on combs for at least a year, so carrying the disease through the summer. Infection can thus be carried on perpetually in a hive without being brought in from outside.



In Australia *Nosema* disease is regarded as a major problem. Doull (1961) emphasizes that the local climate and flora are such that the maintenance at all times of an adequate supply of good quality pollen is often difficult. He considers that lack of pollen is linked with severe outbreaks of *Nosema* disease.

Severe outbreaks of *Nosema* disease are often caused by the transport of hives over long distances, as in migratory beekeeping (Bailey, 1955). Under such conditions of stress the bees often become dysenteric, and if a few are infected with *Nosema* disease the spores spread rapidly from bee to bee because of the confined conditions. Beekeeping in Australia is almost entirely migratory.

Package bees are particularly susceptible to *Nosema* disease because they are subject to the same conditions of stress as hives transported in migratory beekeeping. Under these special conditions package bee queens may develop the disease, resulting in subsequent supersedure.

Queen bees despatched in queen cages may develop *Nosema* disease if their attendant bees are infected.

### TREATMENT OVERSEAS

*Nosema* spores are so widespread that complete eradication of the disease is not feasible. Overseas, where *Nosema* disease may cause serious economic loss, methods of control that have been thoroughly investigated include the following.

(a) *Hive Manipulation.* This depends on removing the source of infection in the spring by transferring bees from combs contaminated with spore-containing excreta to uncontaminated combs. However, it involves a great deal of manipulation and is quite impracticable for commercial beekeepers (Anon., 1959).

(b) *Fumigation of Combs.* Dormant spores in combs may be destroyed by fumigation with 80 per cent acetic acid. This can be prepared by adding one part by volume of water to four parts of commercial glacial acetic acid. The combs are piled up in supers separated by layers of absorbent material. Then about  $\frac{1}{4}$  pint 80 per cent acetic acid is poured on each layer of material. Before the combs can be used the stacks must be left for a few days and then well aired. Strong acetic acid is corrosive and should be handled only when the hands are protected by rubber gloves. Its vapour corrodes metal such as frame wire and nails. Honey and pollen stored in the combs are unharmed by the acetic acid vapour (Anon., 1959). In countries where *Nosema* disease is a serious problem fumigation of stored combs might be an economic preventive measure.

(c) *Chemotherapy.* Many drugs have been tested for *Nosema* disease control (Palmer-Jones and Robinson, 1951). The most outstanding is the antibiotic fumagillin, marketed under the trade name "Fumidil B". This water-soluble drug is fed to colonies in sugar syrup (2 parts sugar in one part water). The cost is relatively high because there is little demand for it apart from use in *Nosema* disease treatment. Sometimes colonies are fed in both spring and autumn, doubling the cost. Autumn is generally considered the best time to feed fumagillin. I am indebted to Dr. L. Arrivee (1967) of the Canadian Department of Agriculture, for information concerning the feeding of fumagillin to *Nosema*-infected hives in Canada. There, such hives are dosed three times in the spring, and once in the autumn.

Preventive feeding of fumagillin is rarely carried out in Canada because of the cost.

For package bees methods of control, in areas where *Nosema* disease is prevalent, could consist in treating colonies from which the bees are shaken, with fumagillin, and placing the package bees themselves on fumigated combs.



It should be clearly understood that fumagillin has no effect upon the spores of *Nosema apis* but only upon the vegetative or growing stage. After the drug has all been consumed it is usually not long before re-infection occurs from spores in the hive. This means that fumigation of combs, a time-consuming and tedious chore, is necessary if much benefit is to be derived from feeding fumagillin.

Persistent use of fumagillin could lead to the development of resistant strains of *Nosema apis*, as has already occurred with *Bacillus larvae*. Great care would be necessary to prevent fumagillin reaching honey sold for human consumption.

Fumagillin treatment for *Nosema* disease is not recommended by the Departments of Agriculture of the various Australian States.

### NOSEMA DISEASE IN NEW ZEALAND

The presence of *Nosema apis* in New Zealand was established by the author shortly after the Wallaceville Bee Laboratory was opened in 1944 (Palmer-Jones, 1947a). An epidemic of *Nosema* disease swept the country in 1946-47, and several beekeepers suffered economic loss through a reduction of hive strength (Palmer-Jones, 1964). However, the disease reverted to its usual endemic form the next season and no epidemic has occurred since. Indeed, *Nosema*-positive samples are rarely found amongst those forwarded to Wallaceville for diagnosis. The Horticulture Division requested Apiary Instructors, on several occasions during the last few years, to forward to Wallaceville for examination, samples of bees from hives showing unusual symptoms. Few samples were received and almost all proved *Nosema*-negative. During the 1966 season only two samples were *Nosema*-positive.

In an epidemic such as occurred in 1946-47 hives severely affected with *Nosema* would be noticed immediately by Apiary Instructors and beekeepers. This would result in the forwarding of a flood of *Nosema*-positive samples to Wallaceville. For the last twenty years *Nosema* disease has been of little importance.

Our equable climate generally ensures that bees can obtain adequate supplies of suitable pollen from the many pollen-bearing plants. Certainly, there are a few areas where pollen deficiency may occur occasionally in a mild form for a short period and warrant the feeding of pollen supplements (Palmer-Jones 1947b; Forster 1966). However, in general, pollen deficiency is so limited that we experience the utmost difficulty in finding areas suitable for testing pollen supplements.

*Nosema* disease rarely reaches epidemic proportions in New Zealand because pollen supplies are usually adequate, hives are not exposed to the stress of migratory beekeeping, and our relatively mild winters allow adequate cleansing flights. It is significant that the opinion of Manley (1948), Bailey (1963), and others is that *Nosema* disease seldom has a serious affect on strong, well found colonies. These have sufficient vitality and resistance to prevent the parasites passing from the endemic phase to the serious epidemic one.

There is little doubt that *Nosema apis* spores would eventually be found in most New Zealand apiaries if sufficient bees were examined. Fortunately, however, under our conditions, the parasites rarely build up to dangerous levels in hives. *Nosema* disease can be diagnosed only in the laboratory, and beekeepers who suspect their hives may have the disease should ask their local Apiary Instructor to forward samples to Wallaceville for examination. Severe *Nosema* disease is usually accompanied by dysentery, and samples from hives with soiled combs are most likely to be positive.

## TREATMENT IN NEW ZEALAND

Prices of fumagillin in New Zealand are approximately £1 5s. 0d. for a 0.5 g bottle and £15 15s. 6d. for one of 9.5 g. Fumagillin is usually fed to bees in a concentration of 0.5 g in about four to five gallons of sugar syrup. The cost of feeding a hive the recommended volume of 13 pints of medicated syrup would be about 8s. 0d. (5s. 6d.) if the five gallon dilution were used.

Treatment with fumagillin in New Zealand on the scale recommended in Canada would cost about £1 7s. 6d. (19s. 3d.) per hive. Prices in parenthesis are calculated for 9.5 g bottles of fumagillin.

The minimum cost of treatment with fumagillin in New Zealand would be about 5s. 6d. to 19s. 3d. per hive. It would also be necessary to fumigate combs to prevent reinfection. If allowance is made for labour and transport the total cost appears prohibitive. Furthermore there is now no package bee industry in New Zealand, and the low incidence of *Nosema* disease does not appear to warrant feeding fumagillin to hives from which queen bee attendants are to be taken.

Severely affected hives should be strengthened, requeened if necessary, and soiled combs removed and fumigated with acetic acid prepared and used as described earlier in this paper. Soiled hive mats should be burnt. Hives on damp apiary sites should be relocated on warm, dry ones.

## ACKNOWLEDGMENT

The author is grateful for information on the use and price of Fumidil B supplied by Messrs Abbott Laboratories New Zealand, Ltd., Hutt City.

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**CONFERENCE**  
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ensure your profit and pleasure.

The industry as a whole will benefit from the nation-wide publicity resulting from the HONEY QUEEN and HONEY WEEK promotions, and it is up to every branch of the N.B.A. to see that their area supports their hosts and their delegates by putting forward a HONEY QUEEN contestant. With a two-to-one subsidy paid by the Honey Marketing Authority for money spent, there can be no excuse for failure to participate. You won't dare to say there are no pretty and attractive girls in your district.



# N.B.A. EXECUTIVE REPORT

## TWO-DAY MEETING MARCH 8-9

Mr T. Wheeler (Chairman), Messrs G. Winslade, D. Barrow, T. Gavin, R. Glasson, J. Glynn. Also in attendance, L. W. Goss (Editor) and K. E. Moody (Secretary).

**TARANAKI BRANCH.** The Chairman reported on discussions on the re-formation of Taranaki Branch. There was no strong feeling for a branch in the area. Having been formed twice previously and lapsed, no further action would be taken at present.

**PRICE GUIDES.** Information to be sought from packers considered to pack in excess of 25 tons. If possible the survey to be published in this issue.

