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## **The Australian bee bulletin. Vol. 6, no. 5 August 24, 1897**

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# THE AUSTRALIAN BEE BULLETIN.

A MONTHLY JOURNAL, DEVOTED TO BEE-KEEPING.

VOL. 6. No 5.

AUGUST 24, 1897.

PER COPY, 6d

*Per Annum 5s, booked 6s 6d; in Australasia, outside N.S.W., add 6d. postage.*

## 1897 CATALOGUE.

(44 PAGES.)

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Manufacturers of Beekeepers' Supplies,

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**8-FRAME HIVES**, white pine, rabbetted sides, same pattern and interchangeable  
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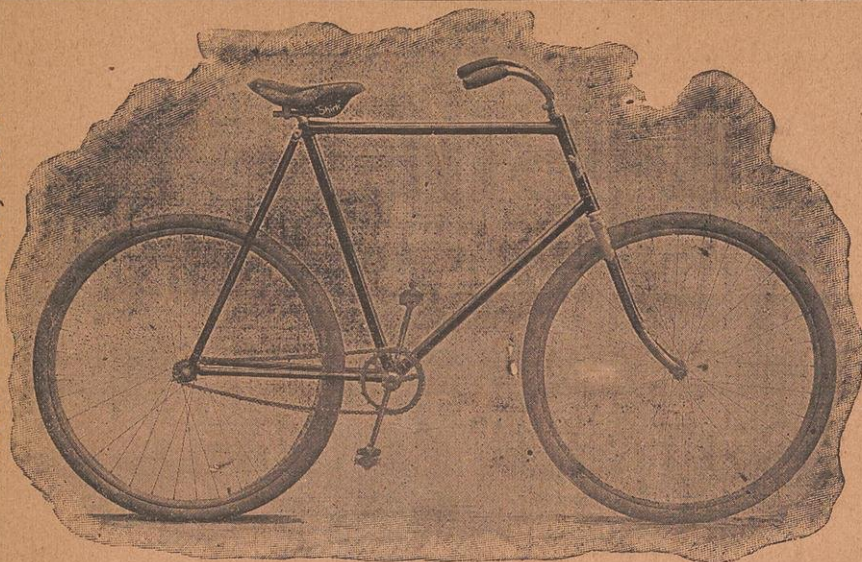
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CONTAINING THE FOLLOWING RECENT ADDITIONS—

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**V-EDGE HOFFMANN FRAMES.**—Having put in requisite machinery, we now supply these at slight advance upon ordinary 7/8 Frames.

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**The Bee-keepers' Supply Co.,**  
**FRANKLIN-ST., MELBOURNE.**



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	1	3	5	10
Untested Queens ..	5/-	13/-	20/-	39/-
Tested Queens ..	8/-	22/-	35/-	65/-
Select Tested (Breeder) 1 for 15/-, 2 for 27/6				

Honey or Beeswax will be taken in payment for QUEENS (if preferred) for all orders of 10s. and upwards. Safe arrival guaranteed to any Post Office in the Australasian Colonies.

I can also supply you with anything you require in the Apiary. Write for prices.

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This is to remind you that I am again Breeding, and offering Queens of **Maximum Quality** at a **Minimum Cost**.

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I am now booking orders for delivery early in September, at the following prices—any of the above strains :

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**SAFE ARRIVAL AND SATISFACTION GUARANTEED.**

*Prices for Nuclei and Full Colonies on Application.*

Sweet Clover Seed, 6d. per packet.

**R. H. JERVIS,**

**Wrekin Apiary, Moss Vale.**



**Queens - Jubely - Queens.**

THE BEST. THE CHEAPEST.

**My Queens are Superior to any.**

Because I possess and devote the greatest amount of skill, knowledge and experience to the ART OF QUEEN-BREEDING, which is a SPECIALTY OF MINE.

Untested, 5s.; Tested Pure, 15s.; Extra Choice,  
30s. each.

On a number of Queens Special Quotations.

And all kinds of Bee Goods supplied.

W. ABRAM.

## Italian Bee Farm.

BEECROFT, NEAR SYDNEY. N.S.W.

Winner of National First Prize and over 100  
Special and First Prizes.

Thanks.

**T**HROUGH the *A.B.B.* I should like to thank Mr. Mackay (of Everton, Victoria) and also the proprietor of Cairndhu Apiary (Victoria) for samples of honey kindly sent by them.

HENRY JOSEPH WILSON.

## EARLY QUEENS FROM QUEENSLAND.

I AM ready to execute your orders now for Queens of *this* season's raising. Thanks to a splendid winter my colonies are all in grand condition, honey is coming in nicely, and already I have thousands of choice young drones flying. I can furnish either leather-coloured Italian Queens raised from best imported stock, or beautiful golden Queens of my own well-known strain—the result of 14 years' careful breeding. By my advanced method of queen rearing, the most perfectly developed of queens only are produced, and as my breeders are excelled by none, I am enabled to guarantee satisfaction to all customers. If you have not already tried my strain, send along a trial order, and note the improvement that the infusion of vigorous fresh blood will make in your apiary. All queens are sent free by post, and safe arrival guaranteed to all parts of Australasia. We have no foul brood in Queensland, and my apiaries are entirely free from disease of any type. Send for my 50-page Catalogue (free) and learn all about the different classes of queens I send out, and other things of interest to beekeepers.

			One	Three	Five	Ten
Untested Italian Queens ..	..	..	5/-	13/-	20/-	39/-
Tested " " " "	..	..	8/-	22/-	35/-	65/-
Select Tested Breeding Queens ..	..	..	15/-	42/-	65/-	—
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## SPIDER PLANT

(Cl ome Pungen\*)

6 packets for 2/6, post free.

*Alba*) at same price. Except

qualities of *C. Pungens* and is

I have on hand a large quantity of fresh seed (my own raising) of this noted honey producer, and can furnish same at 6d per packet, or I can also furnish seed of the new White Spider Plant (*Cleome Pungens* in colour, which is pure white, this variety possesses all the good s one of the most beautiful garden plants.

# H. L. JONES.

**Goodna, Queensland.**

Queensland Agent for the "Australian Bee Bulletin."



# The Australian Bee Bulletin

A JOURNAL DEVOTED TO BEEKEEPING.

MAITLAND, N.S.W.—AUG. 24, 1897.

## WORK FOR THE SEASON.

The spring season is now commencing. In favourable situations the bees will be working up in numbers as the different bloom—willow, fruit, &c,—appear. Brood rearing will be in full swing. Those who left plenty of supplies in the hives in autumn, will reap the advantage of so doing. Those who did not will need to feed; also supply artificial pollen in the shape of flour or pea-meal. If colonies are queenless either procure queens or unite with other weak colonies. Some recent American writers maintain it is bad policy to feed now, as the bees are apt to lose energy and loaf, and say, where they have to hunt for food they get on better. For this same reason some prefer open air feeding. Care should be taken in this latter case; the feed is placed at a good distance from the hives, at least 50 or 60 yards, or robbing will ensue. Inside feeding should always be done in the evening. All this trouble however is saved by the late autumn management. As the combs become filled with brood the chamber should be expanded carefully by gradually extending the follower, one sheet of foundation at a time at least being given in the brood chamber. Should a colony be queenless it can be detected by the carrying in of little or no pollen. Uniting can be done in several ways. Placing one hive top of another at nightfall, and something to mark the new location in front, with a sheet of paper between; gradually drawing the two together for several days, then placing a new hive between them; scenting the two swarms; place the combs of the two hives alternately in the new hive, and shake both lots of bees at the entrance of the new hive, so that they mix together as they

go in. As the hives become crowded and supers necessary, take say a couple of frames of honey (shaking bees off) from the sides and with perhaps a like couple from another hive (replacing same in both cases with starters or full sheets of foundation) make the super by these taken frames of honey, filling up with frames of starters or foundation. Those who purpose queen rearing should now look to the rearing of drones from some of their best queens by placing drone comb in the centre of the brood nests. Full sheets of worker comb are best to enlarge the brood chamber with in the other colonies, as too many drones, who are only consumers, interfere with the extent of the honey crop.

WHILE we do not complain of the advertising support accorded our pages by the beekeeping fraternity, we find we cannot, do our best, get the general advertisers to patronise us, although we see quite an array of such in publications that (perhaps it is our egotism) we think far inferior to the *A. B. B.* both in literature and circulation. Can our friends not help us in this matter, by making suggestions to some of those people who advertise largely.

Read about that Moth Trap in Crumbs. For scraping sections a glazier's putty knife is worth its price many times over.

Received Messrs Pender Bros., Catalogue for 1897. It was printed at our office and is very complete.

The communication in "Questions," in our last issue headed "No Name," should have been "J. Bennett, Axedale, Victoria."

By advertisement elsewhere it will be seen that Mr. L. T. Chambers, of Melbourne, Victoria, is agent for the new American Weed Foundation.

The Committee of the N. B. K. A. will wait on the Minister of Mines and Agriculture re the Foul Brood Act, and on the Minister for Lands re granting licences and ringbarking, on Tuesday, August 30th. A very excellent addition to



the Foul Brood Act will be a clause in the Victorian one, that all apiaries should be registered and pay a fee, 6d an apiary and 1d a hive after. We would strongly advise the N. B. K. A. committee to think this out.

The address of the Hon. Sec. of the National Beekeepers' Association is Mr. Fred Ward, Mulgoa Road, via Liverpool.

Some few months ago a neighbour called on us telling us she had some good honey for sale, gotten from bee trees. It was nicely done up in 2lb pickle bottles. For several reasons we did not purchase. A short time since she told us she had sold it in Sydney, and got a good price—3d a lb. She made a great complaint however to another friend, the commission agent who had given her 3d a lb. *told her about one fourth of the bottles were broken*, and of course did not pay her for them. Can our readers see anything of a cloven foot in this matter?

W. Abram writes,—Although the winter has been exceptionally mild our spring is none too early, but looking into a few hives recently, I saw in one nearly half a comb with sealed drone brood, which is not a bad indication. Ironbark and an abundance of small bush is in full bloom, so the beginning is O. K., and the bees have commenced to unload their 30 or 300 tons or tins of honey for the season.

"Evertton," Parkes, writes,—Thanks for your replies to my questions, same also to those who answered questions re entrances. Bees here are bringing in a fair amount of honey and plenty of pollen. White box has been in full bloom for some time. All queens are laying well and drones are on the wing. I think swarming will commence earlier this coming season about here. Fruit trees are bursting into bloom. I think that all hives are much better without a quilt or any loose covering on top of

frames, as I have found them to be a harbour for moths, eggs, and grubs, as I have had the same objectionable experience with division boards, unless there is bee space at top, bottom and ends. While I consider that efforts to find any cure for foul brood are commendable, I also think that it would be of greater value to all concerned if the same effort were made to find preventatives for the disease. I believe with Loyalstone that dead bees and brood are a cause, if not the primary one. If, after rains and any, period of inclement weather, all brood frames are examined, and all dead bees and brood removed, if there are any. I think that foul brood would be very scarce. Mr Editor, I think it would be well if all readers would comment on correspondent's notes, as all might learn something from each others comments, even if they should be inclined to be unpleasant at times. "Sparrow," commented or protested in the June issue, and I sympathised with Mr Editor, and the writers particularised by "Sparrow," and also felt myself a guilty offender, and here I am offending once more. However, as I said in my last, I have no particular desire to have my notes inserted, and will be satisfied if inserted in A.B.B. or W.P.B. or made use of in any way you may think best. I enclose postal note for 5s in payment for another years subscription, and I am so well pleased with it every month that I would not object to double that amount if the paper were enlarged, even if it did contain so-called rubbish.

