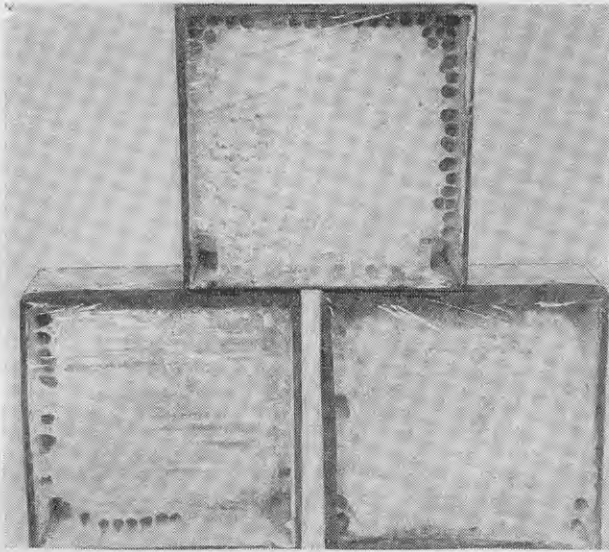


## DOMESTIC BEEKEEPING



Sections of comb honey cleaned and wrapped in transparent cellulose.

containing sections are added. Giving more supers than is immediately necessary is unwise, as one of the secrets of successful comb honey production is to place the sections on to the hive and get them filled and off again as quickly as possible.

When sections are left on the hives the comb surfaces become travel stained by bees continually passing over them; on the other hand in colonies that are superseded the "drawing out" and filling of the sections becomes uneven and this results in a big percentage of sections that are inferior or unsalable. Correct timing and proper carrying out of this manipulation are therefore important.

### Cleaning of Sections

All sections should be completely capped before being removed from the hive. When they are on the hives the bees are inclined to cement the sections to the section frame holder with propolis. The section loses a lot of its attractiveness if this is not cleaned off.

After removal from the hive this propolis hardens and becomes brittle. In this state it can be quite easily removed by scraping with a blade or knife. Care should be taken not to damage the cappings of the comb; otherwise "weeping" will result.

If the sections are to be sold, it is advisable to wrap each section in a piece of transparent cellulose, as this greatly increases their attractiveness.

### GRASS ROUND BEEHIVES

Long grass in the front of hives restricts the foraging bees as they leave or enter their hive. Where growth is excessive much valuable

pollen is lost through the bees having to scramble through the long grass to reach the hive entrance. At critical periods in spring the loss of this pollen may seriously affect the progress of the bees in building up colony strength.

Long grass round hives also prevents adequate air circulation, with the result that hive parts are constantly wet and the inside of the hive is musty and damp. Combs go mouldy and frames and hive parts soon rot if these conditions are allowed to prevail for very long.

Excess vegetation can be kept in check round beehives in several ways. An apiary may be well kept and attractive on a piece of lawn, but if the person cutting the grass gets a sting or two the hives may soon get a wide berth.

### Use of Concrete Slabs

On permanent sites in the home garden square concrete slabs in the front of each hive look tidy and afford an edging for the mower.

Rank growth round apiaries away from the home garden may be temporarily controlled by skimming the turf in front of the hives with a sharp spade.

Fuel oil applied to grass round beehives will check its growth for many weeks. Though the fuel oil has quite a strong odour, it does not appear to harm the bees unless they come in contact with the liquid at time of application. Commercial weedicides applied once or twice a year will also give good control.

## A. and P. Show Dates

### NORTH ISLAND

#### November

- 20 and 21 November—Egmont at Hawera.
- \*21 November—Bay of Islands at Waimate North.
- 21 November—Rotorua at Rotorua.
- 27 and 28 November—Auckland at Epsom.
- 27 and 28 November—Stratford at Stratford.

#### December

- 5 December—Helensville at Helensville.
- 5 December—Kaikohe at Kaikohe.
- 5 December—Hauraki at Paeroa.

#### January

- 1 January—Nuhaka at Nuhaka.
- 22 and 23 January—Feilding at Feilding.
- \*22 and 23 January—Wairoa County at Wairoa.
- 29 and 30 January—Horowhenua at Levin.
- \*30 January—North Kaipara at Paparoa.

#### February

- 3 February—Marton District at Marton.
- 4 February—Te Kauwhata at Te Kauwhata.
- \*5 and 6 February—Rodney at Warkworth.
- 6 February—Woodville at Woodville.
- 6 February—Rangitikei at Taihape.
- 9 and 10 February—Dannevirke at Dannevirke.
- 10 February—Te Awamutu at Te Awamutu.
- 12 and 13 February—Taranaki at New Plymouth.
- 12 and 13 February—Taumarunui District at Taumarunui.
- 13 February—Tauranga at Tauranga.
- 13 February—Pahiatua at Pahiatua.
- \*13 February—Hukerenui at Hukerenui.
- 13 February—Waipatu at Ruatoria.
- 16 February—Otorohanga at Otorohanga.
- 18 February—Matamata at Matamata.
- 19 and 20 February—Ohura at Nihonitohu.
- 19 and 20 February—Franklin at Pukekohe.
- 19 and 20 February—Masterton at Masterton.
- 20 February—Te Puke at Te Puke.
- 24 February—Morrinsville at Morrinsville.
- 26 and 27 February—Te Kuiti and District at Te Kuiti.
- 26 and 27 February—Wellington and Hutt Valley at Trentham.
- 27 February—Mangonui County at Kaitiaki.
- \*27 February—Putaruru District (Jubilee Show) at Putaruru.
- 27 February—Northern Wairoa at Arapohue.
- 27 February—Waimarino at Raetihi.
- 27 February—Whakatane at Whakatane.

#### March

- 5 March—Albany at Albany.
- 5 March—Opotiki at Opotiki.
- \*12 March—Kumeu District at Kumeu.
- \*19 March—Wellsford at Wellsford.

### SOUTH ISLAND

#### November

- 18 November—North Otago at Oamaru.
- 20 and 21 November—Nelson at Richmond.
- 21 November—Waimate at Waimate.
- 21 November—Courtenay at Kirwee.
- \*21 November—West Otago at Kelso.
- 24 and 25 November—Timaru (South Island Championships) at Timaru.
- \*28 November—South Otago at Balclutha.
- 28 November—Motueka at Motueka.

#### December

- 1 and 2 December—Gore at Gore.
- 5 December—Wyndham at Wyndham.
- 5 December—Otago Peninsula at Portobello.
- \*11 and 12 December—Southland at Invercargill.

#### January

- 16 January—Waikouaiti at Waikouaiti.
- 23 January—Palmerston and Waihemo at Palmerston, Otago.
- 23 January—Peninsula at Duvauchelle.
- 23 January—Waiau at Tuatapere.
- 26 and 27 January—Otago at Dunedin.
- 30 January—Banks Peninsula at Little River.

#### February

- 13 February—Inangahua at Reefton.
- 20 February—Maniototo at Ranfurly.
- \*20 February—Murchison at Murchison.
- 27 February—Kaikoura at Kaikoura.
- 27 February—Central Otago at Omakau.

#### March

- 5 March—Amuri at Rotherham.
- 12 March—Mayfield at Mayfield.
- 12 March—Cheviot at Cheviot.
- 12 March—Mt. Bengier at Roxburgh.
- 12 March—Upper Clutha at Wanaka.
- 19 March—Methven at Methven.
- 19 March—Hawarden at Hawarden.

\* The Department of Agriculture exhibit will be staged at this show.