**HONEY PRICES.** Since decontrol, price increase was due mainly to added margins by packers and retailers; very little adjustment had been made to help meet increased costs. Executive recommends to producers prices be increased by 1d. per lb. In passing this resolution Executive appreciated that since price control had been lifted prices have risen to allow wholesalers and retailers normal mark up not obtainable under price control. Producers have had no price increase to meet rising costs.

**SURVEY OF COSTS.** It had not been practical yet to collate information. Executive to supply copies of their accounts to the Secretary to help in compiling a questionnaire.

**BEE SWAX.** Replies received from Sharland & Co. Ltd and A. Ecroyd & Son Ltd are summarised in this issue.

**QUEEN BREEDERS: AND B.L.** No written confirmation had been received from the Department of Agriculture on their agreement to restrict destruction of hives found in a queen breeding unit to within a 10 yard radius. Mr Smaellie later confirmed that this instruction had been given to apiary instructors.

**B.L. COMPENSATION.** The N.Z. Insurance Co. considered it would not be possible to cover compensation for destroyed hives by insurance. Replies had not been received from inquiries overseas.

**BRANCH LIFE CERTIFICATES.** Printing blocks could not be found for Life Member Certificates. Since Branch Life Certificates need not follow the format of Association Life Certificates, prices for simpler designs would be obtained.

**EARLY NECTAR SOURCES.** Mr R. Walshe, Auckland, provided details of early nectar sources and it was decided to make this available to branches and organisations which should be approached.

**ANNUAL CONFERENCE.** Opening speaker, Hon. Mr Talboys, to be invited to open conference. The Mayor of Christchurch would be asked to be in attendance.

**OTHER SPEAKERS.** Mr K. M. Doull is to be asked to speak on pollen supplements and nosema with reports from Mr Greig of the Department of Agriculture; Mr J. Frazer, of the Honey Marketing Authority; Mr T. Pearson, Agriculture Chemicals Board; Mr M. Cloake, Bursar; and Mr Thawley of the Cawthorne Institute, Nelson, if he felt sufficiently far advanced with research work.



**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS.** Following request from Otago Branch, copies of the Association's Annual Accounts would be sent to each branch prior to Conference.

**QUEEN BEE BREEDING SOCIETY.** Mr G. Winslade reported on developments to date. £2000 had been promised thus far with 1400 queens required. A full report for the next meeting of Executive and Conference will be presented.

**ASSOCIATION RULES.** The Secretary recommended that a solicitor be engaged to overhaul the Association's Rules.

**ELECTION OF EXECUTIVE MEMBERS.** The Secretary had considered the requirement that election for members of Executive be conducted on a preferential basis. Those persons entitled to vote and voting, should vote for two first preference candidates, and thereafter indicate their second, third, and fourth preferences. This method of voting will be endorsed on voting papers. The Secretary will prepare voting papers for the 1967 Conference which will be:

- (a) A different colour for each Island;
- (b) Contain specific voting instructions.

Election of officers will take place on the second afternoon of Conference.

**AGRICULTURE DEPARTMENT.** The meeting was joined by Messrs Greig and Smaellie, and the following items were discussed with them:

1. **STATUTORY DECLARATION.** Mr Greig advised that steps were being taken to replace this requirement in the Act. (After the departure of Messrs Greig and Smaellie it was resolved that a letter be forwarded to the Minister pointing out the representation made by the Association at the time the legislation was drafted, and asking that the point of view then expressed regarding the statutory declaration be again noted and the legislation amended.)

2. **NECTAR SOURCES BULLETIN.** Mr Smaellie expected to have the cover completed within a week and made available to the Secretary for distribution.

3. **FOOD AND DRUG REGULATIONS.** So far as they were aware, work was progressing on the amendments. Resolved that the Association asks for specific reply whether recommendations made by the honey industry were to be implemented.

.....4. **POLLEN SUPPLEMENTS.** Inquiry was made whether testing was continuing in the current season. Mr Smaellie advised that testing had been carried out and Mr Forster would be preparing a report for the journal.

5. **STAFFING.** Executive expressed concern at the staffing position for Apiary Instructors. There were two vacancies and two retirements imminent. Asked what assistance the Association could give Mr Greig advised that suitable applicants had come forward that one problem seemed to be the restriction upon the number of hives Apiary Instructors are allowed to maintain for their own use. The staffing position could be helped by greater flexibility to Apiary Instructors keeping hives. The question of leasing hives was considered by Executive, also the policy expressed in 1964 that up to 50 hives should cause no inconvenience. The department had fixed the limit of ownership at 25 hives. To assist in obtaining the services of competent inspectors, Executive would approve leasing hives owned by the Instructor for the two-year probationary period. If permanent appointment was to follow Executive would not object to retention of 50 hives.

6. **HONEY GRADER.** Mr Greig was asked whether anybody could replace the present honey grader should he not be available. No substitute or trainee is available. Resolved that Executive expressed to Hon. Mr Talboys, Minister of Agriculture, concern at the present position.

7. **APIARY INSPECTION.** Problems exist in some areas where intention to carry out inspection is not known. Mr Smaellie undertook to ensure that instructions are made known to part-time inspectors.

8. **HONEY TESTS.** Very little honey had been collected from test hives in closed areas. (At this juncture Messrs Greig and Smaellie departed after being thanked for their co-operation).

**PACKERS' MEETING.** Mr G. Winslade reported on the meeting held in Christchurch at which he was Chairman. The purpose for which had been approved by Conference, i.e., establishing price stability in line with Honey Marketing Authority price guides was not achieved.

**NIUE ISLAND.** A beekeeper, Mr J. B. MacKisack, had shipped 50 hives to the island to establish an apiary. Mr Walshe to be asked for his opinion on the practicability of commercial queen rearing on the island.

**HONEY MARKETING AUTHORITY.** Mr J. Frazer, Chairman of the H.M.A., attended and reported on the following matters.

(a) **PRICES:** As from April 1, the Authority would increase prices to wholesalers by  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per bl., on all lines to guard the producer against loss by increased costs and thus maintain present pay out. The increase is computed on a basis of an increase in freight costs of .2d. pence, labour costs .2d., and expected costs with decimal conversion and other items .1d. The price would stay static for two months prior to and two months after conversion to decimal currency.

**HONEY QUEEN.** The Authority had guaranteed payment of prize money and £1,000 had been set aside by way of subsidy available to branches on two-for-one basis to cover clothing, travel and accommodation costs for branch nominees. To qualify, there must be an element of local advertising.

**Executive enthusiastically endorsed the HONEY QUEEN promotion by Canterbury as a highlight of Conference 1967 and encourages every branch to participate.**

Nominees for HONEY QUEEN need only have a slight association with honey. A shop assistant with the required attributes who sells honey would be acceptable.

**SEALS LEVY CONVERSION.** The Seals levy would be converted at **.34c per lb.**

**GENERAL.** Returning Officer for the H.M.A. elections, and the honey grader situation were discussed. Mr Frazer was thanked for conveying to Executive recent decisions of the Authority and for his attendance.

**PACKERS' MEETING DELEGATES.** Messrs Lloyd Holt and David Penrose joined the meeting as delegates appointed at the Packers' Meeting last December, to discuss with Executive the possible formation of a Packers' Section. Mr Penrose stated that the two delegates had not been given a mandate, and the suggestions now tabled were his own ideas. Executive decided that the only relevant decision taken at Christchurch was to ascertain whether it would be possible to form a Packers' Section within the framework of the N.B.A. Resolved that the delegates be advised that under the Rules of the Association, it would be possible for such a section to be formed under the aegis of the N.B.A., to enable packers to meet and consider items of their particular interest. A meeting for Packers will be convened for Tuesday evening prior to the opening of Conference to consider such formation and other relevant information.

**COMB HONEY ASSOCIATION.** Mr T. Gavin intimated that this body would now like to consider the possibility of becoming part of the National body.

**H.M.A. ELECTION RETURNING OFFICER.** Executive did not favour any alteration to the present method of conducting the Election and preferred the Departmental Officer to be Returning Officer.

**FINANCES.** The Secretary reported that the budget would be adhered to and that there would be a small surplus for the financial year. Under these circumstances, it was resolved by Executive that the scheme approved by the Association, namely, to increase the Seals Levy by  $\frac{1}{20}$ th of one penny be held in abeyance in the interim.

**PRINTING.** The printers had given notice that the contract price for printing the journal would be increased from the next issue.

**ADVERTISING.** Increased printing costs necessitated a review of advertising rates and subscription revenue. Resolved that as from the August issue advertising rates be increased to £7/10/- per page and pro rata, and the annual post paid subscription be increased to 10/-.



**ASSOCIATION SUBSCRIPTIONS.** Executive recommends to Conference that the present subscription based on 60 Colonies be deleted and that the minimum subscription be 15/- for up to 90 hives.