## QUESTIONS.

JOHN RUSH, MELBOURNE.

117.—Is Freetrade beneficial to beekeepers?

AUSTRALIAN YANKEE.

117.—NO, Sir, or is it beneficial to any producer no matter what the product.

TONY.

117.—No. How is it honey fetches more than 1½d a lb more all round, both in Victoria and New Zealand than in New South Wales?



T. M. WALKER.

117.—I have bought extracted honey in this district wholesale at 3d per lb tins returned. A few miles over the border in Protected Queensland I am offered extracted honey at 2d per lb tins and cans free.

G. F. FLETCHER, QUEENSLAND.

117.—Let us have Intercolonial Free-trade whatever may be our opinions we hold as to the exclusion of foreign produce.

T. B. HOLMWOOD.

117.—No sane man can say that Free-trade is beneficial to beekeepers when glucose can be landed at £14 per ton to adulterate the pure article. I would like to see £14 per ton duty on it.

E. T. JOHNSON.

117.—Free-trade lowers the price of honey. So I get less money and have less to spend. Money sent out of the colony only brings back one value. Money spent in the colony triplicates itself in the colony. £50 sent away only brings £50 back, and £50 spent in the colony is equivalent to at least £150 by the hands it goes through. Every £50 sent out of the colony for what can be produced in the colony is a loss of at least £100 to the colony.

A. AYLING.

117.—Beekeepers and others hold such different opinions on the subject and are so apt to express them strongly, that I think such subject should be religiously kept out of the pages of the A. B. B. as no good is likely to result and harm is probable.

JOHN RUSH.

117.—Yes. If we had free-trade in Victoria, beekeepers could buy their hives 25 per cent cheaper and 20 per cent better quality, whilst they would get the same price for their honey. Free-trade would be a boon to Victorian beekeepers.

F. WARD.

117.—Free-trade is not beneficial to beekeepers because:—

1. It allows the importation of glucose.
2. Lowers the price of treacle.
3. Favours adulterated wax imports.
4. Reduces the purchasing power of the community.
5. And (this is a very much vexed reason), retards National prosperity.

C. WILLYAN.

117.—Yes, between Australian in all commodities, but protection against the middleman, and the glucose swindler, and the foreigner, is badly wanted throughout Australia, not only by beekeepers but by other classes.

JAMES STEWART.

117.—No young industry was ever successfully started without protection (don't we want a Foul Brood Act.) Free-trade gives us a cheap and nasty imitation of our genuine article, and employs the stranger and foreigner and starves our own people.

W. ABRAHAM.

117.—I am afraid not. Just fancy the amount of money that is sent away for queens alone, for what? To receive in most instances a heap of decomposing matter. But my time is up, so ta ta.

B. BETHUNE.

117.—No. Compare statistics of exports of wax and honey from Victoria and New South Wales for 1894-96, in June number of A. B. B. Multiply amount of wax exported by 20 and you have the approximate production of honey.

G. PACKHAM.

117.—I very much regret to see the fiscal question introduced into the A. B. B. The discussion of such a subject will most likely lead to friction among your subscribers which is very undesirable and ought not to be introduced.

G. H. A.

117.—No, inasmuch as it admits of foreign products being brought in to compete against us in our own market, especially bee goods which should all be manufactured in the colonies, thus utilizing our own labour and keeping the money in the colony.

L. T. CHAMBERS.

117.—Certainly, as sellers, free-trade should rule. We propose to find outside markets in face of the world's competition. Protection simply puts a ring fence round the home market, which local competition soon levels. As buyers by all means let's have free trade.

J. BENNETT.

117.—I do not think that either Free-trade or Protection is very likely to seriously affect beekeeping in this colony. With Free-trade we would get our hives cheaper, but capital outlay in an apiary is not a very serious item in any case. With protection there is a duty on honey but I don't consider that is a great advantage to us, as we are more likely to compete in outside markets than outsiders are to compete in ours.

W. S. &amp; H. J. WILSON.

113.—Believe in reducing size of entrance during cold weather, i.e., in winter only.

116.—Depends on whether your clover yields any honey. Have a good few acres of clover (white) around one of our apiaries, and don't think the bees gather a pound of honey from it. If they do it's at night time, for we have never seen a dozen bees at work on it.

117.—Yes, beneficial to beekeepers as well as all other industries. This only refers to Intercolonial Free-trade.

GIPPSLANDER.

113.—Several writers advise shutting the bees down on five or six frames during the winter months. We tried both ways this winter. We left supers on about eight hives and five long idea hives we left the same as they were all the summer (20 combs). The balance we shut down on six and eight frames. Result:—The ones with the 20 combs and supers are just



double as strong as the ones made so cosy. Our hives will have the supers left on in future. The weather has been fine lately but it has been a very cold, frosty winter. We had a peep at our bees yesterday and find that they are preparing for the warmer weather, queens laying and good patches of brood in some of them. The queens where supers were left on are a long way ahead. Silver wattle, prickly, box shrub, and red box trees in bloom, little honey, plenty of pollen.

117.—Fretrade between the colonies, Protection against foreign traders would benefit all beekeepers or I think it would.

J. S.

112.—Have never used the long idea.

113.—Generally leave full entrance open with full colonies, but contract those that are weak, have entrance at each point of compass and I have an idea that in all cases full sized entrances would be the best.

114.—I think if the idea of Loyalstone can be carried out successfully there can be no question but that good would result to everyone interested, only Mr. Editor, I have got the idea some of your N. S. W. beekeepers are only luke-warm. I was almost saying selfish and don't think I would be much wide of the mark.

115.—I can not speak with certainty as to this question, that is from personal observation, but notwithstanding, I'm afraid it is too true.

116.—It would not be an easy matter to decide without all the facts and a knowledge of the district, and the quantity of available forage so far as white clover is concerned, still it is questionable if it would really pay to run an apiary if no other was available.

## QUESTION NEXT MONTH.

EVERTON.

118.—Are naphthaline balls known to be a preventative of foul brood in any way, and would it be injurious to bees to have naphthaline balls in the hive, either during winter or all year round?

AUSTRALIAN YANKEE.

119.—Have you ever tried fertilising queen bees by hand? If so what success I have succeeded twice, all the other times were failures.

T. B. HOLMWOOD

120.—Which is the best practical way to prevent after swarming?

121.—What are your methods of preparing and packing honey—comb and extracted—for market?

122.—Have drones from laying workers stings?

W. S. & H. J. WILSON

For Victorians chiefly.

123.—Are you in favour of reducing tariff on beekeeping appliances. Present duty is 25 per cent.

VICTORIAN.

124.—What is your experience with Golden versus Ligurian bees?

## HONEY.

I. ITS VALUE.

II. ITS MARKET.

(a) To prevent Adulteration

(b) And to Increase Consumption.

HARRY H. DAVEY, MELBOURNE.

I have been requested by several beekeepers to make public the following series of Articles. I may say they are the result of information gathered at odd times on wet days from a Public Library. From such information and some knowledge of the present *bad system* of marketing our valuable honies, I have drawn conclusions and put forward suggestions. Many say "Honey is the purest food," but they can give no proof of their assertion. Some may answer, "Its value is because it leaves no residue in the stomach and is completely absorbed," yet their answer is empty, for does not any sugar do the same, and on that plea where is its superiority over even golden syrup? Yet it is superior and is the only complete sugar food, and there is proof of the truth of the assertion, which I have never seen advanced as yet, and *without which* there is no plea for the superiority of honey over any other sugar or saccharine food. My eyes have been opened, and may the eyes of others be opened as to Honey—its value and market.

I.—ITS VALUE.

Honey essentials are—

Two main and opposite sugars.

1. Dextrose, which crystallises, candies.
2. Levulose, which does not crystallise or candy.

In these two sugars are—

- (a) Wax and pollen.
- (b) Organic or vegetable acids.
- (c) Odouriferous principles of the plant.
- (e) And frequent bitter and astringent principles derived from the vegetable acids or pollen of the plant.

—Hassell.

We can all agree with this, for we have often come across bitter or *astringent*, or what some call *strong* flavours in our honies. And all honies, be they pleasant or unpleasant, *must* have in some degree both the vegetable acid that *may* flavour and the volatile oil that *does* perfume.

But, apart from this, I should like to dwell on the two *opposite* sugars, as found in combination in all saccharine matter, in sap or ripe fruit or nectar.



In the juices then of *any plant or tree*, or sugar cane, beet or maple, there are these two sugars, which together I call a *complete* food sugar. But we cannot get sugar-cane, beet or maple sugar in its natural or complete form.

The sugar cane, for instance, is boiled and evaporated, and then filtered through carbon, to purify and separate one sugar from the other, and thus we get a *table* sugar in fine white crystals, while the other sugar that drains off is *treacle*, or golden syrup, and these two parts separated, extracted out into essential forms, make each of itself an *incomplete* food. Together only would they be complete. The one is the *complete* of the other, and two halves only make the whole. As I have said we find that this complete sugar is given in the tissues of the eucalyptus gum-tree, clover, sugar-cane, beet, and also in all vegetables and ripe fruits. It is in them and in that complete form, and in that proportion, needed for health. We may not need more sugar than is found in our daily food and fruit, but if we do then let us have a healthy and *complete* food sugar; and as honey, with the half-foods, table sugar and golden syrups, &c., are the only sugars obtainable outside of that in our daily food, then let us take the best and completest of the three, namely, honey—the nectar that nature distils from the juices of the tree or herb; nature's perfect ways, without commercial or artificial separations, give the sweetest and healthiest of foods; and any other saccharine matter lacks the perfume of the flower, lacks the delicacy and softness of nectar made into honey and ripened.

So we see how superior and necessary always is that which was made complete in the first days by the laws of God through tree and flower and bee.

The value of honey then is that it has the parts of a complete sugar with—(a) vegetable acids; (b) color; (c) flavour, &c., according to source.

And, further, you will find that the color and vegetable acids are only in one portion of that sugar, namely, in the liquid or uncandiable sugar of the honey. It is so with sugar cane. The drained off portion (*Treacle* or *Molasses*) is black with colour, and very strong in flavour, but not so, the sugar that is left—that is snow white 'colourless' and 'flavourless'; and while this proves that the active principle of the tree or plant is in the liquid sugar of the honey, does it not at the same time give us a hint that our strong and inferior honies may like the sugar-cane, have the most of the liquid separated from the crystallized, and thus remove the dark colour and strong flavour. It certainly gives the suggestion, though it may not be practicable; and if it were we would but be separating it into halves, and spoiling its *wholesomeness* or *wholeness*.

