



Eva Crane Trust

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XX INTERNATIONAL BEEKEEPING CONGRESS

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INTRODUCTION

Rumania has made almost unparalleled progress towards development and industrialization in the last few years. From being the least industrialized country in eastern Europe, Rumania has achieved a faster growth rate since 1962 than any of the others, and her national income was about 50% higher in 1965 than in 1960. Between these years her frontiers were opened to foreign tourists as well as to foreign trade, and as a result of a vigorous publicity programme Rumania's existence and attractions became known all over Europe—and beyond. The International Beekeeping Congress had its own very effective publicity agent in the person of Professor V. Harnaj, President of the Rumanian Beekeepers' Association and of the Congress. His formidable energy in publicizing the Congress (including the travels he himself undertook for the purpose), backed by government policy, was rewarded by a substantially greater attendance at this International Beekeeping Congress than at any previous one since the war.

The official list (which includes a good many people who registered but did not attend) gave the total as 1481, of whom 52% were from eastern Europe, 42% from western Europe and 6% from the other continents; a quarter of the total were Rumanians. Subsequent official figures are 2300 listed and 1950 attending.

OPENING CEREMONIES AND SUBSEQUENT SESSIONS

The Congress began at 9 a.m. on August 26th. It was officially opened by Professor N. Giosan, Chairman of the Rumanian Higher Council of Agriculture, and members were welcomed by Mr. Gheorghe Apostol, First Vice-Chairman of the Council of Ministers. Speeches followed by L. R. J. ridder van Rappard, Dr. S. Cannamela (Secretary-General of Apimondia) and by the Chairmen of the Standing Commissions listed on page 27: Prof. M. Lindauer, Mr. N. M. Glushkov, Dr. M. Rousseau, Senator E. Leysen (also Mr. R. Borneck), and Professor G. F. Townsend.

In the course of these proceedings the President's badge of office was handed over by Dr. J. Svoboda, President of the XIX Congress, to Professor V. Harnaj, President of the XX Congress; the assembly also paid homage to the late Conte Dr. A. Zappi-Recordati, Secretary-General of Apimondia until his death in 1964.

The sessions were held in the Republic Palace Hall—a magnificent new theatre built on to the back of the Royal Palace in Bucharest; there was a single programme for all members. Simultaneous translation was provided by a team of Rumanian experts who were recruited from various professional jobs for the occasion. One translated each language spoken into Rumanian, and this was broadcast throughout the hall on loudspeakers. Four others translated this Rumanian into

English, French, German or Russian, which was received by very neat Austrian transistor receivers fitted with earphones. Each person was therefore able to listen to any language through his earphones (and without being 'wired up' to his seat); he could not avoid hearing also the Rumanian coming over the loudspeakers. Once we got over the initial disconcerting phase—in which each person at the rostrum appeared to be speaking fluent Rumanian—the system worked well.

PAPERS READ

Paper contributed to the Congress are listed on page 28. The President, Professor V. Harnaj, introduced a change in the method of presenting them. At every previous Congress, papers accepted by the Congress were delivered by their authors in person. In Bucharest no author presented his own work. Instead, papers were grouped together roughly under subject, and another person presented what was called a 'Synthesis report'; the intention was that this should give brief details of the papers of the group. These groups were subdivisions of those allocated to the five Standing Commissions set up under the 1964 Apimondia Statutes:

- I Bee biology
- II Melliferous flora and pollination
- III Bee pathology
- IV Bee economy
- V Bee technology and equipment

The 'synthesis reports' were given by:

- I Dr. J. Woyke, Prof. F. Ruttner, Prof. M. H. Haydak, Dr. N. Foti, Prof. G. A. Avetisyan, Prof. M. Lindauer
- II Dr. A. Maurizio, Mr. N. M. Glushkov, Dr. J. Louveaux, Mr. I. Barac, Prof. E. Åkerberg
- III Mr. A. Toshkov, Dr. K. Dreher, Dr. I. Giavarini, Ir. J. Mommers, Dr. R. Kostecki, Prof. M. Gautrelet, Mr. A. Artemov, Dr. J. Saine
- IV M. R. Borneck, M. X. Grandjean, Mr. S. E. McGregor, Dr. L. Bornus
- V M. P. Horguelin, Prof. G. F. Townsend.