**BURSARY.** The Bursar, Mr M. Cloake, had visited branch meetings and Field Days in both Islands, and would be attending Conference. All sponsors who supported the Bursary Scheme with financial assistance are to receive a letter of appreciation and details of cost and area covered by the Bursar. Executive consider that the scheme should be continued and will set aside £10 per annum as a contribution.

**SOUTH ISLAND SEMINAR.** 1968 would be timely for another Seminar in the South Island. Opinion would be ascertained from South Island branches.

**WASP BAIT.** This preparation is no longer manufactured. Enquiries are being made to find another efficient product.

**MASSEY UNIVERSITY.** The remit from Hawkes Bay at last Conference calling for a full marketing study by the Dept. of Agricultural Economics had proved impractical. Costs would have been in excess of £1,000.

**DARK HONEYS.** The H.M.A. was endeavouring to promote the sale of darker honeys through their special flavour, and was having some success.

**BRANCH CORRESPONDENCE.** Wherever possible branches will be informed of progress on remits and matters brought before Conference or Executive.

**AUCKLAND BEE CLUB, Auckland Branch.** Close liaison between these two bodies is to be greatly encouraged.

**PRESIDENT'S HORORARIUM.** Executive recommend that this question be considered at next Conference.

**NEXT MEETING** of Executive will be at Christchurch immediately prior to Conference, commencing on Monday, July 10th.

**FOOTNOTE: MASSEY UNIVERSITY MARKETING STUDY.** Since the meeting of Executive referred to above, when it was regrettably decided that present finances of the Association would not permit expenditure on a full study of the marketing of New Zealand honey, it has been announced that Mr M. D. Bale, a Junior Lecturer in Horticulture at Massey is undertaking an impartial study project concerned with:

1. A comparative study of the way in which major honey producers market their product, and
2. Extent of market diversification and the marketing margins involved.

The conditions affecting honey supply are not being included. Mr Bale's paper will be published and made available to the industry and it is understood that generous financial assistance by Arataki Apiaries of Havelock North has enabled this partial study to be made.

## EGROYD'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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# SELLING YOUR BEESWAX

Arising from Remit 11 put forward by Waikato at the last Conference that the NBA examine the current position as to the preparation and sale of beeswax with a view to obtaining a better return for the product, the General Secretary wrote to trade buyers on the subject and the following is a summary from the replies of E. Ecroyd & Son and Sharland & Co.

Pointing out that the principal demand for beeswax throughout the world is from processors, Mr E. K. Ecroyd says that, in general, processors prefer to receive supplies of wax in as crude a form as possible, provided that it is reasonably clean, and his recommendation to beekeepers is to utilise systems requiring a minimum of heating and handling to produce natural coloured wax in marketable form.

## Don't Boil

Claims that wax has been "boiled" two or three times to make it clean do not in fact add to the value of the product, since every time it is heated the possibility of contamination by stains from the metal melting container and from propolis is increased. Whilst the end result may look nicer to the eye, it is not in fact as valuable as wax produced from the capping oven or reducer. Blocks which have honey or dirt adhering to the base should be simply scraped clean.

Refining for comb foundation and for cosmetics is a specialist job requiring equipment not justified for a beekeeper, and technical knowledge is necessary to conform with rigid specifications.

On the question of return, emphasis is made that New Zealand is obtaining a satisfactory price based on world wide comparisons, and that it is in the interests of the trade buyers to obtain as good a return per pound of wax as possible. Suggestions that Australian producers obtain a much higher price cannot be substantiated in fact and reference is made to trade advertisement by large foundation manufacturers stat-

ing that they are "very short of wax," and offer the equivalent of 3s. 1d. and 3s. 2d., for clean wax in one cwt., lots delivered to the factory. New Zealand prices are well in excess of these offers.

Obviously, some wax can be sold at a higher price than refiners can offer for crude, but it must be born in mind that processing must of necessity cost money, whether it be undertaken by a merchant or producer.

"Clarified" beeswax is open to interpretation, since at no time has wax been received at the Ecroyd plant which did not require further processing and filtering.

Mr M. V. Dodd, factory manager for Sharland & Co., utilises on an average 12-15 tons of beeswax per annum, and their requirements are beeswax free from contamination. Mention is made of the fact that a wide variety of colour and quality are received and that beekeepers have a wide divergence of opinion as to the quality of their wax, particularly when they are trying to sell it!

## Experience Counts

The older established beekeeper produces the best quality wax and takes greater trouble in straining and storing blocks in good condition. Better prices are offered for better wax, and small quantities of indifferent quality are not welcome at all.

It would seem that for producers to expect top market rates they must be prepared to reduce their cappings with a minimum of heat and in one melting, ensure adequate straining for the removal of extraneous matter, and use casts capable of turning out a satisfactory shape and size for marketing.

# BEESWAX

## HIGHEST PRICES FROM ECROYDS

At the time this Journal went to Press we were paying:

4/7d. per pound for light, clean Beeswax

4/5d. per pound for dark Beeswax.

The above prices apply to Beeswax "on rail" or "delivered to" Christchurch. OR "delivered to" our new Auckland Depot: C/o Northern Steam Ship Co., Quay Street, Auckland.

## NORTH ISLAND BEEKEEPERS—

not close enough to Auckland to use our "Depot" service should send their wax by direct ship to Lyttelton or by Rail/Sea/Rail. In any event be sure to endorse the consignment or shipping note with the gross weight and correct cubic measurement which, for well packed wax, can be calculated at 1 cubic foot per 50 lbs. weight.

## EVERYBODY—

Scratch your initials on a top block in every package to facilitate easy identification.

## PROMPT PAYMENT

We make every effort to make prompt payment for wax and if you require this DO NOT send your wax freight forward as it sometimes takes two to three weeks for the freight charges to come in and this will delay your cheque accordingly.

## COMB FOUNDATION

Send your Beeswax now, for conversion to Comb Foundation for next season's use, with your wax for sale. Please advise when you require delivery.

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Telephone: 526-044

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PAPANUI



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# HONEY MARKETING AUTHORITY

## OVERSEAS MARKETING

### Does Our Future Lie in Retail Packs or Bulk Selling?

From an address by Colin Gosse Manager of the H.M.A. at  
the Waikato/Bay of Plenty Field Day

It is significant that, over the last 10 years, there has been no spectacular increase in the quantity of honey sold overseas in retail packs.

1957	29 Tons.	1962	33 Tons.
58	25 Tons.	63	29 Tons.
59	34 Tons.	64	34 Tons.
60	34 Tons.	65	42 Tons.
61	33 Tons.	66	36 Tons.
10 year Average 32.9 Tons.			

Producers visiting overseas countries see the great variety of imported honeys with New Zealand honey significantly absent and ask why the Authority is not exploiting these markets to the full.

**This market cannot be ignored, but the total quantity involved is so small as to have no significant effect on returns to producers.**

Review the efforts the Authority has made over the last six years to increase its trade in retail packs. In 1960 the only outlets were for the old established "Imperial Bee" brand, in Hong Kong, Malaysia, British East Africa and Australia all on a sole agency basis for that brand. This restricted our opportunities to offer honey to other prospective buyers in these areas, and in order to sell our honey to other importers new brand names such as "Southern Cross", "Canterbury" and "Honeygold" were established and freely offered to prospective buyers for sale in competition with "Imperial Bee" brand. Sales were made but no importers developed any regular market for the alternative brands and "Imperial Bee" still reigns supreme. The Authority receives trade enquiries from all parts of the world every one of which is followed up with quotations, samples etc. It also participates in overseas trade fairs, three of the most recent being the First International Trade Fair at Bangkok, Melbourne Homes Exhibition and Paris Food Fair. In the last 12 months effort has been made to improve the image of New Zealand honey by the introduction of a complete new range of labels and speciality packaging under named nectar sources.

What success has been achieved? Nothing spectacular. Sales have resulted, but most contacts have been temporary, have accounted for a token quality of honey, or have been offset by the loss of some other market.



A small market established in Vancouver, in 1961 is still active but involves about one ton a year.

In 1963 a firm in Winnipeg, Canada, opened an exclusive market for New Zealand produce but this was killed by high freight costs from the coast to the central provinces.

In 1964 a market in San Francisco initially looked promising and started off with a lot of enthusiasm, but has now lapsed into a small but regular specialty market.

During 1965 we established a market in Aden and sold nine tons. This trade came to a sudden halt with the political crisis and cessation of direct shipping.

British East Africa was lost as a market upon its independence, through restrictive trade measures.

Japan relaxed restrictions on honey imports in 1964 and shipments have been made. Most sales have been speculative on the part of the importer and no regular patterns have been established.

Interest in named sources specialty packs has resulted from gifts of our novelty carton of three ½-lb pots being mailed direct overseas by New Zealanders. Approximately eight tons of honey have been mailed. The U.S. Consul in Auckland accounted for 75 cartons. This is wonderful advertising but it is a specialty market catering for the discerning buyer prepared to pay more for something different and exclusive.

