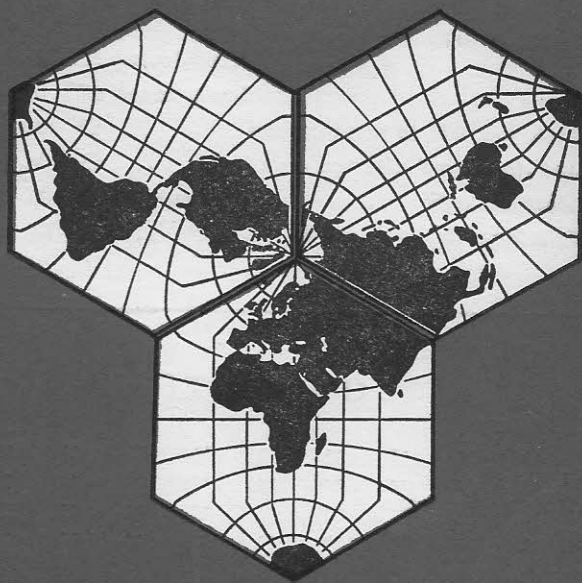


# BEE WORLD



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**XIX INTERNATIONAL BEEKEEPING CONGRESS****The Scientific Congress at Liblice 7th-11th August 1963***by* OLDŘICH HARAGSIM & LUDMILA HARAGSIMOVÁ

The Symposium of Bee Scientists held at Liblice included three sessions, on nectar secretion, bee pathology, and bee breeding and genetics. The titles of the papers read are given on pages 136-142 under the serial numbers used below, e.g. 24L. After the individual reports, and at the end of each session, there were lively discussions which helped to clarify a number of problems, and enabled research workers to exchange experiences and establish closer co-operation in the investigation of their special problems.

Various other aspects of bee breeding and genetics were discussed. Mr. Veselý (80L) explained methods he was using to relate the bee breeding programme in Czechoslovakia to practical results in terms of honey yield and colony strength. Dr. S. Taber gave an account of the joint bee breeding programme in the United States and Canada (82L).

Professor A. N. Mel'nichenko (285) sent a report on the effect of nurse bees and their brood food on the hereditary characteristics of the bees they rear. Many in the audience wanted to discuss the results quoted, but Mr. Glushkov, who read Professor Mel'nichenko's paper in his absence, would not be drawn into a discussion. One of the results he quoted was that the brood food of Caucasian bees contains several amino acids absent in brood food of bees from central Russia.

Mr. Bilash's paper (86L) on breeding a 'new racial group' of bees by crossing mid-Russian and Caucasian bees would also have provoked a lively discussion had he been present.

Finally (29L) Dr. Woyke described his rearing of diploid drones, from the eggs of inbred queens—eggs that until this year were called 'lethal', on the assumption that they did not hatch. Dr. Woyke has now shown that these eggs hatch, but that in the hive the larvae are eaten alive by the worker bees. By incubator rearing he was able to rear these diploid drones—developed from fertilized eggs—to the adult stage. (The work is published in a series of papers in *Journal of Apicultural Research*.) This work is indeed something new in bee science; the chairman of the session paid it a rare compliment by saying that if he heard nothing at the Congress but this report by Dr. Woyke, he would consider his journey to Prague worth while.