To repeat—

*Odour, colour, flavour, vegetable acids*; these are the parts of all honies, and to the extent of

the strength of the *active principle* of the tree or herb from whence derived.

And these are contained in the liquid portion, which may be drained off to an extent leaving the residue almost clear and flavourless.

So much is granted and we will leave it at that.

In my next paper I will finish this part (I) by taking up *Odour, Colour and Flavour*, as regards our own honies from the Gum-trees and Box-trees of Australia, and then will take Part (II) on *Honey, its market, etc.*

[To be continued.]

## BAIRNSDALE B. K. A.

GIPPSLANDER, AUG. 12TH, 1897.

A Meeting was held at the Bairnsdale Shire Hall, on 28th July, for the purpose of forming an Association. There were present Messrs. Eastlake, Ross, Herman, Penglase, Templeton, Greed and Stewart. Mr. Eastlake read correspondence from Mr. L. T. Chambers explaining the benefits to be gained by forming Associations. On the motion of Mr. Greed, Mr. W. B. Ross was elected President, he being the oldest Beekeeper present. Mr. E. Penglase proposed that Messrs. Templeton, Herman and Greed be elected as a committee, and that Mr. Eastlake be appointed Secretary and Treasurer, which was seconded by Mr. J. Stewart and carried. Mr. Penglase asked those present if they were subscribers to the *A. B. B.* If they were not he would advise them to subscribe, as it had plenty of information on beekeeping, and was devoted solely to the industry. He also promised to send on their names to the Editor, and perhaps he would send them a sample copy.

## CRUMBS.

AUSTRALIAN YANKEE.

RINGBARKING.

It has often been advocated that we try to get the Government to protect the timber, so as to secure the blossoms for honey. This I admit is a good point, but I propose going one better. If you are in a location where your neighbours have land upon which a lot of yellow box is growing, and said neighbour talks of ringbarking said timber, just go and have a friendly chat with him (and it would do no harm to take a nice present of honey with you) and ask him how



much more money per acre he expects to make per year when the timber is dead, than he does now, after cost of ringbarking, etc, is deducted. If his estimate is not too high just offer him as much rent per acre for the blossoms as he expects to make by ringbarking his timber. In nine cases out of every ten he will gladly agree and if he does not, well, there is no harm done. Now a word about kinds of timber trees for honey. In this locality I would not give two cents per acre for apple tree timber, but heavily timbered yellow box country is worth 5/- per acre for honey alone. There is about 40 acres near me that I would not have killed for £40 if I could hinder it. White box produces a lovely honey almost equal to white clover, but the one fault is it does not bloom at regular intervals, but when it does it makes up for lost time, as the honey just rolls in. Stringybark is a good yielder, but with me it blossoms late in the summer, and the honey is therefore rather dark in colour but of a heavy body. It sells well here when the light honey is all gone. Stringybark blossoms every second year as a rule. Some years there are a few blossoms, but the second year they are loaded with bloom. I never reckon upon getting any honey worth speaking about from any other source than the following:—yellow box, white box, stringybark, thorn scrub. The latter is a rank flavoured honey, although some people like it. I would willingly pay £100 if I could have 60 acres of almond trees within  $\frac{1}{4}$  mile of my bees. I am seriously thinking of planting 40 acres, they would bloom in 3 years from the seed. I have some quite large trees that were grown from seed eight years ago. They are a sight that would gladden the heart of any beekeeper to see when in bloom. They seem to be one crawling mass of bees. When I get my 40 acres in bloom you must come and see them, Mr. Editor.

Wattles should be encouraged as much as we can, as they bloom so early in the spring, and they produce such an abundance of pollen, and that is what the bees need in plenty in early spring, and I prefer then to get it from wattle bloom than to feed them meal.

#### MOTHS.

I always like to have a few traps set to catch the moth worms, aye, and the moths too. As I have never seen the plan given in the various bee journals I will describe it here. It is simply a well made hive body, with bottom board nailed on. Cut out a hole about three inches square. It don't matter where the hole is, providing it is not in the bottom board. Nail a stout cleat all round the hive, just 4 inches from the top edge, then make a cap to shut down over the hive and sit on the cleats. The top of this cap would be all the better for being covered with tin. Make the cap so it fits loosely over the hive. We now paint the hive or trap as we had better call it and give it several coats of paint as we want all the cracks and joints to be filled. When the paint

has dried, carry the trap to the apiary, set it in some convenient place, get two or three old combs. Those composed of drone cells or mouse eaten ones, will be the best, as they are of little use in a colony of bees. Hang them in the trap—hang them so that they almost touch each other, spread a cloth over the top of the trap; we want a generous sized one so it will come down to the cleats all round, now jam the cap down over this and your trap is set. Leave it undisturbed for a week, then remove the cap and cloth and if there are many moths around the apiary you will find a lot on the combs and around the side of the trap, and if you examine the combs, you will see a number of small worms. I omitted to say in the right place that the combs should have a little pollen in them, as the moth worm requires some to feed upon. Close the trap, and if there were any moths or their worms turn in a little bi-sulphide of carbon and close the 3in. hole at once. In a few minutes all the moths and worms will be dead, when the 3in. hole may be opened and the trap left for another week or ten days when if moths are in plenty another lot may be killed. A few traps well attended to will soon rid the worst moth infested place of them. Of course you can use sulphur fumes to kill them if you wish.

## VICTORIAN NOTES.

R. BEUHNE, TOOBORAC.

Mr. Editor,—That was a very long spell between the June number and the last to hand, nearly six weeks. Couldn't you work in a half number somewhere between? I think you will have to come out once a fortnight before long, Far from being short of copy, you appear to be actually stacking it. Mine got stacked in June. Its awkward sometimes, for a man might change his opinions and principles in the meantime, then he wouldn't be pleased to see in his former self.

#### GLUCOSE IN VICTORIA.

This is a very interesting item in the last number. The importation more than doubled in two years, If we knew what became of it all it would be more interesting still.

#### BEEKEEPING AND FREETRADE.

Mr John Rush has been announcing in a Melbourne daily paper that Protection cripples beekeeping. He obtained that conviction from one year's statistics of



unknown origin cut from out of the middle (1894.) He has already received an answer in his own camp in the shape of a letter in the *Leader* July 3rd, from Mr Chambers, our Secretary, and as Mr Chambers announced himself a Free-trader as recently as the last Convention he cannot be said to be biassed in favour of Protection. The figures are from the Customs returns of the two colonies, and calculates taking the honey production on the basis of 20 lb of honey for every 1 lb of wax. The average annual production in Victoria is about 500 tons. Bees will not make wax without honey. But there are b—s (brutes I mean) who make honey without making wax, and they don't come home with a tiny drop, but get their nectar from Flinder's Lane by the lorry load.

From the *Sunday Beekeeper*, by Greenbeak:—As a result of the Foul Brood Act agitation Foul Brood has spread considerably. I met a tiller of the soil who had kept bees for 30 years. "I never knew of this disease till I saw in the papers about it, and I went and looked at my boxes." And did you see it I questioned? "Oh man, its a terrible thing, maggots an inch long." An elderly lady who kept bees was greatly alarmed at the prospect of a F.B. Act, for somebody had informed her that she would have to register and pay 1d a lb all round on all her honey.

But there's that 'Sparrow,' he'll be pecking at me directly for taking up space. Well, I am just as big a subscriber as anybody else, even if I am a small bee-keeper.

By the way when the Editor sends the *A.B.B.* out fortnightly there must be an alteration in price. A reduction I suppose on account of the greater circulation, double the number printed per year.

F. Bingham says:—"Wood for smoker fuel should always be kept under an old window or other glass covering in the sun."

## QUEENSLAND INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION.

### BEE AND HONEY EXHIBITS.

The closing day of the International Exhibition was made the occasion of the holding of a grand show of horses, cattle, pigs, sheep, implements, and last but not least in importance a goodly display of apicultural exhibits. Honey was well represented, and there were some very tastefully got up cases of sections and honey in bottles of various designs, which added very materially to the attractiveness of the exhibits. Messrs Spry Bros took first prizes for sections, extracted and granulated honeys, Mr J. M. Mitchell being second. There was very keen competition for best hives of Italian bees. Messrs G. and G. W. Butler and Mr J. M. Mitchell securing first honours, and Messrs Spry Brothers second. Mr C. Court took the prize for hives and implements for the apiary. To Mr McConnell, M.A., a gentleman of great experience in apicultural matters, was assigned the duties of Judge. The Show as a whole was a great success, some 70,000 people paying it a visit during the four days.

## BEEKEEPING AND PROTECTION.

Following up remarks made by Mr Beuhne in a Victorian newspaper, Mr. Chambers, Hon. Sec. Victorian B.K.A. says:—Regarding the production of honey in Victoria as compared with New South Wales, I beg to submit the following figures, which are taken from the Customs returns of export, and are, therefore, a correct statement of absolute facts. For the years 1894-95-96, bees-wax was exported in the following proportions:—

Year.	Victoria. Weight Lb.	Value. £
1894 .. ..	33,040 .. ..	1,317
1895 .. ..	97,328 .. ..	4,372
1896 .. ..	23,184 .. ..	1,116
Totals ..	153,552 ..	6,805



Year.	New South Wales		Value.
	Weight	Lb.	
1894 .. ..	43,078	.. ..	1,714
1895 .. ..	47,157	.. ..	2,222
1896 .. ..	42,446	.. ..	2,130
Totals ..	132,681	.. ..	6,066

Computing the proportion of honey to wax to be as 20 to 1 we find the production of honey for the three years quoted to be 1415 tons, but as we use some few tons of beeswax locally we may assume that the total production of honey for the three years was quite 1500 tons, or an average of 500 tons per year. It may be noted in passing that while we value our wax at 10½d per lb., New South Wales values it at 11d. However, both in value and weight Victoria shows a larger export than New South Wales. As we make progression towards an export trade we could largely increase the production of both honey and beeswax in this colony, and towards that object the Beekeepers' Association is now aiming.

R.W., Perth, Western Australia.—What can you do six Italian queens for?

(We do not sell queens or supplies, our desire to keep thoroughly neutral with our advertisers.)

C.W.W., Kilkerran, South Australia.

The season just closed has been the worst for honey that we have ever had here. No rain for nearly nine months, so no honey. I have had to buy honey to eat, and have also to feed the bees. About three weeks ago the drought broke up, and to-day I have seen some of the most energetic hives getting in a small supply of pollen and honey from the white mallee I think, so I hope the worst is over. In this colony we have no Beekeepers Association, more's the pity, and not even a Beekeepers Supply Store, so whatever I cannot make and must have comes from Sydney. I believe some parts of this province have had a fair honey harvest, but honey I hear is a fair price, 3d to 4d per lb wholesale. I took your advice and got a Cypro-Italian queen this past season. She is prolific and her bees are beauties to look at, but

her hive is doing nothing now, whilst my blacks are bringing in honey and pollen, and have brood in their hives, so unless things alter later on, I shall stick to my old friends the blacks. Will you kindly give the dimensions of the long idea hive in your next A.B.B., as I should like to try it. At present I use 8 and 10 frame L hives.