What are we up against in developing markets for retail packs?

#### (1) High Freight Costs.

Geographically, New Zealand is at a disadvantage competing with countries more favourably situated. Trade promotion experts say that the Pacific area is our closest market involving lowest freight costs and is where we should be looking to sell our products. Over the last five years, while there have been small increases in the New Zealand/United Kingdom freight rates, increases in trans-Pacific rates have reached a point entirely out of proportion to distances involved.

eg:

United Kingdom	276s. per ton.
North American West Coast.	370s. per ton with a further 12½% increase in April
Japan & Hong Kong.	231s. per ton.
Malaysia.	224s. per ton.

The impression given is that it is impracticable to competitively ship packed lines to the U.K. But is it? It is certainly a more practical proposition than North America.

#### (2) Finest honey in the World

New Zealand and its primary produce has some recognition in U.K., through long standing tradition, Commonwealth relations etc., but this does not apply to countries in the Pacific. Eating honey is something new, and we have to sell New Zealand and the habit of eating honey. The N.Z. Meat Producer's Board has been faced with a similar problem with selling mutton to Japan and has been very successful. But at what cost? This industry just has not that sort of money.

New Zealand honey is the best and we may convince an overseas importer, but if we are to sell quantity we must convince a potential pool of consumers that it is the best and worth paying a little more for. To achieve this costs money.

#### (3) Who are our competitors in retail selling.

Australia, United States and Canada. You will say that our honey is better than Australia's. But Australians consider theirs the best and have taken steps to convince a large market that this is so. Packaging and presentation is good, and more important, prices are so much more competitive because of lower freights and devalued Australian dollar.

#### (4) Presentation.

Efforts to improve labelling, printing of containers etc., are still at a disadvantage due to lack of a comprehensive range of containers available in larger countries. Glass and plastics are typical examples.

Quality of some New Zealand packaging materials are a factor. Deterioration in appearance and strength of the familiar waxed card-board pottle and outer corrugated packaging since manufacturers have been obliged to turn over from imported board to local board is quoted.

#### (5) Costs of Packaging Material.

The Authority obtained a price from a U.K., plastic manufacturer for a high quality plastic honey container, far superior to anything we have in New Zealand. The price landed in Auckland was one penny per unit cheaper than the inferior New Zealand pot. It was not obtainable because of import restrictions

#### Developing a market in packed honey.

Development of speciality packaging may result in widening markets but it is difficult to see it reaching the stage where the results are going to become evident in the payout to producers.

To become effective a market would have to be developed that would absorb from 400 to 500 tons of honey. Working on average intake this is all we would have available, and would mean selling to a different type of consumer than at present buying our specialty packs.

In exploring possible markets we should have to carefully consider:

- (1) Freight Costs.
- (2) Population and standard of living.
- (3) Familiarity with New Zealand primary produce.
- (4) The type of honey acceptable.
- (5) Existence of import regulations that could be applied in the form of restrictions to trade.

The U.K., would seem to be the most logical market. Freight rates allow a competitive CIF price to be quoted. There is a potential pool of consumers familiar with New Zealand produce and who recognise the quality of our honey. Enquiries are continually received as to where New Zealand honey can be bought. Most enquiries have been generated through our Gift Parcel scheme by gifts of small novelty packs mailed by friends in New Zealand. The theme of these letters is that they have at last tasted real New Zealand honey. "Why can't we buy this honey instead of New Zealand honey blended with cheaper foreign honey?"

It would be essential in the development of such a market to deal direct with a distributor operating his own chain of retail outlets to minimise excessive trade margins.

This might appear a practical and attractive proposition but look very carefully on the other side of the picture.

- (1) We would have to invest a considerable sum on initial promotion.
- (2) Present buyers of our bulk honey would not take kindly to us marketing packs in competition to their packs, and would create resistance to the purchase of any surplus disposed of in bulk.
- (3) How stable is the U.K., economic situation and where would we stand if she joined the E.E.C? Apart from tariffs we would inevitably become involved in meeting exacting quality standards demanded by Germany. Metric measures could be introduced and we would be asked to furnish the International Sanitary Certificate at present insisted upon by France.



(4) After investing money in developing the market and building up a demand could we maintain continuity of supply? Any distributor who took on our product would not want to put time, energy and money in building up a trade if the supply was going to dry up. Here, the Authority is in a weak position. It could not give any potential distributor an assurance as it has no control over supply, and relies entirely on voluntary supply and cannot go out and complete with domestic packers to maintain an export market.

**Could the Authority supply an increased demand over the original target of 400 to 500 tons? The hardest part would be to build up the initial demand to such a figure. It could then be said that the project was successful. Success breeds success and without any effort on any ones part that 500 tons could easily increase to 750 or 1000 tons. We would then be unable to meet the demand, because we would not have the honey or packaging capacity. Neither have we the plant capacity to pack the first 500 tons.**

Fluctuations in crops would be an added problem not only as far as overall quantity but the distribution of the proportion of light to dark which varies considerably from season to season.

Having examined all the pros and cons involved in the development of a trade in retail packs on the export market, let us look at the only other alternative for disposal of intake other than selling on the domestic market. That is to continue its present role as a seller of bulk honey.

Bulk selling does not present the same problems as would retail packs in maintaining a continuity of supply. We have certain responsibilities in this respect to packers who have built up a market on the basis of New Zealand honey, but we have a far greater degree of flexibility, and it has only been in very exceptional years when a succession of bad crops has disposed of reserves that we have been in trouble.

The question continually asked by producer-suppliers is whether or not an increase in payout to producers can be expected as a result of bulk overseas trading.

It is very difficult to see how it can. We have enjoyed top prices for bulk honey in U.K., for many years. Prospects of any significant increase in bulk prices for New Zealand honey seems remote in view of overseas competition and current selling prices. If New Zealand bulk prices do move, the trend, in view of the U.K., economic crisis and move towards E.E.C.—would be downwards. Even maintaining present levels, lower returns must eventually result with constantly increasing freight and distribution costs.

Here is a recent letter from a U.K., honey broker (not Kimpton Bros.) to support this view.

“Australia has appointed two agents for their honey sales here, who are trying to get U.K., buyers to pay 20 per cent more for Australian honey than the buyers are paying for Argentine and Mexican and 25 per cent more than Chinese. U.K., buyers are so annoyed that many are thinking of refusing to purchase Australian and it is quite possible that Australian exports will decline heavily in 1967. The danger is that if the much cheaper Chinese is imported in greater quantity and becomes better known here, that it may not only temporarily but permanently displace Australian. I should hate to see this as I have always been pro-Empire and pro-Commonwealth but a 20 per cent—25 per cent margin is just too fantastic at a time when U.K., is trying to balance its economy.

To give you concrete facts, we have bought and sold recently almost 400 tons of Argentine honey and sold it at under 100s. per cwt., to our buyers. We had to pay 5s. per cwt., duty. Last season we purchased 335 tons from Yucatan and sold it all at under 102s. per cwt., duty paid, to our buyers. We have been buying more Chinese recently and can deliver Extra Light Amber at 95s. per cwt., duty paid. Australia is now asking from 115s. 6d. per cwt., CIF in 5 to 10 ton lots to 112s. 6d. per cwt., CIF in 50 ton lots and there is no 5s. duty to pay on Australian. As far as Clover honey is concerned, Canadian is selling here at 165s. to 170s. U.S.A., at 150s. to 155s. Tasmanian Extra White at about 157s. 6d. However, some users here now are blending Clover honeys so that they can make prices more attractive to the public and it is rumoured that Argentine Alfalfa is also being used in some blends."

In view of this situation look at possible alternatives to the present policy of marketing bulk honey in U.K., to improve nett returns.

(1) Is there any other market that could absorb the same quantity of bulk as U.K., and provide better returns?

Germany is only interested in low priced honeys as is Belgium and Holland. Scandinavia will pay comparable prices for our honey but imports are subject to licences which fluctuate in quantity depending on the domestic crop. Our London agents are already exploiting this market to the full so this cannot be considered a potential new market.

U.S.A., is not a potential importer of New Zealand honey. They are only interested in cheap neutral flavoured honeys suitable for blending with their own.

Japan is the only other outlet worth looking at. They are not traditionally honey importers so they have entered the world market with an open mind. The following reply to a quotation and sample of "Canterbury White Clover" honey sent to Japan sums up their outlook.

"We have just learned that "White Clover" honey of a similar or identical grade to the New Zealand product is now being purchased by Japan at a cost of £130 Sterling per metric ton (CIF cost and Import Duty included). As Import Duty is 30 per cent of CIF value this would provide a price of £100 Sterling per metric ton CIF Yokohama. This honey is coming from Argentina".

