

Obituary - Mr E C R White 1928

A Wiltshire Bee Expert

Mr J E Pinder, of Salisbury, the prominent beekeeper and judge, writes to the Western Gazette:



“By the death of Mr E C R White, of Winterbourne, near Salisbury, the bee community has lost a great friend, especially in the local area. He stood in high esteem by all who knew him personally, and who benefitted by his practical knowledge in the craft.

When the modern bar frame hive was taken up in England over 40 years ago as a new proposition in bee culture, Mr White started about that time at Woodford, near Salisbury, and with his quiet studious ways, soon mastered the new system and became a first class bee man and retained this position to the end.

Woodford district in those days (as now) yielded a very fine quality of prime honey, and very soon Mr White's products found their way to the show bench. Mr White was fortunate in his moving to Lockerley, and later to Newton Toney, which were excellent honey cropping districts.

At the latter place his name became known amongst the prize winners of England and many hundreds of prizes and medals came his way, especially for the beautiful production of wax, for which he was noted. This premier position he held for many years. Generally a good beekeeper becomes a honey exhibitor and prize taker, which so frequently leads to the highest qualifications the craft can offer, that of a judge. Mr White judged at most of the shows in the Salisbury district for many years, and many important shows in the South of England.

Twenty one years ago Mr White became the first chairman of the Salisbury and District Beekeepers' Association. During the war he was a member of the sub-committee of the Wilts Agricultural Education Committee. He was a member of the Apis Club and the British Beekeepers' Association. He was also a member of the Wilts Hants & Dorset Beekeepers' Council and filled the office of treasurer from its inception till the time of his death.”

At the funeral, which took place at Winterbourne Gunner on Wednesday, floral tributes were sent from the Wilts Hants and Dorset Beekeepers' Council which was represented by Mr J E Pinder, of Salisbury; the Salisbury and District Beekeepers' Association, represented by Mr Bowell, Mr B C Pinder and Mr Lee; Woodford Beekeepers' Association represented by Mr Harris, Mr Chappel and Mr Wilkins; and the Hampshire Beekeepers' Association represented by Mrs Leigh, Broughton.

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