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West Maitland, N.S.W.: E. Tipper, May 28, 1905

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THE AUSTRALIAN Bee Bulletin.

A MONTHLY JOURNAL, DEVOTED TO BEE-KEEPING.

Edited and Published by E. TIPPER, West Maitland; Apiary, Willow Tree, N.S.W.

Circulated in all the Australian Colonies, New Zealand, & Cape of Good Hope.

VOL. 14. No. 2

MAY 28, 1905.

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E. J. TAYLOR.

Vice-Presidents :

F. W. PENBERTHY, J. F. DONNELLY.

Secretary & Treasurer.

E. TIPPER, J.P., WILLOW TREE.

Committee :

MESSRS. E. J. RIEN, J. PENNINGTON, F.
BOLTON, J. R. W. GAGGIN, E. DOWLING,
J. R. IRVINE, J. ANDERSON, W. GEE, P.
RIDDELL, W. E. BAGOT, W. NIVEN,
— BUSHELL, LATIMORE, HEWITT.

RULES & OBJECTS.

1. The careful watching of the interests of the industry.
2. To arrange for combined action in exporting honey to relieve local glut when necessary.

Proposed new rules published in this issue will be placed before members for alteration or approval, previous to next annual meeting.

3. To advise members as to suitable localities for establishing apiaries.

4. Any beekeeper can become a member on approval of committee, subscription 2/6 per annum.

5. That every member with more than 50 hives shall be allowed an extra vote for every additional 50 effective hives.

6. No member be eligible for office who has less than 50 effective hives, or his subscription is in arrear.

7. The Association to consist of a central body and district branches affiliated with it.

8. The principal officers be such as will undertake to meet each other in committee at least once in twelve months.

9. The officers shall consist of President, Vice-President, Treasurer and Secretary, and Executive Committee.

10. After the first election of officers, arrangements to be made by the Secretary to call for nominations for office-bearers, and issue ballot papers prior to the next annual meeting.

11. Supply dealers or commission agents cannot become members.

12. Members unable to attend meetings or conventions can authorise or nominate any member they know will be present to vote for them on any subject brought forward. Such vote or votes to be in addition to the member's present own vote.

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E. TIPPER,

"A. BEE BULLETIN."

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THE AUSTRALIAN

BEE BULLETIN

A MONTHLY JOURNAL
Devoted to Beekeeping —
Circulated throughout the Commonwealth of
Australia — New Zealand, & Cape of Good Hope

EDITOR & PUBLISHER.
WEST MAITLAND & WILLOW TREE.



MAITLAND, N.S.W.—MAY 28, 1905.

The following is a list of advertisers in our present issue, all of whom we would recommend our readers to patronise :—

Supply Dealers.

- C. J. Manning, Chuter-st., North Sydney.
- A. Hordern & Sons, Haymarket, Sydney.
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- W. Abram, Beecroft.
- H. L. Jones, Goodna, Queensland.
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- A. Hordern & Sons, Haymarket only, Sydney.
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- W. L. Davey, Station-St., Fairfield, Vic.

MY STEWARDSHIP.

I feel bound to speak a few words as to the stewardship entrusted to me by so many beekeepers. I allude to the proxies forwarded for my use at the Conference. They were forwarded me *without solicitation on my part*. Each member was asked to forward his proxies "to any member they knew would be present, and whom they could rely on." In no instance did I ask them to give them to me. I took it the sixty I received were sent me in recognition of the policy, in the interests of beekeepers, the A. BEE BULLETIN has pursued. There were about 12 persons present, from several of whom such expressions as "Monstrous, one person to have sixty votes" were heard. I fully realised the importance and responsibility of my position, and resolved to be as little obstructive as possible. When the election of president came on I gave my 60 votes for Mr. J. E. Taylor. Mr. Taylor is one of the largest beekeepers in the colony, has been connected with the industry, to my own knowledge, some 14 years, is a business man, and has had great experience in selling and marketing honey. Mr. Hessel Hall has been president four years. In the matter of vice-presidents my idea was, that if leading beekeepers in country districts were appointed such, the honour would be an incentive to them to form local associations. I was overruled, and two only

were chosen. I moved, and it was carried that we second the efforts of Mr. Davey, of the Victorian Apiarists' Association, to have a united Australian meeting of beekeepers, also that country beekeepers be asked to form local associations. Re affiliation with the Chamber of Agriculture, Mr. Hall said he and Mr. Ager had paid their subscriptions, 10s. each, to this association. Mr. Taylor, as president, then paid his, and Mr. Hall announced that was sufficient for the affiliation. The revising and altering of the rules was undertaken by a sub-committee. I ask beekeepers to carefully read and compare them with the old rules. It will be seen by them that no person can have more than about 7 votes at the utmost, by proxy or otherwise.

E. TIPPER,
Hon. Sec. N.S.W.B.F.A.

Is the N.S.W. Bee Farmers' Association to be destroyed?

I notice in some of the reports of the conference in Sydney newspapers that the report of the sub-committee for revising the rules was adopted. I did not give my consent to its adoption, as I felt it was too serious a matter, and against the fundamental rules of the Association to disfranchise country members. I said I would submit it to the members themselves, and it could be brought up and settled at next convention, according to the wording of the resolution. But certain people who had no proxies, and only one vote each themselves, talked everything down. There were only 86 votes present, of which I had 60. Had I chosen I could have nullified the whole proceeding, but feeling the matter was aimed to destroy the Bee Farmers' Association, I preferred to refer it to members themselves. The Bee Farmers' Association was started in the interests of men who had spent money and time to endeavour to get a living at beekeeping, and lived miles away from Sydney, and could not attend conventions in poor seasons;

and there were those who by puffing up the industry with falsehoods, were doing their best to ruin the said country beekeepers by booming the industry in order to make trade for themselves, and so bring in the present glut and low prices. Their work tends to drive the largest and most experienced beekeepers out of the industry, and create a lot of new small beekeepers who will buy their goods, who will again become disappointed.

In due time I will submit the proposed rules to members in such a form as they can give a vote on each paragraph. If by those votes they decide to destroy or curtail the proxy voting as the proposed rules aim to do, **it will no longer be a Bee Farmers' Association, and as such I distinctly say I will cease to have connection with it.** I have done my best in the interests of the industry, and will still continue to do so.

I am sorry to say several members attended the Sydney Conference I took it with the sole object of upsetting the proxy system of voting. They had no proxies themselves, and were very annoyed that the Secretary had so many. No other business was worth attending to by them. Let us look at what the proxy system means. On this as on previous occasions every member had been instructed several months beforehand to send in questions to be discussed, also to nominate officers. These were all published in full time for the meeting. I ask readers to read the proposed new rules and compare with the old, especially the matter of proxies with them. It is not the Secretary's fault if he received a number of proxies. If beekeepers had not confidence in him, they would not have given them to him. If fault is anywhere it is in the various districts not having their own local associations, who could talk over matters and see that one or more of their members could attend and represent them, and take their proxies with him or them. But the proposed alterations would block even that. Say, the Richmond district, with perhaps 40 members, and only one delegate could go, he would only be

able to take 7 votes for all of them. These however are small matters if one who has no proxies wants a Foul Brood Act, in which he hopes there will be something to his advantage, and another that it his main object in life to crush the New South Wales Bee Farmers' Association, and make trade for a certain firm of supply-dealers, in whose employ he most apparently is. And why should not those who have large apiaries and have spent much money and time have a proportionate share in the voting? Beekeepers, think these matters out.

To my thinking it is really disenfranchising the bulk of the country beekeepers.

I am pleased to see my suggestion regarding the Federal Government contributing so much money to help establish Australian honey on the English market has been endorsed by such leading beekeepers as Mr. R. Beulme, the President of the Victorian Apiarists' Association, and Mr. Davey, its Secretary. They both, however, suggest larger amounts than in my resolution at the N.S.W.B.F.A. Thinking it over no doubt they are right. I am pleased also to see the same idea has been put forth by the Queensland beekeepers.

E. TIPPER,
Hon. Sec., N.S.W.B.F.A.

The Proposed New Rules of the N. S. W. B. F. A.

If our readers will kindly look over the above we will point out a few things for their benefit.

Rule 4.—The old rule gave an extra vote for every fifty hives. Why should it be for every 100 hives, except to decrease the power of the larger apiarists who have the greatest interest in the industry?

Rule 8.—Five is too small a quorum. A few Sydney interested men are enough to make up a quorum, and some of them with injurious and selfish fads can do a lot of mischief.

