

E.J. FAWCETT ESQ.,
Department of Agriculture,
Private Bag,
WELLINGTON C.1.

Dear Mr. Fawcett,

Reference Ag. 54/3/10.

When I came to deal with your letter of the 24th June it looked as though it was going to be a long job and as I was too tied up with something else I had to leave it and advised you that I would deal with it as soon as possible.

I have carefully looked through the letter this morning and find that you have made such a good job of the adjustment of the Solicitor General's summary, that had I realised this at the time I need not have delayed the matter so long. I think your adjustment puts the position entirely in order and I cannot auggest any alteration.

There has been, as you know, a good deal of discussion on the question of IMPERIAL BEE and whilst this has no relation whatever to the Australian position, had the plans upon which we negotiated finally been put into operation, this may have required some further consideration by the Solicitor General. It looks at the moment, however, as though all the negotiations in this direction have resulted in failure, and that at least until Mr. Nash returns the decision stands that IMPERIAL BEE must completely close down until new season's. This is a tragedy, the magnitude of which will be realised about twelve months hence. I most definitely disagree with the wisdom of such action unless, of course, it is based on political considerations about which I know nothing. I understand from cables received from Major Buckley that he is in full accord with the view of the Ministers in London, and whilst it may be presumption to openly disagree with so many opinions, I have told both Major Buckley and Mortons that I consider their advice wrong, and have requested a precise explanation as to the justification for this decision. Personally I am of the opinion that if IMPERIAL BEE brand is taken off the market for six months, apart from the immediate loss to producers which does not really

come up for consideration, it will cost thousands of pounds to bring the brand back after so long an absence from the market, if indeed it can ever recover the setback.

However, this is merely by the way and I consider the advice tendered by Major Buckley will prove to be advice based on the consideration of the situation in England, without adequate knowledge of the situation at this end, and will prove to be wrong, and in my opinion, the decision arrived at will, in the fullness of time, prove to be a costly mistake.

Yours grithfully,

N.Z. HONEY CONTROL BOARD.

Y: PER