These are the names in the programme; some were changed later.

The new method was useful in indicating to those attending the sessions the contents of most of the papers without much detail. It imposed a very real strain on the reporters, many of whom were faced with analysing and summarizing material of a much poorer quality than they could have presented from their own work. Indeed in general the most valuable 'synthesis reports' were those in which the synthesis was largely replaced by a report on the speakers' own work. There was no direct contact between the audience and the authors of papers, who were not even identifiable unless by chance, or if an author used the discussion period to get over a fuller version of his paper than was reported in the synthesis.

Full texts of papers were distributed to members at the Congress. They are listed below in subject order; the roman numbers are those of the Commissions under whose aegis they came. Authors' names not in the Latin alphabet are given in the standard transliteration used in *Bee World* where possible; known errors in spelling have been corrected.

and titles have been adjusted where necessary to convey the author's meaning. Any papers which give new information not available elsewhere will be dealt with individually in *Apicultural Abstracts*, but most inevitably deal with work already in print.

BEEKEEPING ORGANIZATION 638.1

These papers show how different aspects of the work are tackled in various countries, and may help organizers elsewhere.

- DOUHET, M. (Malagasy) The work of the Department for Apiculture of Malagasy Republic. IV
— Apicultural methods and the repartition of apicultural production in Malagasy Republic. IV
— Estimation of the production and improvements which can be achieved in Malagasy Republic. IV
— The bee and the hives in Malagasy Republic. IV
GRANDJEAN, X. (Belgium) Apiarian economy in Belgium and its evolution towards a convenient and increased advantage, and social prosperity. Suggestions on a world wide scale. IV
HACCOUR, P. (Morocco) Report about beekeeping in Morocco. IV
KOREAN BEEKEEPERS' ASSOCIATION (Korea D.P.R.) A test on 177-6 kg. honey per colony harvested at the Liphén Production Co-operative in the Province of Diagan. IV
KOVALEV, A. M. (U.S.S.R.) Productive orientation of apiculture in the principal areas of U.S.S.R. IV
LEDENT, G. (Belgium) Small-scale apiculture must subsist: will it be able to? IV
SAFER, G. V. (Rumania) Organization of beekeeping in Rumania. IV
SELLIANAKIS, G. (Greece) The insurance of the beekeeping capital. IV
— Apiculture as a world-wide branch of economy. IV
ZHURUKOV, D. (Bulgaria) Beekeeping and its organization in Bulgaria. IV

HONEYBEES 638.121

Most of these papers are from eastern European countries, and give some idea of the research work now being done there, on both fundamental and applied problems.

- BORNUS, L., DEMIANOWICZ, A. & GROMISZ, M. (Poland) Honeybee populations in Poland on the basis of the mathematical and statistical analysis. I
DEMIANOWICZ, A. (Poland) The configuration of the posterior wing innervation of the honeybee. I
DRESCHER, W. & KULINCEVIC, J. (Germany D.B.R.) Comparison of the efficiency and tongue length in working red clover for reciprocal crosses. I
VESELY, V. & ROZMAN, J. (Czechoslovakia) Johann Gregor Mendel, the founder of genetics was also a successful apicultural researcher. I

QUEENS 638.121.1

- FILIPOVIC-MOSKOVLJEVIC, V. (Yugoslavia) The inhibitory effect of the dead queens as a function of time. I
KOTOVA, G. N. (U.S.S.R.) The influence of different factors on the survival of queens wintering outside the cluster. IV
VELTHUIS, H. H. W. (Netherlands) Mandibular gland extirpation and the recognition of the queen. I

WORKERS 638.121.2

- HARAGSIM, O. & OTHERS (Czechoslovakia) Activity of honeybees marked with radioisotopes and moved to fields of lucerne (*Medicago sativa*). II
HAYDAK, M. H. & DIETZ, A. (U.S.A.) Influence of diet on the development and brood rearing of honeybees. I
ISTOMINA-TSVETKOVA, K. P. (U.S.S.R.) Individual differences in the behaviour of workers in relation to the biological activity of the colony. I
KRESAK, M. (Czechoslovakia) Some stimulants of pharyngeal gland secretion. I
KROPÁCOVÁ, S. (Czechoslovakia) Influence of different sugar contents in lucerne nectar on honeybee activity on lucerne flowers. II