Rule 10 says—The officers to be elected by **those present at the annual meeting.** Read this in connection with Rule 8, and form your opinion who and what the officers will be, and what good proxies will be?

11. No member to have more than five votes by proxy. The country member that don't know who to give his proxies to will either have to give none at all or else to those whose ideas he knows nothing about, or agents of certain supply-dealers, who are now booming the industry for their own gain, and the beekeepers' loss. If they are not doing it straight they are pulling the wires.

A great Question.—Is it well to have those Conferences in Sydney or at all? On the recent occasion there were some 5 or 6 country beekeepers present who were talked over, by who? One who persists in saying the honey market in N. S. W. is not near overdone, and there is a grand market in England for it, and also objected to the paragraph in report about enthusiastic beginners.

Another who has never made beekeeping a success wants a foul brood bill. I had only one to back me up.

Beekeepers, think these matters out. Don't leave it to proxies. If a convention is held next year try and go to it. If you cannot go to it and if the question is put to you **have no convention at all.**

You kindly gave your proxies to me, trusting me and believing in my ideas. If you think I did not do my duty vote for the proposed new rules. **If I did my duty back me up and reject them.** Forms for your approval or other wise will be forwarded to each paid-up member shortly. It seems useless to hold another convention in Sydney, The N.S.W.B.F.A. was formed in the interests of country beekeepers. There are honorable supply dealers, and there are honourable commission agents and buyers. At the same time there are some very much the reverse, and it is to guard against these the association was formed.

Mr. Penberthy writes: I am glad you got on so well at the meeting. I am surprised at Mr. Taylor being present. I don't quite understand "enabling any members of the National to join" as that would allow supply dealers, etc., to join. The whole of the proposed new rules are a scheme to upset the Beekeepers' Association in aid of certain supply dealers. Will beekeepers see through it.

NEW SOUTH WALES BEEFARMERS' ASSOCIATION.

The Annual Meeting was held at the Crescent Coffee Palace, Sydney, on Wednesday and Thursday, April 26 and 27.

The President, Mr. Hessel Hall, M.A., occupied the chair. In a few words he welcomed the beekeepers, and was glad to meet them once more. Most of them had passed through drought, fire and flood, and other troubles of one kind and another. The local market was overstocked, so that it was difficult to obtain a reasonable price for our honey. We had reached a critical stage in the industry. In years past other industries had been in a similar position, notably the butter trade, which had now been placed upon a sound footing. If arrangements were not made to relieve our markets, then the industry must decline. So far as production was concerned it would be easy to increase our output one hundredfold, if the business were placed on a paying basis. This matter could only be dealt with by united action.

The hon. sec., Mr. Tipper, then read the annual report:

The first matter that called for attention the past year was a complaint by Mr. Sheather of Gundagai, regarding ring barking there. Ultimately he notified me the matter had been settled, and asked me not to make the matter prominent.

I attended the Melbourne Conference in July, a full report of which appeared in the *A Bee Bulletin* in due course.

During the year the price of honey has been lower than previous years. Owing to the failure of the fruit crop, and higher price of sugar, a slight rise is now experienced.

The manner in which America and other supply dealers have been pushing the industry in all parts of the world have caused glut and low prices everywhere. Honey is produced in all parts of the world, and those who prate about the great English markets do so for some selfish purpose not to the benefit of the bee farmer of New South Wales.

As the subscription to this association is only 2s 6d per annum, I will ask you to consider whether you will rise it to 5s per annum. As treasurer I am out of pocket every year by the low rate of subscription. It is 5s in Queensland and Victoria. The secretary of the Victorian Apiarists' Association is paid £10 per annum. My heartiest thanks are due to those members who have favoured me with their proxies, I will use my very best judgment on their behalf.

I would refer to a suggestion of Mr. T. M. Hewitt, of Lismore, that country associations be formed to associate with this.

I would refer to a letter of Mr. H. L. Davey, secretary of the Victorian Apiarists' Association, asking for a combined meeting of apiarists of all the colonies. I would strongly support such, and would recommend that such approach the Federal Government asking for a grant of say £300 to meet expenses of a consignment of honey to England under the care of a person chosen by the beekeepers; and the help of the Agent-General of the Federation, and to assist same, the beekeepers to give themselves say 4 or 5 tons of the best honey.

As your hon. secretary I applied for and obtained railway concessions to attend this conference.

Would call attention that while the Railway Commissioners give concessions to attend such conventions as ours, with a penalty if not more than six avail themselves by it, they then issue cheaper fares to the general public, such action rendering us liable to a penalty.

And now, gentlemen, as I have given you the report of the working of the industry for the past year, let me have a say for myself. The glut on the market has not decreased, and prices are lower than they were twelve months ago, except a temporary rise.

I have done my best by means of the *A Bee Bulletin*, to let the industry and the world know the state of things, for the reason there were elements at work which, if allowed full sway, would make things drift to worse than they are. We cannot blame anyone for trying to gain an honourable living. But in this age of competition and money getting, there are many who are not scrupulous how they get money, and it does not trouble them what others are injured so long as they can do good business. It is against such as these I have done my best to warn beekeepers, as much as the libel law will allow.

It has been insinuated there is selfishness on my part. There may be to some extent. My apiaries have cost me at least some £400, independent of my time and trouble and worry. And I know there are many beekeepers in the colony who are in the same position.

In attending these meetings it is all money out of pocket to me. I would have been far better off had I never attended a Beekeepers' Conference. In addition to the pleasure I have thrown away in attending the business of the beekeepers instead of my own enjoyment.

Bee keeping should not be opened out in one direction in a way to impoverish those who have tried to live by it in another direction in order that certain supply dealers and their confederates should live and make money. It would be better for the *A Bee Bulletin* to have the support of the existing beekeepers who may be living comfortably than a lot of others who will only be made to become disappointed beekeepers in turn as hundreds of others have done.

That is my selfishness. No one would be more pleased than myself to know there was good English and other markets, but knowing for certain the facts of the case, it is my duty to speak out.

I cannot here refrain from speaking the words of a leading Sussex-street commission agent, who told me not long since, it was criminal cruelty the way many people were induced to go into beekeeping.

It is our duty to know who are our enemies, and having done so, to take such measures as the law permits to cut their claws.

Such supply dealers who unduly have pushed, and are pushing the industry, and making more and more beekeepers, notwithstanding the great glut, should be known and shunned. The too sharp commission agent should have his name in a corner of the Secretary's books.

There are far more important matters than paralysis, and disease, and should be treated accordingly.

Gentlemen, I leave it to you to give your opinions as to whether I have acted in your interests or not.

One question to be settled is whether we should continue our affiliation with the Chamber of Agriculture. It is useless to do so unless we can appoint a representative that will voice our views in it. Then the question comes, what good is to be gained by such affiliation?

It is in matters our committee ought to be able to attend to, and much better than by a society the secretary of which has expressed himself in opposition to our interests. As our funds are low I must suggest the matter be left over for a while.

Supply dealers have a legitimate way of getting a living, and do not object to such, but as most of my hearers know, there are some of them who go a great deal beyond such in order to make money, at no matter whose loss.

I feel inclined to endorse the words of Mr. H. L. Davey. The sincere supply dealer, who sells his goods on their merits and takes the industry as he finds it, is worthy of all support, but the man who endeavours to boom the business for his own gain is unworthy to rank as a member of any British country, much more so an Australian bee keeper.

A discussion took place upon several matters contained therein. A motion moved by Mr. Ager, that paragraph referring to supply dealers be struck out was lost.

The Hon. Treasurer, Mr. E. Tipper, then read the balance sheet, showing a deficiency of £1 5s. 4d.

BALANCE-SHEET.

Ap. 25.—To subscriptions	4	15	0
Deficiency	1	5	4
	£5	18	6
By collection received at meeting ..	0	15	0
Mr. Tipper	0	10	0
	£1	5	0
To clear old deficit and balance.			
April, 1904—To Deficiency	1	5	0
Sept. 19—Circulars and postage ..	0	7	6
1905 —			
Jan. 15—Circulars and postage ..	0	7	6
March—Printing Railway Concession			
Tickets and Circulars ..	0	8	4
Stationary	0	5	0
April 25—100 Ballot papers ..	0	5	0
Advt's. in A Bee Bulletin ..	3	0	0
	£5	18	4

Mr. Ager objected to balance sheet being received, as the treasurer had agreed to pay the deficiency of previous year out of his own pocket, which Mr. Ager said had not been done. Mr. Tipper offered to strike out whole of deficiency, but it was resolved that he be not allowed to pay anything out of his own pocket, and that it be paid by members. The deficiency was then made up.

