

position was as follows :-

SCALE OF SUBSCRIPTION.	NUMBER.	TOTAL REVENUE PRODUCED.
7/6	166	62. 5. 0.
10/-	63	31. 10. 0.
15/-	19	14. 5. 0.
20/-	18	18. 0. 0.
25/-	14	17. 10. 0.
30/-	8	12. 0. 0.
35/-	5	8. 15. 0.
40/-	10	20. 0. 0.
45/-	5	11. 5. 0.
50/-	23	57. 10. 0.
55/-	3	8. 5. 0.
60/-	7	21. 0. 0.
65/-	8	26. 0. 0.
70/-	4	14. 0. 0.
75/-	68	255. 0. 0.
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	421	£ 576. 0. 0.
	<hr/>	<hr/>

Of 36 direct subscriptions eleven were at the minimum rate of 7/6d.

Several alternative suggestions for increasing subscriptions were discussed and finally the following resolution moved by Mr. Gumbrell, seconded by Mr. Lorimer, was put and carried

"That it be a recommendation to Conference that the minimum subscription be raised to ten shillings (10/-) per annum and that the graduated scale of subscriptions be extended to a maximum of five pounds (£5) for 600 hives."

Note

PRICE DECONTROL AND PRICE INDEX.

The General Secretary and Chairman reviewed the steps which had been taken in pursuing the application for decontrol of honey prices which had resulted in an official announcement on the 4th. March that price control on honey had been removed.

The efforts made to secure the issue of the promised Price Index by the Authority were also outlined as were the outcome of these efforts. It was reported that despite repeated requests the Authority consistently refused to take any action with regard to the preparation of a Price List until a few weeks prior to decontrol taking effect. At that stage it was stated that the only prices which would be covered were those of packs which the Authority was handling, and a meeting between the General Secretary and the Chairman and Manager of the Authority had reached agreement on the proposed prices at all stages of sale for the six different packs which were to be covered. The Chairman and Manager of the Authority had also stated emphatically that it had never been the intention of the

Authority to distribute the price list to every commercial beekeeper, further that it did not have the facilities to do so and that if such was desired the N.B.A. would have to arrange the printing and distribution of the Price List itself. It had thereupon been decided that the General Secretary would arrange the printing and distribution of the price list detailing the prices for the Authority's six packs over the Authority's name and below these, the prices recommended by the N.B.A. for the balance of packs detailed in the Government Price Order No. 1664. A draft had been prepared by the General Secretary along these lines, when on the 4th. of March he was advised by the Chairman of the Authority that that body was no longer prepared to list the recommended selling-price of Wholesalers to Retailers and Retailers to Consumers, following discussions on prices with representatives of the Wholesaler and Retailer organisations. The General Secretary had therefore re-drafted the Price Index to follow the setting-out of the Government Price Order, embodying an average increase of 10% in producers' prices and maintaining resellers' margins of profit at existing levels, the Index thus amended to be issued over the name of the Association. Copies of the Printer's proof were submitted to members for perusal. A draft of an article by the Editor to accompany the new Price Index to producers was also submitted to members for perusal.

Members discussed the position at length and finally it was moved by Mr. Gumbrell, seconded by Mr. Williams "That the draft Price Index prepared by the General Secretary and the draft article prepared by the Editor be approved and that the Secretary be empowered to arrange for the immediate printing and distribution of same." - Carried.

In this connection the Secretary advised that both were already set in type and printing could be commenced immediately the printer received a phone message from him. Envelopes were addressed and stamped ready for the despatch of the material to every commercial beekeeper in the country.

It was further decided "That the President make an immediate statement to the press on the price increases which the industry was seeking and giving an indication of the rise which could be expected in Consumer Prices."

The failure of the Authority to honour it's promises with regard to the issue of the Price Index was viewed with concern by members, and the Chairman mentioned that he had extended an invitation to the Chairman of the Authority (through the General Secretary) to meet the Executive for discussion on the matter. The Secretary advised that he had arranged for Mr. Field to ring that morning to ascertain the time at which the Executive desired to meet him. No communication however had been received from Mr. Field.

Resolved on the motion of Mr. Lorimer, seconded by Mr. Cloake "That a further invitation be extended (by 'phone) to Mr. Field to meet the Executive on 7th. March to discuss the Price Index and other matters of mutual interest."

TOXIC PESTICIDES.

At this juncture the Executive received Mr. A.M. Greig, Director of Horticulture and Mr. T.S. Winter, Superintendant of Beekeeping, who attended at the request of the Executive.