- KURENNOI, N. M. (U.S.S.R.) Activity of honeybees on blossoms of reciprocally pollinating apple varieties. II
TARANOV, G. F. & SEDIN, I. G. (U.S.S.R.) New data on the behaviour of scout bees. I
TRILENKO, V. A. (U.S.S.R.) The intestinal microflora of the honeybee. III
ZHEREBKIN, M. V. (U.S.S.R.) Physiological processes in the intestine of the honeybee. I

DRONES 638.121.3

- GALUSHKO, G., NIEMCZUK, R. & TOMASHEVSKA, B. (Poland) Microbiological studies on drone sperm. III
KEPENA, L. (Czechoslovakia) Factors influencing flights of drones. I
WOYKE, J. (Poland) Diploid drones. I

HONEYBEE RACES 638.123

- RADOEV, I. (Bulgaria) Comparative experiments on the grey mountain Caucasian bees of Georgia. I
SEKSHUEV, A. J. (U.S.S.R.) Characterization of morphobiological and economic characters of simple and complex bee hybrids. I
SEREMETIEV, A. F. & OTHERS (U.S.S.R.) Ecological-genetic peculiarities of the bee of the subcarpathian region, Bashkir, Gorky region and Vologda. I

THE COLONY, INCLUDING SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR 638.124

- GEORGANTAS, P. D. (Greece) Natural comb of Greek bees and more suitable comb foundation for them. IV
POLTEV, V. I. & KOPANEVICH, P. P. (U.S.S.R.) The action of antibiotics on honeybees and colonies. III
THYRI, H. (Norway) Correlation between colony populations and honey yields during the *Calluna* flow. IV

BEE PLANTS 638.13

Most of these papers are also from eastern Europe, and show what is being done in these countries to improve and utilize bee forage.

BEE PLANTS: REGIONAL STUDIES 638.13(1/9)

- DONITA, N. (Rumania) Beekeeping and ecology. II
KOCH, H. G. (Germany D.D.R.) Regional distribution of bee forage in the D.D.R., based on observations of scale hives. II
KOREAN BEEKEEPERS' ASSOCIATION (Korea D.P.R.) Bee plants of the Peaktu plateau of Korea. II
MCHEDLISHVILI, G. I. (U.S.S.R.) The possibility of improving bee forage in connection with protection against erosion in Georgia. II
MEL'NICHENKO, A. N. & RODIONOV, V. I. (U.S.S.R.) The combined nectar-fodder culture: a useful means of improving bee forage. II
SIMIDCHEV, T. (Bulgaria) The nectar production of an agricultural culture in Bulgaria. II
TRAIAN, I. (Rumania) Bee plants of the mountain region, inexhaustible sources of nectar. II
VADIM, L. (Rumania) Dynamics of Rumanian vegetation in the holocene, and the formation of honeybee populations. II

BEE PLANTS: PHYSIOLOGICAL PROBLEMS 638.13 : 581

- BUKHAREVA, G. A. (U.S.S.R.) Increase of nectar productivity in some entomophilous plants by introducing trace elements. II
KOPEL'KIEVSKI, G. V. (U.S.S.R.) The nectar production of some entomophilous plants in relation to humidity and fertilizer deposits in the soil. II
MONTGOMERY, B. E. (U.S.A.) Factors affecting the production of nectar. II
POLISHCHUCK, V. P. (U.S.S.R.) Raising plant nectar productivity through selection. II
ZAURALOV, O. A. (U.S.S.R.) Nectar secretion in connection with the process of respiration. II