It was then moved and seconded that the balance sheet be adopted. An amendment, moved by Mr. Ager, that it be accepted with exception of Dr. balance, was lost, the original motion being carried. The deficiency was subscribed and four members paying their subscriptions left a credit balance of 10s.

A discussion then took place on the proxy votes; as Mr. Tipper had received more proxy votes than there were members present, it was felt that it placed Mr. Tipper and the members in an awkward position.

Mr. Hall said that as things were they might as well leave things in the hands of Mr. Tipper.

Mr. Tipper said what he had done had been done in the interests of beekeepers—that he never asked or hinted to any one to give the proxies to him. They had all been sent him without solicitation, and he could do nothing but use them as his conscience might direct in the interests of the bee farmers of N.S.W.

Mr. Rien said the proxy voting was really necessary for a society whose members were scattered all over the country. It was not always convenient or possible for them to be present in person. By proxy voting they felt they had more interest in the Association, and some influence. To do away with proxy papers would not do, still it was necessary to alter the present state of things, and suggested that a ballot paper for election of officers be sent around to members in good time, also the list of important questions, so that they might indicate how their vote should be used. The papers to be returned to scrutineers.

Mr. Tipper said such had always been done.

Mr. Ager then gave notice that at a later stage he would move the appointment of a sub-committee to consider the amendment of by-laws; he thought no man should hold more than four proxy votes, and any more sent to him should be distributed in the meeting.

Messrs. Parker, Taylor, Niven, Gee, Jacobs and others also spoke on the subject.

Mr. Trahair, who had been invited to be present, here left the meeting. He thanked the members for the kind invitation to be present.

Messrs. Niven and Rien were then appointed scrutineers, and election of officers was proceeded with, and resulted as follows:

President, Mr. J. E. Taylor.

Vice-Presidents: Mr. Parker moved that two vice-presidents were sufficient. No one should hold office unless they were prepared to give the necessary time. Seconded by Mr. Ager and carried. The president declared Messrs Penberthy and Donnelly as elected, Messrs. Donnelly and Rein receiving each 78 votes.

Mr. Tipper considered gentlemen appointed as vice-presidents in different localities could do no harm, and would form centres for the formation of local societies.

Hon. sec. and treasurer, E. Tipper; committee, E. J. Rien, J. Pennington, F. Bolton, J. R. G. Gaggin, E. Dowling, J. R. Irvine, J. Anderson, W. Gee, P. Riddell, W. E. Bagot, W. Niven, Bushel, Latimore, Hewitt, P. Moorefield.

The president, Mr. J. L. Taylor, then took the chair.

Mr. Tipper move that a vote of thanks be tendered to Mr. Price, late member for Gloucester, for his efforts in ascertaining that the law does permit permanent settlement by beekeepers on forest reservations, special leases, not exceeding 320 acres. See December number A. B. B.

During the discussion Mr. Parker said the special lease was of little service to beekeepers, owing the difficulty of obtaining them in competition with the graziers, and also the expense of doing so. The system was in no way suitable for beekeepers. Messrs. Hall and Rien followed with similar experiences. It was felt that Mr. Price deserved the thanks of the beekeepers for his work on their behalf. The resolution was carried unanimously. A vote of thanks was also carried to the proprietors of the Crescent Coffee Palace for having placed the use of the room at our disposal without charge.

The Secretary read the following letter from the Secretary of the Victorian Apiarists Association.

Melbourne, March 20th, 1905.

The Secretary,

New South Wales Bee Farmers' Association.

Dear Sir,—Kindly bring the matter of having a United Australian meeting of beekeepers before your members at an early date.

I shall be pleased to co-operate with you in any way possible. With best wishes for your coming conference.—Yours faithfully,

W. L. DAVEY, Secretary.

Mr. Tipper moved.—“That this meeting of the New South Wales Bee Farmers' Association cordially gives its consent to such proposals, and would suggest at such meetings that the Federal Government be approached and solicited to give a sum of money, say £300, to pay the expenses of a beekeeper to go to England and exhibit our honey at such shows as the grocers in London, the Glasgow show or other larger shows. That the Agent General of the colonies be asked to give all possible help in the matter. And that to further the above object, the beekeepers of the colonies contribute themselves say five tons of honey, It is only doing what the government of Canada has done.

Mr. Niven did not approve of the Government being approached to spend money on our behalf, it would only mean a cheap trip home to England for some one.

Mr. R. J. Rein seconded the resolution. The Government had assisted other industries and we might reasonably expect some assistance towards solving the present difficulty. Motion carried.

Mr. Tipper moved, that Country Beekeepers be urged to form local Associations affiliate with the Central Association. Carried.

Mr. Ager moved that a Sub-Committee consisting of Messrs. Hall, Taylor, Parker, Niven, and the mover be appointed to consider and revise the general rules of the association and report same to the next general meeting. Mr. E. J. Rien seconded the motion. It was then decided that the sub-committee sit at 9. a. m. next morning so as to be able to submit their report to this meeting before it closed.

It was also decided that the amended rules be printed in report and distributed to the members who were then to vote on same, so that they may become law after next, general meeting.

Mr. Rien proposed that the Sec. be instructed to write to the Government, and ask that some steps be taken to prevent government employees entering into competition with Beekeepers. He said that something ought to be done in

this direction. It was quite evident Civil servants were not dependent for a living upon bees, and undersold us. It is now being carried on to a great extent, especially on the railway. He did not object to a man keeping bees as a hobby or a few swarms, but when a man settled within a mile or so of a beekeeper it was time something was done. They could not attend to their work properly and attend to bees, and gave several instances of officers who were often absent from their posts. Mr. Niven seconded and referred to the case some years back when a station master started an apiary of black bees beside the apiary of a leading beekeeper, who objected so the Commission gave him choice of disposing of apiary all but two colonies or retiring. But he was removed later on elsewhere else. Some years back school teachers entered into serious competitions with beekeepers and were stopped.

Mr. Ager did not agree with motion, he thought every one that wished should start beekeeping, and did not believe in interfering with a man's industry.

Mr. Hall thought that the motion would accomplish its object if put in a milder form. It was hard to have to interfere with the liberty of the subject to the extent of preventing a civil servant employing his leisure time as he liked. There should not be any restrictive conditions with regard to any industry.

Mr. Parker.—Do you think it right for a man who is getting a good salary to be allowed to enter into competition with beekeepers by cutting down the price, and instanced the case of a station master who entered into the business and sold honey at shows, underselling bonafide beekeepers.

Mr. Hall : I think every man is entitled to make as much money as he can in any industry as long as he pleases his employers.

Mr. Rien, Our industry differs from others. We had to locate in one spot and could not move easily. Perhaps a railway man or post master or school teacher would come close by us and commence

PRICES OF HONEY.

Maitland Mercury.—Honey, 2d. per lb. Small tins 2s.

Melbourne Leader. | Honey. — Demand is moderately brisk; prime clear garden lots are saleable at from 2½d to 3d; medium quality, more or less discoloured, selling at from 2d upwards. Beeswax—There is good enquiry for really prime clear wax, for which buyers offer up to 1/2; cloudy samples are to be had at from 1/1 upwards, according to sample.

Melbourne Australasian. — Honey — There is a moderate demand for choice honey at 2½d to 3d. Ordinary good quality is rather quiet at 2½d. Inferior is dull at lower prices. Beeswax is inactive at 1/1 to 1/2.

S. M. Herald.—60lb tins prime extracted 1½d to 2d, some choice lines 2½d lb. tin lots, 2½d per lb. Beeswax, dark 1/1½, prime clear 1/2 per lb.

FOR SALE.

MY WELL-KNOWN APIARY AT CLEAR CREEK.

JOSIAH E. TAYLOR.

HONEY. HONEY.

WE are open to SELL ON COMMISSION A FEW THOUSAND 60lb. TINS

A1 HONEY.

None But Best Samples Sold.

Send early, and secure Highest Prices. All enquiries will receive prompt attention.

W. J. & F. BARNES,

174 & 180 ALBERT-STREET,

EAST MELBOURNE.

HONEY.—

There is a good demand for really choice quality, and we can sell any quantity at 2½d. Dark and strong flavoured lots are unsaleable from 1½d to 2d.

BEESWAX.—

In good supply. Light 1/1. Dark 1/-

PRESCOTT LIMITED.