The price of £100 sterling per metric ton is equivalent to £112 per long ton and should be compared with our quotation of £169 per long ton which is calculated to yield the same nett return as honey sold £180 per long ton CIF London. This difference of £57 between the CIF quotation for N.Z., and Argentine honey is considerably increased when 30 per cent duty is involved. It becomes £74 per ton so you can see the Japanese buyers point of view in not purchasing the New Zealand product.

Honey imports into Japan for 1965 were 6240 tons from the following countries.

China	2676	Canada	106
Argentina	1610	Hungary	25
Australia	610	Formosa	20
Roumania	452	Spain	13
Korea	411	Chile	10
U.S.S.F.	171	Bulgaria	3
U.S.A.	131	NEW ZEALAND	2

(2) If we cannot hope for increased CIF returns or lucrative new markets for our bulk, the only other possibility for increasing nett realisations is by reducing costs of selling.

Freights and all other costs involving handling and distribution have an upward trend, so there is little hope of relief in that direction.



The only other costs involved in exporting bulk honey is the U.K. brokers commission. This has been a point of controversy within the industry for some years now.

It might be possible to find a broker who would handle our honey at 2 per cent instead of 4 per cent plus 20 per cent overprice commission. Last years accounts would reveal that overseas commission on this basis would have been £2088 less, on export sales of 376 tons. This is equivalent of £5 11s. 1d. per ton and could have increased the Authoritys payout by .223d. per lb.

On the other hand, careful consideration would have to be given to disadvantages that might result. Kimpton Bros., handles honey from other honey exporting countries and account for over 50 per cent of all honey imports into the U.K. The broker whose letter was quoted also handles honey from several countries and would be happy to sell ours at 2 per cent. We would be foolish if we thought that Kimpton Bros., sold our honey ahead of others just because they think we are nice blokes. They, like everyone else, are in business to make money, and only sell New Zealand honey because the overprice commission clause creates an incentive to do so.

The question we must ask ourselves is this. If Kimptons are not selling for us they are selling against us. The margin is only £5 11s. 1d. per ton. By selling through another broker at 2 per cent against Kimptons, with no financial incentive to sell New Zealand, might there be a possibility that we would lose this margin and perhaps a lot more besides?

In endeavouring to review for you all aspects of the export market you may form your own opinion as to the prospects for increased returns in this direction. The alternatives, offer both advantages and disadvantages, all of which involve a certain amount of speculation. No recommendations for changes in export marketing policy are made. That is not my function.

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of cashing in on today's top market prices.

Don't delay — write to us **NOW**  
stating the quantity available

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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.

Takapuna, Auckland, April 20, 1967.

Sir,

## Apiaries Amendment Act Appendix I

I feel impelled to register a protest over what I regard as a piece of utterly senseless legislation embodied in the above Act.

The only purpose it can serve is to involve the beekeeper in useless and irritating form filling and much additional "paper" work for departmental officers who could be employed to better advantage in the field, inspecting hives and eradicating disease.

The official notice received reads as follows:—

"The above act requires you as a beekeeper during the period 1st August—30th November each year to inspect or have inspected all the hives you own. In addition, no later than 7th day of December, in the same year you are required to furnish a statement verified by Statuary Declaration certifying:—

(a) The date on which the inspection was made.

(b) The location of the hives inspected. The number of hives in the apiary, and the number (if any) in which American Brood disease (bacillus larvae) was found in the course of inspection".

In support of my criticism of the above legislation, allow me to make the following comments:—

The hobbyist or side line beekeeper is invariably not qualified to diagnose disease. Inspectors are therefore provided to give advice and to take whatever action may be necessary to ensure security from disease for existing established apiaries.

It is ridiculous to assume (as the Act appears to do) that the lazy or incompetent beekeeper is willing to provide in an official form, evidence of his own negligence, and thus risk the destruction of his hives by the Department.

Complacency by the Industry over this Act could well be interpreted by the Minister to justify a substantial reduction in the apiary staff.

The efficient commercial beekeeper, many of whom have over 50 apiaries will regard the provisions of this Act as impracticable in application.

I contend that the essential factor that has been responsible for the control of disease and its eradication in many areas has been the result of the work of apiary Instructors, ably assisted by qualified part-time men. This policy has been in operation for about thirty-five years, and its efficient application has reflected credit on the Department and its officers in the field.

As far as I can ascertain the legislation in question never originated from any remits to annual Conference, nor was it placed before Conference for consideration by the General Executive.

Who sponsored this Act and recommended it to the Minister for adoption?

WALLACE NELSON

NOTE: The Apiaries Amendment Act in its draft form was fully considered by the National Executive and in complete co-operation with departmental officers. The Superintendent, Beekeeping, Department of Agriculture addressed Conference at Dunedin on the new measures to control disease embodied in



the Bill then to be considered by Parliament, and again at Conference following year at Whangarei when an explanation of the Apiaries was given by Mr Smaellie. On publication, it was found that some recommendations by the Executive had been over-looked, and follow-up presentations as detailed elsewhere in this issue, amending legislation was introduced concerning the Statuary Declaration etc.

II II II

No. 4, R.D., Timaru  
24/4/67.

Sir,

#### THAT ACCOUNTING

Once again we beekeepers have individually visited an accountant, had an astonishing profit figure presented to us. If we are foolish enough to act on this figure, we, and our respective businesses will be in financial trouble this year and the few remaining years left. My own opinion is that an accountant's assessing of our affairs is very necessary to calculate the taxes we are entitled to pay, but to survive as beekeepers it must definitely end there. If you wish to be financially successful with your business, treat these returns from your accountant as for taxation purposes only; set a date (about 20th December in Canterbury), take a look at your bank balance, add any money you have withdrawn for use outside your business during the year, subtract last year's total, and you have your actual profit for the year. There will be an outcry at this statement, but it is my method, and I am still in beekeeping.

Accountants count capital purchases as made out of profit. This, with applicable depreciation, is correct for taxation, but for taxation only. My view is that the business needed that new extractor, or new truck, and the business must provide it—not out of my profit, but out of earnings.

I am aware that my view of profit and loss is unusual, but I am writing this in an attempt to advise young beekeepers that accountants are trained to make up returns for taxation purposes. These returns, in my opinion, are of little use in running a business, except in that they compel one to take stock—hives, buildings, van and trucks and of all other assets, and they give an indication of the death duties decendants will have to pay unless he takes the advice of that same accountant.

Put briefly; never spend the profit as indicated on an accountant's return for your business. Assess your actual profit on your own balance date, keep this money until your present season's honey crop is on your hives, then contemplate spending it if your next year's programme does not need it.

With this method you cannot go wrong, will make haste slowly, but will get there in the long run.

BOB DAVIDSON.

---

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# HONEY MARKETING AUTHORITY

Prices charged by the Authority for their brand of honey sold by wholesale and retail grocers

## "IMPERIAL BEE" BRAND

Clover Blend.

Flavour: Delicate.

Colour 86.

	Packer to Wholesaler Per Dozen		Wholesaler to Retailer Per Dozen		Retailer to Consumer Each	
	s. d.	D/C	s. d.	D/C	s. d.	D/C
½-lb Cardboard Cartons	13/9	\$1.38	15/9	\$1.58	1/8	.17c
1-lb Cardboard Cartons	24/4	\$2.43	27/10	\$2.78	2/11	.29c
1-lb Plastic Pots (Polypropalene)	26/9	\$2.68	30/6	\$3.05	3/2	.32c
1-lb Glass Jars (ACI 12 oz. Food Jar Plastic Cap)	28/9	\$2.88	32/10	\$3.28	3/5	.34c
2-lb Cardboard Cartons	47/6	\$4.75	54/3	\$5.42	5/8	.57c
5-lb Tins	119/-	\$11.90	136/-	\$13.60	14/2	\$1.42

## "HONEYGOLD" BRAND

Light Amber Blend

Flavour: Mild

Colour 60

	Packer to Wholesaler Per Dozen		Wholesaler to Retailer Per Dozen		Retailer to Consumer Each	
	s. d.	D/C	s. d.	D/C	s. d.	D/C
½-lb Cardboard Cartons	13/3	\$1.32	15/2	\$1.52	1/7	.16c
½-lb Plastic Pots (ACI 7.7 oz.)	15/11	\$1.59	18/2	\$1.82	1/11	.19c
1-lb Cardboard Cartons	23/4	\$2.33	26/8	\$2.67	2/9	.28c
1-lb Plastic Pots (Polypropalene)	25/9	\$2.58	29/5	\$2.94	3/1	.31c
1-lb Plastic Tumblers (ACI 12.2 oz.)	25/1	\$2.51	28/8	\$2.87	3/-	.30c
1-lb Glass Jars (ACI 12 oz. Food Jar—Plastic Cap)	27/9	\$2.78	31/9	\$3.18	3/4	.33c
2-lb Cardboard Cartons	45/6	\$4.55	52/-	\$5.20	5/5	.54c
5-lb Tins	114/-	\$11.40	130/3	\$13.02	13/7	\$1.36

The following are conversion tables to Decimal Currency of all £ s. d. references in the Honey Marketing Authority Regulations.