(There are good and bad of all kinds. Lap season with us, queens that we almost intendest to supersede early in spring turned out when summer came the greatest honey producers. The Long Idea we would recommend is one of 20 frames with entrance centre of length.)

Mr F. Ward, Mulgoa Road, Liverpool writes,—At the recent Conference held in Sydney, someone wrote on a slip of paper, "What is the best method to run a bee paper?" and handed it to the President as a topic for discussion. It was a barren subject. We felt like saying, "Get a long list of subscribers who pay promptly, also plenty of advertisements. We have since given the matter some thought and have evolved the following: "To procure contributions from those who have plenty of ideas and experience, but very little spare time or inclination. Offer liberal prizes. Also put everybody on the free list." By these means an ideal bee paper could be conducted, and the promoters would have a good outlet for their surplus cash. We haven't any surplus.

(Thanks, Friend Ward. There are also a great many rocks and shoals against which a bee Editor can very easily run that the general public know nothing about. An innocent truth without malice or evil intent whatever, may interfere with someone's interests. Just because it is the truth, and well the general public should know. A useful idea from a foreign country, may prevent the sale of some goods in this, and make us bitter foes. We have had to find these things out. Not to speak of literary accident that are always apt to occur through reminiscences on the part of that old scape-goat—the compositor.)

J. M. Willis in A.B.J.:—We need a bee escape with several outlets. A little piece of burr comb sometimes turns a bee escape into a death trap, and if the day and night following its use are sultry and hot, a super full of smothered bees will be the result.



# N. S. WALES CONVENTION.

*Held at Temperance Hall, Sydney, on June 23  
and 24, 1897. (Continued.)*

The election of officers for the ensuing year was then proceeded with, as follows: President, Mr. Albert Gale; vice-presidents, Messrs H. R. Whittell, J. T. Wilshire, H. Lord, and J. E. Taylor; secretary, Mr. Fred. Ward; treasurer, Mr. George Bloxham; committee, Messrs D. Grant, J. S. Dick, W. T. Seabrook, J. Trahair, J. D. Ward, E. Tipper, H. R. Roberts, Maxwell, J. F. Foster, R. Pender, F. W. Penberthy, H. Nancarrow.

A vote of thanks, on the motion of Mr J. D. Ward, seconded by Mr. Roberts, and supported by Mr. Gale, was accorded to Mr. H. R. Whittell, the late secretary for his valuable assistance to the association, and it was determined to recognise those services in a more substantial way by means of an illuminated address, to be obtained by means of a shilling subscription, to which all beekeepers were to be asked to contribute, Mr. Roberts undertaking to frame same, and Mr. Tipper to advertise the same free of cost.

In his remarks, on returning thanks, Mr. Whittell said he had given the whole of three months to the Bathurst Convention. It would be impossible for him to continue as secretary, as he would be away in the country for months together.

Dr. Vandeleur Kelly and several others were elected members.

Mr. Gale proposed and Mr. Tipper seconded that the Hon. Sydney Smith, Minister for Agriculture, be patron of the Society. Carried.

Mr. Whittell proposed and Mr. Foster seconded, that the thanks of the meeting

be conveyed to the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture for his kindness on behalf of the association, and for consenting to open the Convention, although unfortunately unable to do so. Carried.

On the motion of Mr. J. D. Ward, seconded by Mr. Bloxham, the thanks of the Convention were awarded to Messrs Hebblewhite for the use of their rooms for holding committee meetings.

The Convention then adjourned.

We may here mention there was not the array of bee goods generally seen at Conventions. We took a good array of photographs, and on the table were samples of glucose honey, and a two lb. jar with a lithograph label on front, "Prime Garden Honey," and on back in small type, close to bottom, "This honey is clarified with pure sugar only."

## THURSDAY.

The proceedings opened by the reading by the new secretary, Mr. Fred. Ward, of a paper by Mr. C. U. T. Burke, on "The necessity of taking steps to protect our Honey Bearing Flora," viz.:—

In bringing this matter before your notice, I must urge on every beekeeper present the necessity of preserving our "Native Honey Bearing Flora", and to the necessity of bringing the matter of ring barking (that is being carried on throughout New South Wales from year to year) under the notice of the Minister for Lands, and to try and endeavour to have some steps taken to preserve our forests before they are all destroyed and the country made desolate looking and bare. Beekeeping is carried on by many beekeepers in New South Wales in a happy-go-lucky-haphazard sort of fashion. They appear to take very little interest in the destruction of



our forests or else we would have had them clamouring before now for some measure to put a stop to the destruction of our timber. How long they are going to remain dormant is for themselves to decide. Do people go in for bee-keeping to make a living or only for the fun of the thing. They may not think a living is to be made by bees, but let me tell you that settled in a good locality and well attended to at least £1 per hive per annum is made, and where does a person want a more happy and comfortable living than by keeping bees. An acre of ground is all you want to settle upon, and you can put 500 colonies of bees over this acre of ground and if you will combine together I am sure the government of this colony will not see your bees starve. It is only for the want of a little energy on your parts to do this. Our mining reserves, leasehold areas, church, and school lands, stock reserves are being slaughtered by ringbarkers for the hungry graziers by hundreds yes! and by thousands of acres year after year and if this state of things continues for another ten or twenty years where will you be? and where will you find honey-flora for your bees to make a profit by? Are you still going to sit idly down until this is done and find your living, your happy homes made by the bees, destroyed and you will then join the ranks of the unemployed and earn your living by the sweat of your brow? I say, fellow beekeepers, are you going to allow this? or will you combine? "Union is strength." Help the few energetic beekeepers who are trying to save for you your living. This question of saving our forests is before all others. Without trees we are without honey. Some beekeepers want us to try and get a good export trade opened up for honey. But what is the use of this if we don't take steps to save our forests. The job will be presently, where are we to take our bees to collect enough honey for the people of N. S. Wales? I am sure the government of N. S. Wales have no idea of the way our green forest trees are being destroyed, and if the matter was brought before them in facts and figures, they would open their eyes in astonishment and immediately take steps to prevent the indiscriminate ringbarking which is being carried on year after year. Look at the grand timber we want to preserve. I will place a few of them according to their merits for honey-bearing Flora namely, White Box, Yellow Box, Ironbark, White Gum, Box, Apple Tree, Stringybark, Red Gum, and many others. It is useless for me to describe the many uses these timbers are adapted for. Where will you find a more durable timber than Ironbark for railway purposes, a better timber for all round purposes than the white and yellow box and red box. We beekeepers are not selfish; we don't want to monopolise whole forests for ourselves to the detriment of farmers, graziers etc. We will be satisfied if the government of this colony only treats us as well as they do the farmers and graziers. Bee-

keeping is only in its infancy in Australia, and unless beekeepers live themselves up a little more than is usual with them it will remain in that state or die a natural death. So long as the majority of beekeepers can get a few energetic beekeepers to keep things in a decent state with regard to beekeeping they are satisfied. But will they put out a helping hand when these few beekeepers get in a tight corner to help them? These few beekeepers now appeal to you, and implore you, for your own good and those connected with the beekeeping industry, to help them to preserve our forests and see what benefit they will derive themselves. Look at our American cousins importing and growing our Eucalyptus trees which we are destroying by the thousands every year. It shows that they have more wisdom, more energy than we have. They are awake and we are asleep. Then again, look at Japan—those dreaded Japanese, who some people think some day will invade our shores. You cannot destroy a useful tree in Japan unless another of the same kind is planted at the same time to replace. In this the Japanese teach us a lesson. Then again Germany takes care to preserve good timber, but will not allow you to plant useless trees. Our Australian Premiers are away in England at the present time enjoying themselves and praising up the grand timber Australia can produce regarded as second to none in the world, and yet they are taking no steps to preserve this timber and by the time a good export trade is opened up in the timber line there will be no great quantity of timber to export. Then there will be "a wailing and gnashing of teeth" that they had not listened to the humble beekeepers and taken measures years ago to preserve our grand forests, that were now all dead and decayed. It is impossible to estimate the value of green Australian timber at the present time. It is like many other things; while there is plenty of it no notice is taken of the value, but when it begins to get scarce then the "shoe commences to pinch." I know of one stock reserve in this colony consisting of 1,400 acres, all mainly timbered with white and yellow box, most valuable timber, and the Minister for Agriculture half promised a small deputation that waited on him a few weeks ago that he would turn about 640 acres of it into a model farm if funds would allow. Just fancy what a loss this is to us beekeepers. I think we have enough of model farms. One in each centre of the colony is sufficient, and moreover they don't pay expenses.

If they want to establish model farms, why don't they do so on poorly timbered country, and not destroy some of our most valuable timber, also some of our best honey-producing flora. We never hear of the government establishing a model apiary, which would pay better than a model farm; not that model farms are not useful, but we can have too many of them. Now something similar is being done all over the colony. Squatters ask to be allowed to ringbark church



reserve and school lands, stock, leasehold areas, and mining reserves, and I cannot believe that the matter is thoroughly investigated or the value of timber thought of, but permission to ringbark is given in many cases, and so the destruction is carried on regardless as to how the coming generation is to get on, when they settle on these ringbarked lands. Perhaps it is thought that ringbarking will bring more money into the treasury when the land is cut up and thrown open for selection. The value of the timber destroyed is not taken into consideration. Then again mining areas are ringbarked, and perhaps in the future a rush will set in, and a large township will spring up. Look at the inconvenience and expense miners will be put to for a supply of timber, when perhaps it is destroyed for miles around. Our government must be blind not to see that they are losing thousands of pounds in the future by destroying our forests now. If I had a large area of green country I would ringbark the worst and leave the best. I would leave on an average about 8 trees to the acre.

I would save all the valuable timber I had unless it was an unsightly tree. To benefit beekeepers I think it would be a good idea if we could have all green timber preserved within 12 miles of each town in N.S.Wales. Of course on selections and private lands we have not a say in the matter. If a person buys or selects a holding he has a perfect right to do what he likes with it. But it is in the government's power to prevent ringbarking on church and school lands, mining reserves, town commons, stock reserves, leasehold areas and other lands of a like nature. Beekeepers would be willing (those who settle down near the reserves) to pay a certain amount to government for the use of the honey bearing flora for their bees. The government would be the gainer in the long run, as the more timber that is ringbarked, the more valuable does that become that is not ringbarked. As I said before, I am a believer in ringbarking myself to a certain extent, that is, I believe in killing all useless and crooked timber, and leave the good timber, about 8 trees to the acre. These trees that are left will grow far better and yield as much, if not more honey than if you left all the timber green. If the ground is thickly covered with green timber, very little herbage will spring up unless the ground be very rich, and I firmly believe that by leaving on an average 8 trees to the acre, the herbage will be as sweet and last longer than if the whole area were rung. It is a well known fact that grass will grow quicker, will not last long, and die off quicker in rung country than in country which is not rung, nor thickly covered with green timber. It may be interesting to beekeepers to know the value of different trees for honey gathering. It has been calculated that an acre of good box country will give an annual return of 30/- to a bee farm. That is taking the good years with the bad. In a good season you would double this amount.