COMMISSION AGENTS,
336 & 338 SUSSEX STREET,
—SYDNEY.—

QUEENS.

One, 3s; 3, 7s 6d; 8, £1.
Bred from Imported Stock.

R. H. JERVIS,
Moss Vale.

THE LONDON DIRECTORY

CONTAINING over 2,000 pages of condensed commercial matter, enables enterprising traders throughout the Empire to keep in close touch with the trade of the Motherland. Besides being a complete commercial guide to London and its Suburbs, the London Directory contains lists of:—

EXPORT MERCHANTS

with the Goods they ship, and the Colonia and Foreign markets they supply;

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arranged under the Ports to which they sail, and indicating the approximate sailings;

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of Trade Notices of leading Manufacturers, Merchants, etc., in the principal provincial towns and industrial centres of the United Kingdom.

A copy of the 1905 edition will be forwarded, freight paid, on receipt of Post Office Order for £1.

THE LONDON DIRECTORY Co., Ltd.,
25 Abchurch Lane, London, E.C.
England.

beekeeping with result that we are deprived in part of our living by a paid servant of the Government. It was especially so in the Railway Service. The Government man not depending on his bees for a living it was not material what price he received, hence the beekeeper suffers. By all means allow them to keep a couple of colonies, but not large apiaries.

Mr. Hall suggested that the motion be : That the Sec. be authorized to write to the Government as follows? Seeing that the occupation of Beekeeping can only be carried on during the day time this convention is of opinion that it is not in the public interest that Civil Servants should keep bees to supply anything beyond their own household requirements and that the above resolution be conveyed to the Chief Secretary."

Mr. Rien agreed to the alteration and the motion as amended was carried.

The meeting then adjourned till 11 a m next morning.

The annual meeting was continued. The President Mr. E. Taylor, in the chair.

The question where are we to find a market, and wholesale price of honey was then considered.

Mr. Hall considered this an important item. Some time since he had been communicated with by a German that they would be glad of samples, which he sent asking 2/3d; There was no objection, but he found they had communicated with other beekeepers and then tried to play one off against the other. The agent then advised him to have nothing to do with them. We cannot regulate the price. We might advise beekeepers not to sell the best honies under a certain price. There will always be inferior honey to reckon with : While many of the smaller men are compelled to sell their honey when in need of money with the result that when prices were high, they had none to sell, which made it better for those who held on. It was suggested that leading beekeepers sign abroad, he did not think this would do,

We did not want to fleece the consumer. but to prevent undue competition. It is impossible to control the small men. There are bound to be years of scarcity so that those who hold any without flooding the market are bound to reap the reward of so doing: he therefore moved : That to prevent ruinous competition it be a recommendation from this Association, that they do not sell best clear Western honey under -/3 per lb, wholesale and best golden honey under 2/3 per lb. Mr. Ager seconded the motion, he thought they should have a central depot to which the honey might be sent in small packages say 2lb 4lb and 7lb tins, and distributed to the grocers. The grocers did not sell honey to the extent they should simply because it was down Sussex-street.

Mr. Niven thought the honey market might be improved by proper and systematic distribution. This should be the work of special agents. If such would take it up they would reap the reward. Some years back when he had the time to take up the work of selling his crop he could sell five times more than he had, but he could not do so now. In fact a beekeeper could not be a producer and salesman. If we could get men to Co-operate with producers things might be much improved. Another thing is to keep up a continuous supply, A beekeeper may have a good run, but there comes bad times when he cannot supply his customers, with the result he loses them and a trade lost is not easily regained. If we could keep a continuous supply it would have much to do with the increasing the sale of honey.

Mr. Rien said all beekeepers tried to dispose of their crop to best advantage, but all had not a convenient market. With regard to the grocers they were taking up the sale of honey much more than formerly, but they would not as a rule pay a price to make it worth while putting in small packages when a certain price could be obtained in bulk. They would not allow for trouble and expense of canning, preferring to do this them-

selves. We could not compel people to eat honey. Some thought it did not agree with them, gave them toothache, etc, the low price at which jam, treacle and golden syrup were sold was a big handicap.

Mr. Tipper said he had been informed that the Tamworth district there were 100 tons of honey held back from market by beekeepers.

Mr. Ager said all produce had seasons of glut. Beekeepers should be brought to the consumer which could best be done by the co-operation and a central depot. He knew many people who were glad of honey if they could get it. The honey should be put up in serviceable packages at a reasonable price. Beekeepers could sell more honey in country towns and to the farmers and grocers around if they liked to put themselves about. He proposed the following resolution.

"That this meeting urge Beekeepers to dispose of as much of their honey as possible to local grocers."

Mr. Rien seconded. At same time he did not think there was much need for this as beekeepers would do their best in this direction we might be sure. He had no local market.—Carried.

QUESTION OF EXPORT.

Mr. Hall said the question of putting all our honey in small packages was an awkward one. Think of the space it would take to store it as well as the cost and trouble of handling. He had no local market except in seasons of scarcity, when he was chased for honey. We could never expect to place our industry on a satisfactory basis unless beekeepers arrange and agree to export a proportion of their crop each season. This would relieve the local market. Sometime since he, with a number of other beekeepers, sent a lot of honey away at a big loss, with the result that it relieved the market and others reaped the benefit. We must either make up our minds to export or close up, unless it is worth our while to produce at a low rate. If we wish to capture the world's market there must be a concerted supply. It is easy to lose a

trade, it is no use sending out a big lot one year and none the next. What was needed was that our leading beekeepers continue to send say one quarter of their crops away each year to relieve the local market, even though they had to do it at a loss.

The next question was joining chamber of Agriculture. Mr. Hall said that as the chamber had reduced its affiliation fee and that several members of this Ass, were members of the chamber it would cost nothing for affiliation as they could act as delegates if they were appointed. Even if the B. F. A. did not affiliate the Chamber of Agriculture would still keep its sectional Committee. He thought if we were affiliated with it, we would be able to exercise more weight in things that may crop up. He and Mr. Ager had paid their 10s subscription. It wanted a third man. Mr. Taylor had agreed to pay his. Mr. Hall said the affiliation was complete. Messrs. Hall, Ager and J. E. Taylor were agreed upon as representatives.

The sub-committee appointed to consider the revision to rules then presented their report.

Mr. Hall moved that report of sub-committee be adopted. Mr. Rien seconded. He understood that the rules were to be printed and distributed amongst members for their approval, by a referendum before becoming law.

Mr. Hall said this was intention and they would be published in the Report in the A. B. Bulletin.

The motion was carried, report as presented to be left with Mr. Tipper.

It was decided the President be instructed to approach the New South Wales National Beekeepers' Association with a view to amalgamation, a feeling among members being that such was desirable. The matter was left in the hands of Mr. Taylor.

Mr. Niven moved a vote of thanks to the retiring president. He had been of great assistance to Beekeepers and done good work. His services were much appreciated by members. Mr. Ager

seconded and referred to Mr. Hall's abilities and useful service in the past and also his services in the revision of the rules had been invaluable. Carried.

Mr. Hall thanked members. His sympathies were with the bee-farmers, whom he was glad to help at any time. He was glad the rules were being altered and now the objectionable features were being eliminated, would be pleased and happy to assist and help the N. S. W. Bee Farmers Ass. in every way he could.

Mr. Niven moved a vote of thanks to the Sec. and Treasurer. Mr. Tipper had the good will of the members of this association and had worked hard at all times for this Association. Though we might not always think alike yet Mr. Tipper had worked only in the interests of the Bee Farmers Association.

Mr. Rien seconded. Mr. Tipper had fought hard for the bee farmers and had done his best at considerable inconvenience to himself and expense. As Mr. Niven said, we may not all agree to every

thing done we must give and take. Let the majority rule and all would be well. Beekeepers must present a united front. He had much pleasure in seconding resolution. Carried unanimously.

A vote of thanks to the president, to which he suitably responded brought the proceedings to a close.

A.L., North Rockhampton, Queensland:—Honey made up nicely, with good looking labels etc., attached to it, will attract the public more readily. Reading on the first page of your Bulletin March 28, of the beautiful honey label I have I have a great desire to know the price of same, could you oblige me.

The last honey season for local beekeepers was a very bad one, and had it not been for the large surplus of honey we had from the season before on hand, I for one, would have been not able to supply orders from without. It is not wise to force honey into the market for we know not what next season will bring

REMEMBER! REMEMBER! THAT **W. L. DAVEY**

Still Sells to Beekeepers—

Honey Tins, Ruberoid, Napthaline, Pianos.