### Seals Levy

One penny per pound becomes .834c per lb.

An exact conversion would be .833c (three repeating).

It is calculated that the effect of rounding off this third decimal place upwards will be to increase the revenue of the Authority by £14/8/8 on a 2,000-ton crop.



**Grant to National Beekeepers' Association of N.Z. Inc.**

£1,300 becomes \$2,600.

The provision for the annual grant not to be greater than a sum equivalent to "one-twelfth" of a penny for every pound of honey on which levy is paid becomes .07c.

**Authority Election**

(1) **Votes exercisable according to amount of levy paid.**

The new table will be:—

Amount of Levy Paid	Over and under	Two Years	No. of Votes
\$18.68		\$37.36	2
\$37.36	" "	\$74.72	4
\$74.72	" "	\$112.08	6
\$112.08	" "	\$149.44	8
\$149.44	" "	\$186.80	10
\$186.80	" "	\$224.14	12
\$224.16	" "	\$261.52	14
\$261.52	" "	\$298.88	16
\$298.88	" "	\$336.24	18
\$336.24	" "	\$373.60	20
\$373.60	" "	\$410.96	22
\$410.96	" "	\$448.32	24
\$448.32	" "	\$485.68	26
\$485.68	" "	\$523.04	28
\$523.04	and over		30

(2) **Minimum Levy Payable over two years to qualify for voting.**

£9/6/8 becomes \$18.68.

(3) **Deposit required from Candidates for Election.**

£3 becomes \$6.

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# ADVANCE GUARD



## To NIUE ISLAND

by BOB WALSH

Apicultural Advisory Officer, Auckland

March 10th saw the start of a new Pacific Island industry, for on this day the U.S.S.Co's "Tofua" left Auckland with 50 hives of bees in the cooler lockers; the first of 600 to be sent to Niue this winter. Accompanying the hives was Mr J .B. Mackisack of Waitoa, Waikato, who has successfully negotiated a contract with the Island Development Board to operate hives on the Island for a minimum of ten years.

Niue Island is 1500 miles from Auckland and to cover this distance with stops at Suva and Apia requires about ten days. The hives were of standard strength for this time of the year and were screened top and front. Mr Mackisack left Waitoa about 5 a.m., and arrived at the wharf about 7.30 a.m. Loading commenced at 8 a.m., and it took an hour to load and stow them.

### IN THE COOLER

The cooler lockers at the side of the holds between decks are conveniently situated to be entered by a door from the deck. The coolers are adjusted at 45°F., which should be an ideal temperature for the trip.

I examined the hives after they had been in darkness in the coolers for 24 hours. The bees were extremely quiet but not dormant. It is Mr Mackisack's intention to water them daily.

Arrangements have been made ahead for the hives to be unloaded at the Island as early as possible and be lightered to the landing stage where trucks will be standing ready to take them to a site about one mile away.

This enterprise involves a heavy capital outlay and very considerable organisation. All the necessary equipment to operate a large apiary must be shipped to Niue as well as saws, tools, vehicles and honey containers.

The erection of a honey house will have to commence as soon as Mr Mackisack arrives. He will have only a month on the Island before the "Tofua" returns and during this period sites will have to be selected and all arrangements made for the arrival of 550 hives to be shipped this winter. Mr Neil of the Island Territories Department has given invaluable assistance in the negotiating and planning of this project.

A picture of the loading at Auckland is on the front cover and further notes on the inside back page.

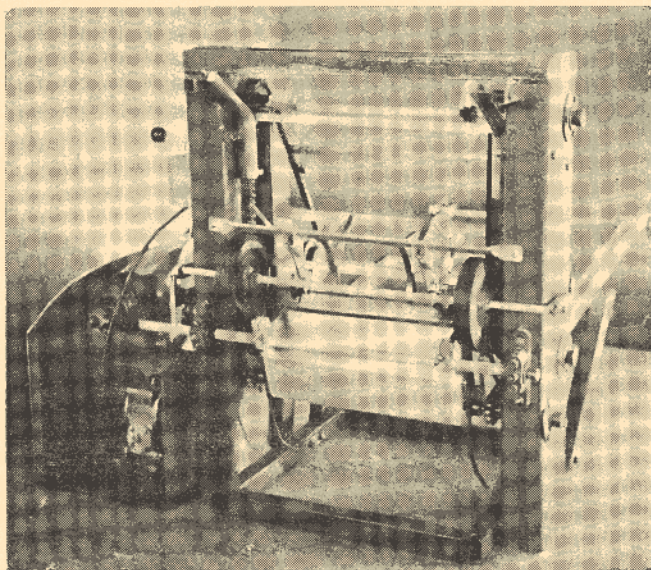
N.Z. BEEKEEPER



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One of these machines will be on display in Christchurch during Conference. Further details are available from:

**R. DAVIDSON (JNR:)**

**HADLOW, 4 R.D.**

**TIMARU**

# COMMENTARY

## from the Editor's Desk and Mail



**FRIEND HENNING CHRISTENSEN**, of Gentoft, Denmark, writes that he uses a stethoscope in winter to listen whether his bees are alive or dead. We find it hard to visualise colonies completely inert because of the cold in most parts of New Zealand. Disturbance of the cluster by amateurs in the Northern Hemisphere probably accounts for a great many fatalities. It is a great temptation to lift the crown board or quilt "just to have a look".

II II II

**A BEEKEEPER** writing in *GLEANINGS* claims that the ideal method to subdue bees is to feed them with rum if they are savage, and claims that he has been able to take honey off an otherwise "untouchable" colony. A Scottish custom was to feed bees with whisky at New Year, although the reason for so doing is not clear since the bees would be dormant at such time. Seems a wicked waste of heather dew.

II II II

**SCOTTISH BEEKEEPER** reports that a Russian correspondent has detailed a new cure for nosema, purportedly completely satisfactory in action and harmless to man. Hexa-methaline-tetramine, a product of formaline on ammonia and sold under various proprietary brand names is fed at the rate of 1 gram to a litre of sugar syrup at intervals of seven days.

II II II

**BULGARIAN BEEKEEPER**, Stephan Bontcheff, writes that he had a total failure with his honey crop for 1966. Ever optimistic—a trait in beekeepers not restricted to any particular country—he has now acquired a locality of 500 acres of *essparzeta/Onobrychis sativa* and 300 acres of sunflower *Helianthus annuus*. In the latter region there are not more than 130 hives, so we can confidently wish Stephan the best of Bulgarian luck.

II II II

**THEY MUST BE JOKING.** Amongst the articles scheduled to be cut by the new Import Regulations, mention is made of honey as one of the affected items. The Department would surely be hard put to trace imports of honey from overseas on a commercial basis for the last THIRTY YEARS! Perhaps some Rip Van Winkle prepared the Order.

II II II

**NEW ZEALAND RAILWAYS** are not the only transportation system to lose things in transit. Mr R. A. Yeo Jenn, the Editor of the English magazine *BEEKEEPING* used to possess the most comprehensive collection of honey labels in the world, and they were used for exhibition purposes at honey shows all over the country. Some rare and valuable specimens were included in the 800 and, on a short journey from Barnstaple in Devon to Bideford, a distance of only nine



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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.

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miles, they were lost. Replacing such a collection will be a long and hard job, and some will be lost for ever. Please help our fellow beekeeper by sending specimens of your pack direct to: Mr R. A. Yeo Jenn, "The Homelet", Bideford, Devon, England. The labels can be sent for a few pence by sea mail and will be greatly appreciated by our colleague in England.

II II II

**DR. MARY BURREY** of Edinburgh is undertaking research on the question of propolis as a cause of contact eczema. The condition is not common in this country, but one known recent case is being detailed, and it is hoped that the results of the research involved will be published later this year.

II II II

**A PHOTOGRAPH** in the Nelson Evening Mail recently showed 30,000 super feet of timber on board the m.v. "Wongola" at Port Nelson, destined for an apiary co-operative company in Melbourne. Sufficient timber was being despatched to manufacture 4,500 bee hives when assembled.

II II II

**A SCIENTIST** in the UK claims to have synthesised honey to the extent that it is identical in taste and texture to the natural product, although for some reason, colour eludes him. Whilst there is little that is impossible scientifically, it seems impractical that a manufactured article of this nature can contain all of the myriad ingredients that comprise bee-produced honey. Time will tell.

II II II

**ANYBODY MOVING TO MEXICO?** According to a report from Mexico, the city prison produced 12 tons of honey from 34 hives. A rehabilitation programme that can produce 700 lbs per hive would be SOME programme. And some bees!