Other timber will be proportionately less, but off any fairly timbered country, you should get £1 per acre. You might call this a two-sided picture. Look on one side, then on the other. A squatter gets a thousand acre leasehold area for say 1/- per acre per year, and the first opportunity he gets starts to work and destroys the timber—ringbarks it. Bye-and-bye the ground is thrown open for selection. The selector can't get any timber for building, none for fencing, none for firewood, unless rotten trunks of trees, and has to pay a good round sum for these necessities before he gets properly started on the land. On the other hand a beekeeper comes along, goes 61 per acre more than the squatter, making it 1/6 per acre, which the squatter thinks too much for him to pay. The beekeeper settles down. If he has the 1,000 acres to himself he can run 400 hives or colonies of bees on it at the least. The beekeeper should make 10/- per hive. That is £200 for an outlay of £75 per year—and he can get just as good a return by a little judicious ringbarking as the squatter would get if he ringbarked the whole, by running a few sheep—manuring the ground and preserving the timber, for which he would receive the thanks of the government when their eyes were opened as to the value of timber. Some people attribute the droughts to the destruction of timber; one thing is quite certain, it changes the climate. Let anyone test it for himself—go into the green timber, then into the dry. The green timber is cooler in summer and warmer in winter, and the dry timber country is scorching hot in summer and icy cold in winter. You have now the opportunity at this conference of drawing up a monster petition and bring this matter under the notice of The Minister for Lands, putting it before him in plain language, the necessity of preserving our grand forests and native honey-producing flora both for the good of the beekeepers and the welfare of the country, and form a huge deputation—in fact all go while you are here together and present the petition, and take the Minister for Lands by storm. I am sure some good will come of it. But in closing, let me tell you now is your time to join hand in hand with one another and co-operate in a good cause. Remember, united we beekeepers stand and keep up a standard price for the products of our apiaries. Divided we fall and great is our trouble trying to cut one another down in price. Just glance round for one moment and see the benefits derived from Farmers Unions, Co-operative Companies, Etc., and say to yourselves why can't we beekeepers do the same, and strive to say we will.

Mr. J. E. Taylor, said if the matter was only shown properly to the Minister he would be only too willing to assist us. Ringbarking the land doubles the sheep carrying capacity. With a



favourable average, sheep are worth about 5/- per head. Ringbarking 1,500 acres will make it carry 150 extra sheep at 10/-. The lessee rents his land on certain conditions which the beekeeper does not try to interfere with. The timber is there, and why should the lessee be allowed to destroy our industry? and throw away one of the best industries in the colony? He would make a suggestion:—We have now the Government granting miners' rights and business licenses. Beekeepers were quite prepared to pay a very fair rental, and not interfere with the grazier's rights in any way. He was prepared to give £1 per acre if the Government will give the same security—he to run no sheep, nobody else to run bees—if the Government will set apart certain areas, no beekeeper to come in certain distance of another. That would meet everybody's case, and not interfere with the squatter in any way. There are people who will give £50 more an acre for land that has not been ringbarked. It had been remarked we could not be honest in our desire to settle people on the land. That was what we wished to do.

Mr. Cadden said he took over 300lbs a hive in spite of ringbarking. It was more than could be got from wool. He felt sure Mr. Sydney Smith was with them, and it was only to show him that more money could be made off bees than by sheep.

Mr. Gale said Mr. Taylor had thrown out one of the best suggestions he had heard. We were quite prepared to let the squatter have the grass at 1d or 2d, if the beekeeper could get the same privilege from the tops of the trees as the squatter did from the bottom. Then there was a double value.

Mr. Whittell endorsed the previous speakers, but thought it required legislation if we could show Government the way. Under the Forestry laws the Ministry might have power to grant such license. The beekeeper might state how many hives he wishes to run on that license to protect him for an area of so many acres against ringbarking.

Mr. Wilshire thought if the suggestion was seen by the Government it was a very excellent source of revenue from the beekeepers themselves, and if, as he understood it, the beekeepers were prepared to pay more, the Government ought to grant it. They ought to secure the support of country members to get it carried out.

In answer to a question by Mr. Roberts it was stated a fair bees range would be a mile clean all round.

Mr. Whittell moved that the suggestion of Mr. J. E. Taylor be brought before the Minister for Agriculture at same time as the Foul Brood Bill.

Seconded by Mr. Tipper, and carried.

The President (Mr. A. Gale), read a paper on "Bees and Plants," illustrating the same by means of a diagram. He said there was a kind of mutual benefit association existing between florists, orchardists, and beekeepers, to such an extent that one could scarcely exist without the other. The beekeeper could do without the florist and orchardist, because he had the natural flora to fall back upon, and the florist could do without the beekeeper because he could use artificial means for fertilising and hybridising, but the orchardist could not do without the beekeeper. The bloom was dependent upon insect life for its fertilisation. Referring to the different methods of fertilisation, Mr. Gale said the chief agencies were wind and insects. Wind fertilisation was confined chiefly to cereals, and insect fertilisation was generally the rule in the case of orchard trees. The essential organs of a plant such as the stamen and pistil were explained, and illustrations were given of the method in which bees worked. It was necessary for some outside agent to convey the pollen to a bloom where the anthers had ceased to distribute pollen. If the stigma did not receive a sufficient number of grains of pollen to fertilise every seed in the ovary there would be what were known as unfertile seeds. Every seed required a grain of pollen, and the natural agent to convey it was an insect. Butterflies conveyed these



grains of pollen from one flower to another and by so doing acted as fertilisers. Butterflies, however, left eggs behind them and these eggs hatched out caterpillars, which were destructive to flowers and trees. The injury done to plant life in this way, Mr. Gale explained, outweighed the good done by bees in the process of fertilisation.

Mr. Lord and Mr. Wilshire both spoke as to the value of Mr. Gale's paper.

#### AFTERNOON SESSION

Mr. Whittell gave a paper on "Co-operation." He alluded to the success of the English Co-operative Union, how it had been attained, and the good done by it to the people of Great Britain. He read a number of extracts from speeches of eminent men on co-operation, including Richard Cobden, the Earl of Derby, Earl of Shaftesbury, Golden Smith, Thomas Hughes, John Stuart Mill, Douglas Jerold, Marquis of Ripon, W. E. Gladstone, Professor Harold Rodgers, and others. There was no reason why the same principles that had been applied so well to distribution should not be applied to production. If the English Co-operative Union, started and carried on by poor and ignorant men, had attained such vast proportions as it had, the same should be done here by better informed and intelligent men.

Mr. J. D. Ward alluded to the efforts made among beekeepers to bring about co-operation. The necessity for such was now greater than ever. It would bring many benefits to producers. It would prevent undue competition, strike a deadly blow at adulteration, and largely increase the consumption of honey. In marketing honey, he was a man of one idea. In selling the product of the apiary, beekeepers should get into that position in which they should be enabled to act as friends and brothers instead of cut-throat competitors. Re Adulteration—It had been remarked the Government should take up the matter of prosecution. If we took up this position nothing would be done. The Government may take up

the movement, but the beekeepers must initiate it. If we were banded together, associated in trade as co-operative honey sellers, then we would be able to guarantee its purity. The dealers would soon get to know all the known brands of honey, and they would know about every one who was supplying other than themselves, and then it would be ever so much easier to hunt the evil of adulteration out of its lairs and destroy it, and it would thus very largely increase the consumption of honey. He alluded to the evils of alleged "Evaporation" and "leakage" of honey in transit; forgetfulness of sending returns to producers, also alleged "drops" in the ruling prices of honey, as evils to be combated by co-operation, also to the assertion that the cause of failure of the late proposed Honey Supply Co. was due to the want of confidence in the gentlemen appointed on the Board. That could not be so, as three at least of them were entitled to the unbounded confidence of the mercantile community. The majority who attended the Bathurst Convention were willing to take the rewards of co-operation but could not take the responsibility. But, like a boomerang, that would come back on their own heads. He would much prefer a Beekeepers' Co-operative Association, but as this did not at present seem practicable he would recommend to throw in their lot with the Co-operative Wool and Produce Co.

The chairman asked for suggestions relative to co-operation.

Mr. Foster said it struck him the failure to form a co-operative society had been attributed to selfishness; it was that very selfishness ought to have been the very sentiment that would push it on. The majority of beekeepers are Christians, and this co-operative movement was nothing more or less than practical Christianity.

Mr. Wilshire spoke of the enormous success that had attended the Co-operative Wool and Produce Society. If beekeepers would only look in that direction they would have sufficient evidence to



cause them to have more harmony and feeling with one another.

Mr. Whittell said the output of honey in N. S. Wales was from £10,000 to £15,000 a year. If all banded together to sell that and dispense with the middle man, the actual cost would be under 5 per cent. Re the Woolgrowers' Society, the directors acted as such without salary, and it paid them to do so, as by the working of the society one of them alone was saving £1,000 a year. He moved that a circular be sent to beekeepers asking them to give a trial for 12 months by sending their surplus honey to the Woolgrowers' Co-operative Society.

The motion was carried.

Mr. Foster moved that the daily newspapers be asked to substitute the words "extracted honey" for garden honey in market reports.

Seconded and carried.

The following paper by Mr. Seabrook was then read by the secretary, Mr. F. Ward:—

The subject which I have the honour to bring before you on this occasion is, "How to prepare Honey and Wax for Market." I think most of you will agree with me that it is absolutely imperative we should pay more attention to this particular branch of the Apiahy than most have hitherto, (if we want to make a financial success), and thus save so many complaints from agents, buyers and consumers. I have seen pure extracted honey sent into the Sydney market for sale that was a thorough disgrace to the producer; it containing ants, flies and small particles of wax proving it had not been properly treated, but drawn off directly from the extractor into tins and left for days unsealed. In other consignments kerosene tins are used which have not been thoroughly cleansed, thus leaving the flavour of kerosene in the honey. All these troubles can be easily overcome by special attention when extracting operations are being carried on to see that all the honey from the extractor goes through the strainer into the tank and there allowed to settle before being drawn off into tins for market, by so doing you will produce an excellent sample of bright honey fit for exhibition purposes.

**BEES WAX.**—A very few beekeepers take the trouble they should in the rendering process, if such were the case they certainly would get better returns for the extra trouble. From practical experience I have noticed nearly all the wax which has passed through our hands for foundation making, which represents tons yearly

has been more or less dirty. I would therefore strongly recommend the use of a steam wax extractor (Jones) or a Solar, and dispense with the old primitive method whereby you will avoid waste of wax, and obtain a product that will command the highest market value. In conclusion, if all beekeepers, large or small, will only heed these few brief remarks, I feel sure they will not only benefit themselves individually by getting better returns from their agents, but it will be more satisfactory for the distributing houses and the whole community.

#### EVENING SESSION.

The evening was devoted to Questions. The first was, "What do you consider the best way of conducting a beekeepers' newspaper?" Mr. Ward alluded to a communication in our June issue by "Sparrow," and said it was impossible to please everybody. He related the old parable of the man and his donkey.

Mr. Gale suggested the editor should put in a notice, "No rubbish should be shot here." Mr. Roberts objected to *nom-de-plumes*. Mr. J. E. Taylor spoke of people replying to questions who only owned a few hives. Mr. Gale objected to advertisements between pages, also did not like the Yankee expression, "Our Friend."