BEE PLANTS: INDIVIDUAL SPECIES 683.13 : 582

- BAGA, A. M. (U.S.S.R.) *Phacelia tanacetifolia* as a bee plant, and as a means of controlling *Bruchus pisa*. II
- BAL'ZHAKAS, I. P. (U.S.S.R.) Bees, sweet clover (*Melilotus albus officinalis*) and phacelia (*Phacelia tanacetifolia*). II
- BURMISTROV, A. N. (U.S.S.R.) The nectar value of some sunflower varieties. II
- ČIRŇU, I. (Rumania) Research on the pollen production of maize in the pedoclimatic conditions of Rumania. II
- DEMIANOWICZ, Z. (Poland) Comparative investigations on nectar secretion, honey and seed yield of 5 Polish varieties of rape (*Brassica napus v. oleifera* Metzger). II
- KAZIEV, I. P. & SEIDOVA, S. S. (U.S.S.R.) The nectar yield of flowers of some Cucurbitaceae under Azerbaidzhan conditions. II
- MILEWSKI, J. & ZAJACZKOWSKI, K. (Poland) Research on selecting a nectar-yielding lime tree with a long flowering period for the plains. II
- PEL'MENEV, V. K. (U.S.S.R.) Factors influencing the nectar yield of the Far Eastern lime tree and the Amur Lombardy poplar. II
- ROSCA, O., RUSU, C. & CHITAN, N. (Rumania) Influence of X-ray treatment of sunflower seeds on nectar secretion. II
- SZKLANOWSKA, K. (Poland) Factors influencing the secretion of nectar by *Dracocephalum moldavicum*. II

BEEKEEPING PRACTICE 638.14

As at the last Congress, papers on beekeeping methods reflect the different stages this has reached in the countries represented.

- BOGDAN, I. (Rumania) Organization and exploitation of bee forage in northern Rumania by migration to an alpine area. IV
- BOGOLJUB, K. (Yugoslavia) Biological and economic bases of some queen manipulations during the main flow. IV
- BRÖKER, W. (Germany D.B.R.) Back to nature—a way to obtain a healthy bee. I
- CONSTANTIN, A. (Rumania) The efficiency of combs with enlarged cells in Rumania. IV
- Polyethylene sheet for improving colony development in spring. IV
- GRAZE, H. (Germany D.B.R.) Problems of rationalization, mechanization and automation in apiculture. V
- HAYNIE, J. D. (U.S.A.) A comparison of tupelo honey yields by bees in four different sized hives over a three-year period. I
- ROMANESCU, N. (Rumania) Advantages and disadvantages of open mobile pavilions in intensive migratory beekeeping. V
- SAFER, G. V. (Rumania) Determining factors in the increase of beekeeping profit and labour productivity. IV
- VELICHKOV, V. N. (Bulgaria) Strengthening the colony with a view to using it for the acacia flow. II

FEEDING BEES 638.144.5

All these papers are from eastern Europe, where problems and possibilities of feeding bees are being explored *ab initio*.

- GLUSHKOV, N. M. & YAKOVLEV, A. S. (U.S.S.R.) New data on how to use growth stimulators in apiculture. I
- MITEV, B. (Bulgaria) A survey on spring stimulative feeding. I
- ROSENTHAL, C. (Rumania) Investigation on the efficiency of supplementary feeding with proteins in deficient periods. I
- SZÖVÉRDY, F. & TEXE, E. (Hungary) Use of candy for wintering colonies whose winter supplies contain honeydew. I

BEE BREEDING 638.145.3

Three of these papers relate to breeding work in Egypt.

- BANBY, M. A. EL (U.A.R.) The inheritance of abdominal coloration in the Carnio-Egyptian honeybee hybrid. I

- Heritability estimates and genetic correlations for some quantitative characters in the honeybee. I
- The inheritance of some qualitative characters in the Carnio-Egyptian honeybee hybrid. I
- BILASH, G. D. & ZHELTIKOVA, V. T. (U.S.S.R.) The correlative variability of honeybees and method of selection. I
- RAGIM-ZADE, M. S. (U.S.S.R.) Hereditary transmission of foraging activity in reciprocal cross-breeding of two ecologically different honeybee races. I

QUEEN REARING 638.145.5

These papers describe methods currently used in Rumania and neighbouring countries.

- CUDELCA, V. & PADURARU, V. (Rumania) Increasing colony strength and production by reserve queens. IV
- KHIDESHELI, A. L. (U.S.S.R.) A comparative estimate of the different types of nuclei with a view to obtaining fertile queens. IV
- ROMANESCU, N. (Rumania) Rearing queen cells above the brood nest on combs scarified semi-mechanically. IV
- Scarifiers for semi-mechanical transformation of comb into incipient queen cells. V
- TOSHKOV, A. (Bulgaria) Overwintering spare queens between the window-frames of an inhabited room. I
- YUDIN, A. I. (U.S.S.R.) The experience of the state nursery-apiary in the Kabardinian-Balkar A.S.S.R. IV

BEE DISEASES 638.15

The first paper is from France; the others show control methods for diseases of bees and brood in current use in eastern European countries.