And for Beekeepers—

Beeswax, also Winter Rabbit Skins (£1000 worth required in June and July). Send samples only.

Read the following and send a trial order :

Parkside Apiary, Mitta Mitta,
March 2nd, 1905.

Mr. W. Davey,—Dear Sir,

I received the tins alright and I am very pleased with them, as I consider them the best and the cheapest lot I have ever purchased anywhere.

Yours truly,
JAS. CONWAY.

MY ADDRESS IS—

W. L. DAVEY,
STATION STREET,
FAIRFIELD VICTORIA

PROPOSED
REVISED RULES OF THE N.S.W. BEE
FARMERS ASSOCIATION.

1. The objects of the Association shall be:
 - (a) The advancement of Apiculture by the dissemination of information amongst members as to local and foreign markets, source of beekeepers supplies, available bee pastures, etc.
 - (b) The protection of the native honey resources, by vigilantly watching and preventing the illegal destruction of native honey producing flora, and insuring the planting of honey producing trees and plants.
 - (c) The safeguarding the interests of members as honey producers by regulating the distance between the apiaries of members.
 2. Any beekeeper can become a member of the Association on payment of a subscription of 2s 6d per annum. Beekeepers with more than 100 hives of bees shall be requested to pay an additional 1s per hundred hives of bees.
 3. Persons interested in or connected with the bee industry, who are not beekeepers, may become members on payment of a subscription of 5s per annum, which will entitle them to one vote.
 4. Every member with more than 60 hives of bees will be allowed an extra vote for each additional 100 hives of bees, up to a maximum of 5 votes.
 5. No member shall be eligible for office whose subscription is in arrears.
 6. The Association to consist of a central body and district branches affiliated with it.
 7. The principal officers be such as will undertake to meet each other in committee at least once in twelve months.
 8. The officers shall consist of President, 2 Vice Presidents, Treasurer, Secretary, and 15 Committeemen. Five to form a quorum.
 9. The offices of President and Vice President will be restricted to beekeepers with not less than 50 hives of bees.
 10. The Secretary will issue nomination papers to all members two months prior to the date of the annual meeting, and the officers be elected by those present at the annual meeting.
 11. Members unable to attend meetings or conventions can authorise or nominate any member they know will be present to vote for them on any question of policy brought forward, but no member shall be allowed to exercise more than 5 votes by proxy.
 12. Those rules may be added to, altered, or rescinded by the annual meeting upon 28 days notice of motion in writing being given to the secretary.
- Copy of sub-committees report which was appointed to consider and revise the rules of the N. S. W. Bee Farmers Association.

In accordance with the resolution moved by W. Ager and seconded by E. J. Rein and passed unanimously at the annual meeting of the bee farmers association held on April 26th last, appointing we the undersigned to consider and revise the general rules of the association and report to the general meeting, we beg to report that we have done so, and suggest the following alterations:—

1. That 1, 2, and 3 of our rules be eliminated, in place thereof we substitute rule 2 of the Victorian Beekeepers Association.

2. That rule 4 be made to read. "That any beekeeper can become a member of the Association in payment of a subscription of 2s 6d per annum. Beekeepers with more than 100 hives of bees shall be required to pay an additional sum of 1s per hundred hives of bees.

3. Persons interested in or connected with the bee industry, who are not beekeepers, may become members on payment of a subscription of 5s per annum, which will entitle them to one vote.

4. That every member with more than 50 hives of bees, be allowed an extra vote for each additional 100 hives of bees, up to a maximum of 5 votes.

5. No member shall be eligible for office whose subscription is in arrears.

6. That the above 3 resolutions substitute rule 5 and 6.

7. That rule 7 and 8 remain unaltered.

8. That rule 9 be altered to read, The officers shall consist of president, 2 vice-presidents, treasurer, secretary, and 15 committeemen, five to form a quorum.

9. That the office of president, and vice president be restricted to beekeepers with not less than 50 hives of bees.

10. That the secretary issue nomination papers to all members two months prior to the date of the annual meeting, and that the officers be elected by those present at the annual meeting.

11. That the above resolution substitute rule 10.

12. That rule 11 be eliminated.

13. That rule 12 be altered to read. Members unable to attend meetings or conventions can authorise or nominate any member they know will be present to vote for them on any question of policy brought forward, but that no member shall be allowed to exercise more than 5 votes by proxy.

14. That these rules may be added to, altered, or rescinded by the annual meeting upon 28 days notice of motion in writing being given to the Secretary.

Accepted by unanimous vote of committee.

Date. Signed,

April 27, 1905.

VICTORIAN APIARISTS' ASSOCIATION.

ANNUAL CONFERENCE, 1905.

Once more Victorian Beekeepers are preparing to attend their annual gathering which every year grows in importance and magnitude, and none too soon. With low prices for our honey locally on the one hand, and a do nothing policy as regards export on the other, we are in a bad fix. Were it not that butter and jam are dearer than for many years, we should have a very poor outlook indeed; a stiffening of the local honey market may give us fresh encouragement and hope, but this should not lessen our vigilance and work in securing a payable price for all time.

We heartily invite all beekeepers in Australia to our Annual Conference. If you cannot come we shall be pleased if you will communicate your views by post (and no one will object if a donation is enclosed at the same time). We mean business. If Australian beekeepers want higher prices, if they desire to place the honey industry on a sound business footing (and surely their future prosperity demands it), they will find no organisation more to the front, more willing to help, to lead or to follow, than the Victorian Apiarists' Association.

We realize that this is not a Victorian question, but a question that affects the whole Commonwealth of Beekeepers, and we desire all Associations in Australia to bear in mind that we are willing to co-operate in any movement that will benefit our fellow-beekeepers.

We approach the subject of the "prosperity of honey-producers" with a firm resolve that come what will, we shall gain our end, if not at the first attempt, we shall keep right on until we have gained the day, and that day is very near, if beekeepers are now prepared to join the Associations in their States, and speak with a voice that shall be unanimous in its demands, persistent in its efforts, and practical in all and every movement.

Persons desiring to attend will kindly note that they must apply early for vouchers for cheap railway tickets, for the following two reasons:—

1. The supply is limited to 70 vouchers.
2. I must send in the names of persons and their stations to the Railways on or about 21st June.

Kindly note the following:—You can have a voucher for your wife provided she accompanies you on the journey, you must inform me what Station to put on your voucher.

Some of our members might also have the train stopped on the way down and get the passengers to help them to look for their long-lost subscriptions. If it can't be found, then take up a collection.

W. L. DAVEY,
Secretary.

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING, 1905.

Present: Messrs. R. Beuhne (President) Jas. McFarlane, V. R. Davey, L. Wills, W. L. Davey (Secretary).

The Minutes of previous meeting were confirmed.

Lengthy correspondence from various branches, and correspondence was received and dealt with.

A long discussion ensued on the need of capital by the Association in vigorously working to benefit the honey-producer, which resulted in the following resolution: "That the question of approaching the Government for assistance be brought before the Conference."

A resolution was also passed "That a reporter be secured to report the doings at the Conference, and that Messrs. Tipper and Pender be asked to each subscribe one-third of the cost, they in return to each receive a type-written copy of all the proceedings."

The Rules were slightly amended, and the Secretary authorised to publish and distribute same to members.

W. L. DAVEY,
Secretary.

BRANCHES.—I am pleased to report the formation of a branch at Stawell of about 40 members, of which no doubt the local secretary, Mr. T. J. Howard, will send full particulars to the A. B. B., their formation adds considerably to the strength of our fighting force. Mildura and Wartook branches are doing good work, and the effect of their formation is a means of greatly strengthening the hands of the executive council.

I am pleased to report that Dr. Cherry will again be present at the conference, and no doubt a great treat is in store for us, as per letter in this issue.

Send along early for cheap excursion voucher, send in your back subscriptions per next mail, and do not forget to think out some plan of advancing the honey industry and bring your thoughts to the conference. Don't send them, bring them.

W. L. DAVEY, Secretary.

Department of Agriculture,

31st March, 1905.

Dear Sir,—In reply to your letter of 22nd instant, I beg to state that I shall have much pleasure in being present at your annual conference in June next, unless prevented by unforeseen circumstances.—Yours faithfully,

THOS. CHERRY,

Director.

Department Agriculture,

Melbourne, 7th April, 1905.