"Do Bees rear good Queens in Drone cells?" Several had known queens to be reared in drone cells. Mr. Taylor said he put the question to rise an argument. Others said such queens were of no account. He said they were. Had known bees to remove eggs out of worker cells, into drone cells, and good queens had hatched and been fertilised. Mr. Gale and Mr. George James both spoke as to their knowledge of bees removing eggs.

What colour in blossom is most attractive to bees? Discussion showed that the bees went for the smell of the honey in the flower, rather than the colour.

How will the proposal to make the Wool Growers' Co-operative Company the agent for New South Wales Beekeepers affect those who now do their own bottling, and are able to dispose of their honey crop to better advantage than they could hope to secure from bulk selling? What action are they to take?



Mr. J. E. Taylor thought it could not affect them, if they could do better other wise. Mr. Gale thought if a man could get 3½d in bulk and 4½d in bottle, he had better sell it in bottle.

Is it true that an American breeder has succeeded in obtaining a cross between a lightning bug and a bee, and that the cross-bred animal works day night? Mr. Gale said it was utterly impossible, notwithstanding Darwinism.

Can some of you give some of the queer ideas books and other papers use in relation to bees and bee life? Several very queer ones were given by Messrs Ward, Gale, Taylor, Pierce.

Has any beekeeper tried the Foul Brood cure as given by Baldensperger in the 1894 *Cleanings*, and with what success? No answer.

Is the drone from a laying worker perfect? No answer.

Why is the position of a queen when in the cell vertical? Mr. Gale: She breathes through the spiracles in her abdomen, and not through the part where her wings are attached, and being in that position the reproductive organs are aided more readily than they otherwise would.

Why is the capping of a larval drone of greater convexity than that of a worker? Mr. Gale: Drones have two more spiracles than workers, and want more breathing room.

Has anyone present ever known bees to work by moonlight? Mr. Gale and Mr. Taylor: Yes.

Is it a common occurrence for prolific queens when not given sufficient room to lay over the same space more than once? Several answered, very common, some five or six times.

Mr. Foster asked the best method of dealing with paralysis? Mr. James used crude carbolic acid spraying them once a month. Five drops to a cup of water. Spoke of the difficulty of obtaining crude carbolic, and recommended Easton's Soluble Phenol, as sold by Mr. Allport. The best way is to kill the queen. Mr. Bloxham said sulphur had been used but

it killed the brood. Mr. Taylor said he made a practice of blocking the hive entrances with salt. Others said, get away from the yellow bees. Mr. Gale said salt was one of the most useful things to give bees. It was one of these little delicacies they were passionately fond of.

Will queens spread Foul Brood? Mr. James had taken a queen from a foul broody hive, and put it into a clean hive and no bad results for six months. Mr. Kelly said he had two queens from America and both hives he put them in got Foul Brood.

What is the best method of introducing a new queen? Mr. Gale had taken the old queen out with one hand, had the new one rolled in honey, and found her right two hours after. Mr. James had successfully introduced 71 out of 72 queens by ravelling out a square piece of wire, turning the edges down, and putting the queen on comb under. No one should interfere with the hive when introducing a queen for five days.

The last question was—Is the Queen bee a Hermaphrodite?

It being now near ten o'clock the President thanked them for their attendance on behalf of the officers appointed. They had entrusted to their hands several important matters, notably several deputations. These would be attended to as soon as the Minister will receive them, and the result would be communicated through the *A. Bee Bulletin*. Another important matter was the amalgamation of country societies, which he trusted by next meeting to see fully accomplished.

Mr. J. E. Taylor proposed that the matter of holding the next annual meeting be left in the hands of the committee. Mr. Foster seconded. Carried

On the motion of Mr. Ward, seconded by Mr. Taylor, a vote of thanks was carried by acclamation to the President for the manner he had conducted the proceedings, and the sixth Convention of New South Wales terminated.



G. M., Lismore, 21st July :—The winter up this way has been exceptionally mild and the "blessed bees" seem to be working all the time.

The apicultural exhibit at the Orange show, as per photo received from Mr. Nancarrow, of Wellington, was very neat and tasty, perhaps not so extensive as on previous occasions, still considering the drought, with which the district was so recently affected, was very creditable.

Dr. E. Gallup says in *A. B. J.*, that in Catalina Island, 30 miles from the mainland, there are well marked Italian bees. When bees swarm, the wind usually blows from the mainland towards the island, sometimes very strongly. The bees are seen to rise high in the air and go seawards. A fisherman catching fish midway between the island and the mainland saw a swarm passing over his boat from the island to the mainland !!

*Drone in Australian* says: The proposed Foul Brood Act will abolish the gin case beekeeper. There are a few beekeepers who keep box-hives for wax-raising purposes only, to save expense. These will also have to cease this class of operation. Keeping bees under the old system of murder and robbery combined hardly calls for sympathy. Bees deserve the most intelligent treatment, and keeping them under the old system of neglect and ignorance was certainly cruelty of a gross and inexcusable character.

QUEER PASSENGERS BY RAILWAY.—On Tuesday, June 8th, in a truck of hay, consigned to Messrs Allnutt Bros., hay salesmen, Nine Elms, England, a swarm of bees arrived, which had clustered in the trusses of hay whilst loading at Fullerton station. The stationmaster telegraphed to Nine Elms, cautioning the porters to be careful in handling the hay, and none of the officials appeared anxious to undertake the task of unloading. A few years back Messrs Allnutt Bros. found a hen and 2 eggs underneath a sheet covering a truck load of straw, and once a live snake from

Hampshire in a truck of hay, but a swarm of bees is altogether a new experience in their trade.—*Sussex Express*.

Jno. G. Corey, in *Pacific Bee Journal*, says :—The most favorable weather for rapid honey gathering depends greatly upon the location, both as to altitude and distance from the ocean. Apiaries inside of fifteen or twenty miles from the coast are annoyed by foggy and cloudy weather, and often, when all other conditions are favorable, pass through the entire honey season, securing only a part of a crop. The middle locations, or those occupying districts not so much under the influence of fog, nor of too great elevation, and when pasturage is abundant, appear to suffer less from adverse weather than the locations above mentioned. Apiaries located over 1,000 feet above the sea level are almost free from the fog coming up from the coast, but suffer at times from the heavy winds from the desert region, that dry up and nearly, if not entirely, cut off the honey yield. To sum up on the different locations, I should say, in locating near the ocean, that clear and hot weather are the most favorable for honey yield; the hotter the better, as it does not get too hot in this district. For the middle locations, when fog prevails on the coast, it modifies the temperature and keeps the mercury below 100 degrees, which is most favorable; then even up what is lost in the coast district, and add the product for this locality. The higher altitudes have more clear weather than the coast and middle districts, their seasons being nearly a month later than the coast and nearly the same for the middle district. The weather becomes more settled in July and August and, as a rule, has less interruptions than the lower districts. Clear sky and warm weather, ranging from 80 degrees to 100, with abundant moisture, generally produces a fair yield of honey. Frost sometimes appears when the honey plant are young and tender, and lessons the yield.



## VICTORIA.

T. BOLTON.

Sir, By some means two errors have crept into your copy of the proposed Foul Brood Act for Victoria. Having to write out the precise copy for the final sanction of the Association Meeting, I think I can safely say from memory that the words "May and August" should read "August and May" making as was the decision of the Committee and Conference. The busy season of the year, the period when one should be exempted from the risks attending the robbing, and exposing of bee trees and honey in their vicinity. Also in Clause 5 the words from "or committing" to end of clause should follow on after the word "beekeeper" in Clause 6.

The matter of putting up nett or gross weight in honey tins, p. 58 last issue, is of more importance than your reply would seem to indicate. If we study our own future welfare, we will put in two pounds of honey in a 2lb package, and not sell a person 4 ozs short weight. My experience, and I sell many tons in packages of 1, 2 and 4lb sizes is that both grocer and consumer dislike packages holding less than their ostensible weight, and reasonably so. In glass where a more or less fancy and useful article is supplied to the buyer of a package, they can be fairly sold by the package and not by their contents.

Could Mr Helms add to his many useful hints and articles on bee matters a further service by telling us how to handle honey in quantity and evaporate the surplus water at a "gentle heating of no more than 100°" as per his article on page 63. Some of my honey gets melted at 150 to 180° Fah., and yet granulates when put in air-tight vessels. Could the evaporation be suggested not be facilitated by creating a partial vacuum in the vessel in which the honey is treated? Say a tank with a tight fitting lid with a pipe leading to an exhaust air pump. Through the tank put a coil of steam pipe. By reducing the air pressure within to 7 or 10 in. of mercury. I take it the honey would *boil* about at a

temperature of 100°, and the vaporised water from it being condensed in a suitable manner in an hour (at a guess) the honey would be so increased in density that it would never granulate again. Now if Loyalstone will turn his half-guinea, which I will duplicate to the providing of a prize for the best descriptive apparatus on the above lines, he will be doing more good to the industry of honey production, perhaps than by getting more words about foul brood and diseases of which we have, I take it, no better hope of truly denoting the cause than had the truly scientific men who in Britain and Canada, have given us the result of deep research and experiment and whose verdict on some points, Loyalstone and some others pronounce against, as for instance that of a queen bee spreading the disease. I shall gladly contribute towards any essay on any subject on which new light may be expected to be thrown.

As many enquiries come privately to me by post re Heddon hive and "inversion" and having met bright beekeepers who admit that all they actually saw inversion done they had not grasped what the term signified. I am afraid I shall have to avail myself with your permission of your columns in an early issue to more fully explain what that word "inversion" means with me, and how the plan of controlling swarming is carried into effect for 9 day intervals.

Can anyone authoritatively tell us why "Red Gum trees bloom (and others) so regularly in two year intervals?" How is it that practically speaking in a given district no trees of that variety of eucalyptus bloom in the "off" year? If a patch of seed were sown in /97 and another in /98, would the trees therefrom not be as likely to bloom alternate years, as to all bloom in the same season?

Can our secretary explain the present, (as last winter) fall in honey (July) since a month or so ago apart from active adulteration in Melbourne, and this in spite of an unprecedented scarcity of stocks in honey districts, a severe and trying scarcity in hives, and an outlook of illabest an indifferent season ahead.



I think, Sir, it is time *vigorous* measures were taken to prosecute those firms who flood our market with their imitation of honey.

[Hear, Hear,—Ed.]

W. A., Wamban, Aug 12th.—This seems to be a splendid winter here for the bees, for they have been gathering pollen and honey all the winter, and young bees are flying by the thousands every fine day, and drones have been flying also all the winter. I have some hives with foul brood in them, but it does not affect them a great deal as they are fairly strong, with the exception of two that I shifted right away from the apiary, but I hope to rid them of it in the spring. However I will be able to let you know how I get on.

Mrs Jeannie Atchley, Beeville, Texas, U.S.A., writes,—I am truly glad that you are doing well with your bees, and must compliment you on the make-up and the worthiness of the A.B.B. You are getting out one of the best bee papers we know of. The reading is good and no waste matter in it. The Convention reports alone are worth a great deal to all beekeepers that read your paper. Your paper may not show up as well from outside appearance as some other papers, but the inside matter is far more superior, which is the important part. May God bless and prosper you, is the prayer of a Christian friend.