- ADAM, L. (France) The importance of apicultural sanitary organization and the standardization of apicultural legislation. III
- BUZA, I. (Hungary) Tests concerning some foods containing drugs. III
- KOSTECKI, R. (Poland) How the campaign against bee diseases is organized in Poland. III
- CHERVINSKY, M. & NIEMCZUCK, R. (Poland) Treatment of acarine disease by change of environment. III
- SKRYPNIK, E. I. (U.S.S.R.) New means and procedures for controlling acarine disease. III
- NIEMCZUCK, R. & TOMASHEVSKA, B. (Poland) A case of septicaemia in Lower Silesia. III
- EGOROVA, A. I. & POLTEV, V. I. (U.S.S.R.) On *Lactobacterium pollinis*—its part played in the honeybee colony. III

BROOD DISEASES 638.153

- KULIKOV, N. S., SAMYSHKINA, V. S. & CHEREPOV, V. T. (U.S.S.R.) Experimental infection of wasps by European and American foul brood. III
- NEDYALKOV, S. & TOSHKOV, A. (Bulgaria) Transport of spores of the *B. larvae* by colonies infected by A.F.B. III
- NIEMCZUCK, R. (Poland) Sigmamycin in A.F.B. therapy. III
- The influence of disinfection on *Bacillus larvae* White in different conditions and environment. III
- TCHERVINSKY, M., DROZD, J., KOVALINSKY, S. & NIEMCZUCK, R. (Poland) Study of the influence of some chemical compounds of the soil on *Bacillus larvae* White. III
- MIKHAILOV, K. I. (U.S.S.R.) Wintering colonies infected by E.F.B. III
- CHEREPOV, V. T. (U.S.S.R.) Destruction of bacteria living in the brood nest by antibiotics, and the importance of these for the treatment of E.F.B. III
- DANIELYAN, S. G. (U.S.S.R.) Device for disinfection of combs contaminated with pathogenic agents of E.F.B. III
- SMIRONOVA, N. I. (U.S.S.R.) Separation and cultivation of the sacbrood virus in bees. III

ENEMIES OF BEES 638.157

These contributions deal with problems encountered in southern Europe and the Mediterranean area.

ALEKSEENKO, F. M. (U.S.S.R.) Biological and ecological characteristics of the *Philanthus triangulum* F. and experience of its control in the wood region of the Ukraine. III

DUKOV, I. (Bulgaria) Some morphological and biological characteristics of the bee louse (*Braula orientalis*) and its control. III

ISHAY, I. (Israel) Observations and experiments on colonies of the oriental hornet. I

BEE POISONING 638.158.2

Countries in eastern Europe are also studying problems connected with pesticide applications.

DALLMAN, H. (Germany D.D.R.) The action on the honeybee of substances sprayed from the air containing DDT-HCH and phosphoric acid esters. III

NAZAROV, S. S. (U.S.S.R.) Contributions to the problem of toxicity of some pesticides towards bees. III

NIEMCZUCK, R. (Poland) The toxicity of herbicides towards bees. III

POPOV, V. I., PETKOV, V. G. & SIMIDCHEV, T. (Bulgaria) Studies on the toxic effects of dieldrin and on protecting bees from poisoning through dieldrin spraying of *Medicago sativa*. III

HONEY: COMPOSITION AND PROPERTIES 638.162

Countries in eastern Europe are now working towards establishing standards for the honeys they produce.