Sir,—I beg to inform you that the six samples of pollen forwarded to this department have been analysed with the following results.—

	Protein
1. Blue Stringy Bark.. ..	27.44
2. Messmate	26.81
3. Black Wattle, etc.	24.19
4. Cucumber	22.88
5. Yellow and Messmate	22.25
6. Flat Weed	17.31

It will be seen that the best of pollen contains about one fourth more protein than Yellow Box,—I am sir, yours etc.,

THOS. CHERRY, Director.

At the Grand National Show in Sydney.

The record attendances at this great show was made on this occasion, money taken at gates also being far in excess of previous years. The takings total £7432, an increase of £1 43 over last year, which beat the record by £149. On the Monday there were 30,000 people there. We did not go on the big attendance day. We avoided the crush of people and went on the Tuesday and Wednesday, our first object was the honey pavilion. The honey displays there was magnificent. The big competitive ones were those of Messrs. Abram, Seabrook, and Roberts. Mr. Seabrook secured the champion prize. Mr. Abram did not secure it on this occasion, being the only occasion for eight years he has not done so. But the amount of beautiful and artistic work about it, a good portion in ornamental comb foundation, must have taken not only any amount of time to work out, but showed artistic display of the highest ability. Mr. Trahair's display, though not competitive, was very beautiful, and everything was very neatly arranged. They all did a good business in honey selling. Messrs. A. Hordern and Sons occupied three sides of the pavilion with a display of bee supplies and incubators that commanded very great attention. We were very sorry to find that their bee department manager met with a nasty accident while getting this display fixed up, by falling off a case and breaking the bones in two of his fingers. Though carrying his hand in a sling the wound was fast getting better. Outside the pavilion there was a vast amount to attract one's attention. Machinery, steam and oil engines were in galore. Big, big, crowds were gathered around the oval. One of the most popular events there was the jumping of a 13 hands pony of Fitzgerald's circus jumping over 6 feet 4 inches. Immense cheering followed the win. It was, we believe, a world's record. We were introduced to Mr. Halsted, of Eglington, who was steward for the technical and public school display, and passed a

very pleasing hour in the two pavilions under his charge. In one tent 50 young lady pupils were going through all the processes of cooking under instructions from tutors, being provided with stoves for cooking the various foods. It was very interesting to watch each one at work at something different to her neighbour. We were supplied with a cup of tea by one of the pupils, and sat at a table to enjoy it where we could look leisurely on. In the other pavilion was a splendid display of public school work, a number of schools competing. There were fruit, field and garden produce grown by the pupils, some carpentry work in the shape of seats, school desks, etc. The lads of the Sobraon training ship did well here. Cattle were in great abundance, especially dairy, some of which sold at high prices, one Ayrshire cow, which had not even won a prize, being asked £25 for. A great deal of butter for export was on show in the cool shed set apart for this purpose.

The following is the prize list:—

APICULTURE.

HIVES AND APPLIANCES.

Bee hive (open to all, any pattern): Walter T. Seabrook, 1; H. R. Roberts and Company, 2.

Comb foundation (three sheets each three grades): Walter T. Seabrook, 1; W. Abram, 2.

BEESWAX.

Pure yellow, not less than 10lb or more than 12lb, in one block: Walter T. Seabrook, 1; W. Abram, 2.

Pure white, not less than 10lb or more than 12lb, in one block: W. Abram, 1; Walter T. Seabrook, 2.

HONEY.—EXTRACTED (LIQUID)

One dozen 1lb (reputed) glass jars or bottles, metal tops, standard colour, water white, W. Abram, 1 and 3; Thomas Murphy, 2.

One dozen 1lb (reputed) glass jars or bottles, metal tops, standard colour, golden: W. Abram, 1; Thomas Murphy, 2; H. R. Roberts and Company, 3.

One dozen 1lb (reputed), glass jars or bottles (dark), to be judged on all points except colour: Thomas Murphy, 1; A. J. Edwards, 2; W. Abram, 3.

HONEY.—EXTRACTED (GRANULATED).

One dozen (reputed) glass jars or bottles, metal tops, fine grain: W. Abram, 1; H. R. Roberts and Company, 2; Thomas Murphy, 3.

One dozen 1lb (reputed) glass jars or bottles, metal tops, coarse grain: W. Abram, 1 and 2; Walter T. Seabrook, 3.

COMB.

One dozen 1lb (reputed) section (light colour honey), uniform size: Walter T. Seabrook, 1; H. R. Roberts and Company, 2; W. Abram, 3.

One dozen 1lb sections (dark honey), uniform size: W. Abram, 1 and 3; Walter T. Seabrook, 2.

Frame and comb honey, not less than 100 square inches: H. R. Roberts and Company, 1; Walter T. Seabrook, 2; W. Abram, 3.

Frame and comb honey, not less than 50 square inches: H. R. Roberts and Company, 1; W. Abram, 2 and 3.

REES.

Queen bee (Italian) and her progeny, leather coloured: W. Hessel Hall, 1; W. Abram, 2; W. Burton, 3.

Queen bee (Italian) and her progeny, golden: W. Abram, 1 and 3; Arthur Burton, 2.

Special non competitive collection of honey: J. Taylor, very highly commended and special certificate.

Collection and display of the products of any apiary in trophy form: Walter T. Seabrook, 1; W. Abram, 2; H. R. Roberts and Company, 3.

Apiarian appliances: A. Hordern and Sons, special certificates.

In the district exhibits that of the Gough electorate contained two splendid displays of honey, the exhibits of Messrs. F. W. Penberthy and G. H. Arkinstall. Mr. Penberthy's honey was labelled to give the trees from which it was produced. The fine pyramid of bottle and comb honey was a great source of attraction.

There may have been other honey displays, but time would not allow us to get about as we would have liked.

The weather during the whole time of the show was delightful.

In Sydney.

We asked a leading Sussex-street commission agent his opinion, whether, with all the efforts of late years, and the increasing quantity of honey raised in New South Wales, the consumption of honey had increased, he replied, only in accordance with the increase of population.

We were told in several places there was always a good sale for good box honey. It was only the inferior that did not sell.

While in Sydney we met that old time beekeeper, Mr. G. Packham, of Molong. He is now more deeply interested in dairying than in bees, buying while in Sydney

some very beautiful and valuable dairy cows.

One advantage we noted in connection with railway travelling during show time on the northern line as the more thinly populated districts were reached, carriages would be taken off. Passengers not aware of what carriages would be taken off would be very much disgusted on hearing the cry, "This carriage comes off." and would have to rush about hurriedly to find new seats. Now we notice carriages that would have to go the whole journey are labelled, and so much inconvenience is saved.

Mr. J. E. Taylor, of Cowra, is now the president of the New South Wales Bee Farmers' Association.

Mr. E. J. Taylor told us he had always secured 3d per lb for his western honey.

While in Sydney we visited the workshop and factory of Mr. Manning, formerly owned by Mr. Allport, at Chuter-street, North Shore. He apparently was doing a great trade both in honey and bee supplies. He is a thorough business man, and if civility and careful attention to all orders entrusted to him deserves success he certainly should have it.

We visited the Redfern saleyards. As we turned down a lane nearly opposite the Redfern railway station, it was quite a surprise to find ourselves in large cattle yards, and a large and deeply interested gathering of buyers and sellers. While there we found several of our old friends buying. Good pedigree cows were fetching from £10 to £15. One beautiful boar pig, full brother to one who had been valued at one hundred guineas, was sold at "three and three quarter" guineas. This mode of computation was quite new to us. The railway trucks are very convenient, the line from Darling Harbour passing the yard, then under George-street to the main line.

It is needless to say all places of amusement were crowded, the "Royal Divorce" "The Orchid," and "The Skirt Dancer," being among the productions. Everything comes to an end, and as in the previous week crowds were coming in from

the big centre, so on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, they were hurrying away, trains being packed. Many of the large business places did big businesses, presents for friends left at home in the far back forming a large portion of the business.

In the city the crush of visitors was very great, many of the hotels and palaces being taxed to their utmost, sitting and drawing rooms being turned into floors covered with rows of mattresses close together for sleeping accommodation. We were told of one palace that in one one day provided some 800 dinners.