J. S., Drake's Brook, Western Australia, July 24th,—With respect to your valuable paper, I can assure you that it is always welcome, although we have very little time to devote to the bees, still last year they did very well. We commenced with 6 good colonies and two very small ones. Took about 1200 lbs of extracted honey, and had 26 good strong colonies, with an abundance of stores for the winter, and to all appearances will have a good season the coming year. We use the 8 and 10 dovetailed hives, two story, and I like the 10 frame best for extracted honey. I certainly don't agree with all your correspondents,

to wit the "Sparrow," for I have got some valuable hints, from time to time, and I would enjoy the paper a very great deal more, if twice the size, as I read it from cover to cover, aye and covers too, and hope the time is not far distant when you may be able to enlarge your plant, and give us some illustrations and follow on the line of "Roots Gleanings." Wishing you every success, and regretting I have not time to assist you with matter at present.

R.C.L., Albury, Aug 1st.—Bees are wintering fairly well considering the bad season. Have done no feeding so far, and hope I will have none to do this winter, as I do not care for it. All prospects of an early spring in this district. Hope to have a good flow this season, as I have had nothing to speak of for the last two.

H. Nancarrow, Wellington,—I have forwarded a photo of my exhibit at the Orange Show. The one at Wellington was so badly taken that I did not care to send it, although it was a far better exhibit than the one I had at Orange. Well, I hope you had a good and successful meeting last month in Sydney, and am anxiously waiting for the *Bulletin* to see the account of the proceedings. I am very sorry I could not attend. Business prevented me. This is a most exceptionally good winter here, being very mild, and a splendid flow on from the white box. About four weeks ago I took 5 cwt from supers of 25 colonies, and last week I took over 4cwt more. This is not a good policy generally at this time of the year, but as the weather was so favourable and the bees working as well, and the hives full up, I had to extract to prevent sweating. I expect to take a few cwt. more next week if the weather is suitable. I am getting 4d and 4½d for all I can extract, and could sell tons at that price. I have more orders in than I can possibly supply by tons. I hope next season to increase my apiary to 100 or more colonies, when I shift out to my new premises.



## TAMWORTH.

By special invitation from the local newly formed Beekeepers' Association we paid a visit to Tamworth on the 12th inst. Tamworth is a town of some 5000 inhabitants in the northern part of New South Wales, situated on the Peel River. Along the banks of the Peel and its tributaries, are large flats covered with lucerne and wheat, while the large estates of the Peel River Company, on which no ringbarking is allowed, and no clearing is done, is covered with the best kinds of box and other timber suitable for bee fodder. So that it is an excellent bee district, and there are a good many apiaries around, many with frame hives and up-to-date appliances, others, and some very large—one as many as 300—in the old box hive style. It happened to be the local Farmers Union day, and we attended and listened to the sales for a while. In conversation with a local resident, he gave us a sign of the prosperity of the place, that while he had been there, some eleven years there had scarcely been a lawsuit in the local small debts court. Among the sales we noticed a parcel of wax, some of it pretty dark, went at 8d a pound. Some honey in pickle bottles realised 5d a bottle. In the afternoon we were driven by Mr Pankhurst, the Vice-President, some four miles, to the residence of Mr. W. Peek, and his son, Mr T. B. Peek. We had known them many years before, and to go back to old days and times was by no means unpleasant. He has at Anglebank a large lucerne farm, and has given much attention to tobacco. He believes in giving his attention to one thing only, so while he sees to the farm, his son looks after the bees, which he means to do extensively. There are some 50 hives, in well made boxes out of Cypress Pine, a white ant resisting wood grown in the district. He uses  $\frac{3}{4}$  size Langstroth frame, and does not wire. When putting frames together a hole is punctured in the centre of the side bars. When nailed up a thin stick with slightly pointed ends, is sprung into these holes,

results in making the frame when filled with comb more firm than can be with wire. At the meeting in the evening, the chair was occupied by the President, Mr. G. H. C. McDonald. Owing to the illness of the Secretary, Mr A.C. McLeod, his duties were undertaken by the Treasurer, Mr J. G. Grayston, and there was a good sprinkling of members present. Eight new members were proposed by Mr Pankhurst. On the invitation of the President we addressed on the work of the N.B.K.A., gave a sketch of its history, and what it had tried to do, spoke of how little country beekeepers had given it their support, notwithstanding it was their interests the N.B.K.A. were fighting. Spoke of what the N.B.K.A. were doing in the shape of getting a Foul Brood Act passed, the stoppage of the great extent of adulteration now carried on in the large towns, lowering the price and weaning the public from genuine honey, —matters the country beekeepers knew nothing of, and the better securing of country for beekeeping purposes. Read the rules of the N.B.K.A., the Affiliation Rules, and the proposed Foul Brood Act. Also the registration clause in the Victorian Bill, strongly recommending it should be incorporated in the N. S. W. Bill. Among the greatest enemies to the industry were the box hive men, who never read any bee literature, sold the honey, much of it inferior, at any price, and knew nothing of Foul Brood when they saw it. Strongly urged the Society to affiliate with the N. B. K. A. A very warm vote of thanks was accorded for the address. A letter was also read from Mr F. Ward, Hon. Sec. of the N.B.K.A. on the same subject. It was decided directly the date of proposed deputation to Ministry was known to call a committee meeting to decide about sending a deputy to assist in same. After the meeting was over we had a beautiful moonlight drive of 15 miles through fairly timbered box country to the residence of Mr Pankhurst, an excellent Jehu being his son-in-law, Mr Warner. Next morning we were at



Currabubla Railway Station, and had a pleasant hand shake with Mr F. W. Smith, who many of our readers will remember, was at both the Ultimo and Bathurst Conventions.

## THE PROPOSED N. S. W. FOUL BROOD BILL.

An Act to prevent the spread of Foul Brood and other Contagious Diseases among Bees.

Whereas it is desirable to prevent the spread of and to eradicate contagious diseases among bees—Be it therefore enacted by the Governor of the Province of New South Wales, with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council and House of Assembly of the said Province, in this present Parliament assembled, as follows:—

1.—Every person who shall have in his possession, or under his care, any colony, hive, or swarm of bees affected with foul brood or other contagious diseases, shall forthwith report the same to the Department of Agriculture, and take such steps for the eradication of such disease as the Department may direct.

2.—Any person who shall, after one week's notice in writing having been served upon him by the Department or person appointed or authorised under the provisions of the next clause, knowingly fail to observe the foregoing section in any particular, or shall knowingly have on his premises any comb affected with foul brood, or other contagious disease among bees, shall be guilty of an offence under this Act, punishable on summary conviction, by a penalty of not less than five shillings or more than ten pounds.

3.—For the purposes of this Act there shall be appointed by the Governor one or more bee-experts to carry out the duties necessary for the administration of this Act, and the Governor may, from time to time, make such regulations as may be necessary.

4.—Any Inspector, or person appointed or authorised by the Department of Agriculture for the purposes of this Act, may, with such assistance as he may think fit, enter upon any land or premises where bees are kept, and inspect all bee hives and materials used for beekeeping thereon.

5.—This Act may be cited as the "Contagious Diseases among Bees Act."

[Proposed that Clause in Victorian Foul Brood Act re registration and fee should be incorporated with the N.S.Wales Act.]

## AFFILIATION RULES, N.B.K.A.

1. Country Branches.—Branches can be created in any country, town or district.

2. Representative.—Each branch shall elect one delegate for every twenty members or portion

of twenty to serve as its representative at the annual or special general meeting of the N.B.A. such representatives to have equal voting powers to any member of the N.B.A. in the transaction of any business at such meeting, and it shall be the duty of the Hon. Sec. of every branch to notify the General Secretary of the N.S.W.B.A. of such election three months prior to the annual meeting.

3. Capitation Fee.—In order to cover the cost of postage and other expenses each branch shall contribute a capitation fee of one shilling per member annually to be paid on receipt of the names and addresses of the delegates nominated to the N.B.A., who shall have power to refuse such nominations until the affiliation fees are paid.

4. Revenue.—Each branch shall receive and expend its own revenue, and a copy of its yearly report and balance sheet shall be sent to the general secretary together with a list of paid-up members. The N.B.A. shall if it deem necessary order extracts from annual reports from branches, &c., it to be printed as an appendix.

5. Annual Meeting.—The annual meeting of all branches shall be held at least three months prior to the annual meeting of the N.B.A.'s, so that the whole of the N.B.A.'s operations throughout the year may be published for the benefit of the members.

6. Local Officers.—Each branch shall elect its own local officers and committee, and shall be designated the branch of the N.B.A.

9. By-Laws and Resolutions.—Each branch may make by-laws and pass resolutions so long as they are not in contravention to the rules of the N. B. A.

10. List of Members.—Nothing herein contained shall prevent any member of any local association from joining the National N. B. A. in conformity with the rules of said association. Every member of every affiliated association shall be an associate member of the N. B. A. but no such associate member shall be eligible for office in or vote at meetings of the N. B. A. All delegates are eligible for any office in the N. B. A.

In what may be termed the miscellaneous sections, one of the most striking exhibits was the observatory bee hive, exhibited by Mr. Orford, the inventor of which is Mr. Frederickson, of Mount Morgan. It enables the bee grower, by a very clever triangular contrivance, to watch the raising of the queen bee, in each of the three double faced sections, and is a contrivance which deserves wider recognition than was given to it yesterday. —*The Mount Morgan Chronicle*, July 10.