CURYLO, J. (Poland) Trial of diazouracyl (Dau) for quantitative designation of sucrose in honey. V

LUPSAN, I. V., GAVRIL, B. E. H. & MIHAI, P. (Rumania) Observations on the fermentation of crystallized honey. V

PICHA, S. (Czechoslovakia) Objective methods for the organoleptic characterization of honeys. V

POPA, G., POPESCU, N., POPA, A. & BRÎNZAC, V. (Rumania) Evaluation of honey by physico-chemical and microbiological examination. III

— Evaluation of honey by organoleptic and microscopic examination. III

— Estimation of honey adulteration. III

TINTEA, H. (Rumania) Comments regarding the colour of some honey varieties in Rumania. V

CURYLO, J. (Poland) Identification of arabinose in honeydew honey. V

WILLSON, R. B. (U.S.A.) The need for standardizing regulations for world trading in honey. IV

ZALEWSKI, W. (Poland) Activity of acid phosphatase in honey from Poland. V

HONEY: PROCESSING 638.163

GIDRON, J. (Israel) The use of pressed air instead of a honey pump. V

KALMAN, C. (Israel) The problem of uncapping, uncappers, reducers and so on. V

HONEY: USES 638.167

MLADENOV, S. (Bulgaria) New data concerning the curative properties of honey. III

MOLNAR-TOTH, M. (Rumania) The effect of concentrated honey on infants: dystrophics and convalescents. III

SAFER, V. & ZAMFIR, I. (Rumania) Contributions to the preparation of hydromel. V

STAMBOLIU, D.-W. (Rumania) Preliminary researches regarding the utilization of some hive products in auxiliary therapy of hepatic pathology. III

BEESWAX 638.171

ZALEWSKI, V. & CURYLO, J. (Poland) A comparison of refractometric and alkaline solution methods for quantitative determination of the wax content of old honey combs. V

ROYAL JELLY 638.178

BELVEFER, B. DE & GAUTRELET, M. (France) The action of royal jelly on the adrenal gland. III

— The importance of the dihydroxydecanoic acid found in a natural condition in royal jelly. III

DOBROVODA, I. (Czechoslovakia) Psychoneuroses and royal jelly with complement: false euphoria. III

MALY, E., PACENOVSKA, M. & JARCUSKOVA, D. (Czechoslovakia) Some diseases successfully treated with royal jelly. III

MATUSZEWSKY, J. & KACZÓR, E. (Poland) Investigations on the biomechanism of royal jelly. III

OKADA, I. (Japan) A comparative study of the effect of royal jelly on some insects. I

SACCHI, R. & BOSI, J. (Italy) Contribution to the knowledge of the acids in royal jelly. V

SVOBODA, J. (Czechoslovakia) Results of research on royal jelly treatment in line with the task assigned by the decision of the XIX Congress held in Prague. III

TONSLEY, C. C. (England) Royal jelly—a treatment for rheumatoid arthritis. III

TOWNSEND, G. F. (Canada) Recent research on royal jelly. V

PROPOLIS 638.178

CEANISHEV, Z. G. (U.S.S.R.) Utilizing propolis in dermatitis of aptheous origin [ulcers on mucous membrane]. III

DEREVICI, A. & POPESCU, A. (Rumania) The action of propolis *in vitro* on the cells of the Ehrlich ascitic tumour. III

KHMELEVSKAYA, V. N. & OTHERS (U.S.S.R.) Experiments on the use of propolis for radiation reactions and diseases. III

MOLNAR-TOTH, M. (Rumania) Therapeutic results of the use of propolis in various cutaneous affections. III

POLLEN 638.178.2

BATTAGLINI, M. & BOSI, G. (Italy) Knowledge of pollen lipids: fatty acids. V

CAILLAS, A. (France) Pollen and prostate diseases. III

IALOMITEANU, M. & OTHERS (Rumania) Pollen as a substitute medicine in affections of the hepatic cells. III

BEE VENOM 638.178.8

ARTEMOV, N. M. (U.S.S.R.) Bee venom as a product of apiculture. III

KUTHAN, F. (Czechoslovakia) Bee venom treatment of rheumatic disorders. III

MLADENOV, V. & KAZANDZHEVA, V. (Bulgaria) Our experiments on the therapeutic use of bee venom in some diseases. III

ORLOV, B. N. (U.S.S.R.) The action of bee venom upon the central nervous system.

