

**THE ILLUSTRATED
AUSTRALASIAN BEE MANUAL
AND COMPLETE
GUIDE TO MODERN BEE CULTURE
IN THE SOUTHERN HEMISPHERE**

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The illustrated Australasian bee manual and complete guide to modern bee culture in the southern hemisphere by Isaac Hopkins

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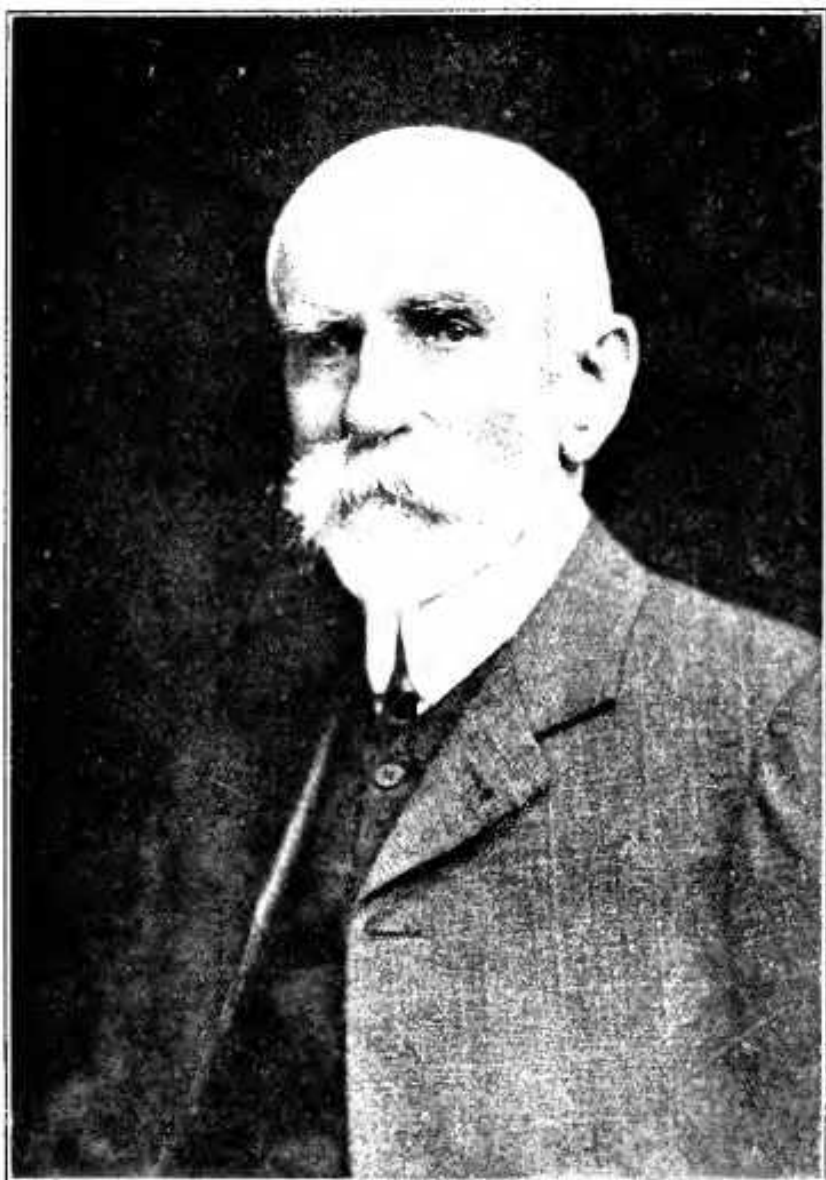
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ISAAC HOPKINS

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THE AUTHOR.

THE ILLUSTRATED
Australasian Bee Manual

AND COMPLETE
GUIDE TO MODERN BEE CULTURE
IN THE
SOUTHERN HEMISPHERE.

By ISAAC HOPKINS, Auckland, New Zealand.
(Late Chief Apiarist to the New Zealand Government.)

WITH WHICH IS INCORPORATED THE
“New Zealand Bee Manual”

REVISED AND MOSTLY REWRITTEN
BY THE AUTHOR.

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LONDON.

PREFACE.

So rapid is the present progress of commercial bee-keeping, necessarily accompanied by frequent changes and modifications in apiary appliances and methods of management, that much of the practical instructions embodied in technical works on bee-culture published from time to time, soon become antiquated, and out of date. I realised this in the present case when commencing to revise the text matter of the last—in preparation for the new Edition, and therefore I decided to re-write, and re-construct, the whole of the chapters specially dealing with the Manual work of the apiary, and thereby to bring this Edition right up to date. This has been done to the best of my ability, and I trust that the alterations and new matter, together with the additional illustrations, will meet with the approval of those for whom the book is published.

My recent position as Chief Government Apiarist in New Zealand afforded me exceptional opportunities for observing how commercial bee-keeping can be, and is, conducted under different conditions, and by different types of bee-keepers. It also enabled me in the course of my duties to carry out experiments at the Government Apiaries to determine matters of great importance to the industry; some of the results of which have already been published in "Bulletin" No. 18 on Bee-Culture, obtainable from the offices of the Department of Agriculture. The results of the knowledge thus gained are embodied in the present volume.

I would draw special attention to the remarkable progress made in commercial bee-keeping in New Zealand since the Government gave its support to the industry. The passing of our Apiaries Act in 1907 was the one thing needed to bring to the front an industrial

occupation for which the country is so eminently adapted, and which has already given proof of its capacity for great expansion.

The Apiaries Act (see Chapter XVI.) has undoubtedly provided the most effective provisions at present in force in any country for dealing with, and controlling bee diseases, the main feature of which is, making it illegal to keep bees in any other receptacles than movable comb hives.

The result of such legislation has been the clearing of large districts from disease, that up to the passing of the Act were "rotten" with foul brood.

I feel certain that little or no headway against disease can be made in any country unless power is given by legislation to abolish all fixed-comb receptacles as domiciles for bees.

I. HOPKINS.

Auckland, New Zealand.

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