Queensland Beekeepers' Association

At the April meeting of the Queensland Bee-keepers' Association, held in Brisbane, the president, Mr. H. L. Jones, occupied the chair. There was a good attendance of members, and several local dealers in honey were also present. A member of a leading London firm was present, at the invitation of the president. He placed a considerable amount of valuable information at the disposal of the association with reference to the best methods of placing Queensland honey on the London market. A number of samples were submitted to the inspection of this gentleman, who expressed hearty approval of the quality. It was pointed out by the association that a scheme had been drafted for sending a trial shipment of honey to London in charge of an expert. The visitor said his firm purchased largely in California. They did a considerable trade with their products in Queensland, and, all other things being equal, they would prefer to secure their honey in Queensland rather than in California. Reference was made to the fact that some twenty cases of Queensland honey sent to London by a shipping firm had been there some twelve months unsold. The visitor expressed himself satisfied with the quality of samples of this honey, and promised that on his early return to London he would make inquiries into the matter, and cable information for the guidance of the association. It was

pointed out that to secure the best results it was necessary to put their honey in the hands of one of the two firms of leading honey brokers in London in sufficient quantity to make it worth handling and looking after. At the lowest rate honey of the quality they had should bring 28/- to 32/6 per cwt.; he had known Californian honey to bring 48/- in some years. He believed there was also a druggists' trade for the white honey, and a brewers' trade for dark honey. The visitor said he was taking a consignment with him, and he would cable the fullest information as to the prices ruling, &c., when he returned. He had seen rough West India honey, which was not in favor, bring 25/ in London. The trouble with Queensland honey in the past had been that it had been sent in small lots, and with a lack of system, instead of being sent regularly to proper centres. The visitor did not wish to throw cold water on the scheme of the association to send 50 tons, but he advised first testing the market with a smaller shipment, which his firm would be prepared to handle for them. He would undertake to store it in London, repack it, and sell it, and also to liquefy it if necessary. It would not matter about it candying. His firm would probably be prepared to purchase from 400 to 800 cases per annum.

The visitor having withdrawn, the general business of the meeting was proceeded with. The National Agricultural Association wrote, notifying that they had agreed to include eight new clauses in the schedule of the show to be held next August, for various products from honey. The agents of the Aberdeen Shipping Company wrote notifying their willingness to carry the association's shipments of honey to London at 27/6 per ton.

The secretary then read the report of the sub-committee appointed at the last meeting of the association to draw up a scheme for sending a trial shipment of honey to London. The scheme agreed upon by the committee was that the association should

send 50 tons of honey to London, in charge of an expert, to be appointed by the association; the Department of Agriculture to be approached with a view to obtaining its assistance; three experts to be appointed to select the honey. Dr. Hamlyn-Harris to be one, the association to appoint one, and the Agricultural Department the third; the honey to be sent home in bulk and there repacked for the London market if necessary. The total estimate of expenses, including local charges, expenses of the expert and the handing of the honey in London was set down at £613 10/. Fifty tons of honey at 4d. per lb. in London would return £1866 13/4, or a return of £1253 1/4 profit on the shipment. The president said this was the scheme outlined by the committee. Since then they had found they could reduce the estimate of shipping charges by nearly one-half, and the information given by their visitor showed that their estimate of price was very low. With regard to their local trade, it certainly seemed remarkable that about 100 times as much butter was consumed as honey, though honey was 3d. per lb. and butter 1/-. and honey went twice as far as butter. A further suggestion was that the Government might place more honey in the public institutions, such as Dunwich.

It was further decided that the secretary write to the secretary of the Victorian Bee-keepers' Association, with a view to ascertaining what had been done there in reserving Crown lands for the location of apiaries. The idea was to secure to the bee-keepers the lease of reserves and prevent the ring barking of trees. The president said the value of bees to agriculturists was well enough known, and the products of the tree tops through bees was greater than the product of the soil. A very low estimate of the results would be half a ton of honey per annum per square mile.

Later on the Queensland Minister of Agriculture referred to the question of the export of honey, as proposed by the Bee-

keepers' Association. He said the matter had not escaped his attention, and if there was any practical way submitted for developing the trade with the old country he would be glad to assist. But data collected some months ago, when he was looking into the honey question revealed the fact that the home consumption was much less than one would naturally think from the population's consumption of other commodities, and the average price realized for all grades was about £28. It would certainly appear that in the old country, as here, the proportion of honey to jam used is infinitesimal; and whilst in no way seeking to damp the ardour of those who contemplated shipping the Minister yet thought that the local market had not really been worked. Therefore, it seemed to him that the wiser course for the association to adopt would be to at once place their honey on the market in an attractive form, and through such channels as would push the sale. At the present time a quantity of honey is available in wholesale hands at 1½d. to 1¾d. Surely, if this honey is of good quality and is properly put up, jam at 3d. or 4d. per lb. would be very much dearer than honey at the same money, because 1 lb. of honey in domestic use would go much further than one lb. of jam. It is just possible that it is the case of distant fields looking green again. It might be better for the association, before committing themselves to much cost, to work the local market and to get a satisfactory system of grading; and they could, with some confidence, attack the home market. Last week Mr. Denham had an interview with Mr. C. D. Morton, of C. and E. Morton, London, and showed him samples of honey. He approved of the color and quality, and considered such honey would realise ordinarily about £25 a ton.

400,000 people in the United States are engaged to some extent in the bee and honey business.

OUR INDUSTRY, ETC.

BY W. L. DAVEY.

I notice that Mr. Bolton places emphasis on the word love, when he says (page 263) "Our Secretary does not love supply-dealers." I am afraid that such a condition of mind would lead some people to believe that I really must detest supply-dealers. Such is not the case, and I am going to use the present opportunity to explain slightly my position individually in connection with supply-dealers, etc.

During the past 20 years apiculture has developed immensely. Twelve years ago our total products did not equal the demand, consequently honey was a good price. At the present time the position is exactly reversed, the consumption cannot equal the production, therefore prices are bad, for which we have to thank three different individuals—the man who brags about his big crop, the people who think every pound of honey the beekeeper gets brings him in 6d a pound, and lastly the supply dealer who booms the business. Of the first, I should say low prices are his deserts. Of the second what can I say. It seems that nature has endowed some people with a faculty for seeing everything in the light of golden prosperity (several of my friends work out my crop of honey at retail market rates, 6d a pound, and knowingly smile to themselves at my immense profits per ton of honey) and of course want to start a bee farm. Of the last man I would like to say I realise that every man must live, and if he can make a living supplying us with bee goods, well and good. I have no personal enmity against a single supply dealer, and I would not object to them booming the industry to their hearts' content, and would gladly join in with them if the time was ripe for such action.

Were the industry in such a condition that our honey resources were preserved for all time, had we a market that would absorb an unlimited quantity of honey, and nett the beekeeper a clear 2½d to 3d. per pound, I should start a crusade for putting people on the timbered land and

make them into honey producers. The vital difference between the various views put forth in recent years is that the genuine beekeeper will encourage the booming of the industry when a payable market is found, whereas some supply dealers find a payable market (but not for honey) by booming the industry. It is their policy that is objected to and not the men themselves or what they sell. In addition to the causes already enumerated, there is another cause for the production surpassing the consumption, and that is the "national development." The lads who started to turn the extractors 15 years ago are to-day among the largest producers, and we must either increase the consumption locally, or get some other land to consume our commodity.

STAWELL.

Enclosed you will find a copy of the local papers account of the meeting of our branch which I trust you will copy into this month's *Bulletin*. We have had a good season over here, and the bees are going into winter in splendid order. We have formed a strong branch of the V. A. A. in this district. We have 43 members so far and expect a good few more yet. Trusting you will comply with this request and wishing you every success.

I am Yours faithfully,

F. Howard,

Hon Sec. of the Stawell's District Branch of the Victorian Association.

A MEETING of the Stawell and District branch of the Victorian Apiarists' Association was held at the Mechanics' Institute on Saturday evening. The president (Mr. F. Morgan), occupied the chair, and there was a large attendance. Mr. W. L. Davey, secretary of the Victorian Apiarists Association, was also present. The principal business was the consideration of the branch rules that had been drafted by a committee appointed at the previous meeting. On the rule that any member of committee absenting himself from two consecutive meetings should

vacate his seat it was decided to insert the words "without legitimate excuse." A rule that the treasurer should hold all moneys until after the annual conference was struck out, and the rules as amended were then adopted. The association at present consists of individual members, and after some discussion a resolution was unanimously carried that it be a recommendation to the annual meeting of the association that it should be constituted of delegates from the various branches. I was also resolved to recommend that each branch should be allowed by the association to retain £2 of the fees collected from members as a reserve fund to meet incidental expenses. A long discussion took place in regard to what should be the distance between sites for apiaries to be taken up in the future. The rule of the association is as follows: "In the establishment of apiaries by the members of this association it shall be recognised as a rule that a distance of at least three miles should be kept from any other member's apiary, unless otherwise mutually arranged." Opinion was very much divided on the point; it was decided to recommend that the distance should be two miles, and the rule apply to State forests only. It was also decided to recommend that no apiarist be allowed to take up more than three bee sites, and that no two sites adjoin each other. The next meeting of the branch was fixed for Saturday 20th May. BEFORE the business at the meeting of the Stawell and district branch of the Victorian Apiarists Association on Saturday evening Mr. W. L. Davey, organizing secretary of the association, delivered a short address to the members. He congratulated the branch on its successful formation. Nothing pleased him more than to see the beekeepers of the state forming into a strong combination to protect their own interests. At the present time there were only three branches of the association in Victoria, viz, at Mildura, Wartook and Stawell, but he hoped that in the near future branches would be formed in all centres where the bee-keeping industry existed.