HONEYBEES AS POLLINATORS 638.19

ALLES, P. T. & RAIS, A. E. (U.S.S.R.) The influence of pollination by bees upon the physiological character of the genital organs and on seed development in red clover (*Trifolium pratense* L.) and horse-bean (*Vicia faba* L.). II

AVETISYAN, G. A. & MANUILOVA, A. S. (U.S.S.R.) Effects of cross-pollination by bees on photosynthesis intensity and nectar yield of fodder-legume plants. II

BATTAGLINI, M. & BATTAGLINI, M. B. (Italy) Preliminary research on the possibilities of 'convergent selection' in fruit growing, in relation to honeybees as pollinators. II

GLUSHKOV, N. M. & SKREBTSOV, M. F. (U.S.S.R.) Efficacy of using honeybees in cotton pollination. II

PETKOV, V. & SIMIDCHIEV, T. (Bulgaria) The role played by the bees in the pollination of lucerne. II

SCIENTIFIC SYMPOSIUM

A Symposium on the lines of that in Czechoslovakia [*Bee World* 44(4) : 135 - 145 (1963)] was to have been held in Brasov from August

20th to 22nd, but this venue was changed to daily attendance at a Trade Union Hall in Bucharest. The list of papers above does not include those read at the Symposium, since details of them were not issued. Communications of special note included those by Dr. W. Steche on the life cycle of *Nosema apis*, by Prof. F. Ruttner on drone behaviour (especially their congregation areas) and by Dr. G. Giordani on the presence of *Acarapis woodi* as an external mite.

One evening members were the guests of the University, in the open air restaurant of the Academy of Sciences. This was a very pleasant occasion, when scientists and others from widely separated countries were able to get to know each other. An equally enjoyable occasion was a dinner by the lake at the Peşcarus restaurant.

APIMONDIA

The Statutes of Apimondia were completely rewritten between the 1963 Congress and the present one. The new Statutes, which are largely the work of Professor Harnaj, differ from the old ones in that they lay down in much greater detail what is to be done; they give Apimondia a more complicated tiered structure: a President with a four-year term (in the earlier, freer, Statutes there was no office of President, the President of each Congress serving until the next one); a General-Secretary as before; an Executive Committee with a wider range of powers; Standing Committees; and national delegates. Professor Harnaj was elected President until 1969 by the Executive Committee. The discussions which previously took place in the General Assembly in a sort of free-for-all have now been transferred to the Executive Committee or the meeting of delegates. The General Assembly held on the last day of the Congress was therefore a very orderly and smooth meeting, agreeing to proposals made by the Executive Committee, including the choice of the U.S.A. as the venue for the next Congress.

EXHIBITIONS AND OTHER EVENTS

International exhibitions of beekeeping material had been held at the Congresses in Madrid and Prague. This was again done in Bucharest, on a very much more ambitious scale, under the title 'First International Beekeeping Exhibition-Fair' (26th August - 5th September). It was an extravaganza which must be unbelievable except to those who witnessed it.

An area of perhaps 35 acres [14 hectares] on the outskirts of Bucharest has been acquired by the Rumanian Beekeepers' Association for a *Combinatsi apicola*, a complex of buildings in a park-like setting, to serve various purposes connected with beekeeping. The buildings are all new; one, not yet in use, is designed to house a honey-processing plant (with a storage capacity of 100 tons); this is shown on the cover of the brochure about the Exhibition. Other buildings are for storing and making beekeeping equipment. Two other buildings of notably imaginative design were used for the Exhibition-Fair. One was devoted to Rumanian educational beekeeping displays, professionally designed and executed; the other housed exhibits from different countries. (Neither of these is the Exhibition Pavilion shown in the brochure, which was presumably not built.) As in earlier exhibitions, only nearby

countries could send more than token exhibits, but—as in Prague—everything on show was beautifully displayed.

In between the buildings were apiaries, including a monumental observation hive with thirty combs, arranged in three banks of ten. There were rows of lamps shaped like skeps—and of course loud-speakers. The hexagon was cleverly used as a basis of design for walls, pavements, display stands and other erections.

The magnitude of the conception of this *Combinatsi* is exemplified by the fact that the day before the formal opening of the exhibition there, no less than seven hundred people were employed in last-minute preparations. The total cost must have been at least £100,000. It has been explained earlier [*Bee World* 46(1): 6-7 (1965)] that the Rumanian Beekeepers' Association is a trading organization—a co-operative with a state monopoly of almost all trade relating to beekeeping, honey and other hive products—not a voluntary Association on lines familiar to most other countries.

