

BEEKEEPERS' FIELD DAY

The Northland branch of the New Zealand Beekeepers' Association held their first field day for the season at Mr and Mrs J. Gavin's apiary at Titoki on Saturday.

The weather was perfect for the occasion and some 30 enthusiasts responded to the invitation to attend.

The president, Mr Gavin, opened the proceedings by giving a demonstration of his successful method of queen raising.

Mr Westbrooke, Government apiarist demonstrated a simple and quick method of wiring frames. The visitors were conducted around the apiary and wonder was expressed by the beekeepers present at the quietness of the bees. No person appeared to have been stung and very few found it necessary to put on a veil.

One of the most interesting items was a demonstration of handling frames of bees by the president's three children, aged seven, nine and 11, who, without hats, veils or gloves fearlessly handled the bees.

During the afternoon Mrs Gavin served afternoon tea. Votes of thanks to Mr and Mrs Gavin were enthusiastically passed.

Mr Westbrooke advised the beekeepers to go ahead and increase the number of their hives, as he thought there was a bright prospect ahead of the Northland beekeepers.

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NORTHERN ADVOCATE, 8
NOVEMBER 1937, PAGE 2

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