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(To the Editor).

Sir,—I was pleased to see in Wednesday's "Guardian" that the Waikato Branch of the Beekeepers' Association have found out that you can fool some of the South Island Beekeepers, some of the time but they cannot fool all of us all the time. When in Grey-mouth recently one of the leading beekeepers there was candid enough to tell me that when I warned them against the operations of the Control Board they did not believe me but now they admit I was their best friend. The following resolution was passed:—

"That this meeting of the executive representing the West Coast Beekeepers Association enters an emphatic protest against the proposed Local Honey Marketing Board Bill, being introduced by Mr Jordan M.P. and considers that if such an Act was brought into force it would be detrimental to both honey producers and consumers alike."

I have had considerable correspondence with various beekeepers in Canterbury and urged a combined stand be made to oppose the monopoly engineered by the H.P.A. to gain a strangle hold on the New Zealand market. The following resolution was passed at a meeting of beekeepers in Christchurch on 29/9/31, and carried unanimously:—

"That this meeting of beekeepers representing the majority of Canterbury producers, is strongly opposed to the compulsory provisions of the Honey Local Marketing Board Bill at present before the House but would welcome

over a period of seven years without any attempt being made for an improvement, by abolishing the Honey Control Board so that private enterprise can again enter business. I am, etc.,

JOHN MURDOCH,

Ross, October 5, 1931.

duced by Mr Jordan M.P., but if they were not at the back of it, who were? It is claimed that this measure is being asked for by an overwhelming majority of honey producers but this is certainly not the case. The proposals have been brought forward by the Executive of the Beekeepers Association who have a financial membership of under 300 out of a total of some 6,000 registered beekeepers in New Zealand.

At a meeting of the Association held in Christchurch on June 17th 1931, the proposals were voted upon by 44 members and carried by six votes only. Just imagine a Bill introduced to Parliament by a majority of 6 votes out of 6,000. Don't you think it is time we had a change? Members of the National Beekeepers Association are also shareholders in the Honey Producers Association and the latter are running the Government Control Board through the Directors of the H.P.A. Messrs Gibb and Rentoul. The Government nominee (Mr Butland) on the Control Board is reported to be a distributor of Imperial Bee Honey.

"We would especially like to refer again to the last balance-sheet of the Association. The paid up capital is

£13,000, the balance to the debit of profit and loss account is £16,867 and the liabilities are over £107,000. This surely speaks for itself. The company is hopelessly involved and steps should in our opinion, be taken by shareholders to wind it up." One wonders why the Government allows an industry to be starved to death by mismanagement