

wax, as a fat from the animal kingdom; but on the other hand, neither bees-wax nor spermaceti must be called fats.

"Then we have stearin, or stearic acid, which is quite white, and is extracted from fat; all fatty substances known as fatty acids contain stearic acid, in a more or less degree.

"The insect wax of China enters into commerce; it is found on the surface of many trees there, and is produced by a small hemipterous insect (*Coccus sinensis*) which about the beginning of June climbs the tree, feeds on it, and deposits on the branches a wax resembling hoar-frost. This is scraped off, melted in boiling water and strained through a cloth. Another wax of insect origin is the Andaquiss wax of South America, which is produced from a small insect called Avesa.

"We also have a variety of vegetable waxes. One from Japan, is of a light straw colour, and in appearance is not unlike our best English bees-wax.

"There are trees also which afford wax in great abundance: *Myrica cerifera* *augustifolia*, or wax tree of Louisiana, and the *Myrica cerifera* *latifolia*, of Pennsylvania, Carolina, and Virginia. The latter is now naturalized in France, and is, I believe, being cultivated in Algeria; it flourishes also in the dry lands of Prussia. The fruit of this wax plant (or myrtle-wax, as it is sometimes designated) is plunged into boiling water, enclosed in a bag of coarse cloth, and in a few minutes the liquid wax floats to the surface, when it is collected, cooled, and remelted into blocks. It is said to have the same chemical composition as bees-wax, but this I cannot state with certainty.

"We have also two kinds of paraffin wax, or block paraffin; of a transparent white, one melting at 110 degrees, and the other at 106 degrees.

"Ceracin, or earth-wax, in various colors—black, yellow, red, and white.

"Thus a variety of clarified fats and other substances contribute to-day, at a much cheaper rate, to many of the purposes to which bees-wax was formerly employed; but on the other hand, they cannot actually take its place, as all these substances will melt at a comparatively low temperature, whereas bees-wax requires a far greater heat to reduce it to a liquid state, and it will very soon become solid when removed from the fire.

"The goodness of beeswax, independently of its colour, may be estimated by passing the thumb-nail forcibly over the surface; if good, the nail will pass with a kind of jerk, but if no obstruction be felt, the wax may be looked upon as adulterated with suet or some similar sub-

stance. The aroma of wax very often resembles that of the honey that has been stored in it."

STILL ANOTHER.

THE latest competitor for popular favor in the line of apicultural publications is the CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL, published by D.

A. Jones, of Beeton, Canada. It is a weekly of 16 pages, and \$1.00 per annum. Canada being so far north, its bee-keepers need very different instructions on nearly all points, from those of our own and more southern latitudes, and this is, we think the only justification for putting into the apicultural field another periodical, when it is already overrun. In our almost 20 years experience in this line we have seen too many "bee papers" rise and fall, to aid in any way a repetition of the experiment. Those papers have usually continued from six months to three years, the time depending on weight of the purses of their proprietors. All the support they had was drawn from other bee journals, making them poorer in consequence, and when the former were compelled to suspend, they were too poor to return to subscribers the money due them, and had they not induced the other journals to fill out the unexpired time of their subscribers said subscribers would have suffered loss. We believe that to aid the starting up of the new bee journals in the same latitudes now occupied by the old and well established ones, is as unkind to their proprietors as to aid a crazy man to the purchase of a canal boat with which to cross the Atlantic ocean; both will alike go to the bottom. The fate of the *Gazette*, *National Bee-Journal*, *Missouri Bee-Journal*, *Bee World*, *Apiculturist*, *New England Bee-Journal*, and others we could name, should serve as warnings to those who fail to see the difference between a bee journal and a gold mine. But owing to the financial standing of Mr. Jones and the need of special instruction in the peculiar field he is to occupy, we wish him a cordial God-speed.—*Magazine*.

Friend King hit the right nail on the head when he said that Canada requires a journal which would give instructions suitable to the country. This was the great reason we had for beginning the publication of the CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL. We must differ from Friend King though, when he says the country is already overrun with bee literature. We do not think so. In Canada and