The desire was to get the bee-farmers organized so that they could approach the Government with one voice to frame laws under which the interests of the industry would be protected. The main object of the association was to endeavour to find markets for the product of the members and ensure the maintainance of a fair price for their honey. It was also sought to help the members by obtaining the materials required in carrying on the industry from the best and cheapest sources. A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. Davey for having attended the meeting and explained the objects of the association. There is one rule of the Victoria Apiarists Association which will commend itself strongly to the public, and that is that any member proved guilty of adulterating the products of the apiary or convicted of any fraudulent dealings shall be struck off the list. In view of the laxity of the law upon this important matter, it is gratifying to learn that the bee farmers intend to do what they can to prevent the reputation of their product at home and abroad being destroyed by unscrupulous persons. If there were more of this kind of thing in other industries, the law would soon be amended so as to reach the people who injure honest traders and rob the public by their nefarious practices, which are placing Victorian products on a par with the wooden hams which, it is alleged, used to be exported from America.

A VERY INTERESTING LETTER.

To the Editor Australian Bee Bulletin.

Sir,—Once again I seize the implements of communication for the purpose of having another chat with you on bee matters. It must be quite 7 months ago since I last wrote, and during that time I have had a lot of experience. I had 45 hives when swarming began, and I wanted a big increase. It looks easy enough when a fellow starts out to put down a hive, all clean, new starters, etc., and expect an increase every swarming season, and go

on getting up into thousands. We are told to keep them clean and they will be healthy, keep them strong and they will fight robbers, ants, etc., and will gather honey. But its right there that the skill and knowledge of the beekeeper comes in. I have had my first experience with a heat wave and bush fires amongst bees, and in making my calculations of increase I made no allowance for occurrences of this kind. I reached, by various means, 71 colonies, when the heat wave cost me 26; some just absconded, others were all smothered by the honey and soft wax, so I had the mournful task of bringing home my dead marines, as I called the empty hives. I lost most where the trees partly shaded the hives, and yet left them exposed to the direct mid-day sun. I lost 9 in one batch, and I am glad I brought the emptys home at once. A week or so later a bush fire passed that way, and had they been left I should have only had the nails to gather. We had to fight the fire to keep it from the buildings, and when I got out to my bees I found that the fire had passed within 3 feet on both ends of the row, only one empty hive was gone, whilst on further where I had taken away the empty hives, everything was clean licked up. There I lost a colony and an empty hive. I have been thankful to Providence ever since for such a marvellous escape. Here I was left with a lot of empty hives and a splendid lot of combs. I saw in A.B.B. just then a question *re* fastening wire in frames. You replied that you use a piece of wood instead of wire, running parallel between the top and bottom bar. I thought the plan I adopt better. I put 3 nails in the top and 3 in the bottom (same size nails as are used to fasten the frame together) and with a small round-pointed pair of pliers bend the nails into hooks and cross the wire. I think where a two-frame extractor is used, wired frames being lighter balance better. I have broken my extractor twice through putting in frames of unequal weight, and I think the extra piece of wood cost more than wire, though perhaps at times of heat the combs have

less support in wired frames and are more likely to come down. I am now of opinion that some shelter is needed over the hives to protect them from the sun, especially when they are made of thin wood. Well, I concluded it would not do to have empty hives, so I took my tent and tools and moved out for a change of air, out further into the bush, and in a fortnight had cut out 22. The ants drove several away before they got home. The work is hard and not without danger, as I have proved before, but its better than doing nothing. If one wants a quiet life varied only by the music of the birds by day and the cry of the fox by night, and a desire to learn economic living, here we have it.

Honey from tree hives is always more or less mixed, and takes a deal of straining to get it clear, but the wax is valuable. I calculate at this time to cut about 5 hives for one tin of honey, and an average of a little over 1 lb. of wax per hive. I have come across hives where the bones of birds and opossum have been nicely built over with wax, and I once found a tree where the entrance had gradually grown over and shut the bees out, and there the combs were all riddled by wax moth.

The unsatisfactory state of our calling is being discussed in the columns of A.B.B., and calls for reference. Some correspondents allege that it is caused by over-production or the want of new markets, and too many people going in for bee keeping. Well, sir, these are questions for Associations to deal with, and it behoves all genuine bee men to support an Association, so much needed as it is in this calling. There is great need for more opening for our product, and combined wisdom and effort to place all matters connected therewith upon a healthy footing. I would place no impediment in the way of those who wish to start beekeeping, but there is a danger in taking it up in a small way along with some thing else. The man who gives beekeeping a secondary place is apt to look upon the returns as pocket money, and may

carelessly undersell his neighbour, whose all depends on apiculture. I believe in what a writer in one of your recent issues said when asked what is a good thing to go along with beekeeping, said "some more bees. My intentions are to grow fruit, vegetables, poultry and dairy stuff for our own use, and more bees. I think it somewhat soon to cry out about over-production, we should groan loudly over under-consumption. Wherever I go to dine and see no honey I generally manage to mention something about the dietary value of honey. I remember, some few years ago, a lady in giving a health lecture in Adelaide said to effect that brown bread was conducive to long life, good health, and therefore happiness, and instantly all the bakers in the city had to go in for making brown bread. Now, if she could have been induced to add a few truths about honey.—Well, there, I leave it. The Association could draw up tracts drawing attention to the value and advantage of using honey both in cooking and on the table. I think I am correct in saying that honey is one third sweeter than the best sugar, and a natural sweet at that. These could be distributed at shows or from house to house. I could, with the aid of an article which appeared in A.B.B. three or four months ago, and from A. I. Root's A.B.C., soon get it out myself. No doubt we must look to export to effect permanent good; and an Association could draft a scheme by which the expenses could be contributed to by all who have honey to sell, *pro ratio* upon quantity, whether sold in the colonies or abroad. I enclose a cutting from "S. A. Advertiser," 9th March, 1905.

I remain,

Yours truly,

J. R. COLES.

The extract referred to above, and also a lot of other interesting matter is unavoidably held over till our next issue.

The June Bee Bulletin will be issued on or about the 23rd of June. Will our advertising friends please note.

Mr Penberthy's Apiary.—In another column will be seen the particulars of proposed sale of Mr. Penberthy's apiary. We have seen his apiaries and spent a very pleasant time there. It is thoroughly up to date. Were the industry left in the hands of such men as he would not have much doubt about our future export trade. His honey is well strained and sent to market as it ought to be. He is however, not the only one in Australia of whom such can be said, of raising and keeping the history of his queens is perfect, in fact everything about the whole apiary. Queens from him gave better records to us than any we have ever had.

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The above can be bought for a sum equal to $2\frac{1}{2}$ years of my nett average income for the last six years, from the bees. This season will increase my average, judging by the price my honey is selling at in Sussex Street at the present time.

Reason for selling is wishing to retire from active work. Books open for inspection. Any other information supplied.

May 17th, 1905.

F. W. PEMBERTHY

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Buangor—Dear Sir, The selected queen I got from you is very prolific, her young queens being as much alike as peas in a pod, and are real beauties. Anyone getting your bees will want more, as they are an exceptionally fine strain.—T. G. Matthews.

Claremont, N.S.W.—The queens arrived in splendid condition, and have started to lay.—W. H. Farley.

Vasse Road, Bunbury, West Australia.—I am pleased with the last queen you sent; there was not one dead bee in the cage. Please send six untested and one tested.—John A. Ayre.

Willow Tree, N.S.W.—The two queens I got from you worked up well and quickly. Unfortunately there has been no flow yet to test their honey producing qualities or their offspring, but I have no fear for them.—E. Tipper.

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