II II II

**A BIRD FANCIER** in the United States points out that additional income can be derived by beekeepers who are prepared to sell worker bee drone larvae to bird fanciers. Aviculture is a popular hobby in the States and feeding the soft-billed birds becomes a problem, particularly at the time of moult. Collection is simplified by placing a brood filled comb in the deep freeze, after which it is easy to remove the grubs whole. A thrush consumes 20 drone larvae a day, and the male hormone is said to enhance singing and keep the bird satisfied and in perfect health.

II II II

**THE LONDON FINANCIAL TIMES** reports: "An order has been placed with Baltimore Instruments for the design of a micro-manipulator which will place two electrodes on the brain of a live bee with an accuracy within one-thousandth of a millimetre. Intended for neurological research, its introduction may be delayed—the problem of designing a strait-jacket to keep the bee still is proving trickier."

II II II

**AMERICAN SCIENTISTS** claim to have tracked a single bee in flight, flying at 10,000 feet and at a distance of 10 miles. The bee was taken to the predetermined height by aeroplane and then released, and the radar locked on the spot where plane and bee separated.

II II II

**HONEY MARKETING AUTHORITY'S** contender for the Honey Queen Title is Miss Helen Barber, daughter of Authority member J. R. Barber. Helen is House Mistress of Chiltern St. James Girls' School, Lower Hutt, and a student of Victoria University, Wellington.

II II II

**RON NEWTON**, of Ashburton, has been unable to work his bees because of a sudden sensitivity resulting in unpleasant and painful skin irritations. Details of his condition and treatment by a skin specialist have been requested for transmission to the Royal Infirmary, Edinburgh, where an investigation is proceeding into propolis sensitivity. It is hoped to publish the results of the research for the benefit of beekeepers generally. Perhaps Ron's misfortune may in some small measure contribute to medical knowledge to assist apiarists everywhere.



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The AD.I. Queens are from parents bred in a tough climate, a trial will convince of their value . . . , Not hard to handle provided care is taken . . . **SENSITIVE**

## CAUCASIAN GREYS

**GOOD WINTERING  
GOOD HONEY PRODUCERS  
VERY QUIET**

CAUCASIAN GREYS . . . These bees are the quietest & are very good wintering, their ancestors hold the worlds record for **honey production.**

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CAUCASIAN X AD.I. Drones. This is a outstanding cross, very vigorous but easy to handle Most workers carry **2-3 yellow bands.** The drones of all the above strains are **BLACK.**

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All cells raised are **DOUBLE GRAFTED ENSURING MAXIMUM SIZE QUEENS OF BREEDER QUALITY.**

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**BREEDERS \$10**

**ALL DELIVERIES BY AIR MAIL POSTAGE PAID ANYWHERE**

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**DEREK WHITE**, son of F. D. White, the Northland queen breeder, left New Zealand in the m.v. "Canberra" for Canada on April 8 to study genetics and recent advances in queen breeding methods in that country. Derek will return to his father's business when his studies are completed.

II II II

**A GERMAN BORN**, naturalised Australian beekeeper has been granted a licence to brew honey mead in the bush at Upper Kalbar, Western Australia. Terms of the licence permit minimum quantities of two gallons to be sold, and will be distributed through retailers at 90c a 26 oz bottle. The product was made from honey, water, yeast and apple juice and resembled a sauterns wine with a honey flavour at 22 per cent proof spirit. The brewer Johann Amann, expects to absorb much of his over production of honey, for which he has only been obtaining around 6 cent a lb.

II II II

**THE SERIOUS SHORTAGE** of beeswax in the United Kingdom, reflected in beter prices in New Zealand, prompts fears to be expressed that there will be insufficient incoming to ensure production of new foundation. A price rise of £200 per ton has pushed the buying price to £500 per ton, following the cessation of supplies from Kenya and Tanzania. Best dig out those old combs and odd scraps and turn them into cash whilst the shortage lasts.

II II II

**THE SMALL** increases in honey prices made almost every newspaper in the country. Wonder how many similar notices would have been published if there had been a price reduction?

II II II

**SOUTH ISLAND HONEY PACKERS**, who met in Oamaru on March 17, decided that their title should be known as N.Z. HONEY PACKERS division of the N.B.A. A levy at the rate of 1/- per ton will provide finance, with an advisory board of three members from each Island. Proposals and recommendations were drafted for submission to Conference in July next.

II II II



The magnificent natural colourings portrayed by the artist in his original, cannot be visualised in black and white.

The typical West Coast scene graces the entrance to the home apiary of Ralph Glasson at Blackball, and was painted by an elderly 'retired' artist in his seventies who is known locally as "Dusty" Rhodes. "Dusty" lives at Cobden and is something of a character on the Coast. Some of his best work is to be seen on the walls of hostelrys in the South Island.



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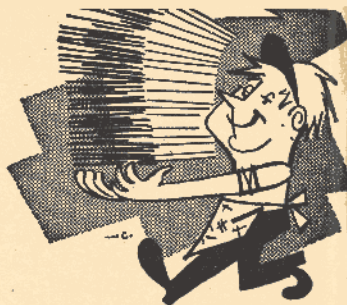
Less than five queens  
add an extra 2s.

**NUCLEI £2-0-0 plus all freight**

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MATAMATA

# BRANCH NOTES



## Waikato—Bay of Plenty

This year a combined Field Day was held at Matamata Springs and presided over by Branch Presidents Bruce Forsyth and Ron Morsop.

First speaker Jack Higgins conducted an open forum on pollen supplements, and left us in no doubt that there is ample scope here for experiment and a wide range of conditions prevail, particularly in bush areas.

Next Alf Bennett urged us to be more careful with our out apiaries. Do not park the truck on top of the hives and don't kick the lids off.

Colin Gosse gave us information on HMA efforts to sell retail packs overseas and reviewed the present marketing situation and future prospects. Darell Carey thanked him for his thorough and far reaching market research.

National President Trevor Wheeler condemned the smuggling of Queens and reminded us of the serious risks of importing diseases and urged support for the St. Queen rearing scheme.

Mervyn Cloake told us more about Canada and elaborated on the two Queen System as used there.

Doug. Briscoe spoke about the health value of honey and urged us to eat more.

The Gadget Shield which will be awarded annually was won by Robin Jensen with his multiple stocking honey strainer. Other gadgets were a 40 gal. drum lid fastener, hive strapping machine, Queen-call block, five gang queen excluder, and a drip preventer switch for honey packing machines.

The latter was the invention of Roy Patterson, and was auctioned later for branch funds, there being considerable competition between local packers.

Alan Bates sincerely thanked all those who had helped him after his disastrous fire, and invited us to inspect his new honey house.

Lively unlicensed autioneer Lloyd Holt again sold a wide variety of bee-keeping machinery. The ladies, advised by an officer of the St. John Ambulance, held an open forum on Safety and First Aid in the Home. The Honey Cooking Competition prize was won with a cake made by Mrs Wheeler.

Reported by Norman Tuck.

## Hawkes Bay

The temperature was seventy-five degrees in the shade of the Golden Queen peach trees at the Field Day of the Hawkes Bay Branch, held at the orchard of Mr and Mrs W. M. Dorward at Havelock North on February 25. The trend nowadays is to have orchards grassed, rather than cultivated, which makes for very pleasant conditions on a warm day.

President Ian Berry expressed the pleasure of the Branch in having with us several visitors, including Mr and Mrs John Guilfoyle (from Queensland), Mr and Mrs Mervyn Cloake (Timaru), and Mr Kevin Ecroyd (Christchurch). Apologies for absence included, those from Mayor Bill Ashcroft (attending the Local Bodies Conference in Dunedin), Riflemen George and Maurice Gordon (at the annual Trentham "Shoot") and Mr and Mrs

**N. Z. BEEKEEPER**



(Branch Reporter) Les Maultsaid (in Taupo).

From John Guilfoyle we learned how they keep bees in Australia, from Mervyn Cloake how they do it in Hawkes Bay. Then we inspected some vintage bee-gear which is destined for the local Agricultural Museum, and from this we learned how they did it in the good old days. From all this we had plenty to think about as we went home to take another look at how we do it ourselves.

Following the Field Day there was a good gathering in Hastings for an informal slide and discussion evening when John Guilfoyle took us for a trip round the world visiting points of bee-keeping interest, and Mervyn showed us some highlights of his bursary trip to Canada and California. The fresh viewpoints of the speakers and the opportunity of discussing them were much appreciated by the Branch.

In Hawkes Bay there has been grass everywhere this year and the showing of white clover would have gladdened the heart of even the most blasé South Islander. However, the unsettled weather from Christmas through January brought its troubles. There was a very good flow during December, which was most promising, but at the end of the season many beekeepers were struggling to gather up a normal crop.

Reported by John McFadzien.

### Bay of Plenty

Another honey season has come and gone, and for the record books of the Bay of Plenty, it left behind very little surplus for the beekeeper. The season began with a Spring that was full of promise was followed by a summer with virtually no sun, and a well below average crop.