A Fourth International Beekeeping Film Festival and Competition was held on similar lines to earlier ones. No details have been received about films submitted.

ENTERTAINMENTS AND EXCURSIONS

These followed the usual pattern, and the number and variety of events of general tourist interest was in complete accord with the school of opinion that the Congresses should provide beekeepers with a way to spend undemanding holidays, uncluttered by high-level discussions between scientists.

On the evening of August 26th there was a reception for all those attending the Congress in Bucharest, at the Army Officers' Club. After liberal refreshments one could watch folk-dancing, or dance oneself, according to which part of the building one was in.

August 28th ended with a glittering and unforgettable entertainment in the Republic Palace Hall. Two orchestras, forty 'folk-lore' dancers and a chorus of eighty singers entertained us in turn, the dancers in magnificent local variants of the national Rumanian dress. All musicians and artistes were first class performers. The perfection of execution, and of the corporate discipline behind it, will be long remembered by those who saw and heard the programme. In addition to its intrinsic merit, this show had a notable therapeutic effect on those of the Congress members who had found life in Bucharest full of bewildering complications and frustrations. On the stage all was orderly and sequential, and in a common idiom that broke the barriers of language, politics and procedural differences; it eased many tensions, and united the Congress members together as nothing else could have done.

The final banquet was also a most magnificent and enjoyable occasion in Snagov Park, half an hour's drive from Bucharest. Here two thousand people were dined, wine and entertained, as a final demonstration of hospitality from the Rumanian beekeepers.

In Bucharest the auxiliary programme for members of the Congress who did not want to attend the sessions was called not the 'Ladies' programme as at earlier Congresses, but the 'Visiting Programme for Attendants and Children'. It included visits in and around Bucharest after the usual pattern.

Attendants, children and full Congress members all took part in the full-day excursion on August 29th. The route was through Ploesti with its great oil refinery and surrounding oil wells, then up the Prahova valley through the Carpathian mountains to Brasov, where a spectacular banquet-lunch was provided. Many hives were to be seen by the roadside, a number of additional newly painted apiaries having been brought into position for the occasion, so that the Congress buses seemed often to be driving through avenues of hives.

FINAL REMARKS

At this Congress several minor facilities were provided—and appreciated. Bus transport was often laid on, and this was of considerable benefit to those who discovered where to find the bus going to the right place at the right time. Gay cotton hold-alls were distributed to hold our monumental pile of Congress papers; with these was a propelling pencil of the type adapted by Dr. Z. Örosi Pál as a cutter for the cell bases carrying eggs, used in his double-grafting method [*Bee World* 46(1) : 25 – 31 (1965)].

Each member was allocated a pigeon-hole, in which he found notices and invitations each day. These pigeon-holes were invaluable for making assignments with people one wanted to meet, but confusion reigned on the third day, when we found the Congress building locked (presumably because the programme started off elsewhere), and the pigeon-holes inaccessible. There was a noticeable absence of clocks, and speakers could go on for several times their allotted period without remonstrance from the Chairman.

One aspect of the International Beekeeping Congresses is of growing concern to bee scientists, who are in general very busy people of only moderate means. This is the increasing number of days the congresses occupy. With the Scientific Symposium, this has risen now to eleven: three days of Symposium, three days' interval, then five days of the Congress itself. This is far longer than is necessary, or than is desired by many, and the enforced break should certainly not be repeated. In Rumania it was the occasion of the elevation of the Rumanian *People's Republic* to the Rumanian *Socialist Republic*, and Congress members were invited to demonstrate in favour of the Communist Party: there will clearly be no similar occasion during the next Congress, in the U.S.A. Strong arguments could be put forward in favour of reuniting the Scientific Symposium with the main Congress, and not spending any time on communications submitted which are of a low standard; everything worth while could then be got into five days altogether.

Only those who have taken part in organizing an international congress can know how much work and strain this imposes. I should like to end this report with a special word of thanks to all those concerned in Rumania: to Professor Harnaj as President, to the staff and voluntary workers of the Rumanian Beekeepers' Association and the Beekeeping Institute, and to the many translators and 'guides'.