The Chairman mentioned the fact that no further information had been received regarding the promised Agricultural Chemicals Bill since the amended draft had been submitted to interested organisations over 6 months ago and asked what the present position was.

Mr. Greig stated that he understood that there were certain difficulties arising with regard to the registration provisions of the Bill which were causing concern to the Dept. and to the Chemical Manufacturers. Until these difficulties were overcome there was likely to be some delay and for this reason the Apiaries Protection Regulations had been offered to the Industry as a stop-gap measure. Mr. Greig expressed his surprise that these Regulations had so far not been accepted by the Executive. The Chairman pointed out to Mr. Greig that the Executive did not consider the Regulations to be a complete answer to the problems associated with pesticides and that they were therefore anxious not to accept any partial measure which may jeopardise the chances of securing the full protection which only the proposed Agricultural Chemicals Act could offer. The Executive were concerned that if the Apiaries Protection Regulations were accepted the Government might "pigeon-hole" the Agricultural Chemicals Bill. The Chairman further advised Mr. Greig that it was the

considered at length and in the course of discussion noted the points raised by members with a view to further amendment.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 5.40 p.m. with the Chairman thanking Messrs. Winter and Palmer-Jones for their attendance.

RESUMPTION: 8.15 p.m.

MINUTES:- of the meetings of the Executive held in Hamilton on 29th. July and 1st. August 1957 having been circulated to members were taken as read and confirmed as were those of the joint meeting of the Executive and H.M.A. held on 1st. August 1957.

RE-IMPOSITION OF PRICE CONTROL.

The Secretary recounted the action which had been taken following the receipt of advice that honey sales had been returned to Price Control i.e. Telegrams to Executive-members, circular to Branches and direct members, and re-print of the new Price Order in the August issue of the N.Z. Beekeeper. The Chairman reported that in company with the General Secretary he had called on Mr. R.M. Barker, Secretary of the Master Grocers' Federation in an endeavour to come to some understanding over retailers margins of profit but that the visit had not produced any definite progress in this direction. An interview had been held with the Director of Price Control (Mr. McLaughlin) on 22nd. October in which an indication had been sought as to the likely duration of control and the Division's reaction to re-sellers' margins of profit. The Chairman stated that it had been learned that Price Control on honey would very likely be removed again in December of this year (depending on the state of the political scene) in which case resellers margins would be unrestricted. Mr. McLaughlin had expressed the opinion that the Association should make a direct personal approach to the Minister if it was concerned as to re-sellers margins. Discussion on the matter was held over until a later part of the meeting when finally the following resolution moved by Mr. Chandler, seconded by Mr. Cloake was carried. "That with a view to achieving co-operation with Merchants and Retailers, their written views be sought as to the minimum margins which they consider acceptable, and further,

20
11
57

immediately after the General Election, another approach be made on the basis of the likely decontrol of prices in which they be advised of the Association's concern at a possible decline in honey sales as a result of increased prices and of the Association's intention to take the matter up with the Minister if agreement over margins is not reached."

HONEY-MEAD.

Further to the application to the Wine Industry Sub. Committee of the House, for the licensing of production and sale of Honey-Mead, the Secretary read the Committee's report to the House which had just recently come to hand. The report did not favour the licensing of honey-mead at the present time but suggested that the research into production which had been carried out by the Department of Agriculture be continued.

After lengthy discussion it was resolved on the motion of Mr. Gumbrell, seconded by Mr. Chandler "That the attention of the Director of Horticulture be drawn to the Committee's report and that the Department be asked to continue with it's research as the industry is still interested in the possibility of licensing Honey Mead for sale."

✓
15
11
57

TOXIC PESTICIDES.

Mr. Gumbrell drew attention to a weakness which existed in the recently-passed Apiaries Act Regulations which permitted toxic pesticides to be applied to flowering pasture. On the motion of Mr. Gumbrell, seconded by Mr. Cloake it was resolved :-

"That this Executive seek further amendment to the Apiaries Regulations extending the prohibition on spraying or dusting with toxic chemicals to include all flowering crops including pasture."

✓
18
11
57

JOURNAL REPORT.

The Editor, Mr. McFadzien, reported on the steps which he had taken in effecting the changeover from the Beynon Printing Co. Ltd. to the Herald Printing Works Ltd. He proposed several changes in the layout of future issues as follows :-

1. Bee Emblem to be removed from the front cover and in lieu thereof one third (top) to be devoted