

five hundred cc. of hot water added, cautiously at first, to avoid excessive foaming. The flame is then replaced and sufficient dilute (1 : 3) sulphuric acid added to decompose the soap. A few minutes' boiling gives a clear layer of fatty acids. The acids are then washed and dried in the usual way. The process is quite rapid, clear acids being obtained in 20 to 25 minutes. The results show perfect agreement with standard methods.

The use of glycerine in the titer test was first suggested to the writer by Mr. R. R. Henley, Junior Laboratory Inspector in this Division.

The development of this method had been completed and its accuracy thoroughly tested when the paper entitled "Rapid Saponification of Fats for Titre Determination," by Charles V. Zoul, appeared in the November number of THIS JOURNAL.

The present note is offered as an independent confirmation of the rapidity and reliability of Mr. Zoul's method. His priority in demonstrating the value of glycerine for this purpose is, of course, conceded.

R. H. KERR.

FROM THE LABORATORIES OF THE BIOCHEMIC DIVISION,  
BUREAU OF ANIMAL INDUSTRY, U. S. DEPARTMENT OF  
AGRICULTURE.

#### CANDELILLA WAX.

INSTITUTO MEDICO NACIONAL  
7A DE BALDERAS, No. 94  
Mexico, D. F.

Departamento de Quimica Industrial.

December 31st, 1910.

*The Editor, The Journal of Ind. and Eng. Chemistry.*

DEAR SIR:

The attention of this Department has been directed to articles recently published in your valuable periodical, contributed by Messrs. G. S. Fraps and J. B. Rather, and relating to "Candelilla Wax," and also to previous contributions by Messrs. Hare and Bjerregaard referring to the same subject.

Since it appears that the above-mentioned authors have overlooked the publication in the "Anales" of this Institute, of articles referring to this wax, since the time of its discovery in 1905 by Professor J. McConnell Sanders, chief of the Division of Applied Chemistry in this Institute, until the present year, we would ask you to kindly direct the attention of the above-mentioned authors and of your readers to a treatise recently published by the Educational Department of this Government, in which is included the botanical description of the Candelilla plant as classified by Prof. Gabriel Alcocer, curator of the herbarium, and a resumen of the chemical data obtained by Prof. McConnell Sanders.

In this resumen the chemical and physical constants of waxes from diverse territories in Mexico and from plants collected in different seasons of the year are compared, and the discovery of the hydrocarbon hentriacontane claimed by Messrs. Fraps and Rather is shown to have been anticipated by McConnell Sanders in the "Anales" for October, 1907.

As the exploitation of this wax has now become one of the National industries of this country, and

since its properties have attracted some attention in the commercial world, an English edition of the treatise above mentioned is in course of preparation, and a copy will be sent you as soon as published.

In the meantime we would ask you to kindly give the necessary publicity to this letter, for which courtesy we beg to anticipate our best thanks.

Remaining yours very truly,  
Jefe del Departamento de  
Quimica Industrial.

*Editor, Journal Industrial and Engineering Chemistry:*

Through an oversight of the printer and ourselves in our article "Some Imperfect Paving Bricks," THIS JOURNAL, Dec., 1910, we omitted to acknowledge the kind assistance of Dr. W. G. Brown, Professor of Technical Chemistry at the University of Missouri, in giving us the use of his apparatus and private laboratory, and for the many helpful suggestions and criticisms that he proffered during the course of the work. The work itself was suggested by him, and through his influence the authors obtained all the material necessary for the tests, and we wish to take this opportunity of expressing our appreciation.

JAS. C. LAWRENCE.  
CHAS. J. BONER.

## SCIENTIFIC AND INDUSTRIAL SOCIETIES.

### DIVISION OF INDUSTRIAL CHEMISTS AND CHEMICAL ENGINEERS OF THE AMERICAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY.

MINNEAPOLIS MEETING, DECEMBER 30-31, 1910.

The meetings of the Industrial Division held at Minneapolis, December 30 and 31, 1910, were presided over by Arthur D. Little, *Chairman* of the Division. John White was selected as temporary *Secretary*.

The election of officers to serve during the year 1911 resulted as follows:

*Chairman*, G. C. Stone, 55 Wall St., New York.

*Vice-Chairman*, William Brady, 7642 Marquette Ave., Chicago, Ill.

*Secretary*, F. E. Gallagher, 93 Broad St., Boston, Mass.

*Executive Committee*, The Officers, The Editor of the Industrial Journal, *Ex-Officio*, and H. S. Minor, J. O. Handy, W. H. Walker, Clifford Richardson, G. E. Barton.

The Secretary's report was read and approved. The following abstracts are taken from this report:

"The enrolment in the Industrial Division is now 1040. The special work carried on by the Secretary since the last meeting has been largely directed towards the accumulation of data from the Industrial members leading to the publication of a descriptive directory of the members of the Division. For this purpose blank cards were mailed to all the members, and the returns have been satisfactory. We may consider, therefore, that the data is at hand for the proposed directory, and that it can be published as soon as funds are available for this purpose."

Only two of the Divisional Committees submitted reports for this meeting:

#### REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON DEFINITION OF INDUSTRIAL TERMS.

Your "Committee on the Definition of Industrial Terms" has the honor to report that it has continued its labors since