Another hazard was the effects of cyclone "Dinah". Rivers reached above record levels in a few hours, taking with them a number of hives. Some boxes from these were later reported bobbing in the waves off Tauranga's popular Mount Beach.

Another beekeeper had flood waters in his honey house to a depth covering the bonnet of his garaged truck, and when the water receded it left a 2"

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layer of silt throughout the building, has been above average especially in North Canterbury. A late flow has filled broodnests well and made wintering easier.

This year the branch combined with Waikato for a Field Day held at Mataria Springs and reported elsewhere in this issue.

Reported by Don Barrow

### WAIKATO

As was somewhat expected in my last report crops have varied from good, mainly of dark honey, to large areas where little more than winter stores were gathered. One beekeeper mentioned that an apiary of 48 colonies yielded 15 boxes.

Crops, especially of those chasing white honey are about half average or less.

Wintering hives is easy as in most areas a late flow from thistle has filled brood boxes.

Mac Mackisack has taken 50 hives to Niue Island, the hives being locked in "the cooler" for the 11 day journey. We await the return of Mac for more news.

Reported by C. Bird

### CANTERBURY

Over the last five or six years it has been apparent that there is a period of drought sometime during the season with the tendency to it being later each year. This season has been no exception but with it occurring in the Autumn the crop has not been affected. An easy Spring was followed by a very prolific flowering of clover, the best for many years.

Unfortunately, dull cold weather during the Christmas period prevented bees-taking full advantage of it and much honey was lost. Light land yielded the best and overall the crop

With the dry Autumn Porina and grass grub damage has taken toll of pastures and much clover has been lost for next season. This and lower clover seed prices on an over supplied market could have an adverse effect on next season's honey crop.

### NORTHLAND BRANCH

Owing to the wet and windy weather we have had the honey crop is the lightest for many years. It may be due to a poor year for Manuka flower.

During the early part of February we had a visit from Merv. and Margeret Cloake, Merv. gave a very interesting talk about his trip around the different beekeepers in North America. It was a pity their stay was so short up this way.

During the talk and showing of slides the projector blew up! There was complete silence for a moment or two, I think Merv. thought his last hour had come.

During the early part of April there was a Field Day held at my home yard to show members ideas for Autumn management, and two methods of introducing queens. There could have been a larger attendance, but the weather was not the best first thing in the day.

We have had our annual meeting early this year. The new officers are A. G. Tucker President, Des Cullen Secretary-Treasurer.

Our branch changes the secretary every three years instead of working them to death.

Reported by A. G. Tucker

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## South Canterbury

Our crop finished the poorest per erhive ever. In fact, for the first time in 30 years all districts failed to give a return sufficient to meet maintenance costs. What we would all like to know is: "Can it happen two years running?"

On the evening of Friday April 28, we held our normal branch meeting, debated nine Conference Remits, ranging from, "Tripping Around the World", to the new Apiary Registrations, and elected N.Z.'s first N.B.A. Branch Life Member in the person of Mr William Jennings

Bill Jennings was our first Branch President, and in the early years of this branch gave freely of his time and energy, in formulating and fostering early beginnings. South Canterbury is forwarding the name of Mr George Gumbrell to the National Executive for consideration of Conference as a Life Member of our National Body.

The meeting took time off to judge entrants for the Canterbury Honey Queen contest, and finally decided to enter a Waimate girl, Miss Alana

Harrison, in the hope that the judges have similar ideas of a Honey Queen as our own! Miss Harrison owns and operates 100 hives of bees in the Waimate district. Branch Officers elected were:—President, Mr Eric Robins; Vice-President, Mr Jim Murphy; Secretary, Mr R. Davidson. These issues being settled we discussed current topics until 11.30 p.m.

Reported by Bob Davidson.

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READY NOW  
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and  
VIGOROUS QUIET QUEENS

Ready End of October  
15/- Ea. Cash with Order  
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BEE BUSINESS  
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TENDERS are invited for my entire BEE-KEEPING BUSINESS. Approx. 1,000 Hives, Buildings sound 3,500 sq. ft. Situated valuable 1/4 acre section, Balclutha. Modern Plant, 3-Ton Truck Boom Loader. Small Bungalow optional.

Yards spread over wide area, thus ensuring greater crop average in extreme wet or dry seasons.

PAST YEARS HAVE PROVED BEYOND DOUBT THIS TO BE ONE OF THE MOST RELIABLE WHITE CLOVER AREAS IN THE SOUTH ISLAND.

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Consideration will be given to selling separate lots of Hives on or off location to reduce to a smaller concern to suit buyers.

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BEEKEEPING BUSINESS: 450 Hives, Honey House and Equipment, Hive Loader, 1957 A2 30cwt Bedford Truck, 3-Bedroom older type House on one acre. All in Good Order.—£4,200. D. K. JOHNSTONE, 271 Cambridge Avenue, Ashurst, Palmerston North. Phone Ashurst 687.

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BAY OF PLENTY: Approx. 700 Hives, well maintained; 2,000 ft. Honey Shed with appliances; 408 ft. special Super Shed, Loading Tractor, Good Truck, and extras not mentioned. Shed for extra Truck, 900 ft. Bach and double Garage, 1½ acres with Modern House with Venetian Blinds and Coverings, etc.—Price £16,000. Apply: "APIARIST", P.O. Box 165, TAURANGA.

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200 HIVES ————— 200 HIVES

200 HIVES ————— 200 HIVES

On sites or for removal.

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BEEKEEPING OUTFIT

Situated in Mid-Canterbury. Approx. 800 Hives with full range of equipment. Good House and Buildings in good White Clover area.

Apply—

"WHITE CLOVER,"  
C/o N.Z. Beekeeper

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Please note that the correct price per 1,000 is £33 and not as misprinted in the February issue.

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9 Taiere Terrace,  
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HIVES — HIVES — HIVES — HIVES

300, four-storied, with Excluders.

GUARANTEED DISEASE-FREE. Good value at £4 per Colony.

WHEELER & CO.  
Otorohanga

N.Z. BEEKEEPER



# 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 members 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 action 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.

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

## ADVERTISEMENT RATES

Quarter Page	£2 5 0	Per Inch	12 6
Half Page	£4 2 6	Min. Charge,	6 6
Full Page	£7 10 0	for each insertion.	

PICTURED ON THE FRONT page of this issue is the early morning scene on the dockside at Auckland on March 10, when the advance guard of J. B. "Jock" Mackisack's apiary was loaded on to the m.v. "Tofua" en route for the island of Niue, preparatory to starting a new industry there. Work will be provided for Islanders who will be trained in apiary management, and the resultant harvest of honey will be returned in bulk to New Zealand for world sale.

Loading proceeded without undue incident, although some trouble was experienced below decks when, with typical tenacity of purpose and extraordinary perception, some of the bees found undetected escape holes and decided to explore. Many of them met an untimely demise by blocking up the grilles of the cooling plant, and by their suicide prevented the temperature from being lowered and retained at 45° F. In fact, when the grilles were removed for inspection on the voyage, there were sheets of ice behind some of them.

On arrival at the Island, the hives were unloaded into lighters and taken ashore. Through a misunderstanding with inexperienced personnel, they were allowed to become hotter than was really comfortable for the bees, with the result that when they were freed, many hung in large clusters from nearby trees.

Small losses apart, the colonies soon settled down to work, and have already produced a pleasing surplus.

"Jock" returned to Auckland in late April and plans are in hand for the shipment of the remaining stocks to Niue.

Bob Walsh, Department of Agriculture, Auckland, who examined the stowing of the hives on to the "Tofua", took the cover picture.

# *Alliance* Bee *Quality* Supplies

## HONEY EXTRACTORS

As our Basic Import Licence for Honey Extractors has been fully committed from orders already received, it will be necessary for us to apply for "Special Licences" to import Extractors against further orders. As there is often some delay in securing Licences, Beekeepers requiring new Extractors are urged to place their orders immediately. When placing your order please state in reasonable detail the reasons a new Extractor is required such as "replacement of worn-out machine", "expansion", etc.

## QUEEN EXCLUDERS

Limited stocks of Wood and Metal framed Excluders are expected in August/September. As it is doubtful that we will have sufficient to meet all requirements, orders will be executed in order of receipt.

## HIVE STRAPPERS

Limited quantities only will be available. Orders will be executed in order of receipt.

## BEESWAX

Large quantities will be required to meet overseas orders during the next few months. We are paying top market prices by cash or proceeds can be set against goods.

## WOODWARE

Plan ahead for your maintenance and extension programme. Place orders now for this winter's requirements.

# The Alliance Bee Supplies

COMPANY LIMITED

25 Sawyers Arms Road, Papanui, Christchurch 5.

Telegrams: "Beeware", Christchurch. P.O. Box 5056, Papanui.

Phone 526-044.