

Mr. Lawry.

FOUL BROOD AND DISEASE IN BEES PREVENTION.

ANALYSIS.

Title.	
Preamble.	
1. Short Title.	8. Inspection of supposed infected bees. Proceedings thereon. Proviso.
2. Interpretation.	9. Examination of comb by bee-expert.
3. Appointment of bee-experts.	10. Penalty for not carrying out instructions of bee-expert.
4. Penalty for keeping infected bees.	11. Fee payable to bee-expert for examination.
5. Complaints with regard to infected bees.	12. How fee collected.
6. Owner of supposed infected bees must satisfy complainants.	13. Penalty for unlawfully removing hives, &c.
7. If complaint neglected application may be made to nearest Magistrate by complainants.	14. Recovery of fines, &c. Schedules.

A BILL INTITULED

AN ACT for the Protection of Bee-Culture.

Title.

WHEREAS it is desirable to prevent the spread of, and to eradicate as far as possible, the contagious disease of bees commonly known as "foul brood," and also other contagious diseases to which bees are subject:

Preamble.

BE IT THEREFORE ENACTED by the General Assembly of New Zealand in Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:—

1. The Short Title of this Act is "The Foul Brood and Disease in Bees Prevention Act, 1888."

Short Title.

2. In the construction of this Act, if not inconsistent with the context,—

Interpretation.

"Bee-keeper" means any person who keeps or allows to be kept on his property one or more colonies of honey-bees:

"Bee-expert" means any person skilled in apiculture appointed by law to carry out the provisions of this Act with regard to the examination of bees, beehives, or combs alleged to be diseased, and the ordering of measures

No. 70—1.

to be taken with respect to diseased bees, hives, and combs by the owner or other duly-authorised person :

“Hive” shall mean any box, basket, skep, barrel, or any other receptacle in which bees are domiciled :

“Colony of bees” means the number of bees confined in any hive. 5

Appointment of
bee-experts.

3. For the purposes of this Act there shall be appointed by the Governor one or more bee-experts to carry out the duties hereinafter set forth.

Penalty for keeping
infected bees.

4. After the passing of this Act it shall not be lawful for any bee-keeper knowingly to keep or allow to be kept upon his premises any colonies of bees infected with “foul brood” or other contagious bee-disease, without taking the proper means described in the *First* Schedule to cure such disease ; and if, for more than seven days after becoming aware that any bees on his premises are affected with contagious disease, he shall neglect to destroy by fire or to take the proper measures to cure such disease, he shall be liable to a fine not exceeding *forty* shillings. 10 15

Complaints with
regard to infected
bees.

5. If in any locality where colonies of bees are kept within six miles of other domesticated bees there is reason to suspect that any bees in such colonies are diseased, it shall be lawful for any two bee-keepers to send in writing a notice to the owner of such colonies, and require him to satisfy them by any reasonable means that his bees are free from disease, or otherwise that he has taken measures to eradicate the disease by destroying the infected hives, bees, and combs, or otherwise by treating them by one of the modes described in the *First* Schedule. A copy of such notice shall be forwarded at the same time by the complainants, accompanied by their names and addresses, to the nearest Magistrate. 20 25

Owner of supposed
infected bees
must satisfy com-
plainants.

6. On receipt of such notice the owner of such bees of which complaint has been made, shall forthwith take steps to satisfy the complainants by whom the notice was sent, either by allowing them to inspect the suspected bees, combs, and hives, or by other reasonable means, that the said bees, combs, and hives are free from disease, or that he has taken the proper measures to eradicate the disease if the same exists. 30 35

If complaint
neglected applica-
tion may be made
to nearest
Magistrate by
complainants.

7. If after the expiration of three days from receipt of the notice the keeper of the suspected colonies neglect to reply to the notice, or if, having replied, he fail to satisfy the senders of the notice as set forth in the *preceding* clause, it shall be lawful for them to complain in writing to the nearest Magistrate, reporting such neglect, a copy of such complaint being at the same time sent to the offending bee-keeper ; and on receipt of such complaint the said Magistrate shall without delay instruct a constable to accompany the complainants, and with them to enter upon the premises of the offending bee-keeper, and then and there to require him to open such hives and expose such combs as the said complainants may direct ; and, in case of his refusal, to authorise the said complainants themselves to open and examine such hives and combs as they may deem necessary. 40 45

Inspection of
supposed infected
bees.

8. If after such inspection the said complainants shall be satisfied of or suspect the existence of disease in all or any of the hives so inspected, the constable shall require the said bee-keeper, or, in case 50