## CO-OPERATION.

Dear Sir,—There is an old saying that everything comes to him who waits, and its truth has been exemplified in the recent Conference of Beekeepers. At the 1894 Conference held in Sydney, in lieu of the co-operation for the sale of honey, I suggested that beekeepers should unite and market all their honey on one floor. I had at that time a Director of the South Coast Company with me (Mr. Stewart), who promised if the beekeepers did this, and choose his company, they, (the Directors) would fit up a portion of the store for the reception of honey, and would have appointed any qualified man that the beekeepers liked to suggest to act as sampler and salesman. This Company with a turnover of £233,000, per annum, as shown in last balance sheet, was eminently fitted for the position or rather trial. As this enormous turnover represents butter, bacon, cheese and general produce, and means that nearly all large and small grocers in the city, have to go there for some portion of their supplies, and there was the salesman's opportunity to introduce his pure extracted honey, and blazon forth to the world that Mr So & So was a seller of pure extracted honey from the "Beekeepers Co-operative Supply Company." Now Sir, you have just done this by joining the Wool and Produce Co-operative Agency, but you have lost three years of progress. But better late than never, and I hope this Company will prove the blessing predicted by some who ought to know. I was positive in 1894, that no Direct Honey Supply Company could be worked on a honey basis only, and I am still of the same opinion. But most of the leading lights in beekeeping, and some others that didn't know what they were talking about, were as positive it could with the result already known. Mr. Whittell, if the daily paper reports him correctly, states he was of the opinion *now* seeing the total quantity of honey produced in the colony only amounted to £15,000, it was impossible

to form a Co-operative Company to make it pay. Where is the figures used by Mr Patten & Whittel at the Bathurst Convention, when they intended to go around with carts and give all the children a lick with a long spoon, and any opposition was met with personal insult. I notice in your supplement that Mr. Whittel said the cause of failure was want of education. I might be permitted to say that most farmers have bought their experience, and paid dear for the most of it, and the majority had education enough to see that to take £1,000 out of £15,000 would not result in much gain to themselves, in view of the hard fact that prices cannot go up correspondingly. I am glad to see the Conference has gone the right way to work at last. In both Mr Cadden's papers and your own, are ideas that I embodied in my paper read at Bathurst. In your paper the registration of apiaries and in Mr Cadden's paper the establishment of a fund, but in my paper I suggested the fund to deal with foul brood and other diseases, to open up markets in other parts, and advertising ourselves well. But since the Pure Food Bill has come in, I think as Mr Cadden suggests it would be well to use it in that manner. My friend Mr. Abram approved of Mr Cadden's paper, and said the beekeepers were to blame for keeping away from the Society. Now Sir, no one knows better than Mr Abram the reason why beekeepers keep away, and he should be honest to say so. And until this is exposed, and no back door influence at work, beekeepers will remain disunited. But Mr Editor, I don't want to cause an unpleasantness, but still would like to see everything called by its proper name Honey- Honey, Glucose—Glucose. I hope what I have said will give no offence, as I don't mean anything. It matters not to me at the present, but it may in future who is in or who is out. I don't put any honey on the Sydney market this last six years, but I must protest that want of education and indifference does not explain why bee-



keepers don't unite. Thanking you in anticipation.

G. W. GORDON.

[We are very glad to get the above communication, but complaining and not coming forward to help alter matters, don't mend.]

## CORRESPONDENCE.

J.T., South Lillimur, Vic, July 26,—We are always pleased to see the *Bulletin* along, and would not like to be without it. The past season was not a very good one, but better than the year before. Wishing the *Bulletin* every success.

G.B., Red Hill, Brisbane, Q.,—Would you kindly send me a few hints with reference to clarifying beeswax. My wax is somewhat discoloured, having a tendency to blackness. Some advocate the use of sulphuric acid, but I am afraid of that, as do I not know the quantity to use.

E. Jelbart, Minimay, Vic, Aug 12th— I have not very much bee news to tell you at present, but I am hurrying to get ready for the coming season. I have 18 colonies, which I intend if all is well to move about 4 miles to the scrub and hope to increase them to 40 this season if the locality turns out a decent one. There is red and white gum, grey box, stringy bark and ti-tree, all within range of the selected spot. We are getting beautiful weather here now but not enough rain. The bees are getting quite lively, and queens have started to lay pretty freely. I hope later on to be able to give good accounts of them.

C. E. R., Baerami, Aug 14,—Last season was a very bad one up this way for bees. I extracted about half a ton in September and October, and none afterwards. From March to May there was not a cell of brood to be seen in any of the hives. I can tell you Mr Editor I felt a bit down over it, as winter was just setting in and no young bees, but thanks to plenty of rain and a warm winter they are in good order now. I

think this will be a good season, as iron-bark stringy-bark, gum, and various kinds of scrubs are in bud. Bees are now working on box and wattle. You can print this Mr Editor if you think it will be of any interest to readers of the A.B.B., if not let it go to the W.P.B.

J.H.P., Wiagdon,—Kindly inform me what advantage, if any, I should derive by becoming a member of the N.S.W. Beekeepers Association, and what the subscription is.

[You would be helping to forward the objects they are trying to obtain, viz:—Securing a better price for our honey by fighting the adulteration enemy, urging on the Foul Brood Bill, and so save many a beekeeper losing his all through his neighbour's carelessness. Getting better recognition as an industry by the Government, and prevention of so much good bee country being destroyed for beekeeping purposes wantonly. And many other advantages that may from time to time crop up. The subscription is 5s per annum. The Secretary is Mr Fred Ward, Mulgoa Road, Liverpool.]

G. M. Doolittle writing to us says,—Two or three years ago I was ambitious to make a success in mailing queens to Australia, but the losses were so great and the labour so much more in putting them up that my ambition has waned to an extent great enough to cause me to prefer American orders to that of foreign countries. I could not help feeling sad over every choice queen I put up for Australia, knowing that they were liable to suffer much from their long confinement, even if they did not die.

W. R., Boloko.—I am forwarding small box to you containing one bottle honey (per rail), supposed to have been obtained from clover and a small percentage of black thistle. Unfortunately the honey is now granulated. It is a sample of prize honey, Cooma 1897, awarded to me first prize. I would be pleased to see other beekeepers send samples to your office.

Sample to hand. We have not seen whiter candy. The flavour is also very nice. We propose getting all the samples we can, and take to next committee meeting N. B. K. A., and arrange to get a number of opinions on the different kinds.



Mr A. A. Roberts, Muswellbrook,—I have an idea of my own in fitting up frames that saves me using tacks, it saves the expense of them, and the trouble of putting them in. I manage in this way: When putting my frames together I leave one nail on the right side of the frame (the one that goes through the end bar into the end of the top bar) projecting about 1-8th of an inch instead of driving it home. I also leave the nail through the bottom bar and into the end

bar on the left projecting the same way, and I use those to fasten the ends of the wire on. Just wind the wire round them and drive them home. Once you get used to this method I don't think you will give it up. If you use four wires you will have to leave both nails on the right partially driven home, if only three leave as I say one right and one left. I have given you a rough diagram of what I mean which I think will make it clear to you.

## Imported Queens from Italy.

A CONSIGNMENT to arrive during August direct from the apiary of Lucien Paglia. I will supply the above queens after arrival while they last at the following prices:—  
One Queen selected for colour 30/- before September 30th.

" " darker in colour 25/-  
After September 30th, 5/- each extra. " " "

Orders are now booked for supply of queens of this season's breeding. Untested queens will be ready about October 1st.

Tested and Select Tested Queens, last season's breeding—a few can be sent out now. In quantity a few September 15th. Usual prices.

Order early from the reliable breeder,

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Drumfin Apiary, West Maitland.

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THE undersigned, a respectable, trustworthy man, having had practical experience, seeks engagements on Bee Farm for coming season. Could manage small branch apiary if desired.

S. T. MAIN,  
St. John's Park,  
Canley Vale, N.S.W.

### FOUNDATION.

I AM prepared to deliver to railway or steamer the above at the following prices:

11b, 1/8; 4lb and upwards, 1/6.

Quantity at cheaper rate.

HAROLD W. DICK,  
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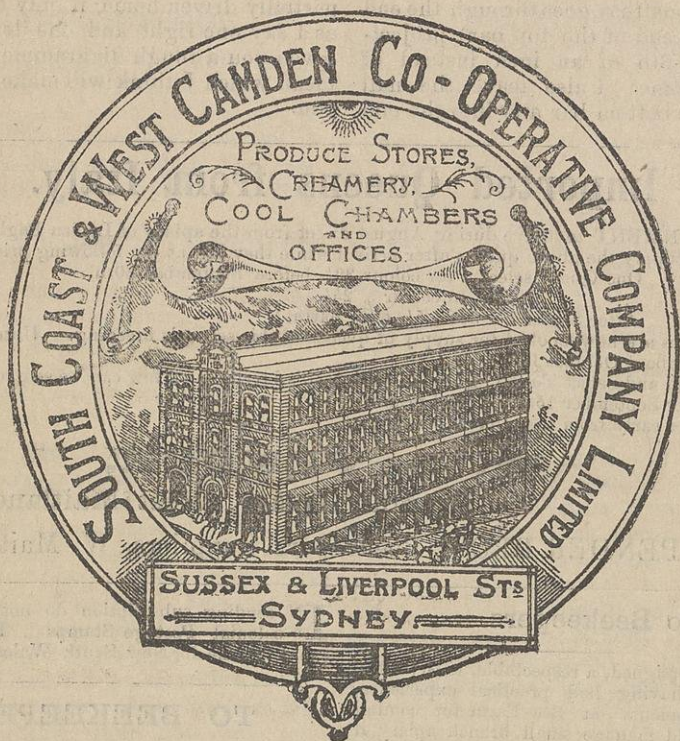
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"The queens that we have received from Mrs. Atchley are doing well and I am well pleased with them.—E. TIPPER.

## A REAL BEAUTY!

Telangaluh East,  
May 17th, 1897.

To Mr. BOLTON, Dunkeld.

Sir,—The breeder queen that I got from you last year has turned out a real beauty. Her colony swarmed last October, the swarm weighing 6lb: this swarm without any help or fussing about gave me 60lbs of extracted honey, while the parent colony gave 400lb of honey. Both colonies are now in the best of condition with plenty of stores for winter.

Yours truly,  
GEORGE WILLIAMSON.

SPRING PRICES—Untested, 5/-; tested, 8/-; select tested, 15/-. 25 per cent. extra for delivery before October 1st.

**T. BOLTON,**

Grampian Apiaries, Dunkeld, Vic.

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## To my Numerous Customers.

THE advent of another Season induces me to again place before you Queens and Bees of excellent quality.

Young Queens are now being sent out and should you require any for early business, place your orders and they will be fulfilled as soon as previous ones are executed.

My Imported Queens from America will arrive next month, and you are entitled to anything gained by the introduction of this fresh blood. My present stock, however, are not easily beaten, for at recent shows I won—1st at Tamworth for Goldens, Two 1st at Maitland for Goldens and Leathers, and 2nd at Muswellbrook for Goldens. These facts speak for themselves, and as I guarantee 80 per cent. of my Untested Queens to prove purely mated, they are the cheapest well-bred Queens in the market.

Disease is unknown here—I charge for Queens and Bees ONLY—I do NOT give diseases of any kind Gratis.

Safe arrival of Queens guaranteed to anywhere in Australasia.

### My Prices are :

Untested Goldens or Leathers, 5/- each; 6 for 20/-

Tested Goldens or Leathers, 8/- each; 6 for 40/-

Breeders, Goldens or Leathers, 15/-

Easy Terms and Further Reductions on Large Lots. Prices of Colonies and Nuclei on application.

### Well-known Beekeepers write thus:—

Mr. W. J. Foxe, Narrabri.—I am pleased to advise you that all the 25 Untested Queen you sent me this season have proved purely mated; and have built up fine strong colonies. The returns from them being far ahead of Black colonies. I will require more from you next season. There may be other strains in the Colony as good as yours but *they never came my way* if there are.

Mr. W. J. May, Parawai, N.Z., writing to Mr. E. Tipper, editor of the *A. Bee Bulletin*: The Best Imported Queens of last season are those I got from A. J. Brown, Parkville

Mr. W. Reid, Boloko: The Brood Queens I got from you have proved all that can be desired. The Golden produces evenly marked first-class workers and real active drones. The Leather is the largest and most prolific Queen I ever saw, her young Queens and workers are first-class.

Mr. R. Singer, Goulburn: The Untested Queens you sent me have proved purely mated. I have since Italianized all my 40 hives from them.

# A. J. BROWN,

Leaford Apiary, Parkville.



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