- of his refusal, the said complainants, to cut out from each suspected hive a portion of comb not exceeding six inches square, and to place each portion or portions of comb in separate tin cases or boxes, marking the same with a legible mark corresponding to a mark placed upon the respective hives from which the portions of comb were taken, and then and there to seal such case or box, and to deliver the same thus packed and sealed to the constable for transmission to the nearest expert, together with a document signed and in the form set forth in the *Second* Schedule, also the cost of carriage, and the payment of the expert's fee as hereinafter provided for: Provided always that if the keeper of the infected bees shall, in the opinion of the complainants, take sufficient steps to destroy by fire the suspected hives, combs, and bees, then it shall be unnecessary to send the suspected combs to the bee-expert, as above described.
9. On receipt of a parcel of comb for examination the bee-expert shall examine the same without delay, and if, in his opinion, the comb is infected with contagious disease, or if it be free from disease, he shall notify the fact in writing forthwith to the complaining bee-keepers, as also to the constable; and shall transmit with such notification directions as to the steps to be taken with respect to the colony or colonies of bees from which the combs were taken; and upon the receipt of such notification from the bee-expert the constable shall notify the keeper of the infected or suspected bees of the result of the examination, and require him, within three days, to carry out the instructions of the bee-expert to the satisfaction of the complaining bee-keepers; and, in case he shall fail to carry out such instructions within the time specified to the satisfaction of the complainants, they shall report such default to the nearest Magistrate, who shall direct a constable to accompany the said complainants to the premises of the keeper of the infected colonies of bees, and shall authorise such constable to carry out the instructions of the bee-expert, and in such latter case the offending bee-keeper shall defray all the costs of the examination by the bee-expert, and for the loss of time and other reasonable expenses incurred by the complaining bee-keepers or such constable.
10. If the offending bee-keeper shall wilfully obstruct the carrying-out of the instructions of the bee-expert he shall be liable to a fine not exceeding *twenty* shillings for each infected hive.
11. The fee payable to the bee-expert for examination of one sample of comb shall be *five* shillings, and for other samples sent from the same apiary, at the same time, *one* shilling for each additional sample.
12. In the case of any examination of suspected comb by the bee-expert, his fee, and all costs attending such examination and incidental to the complaint, shall be payable by the complaining bee-keepers if the comb or combs be reported upon as free from contagious disease; but if found to be infected by disease, then such fee and costs shall be payable by the keeper of the diseased bees.
13. After samples of comb have been taken from any suspected hive or hives for the purpose of examination by the bee-expert, if such hive or hives shall be removed or interfered with in any manner whatsoever by any person, or if any person shall obliterate or other-

Proceedings thereon.

Proviso.

Examination of comb by bee-expert.

Penalty for not carrying out instructions of bee-expert.

Fee payable to bee-expert for examination.

How fee collected.

Penalty for unlawfully removing hives, &c.

wise render illegible any official mark placed upon such hive or hives save and except upon the authority of the bee-expert, the keeper of such hive or hives shall be liable to a fine not exceeding *sixty* shillings for each hive or mark so interfered with.

Recovery of fines,
&c.

14. All fines and penalties made payable under this Act shall be recoverable summarily under "The Justices of the Peace Act, 1882."

5

Schedules.

SCHEDULES.

FIRST SCHEDULE.

IN bad cases, total destruction of bees, hives, and combs by fire.

In mild cases, or as a preventative, any of the following remedies:—

No. 1. Salicylic-acid solution, for mixing with syrup for feeding bees, painting the interior of hives, and spraying combs and frames—Salicylic acid, 1oz.; soda borax, 1oz.; water, 4 pints.

Medicated syrup for feeding bees affected with contagious disease: (a.) For use from August to May—Ordinary table sugar or honey, 10lb.; water, 7 pints; vinegar, 1oz.; salicylic-acid solution No. 1, 1oz.; salt, 1oz. Mix and boil for a few minutes. (b.) For use from May to August—Ordinary table sugar or honey, 10lb.; water, 5 pints; vinegar, 1oz.; salicylic-acid solution No. 1, 1oz.; salt, $\frac{3}{4}$ oz. Mix and boil for a few minutes.

No. 2. Absolute Phenol: Pure phenol in crystals, 12oz.; water, 3oz. Shake well until dissolved.

No. 3. Phenol Solution: Pure phenol solution, No. 2, 1oz.; water, 1 pint. Shake well until the oily appearance has entirely disappeared.

Phenolated Syrup: For use from August to May—Sugar syrup as given in recipe for medicated syrup (a) (omitting salicylic-acid solution No. 1), 1 pint; phenol solution No. 3, 1oz. For use from May to August—Sugar syrup as given in recipe (b) (omitting the salicylic-acid solution No. 1), 1 pint; phenol solution No. 3, 1oz.

No. 4. Phenol solution for spraying bees and combs: Absolute phenol solution No. 2, $\frac{1}{2}$ oz.; water, 5 quarts.

No. 5. Phenol solution for washing and disinfecting hives and frames: Absolute phenol solution No. 2, 1oz.; water, 5 quarts.

General Treatment of Diseased Bees: Remove the diseased bees with their hive from its position and put another hive, that has previously been disinfected by painting the interior with No. 1 solution of salicylic acid or No. 5 solution of phenol, in its place. Transfer the frames, combs, and bees from the old hive, spray them with No. 1 solution or with No. 4 solution, and put them in the new hive. Remove most or all of their honey, and feed the bees on medicated or phenolated syrup until cured of disease. The old hive must be thoroughly disinfected in the manner described, as also the hands, and everything that has been in contact with the diseased bees or their hive.

SECOND SCHEDULE.

To the Bee-expert [*Here insert name and address*].

I, CONSTABLE [*Here insert name and address*], have this day sent you [*Here insert number*] portion or portions of combs marked [*Here insert marks on combs*], cut from hives believed to contain or have contained diseased bees, and I desire you to examine such combs and report to me and to [*Here insert names and addresses of complaining bee-keepers*] in writing your decision and the steps to be taken with such bees, combs, and hives from which such portions of comb were taken. Fee for examination and report enclosed.

I have, &c.,

A.B., Constable.