

that for which he must apologize, he can unwrite it before he goes to press. Surely no reader really wants to read apologies.

My conclusion is that good writing is a form of good manners. Like good manners it has to be learned, and there are individual differences in aptitude for it. It is best learned in youth, and the way to start is for the writer to shift his attention away from himself and to focus it upon that audience whose comprehension of his thought is his only reason for writing at all.

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THE APPROXIMATE CONNECTION OF BOILING POINTS FOR VARIATION IN BAROMETRIC PRESSURE

It is well known¹ and may be readily demonstrated that, for normal liquids, changes in the boiling point, corresponding to small changes in the pressure, may be represented by the following equation:

$$\Delta T = \frac{RT_B}{21} \times \frac{\Delta P}{P}$$

where T_B is the boiling point (in degrees absolute) at the pressure P , R is the gas constant (in calories per mol), and ΔP and ΔT are the corresponding changes in pressure and temperature. However, it does not appear to be common knowledge that the relation may be stated in the following readily remembered form.

$$\Delta T = \frac{T_B}{10} \Delta P_{\text{atm.}}$$

That is, that the change in the boiling point is equal to one tenth of the product of the normal boiling point (in degrees absolute) and the change in pressure, expressed in atmospheres.

When applied to changes of 15 or 20 mm this rule gives results, for normal liquids, which do not differ from the correct values by more than 0.1° C. Although it overcorrects the boiling points of highly associated liquids, the error introduced by applying it to even such abnormal liquids as water or methyl alcohol is less than half of the original correction.

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OPINIONS RENDERED BY THE INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION ON ZOOLOGICAL NOMENCLATURE¹

SUMMARIES of the Opinions are as follows:

Opinion 124.—The various Subdivisions of genera published by Linnaeus in 1758 are not to be accepted

¹ See, for example, MacDougall, "Thermodynamics and Chemistry," Wiley, 1926, p. 133, New York.

¹ Opinions 124 to 133. Smithsonian Miscellaneous Collections, vol. 73, no. 8, October 28, 1936. (Publication 3395).

as of this date (1758) as of subgeneric value under the International Rules.

Opinion 125.—*Borus* Agassiz, 1846, is an emendation of, and therefore an absolute synonym of, *Boros* Herbst, 1797; *Borus* Albers, 1850, is a dead homonym.

Opinion 126.—On basis of evidence and expert advice of outstanding specialists, the commission does not see its way clear to declare the new names in d'Orbigny's, 1850, "Prodrome" as unavailable or as *nomina nuda* under the Rules.

Opinion 127.—Complying with expert advice from specialists in the group involved, the commission herewith suspends the Rules and places *Lepidocyclina* Gümbel, 1868, type *Nummulites mantelli*, in the Official List of Generic Names, with *Cyclosiphon* Ehrenberg, 1856, type *Nummulites mantelli*, as objective synonym. The consultants agree, almost unanimously, that to apply the Rules in this case would produce greater confusion than uniformity.

Opinion 128.—Under suspension of the Rules *Nycteribia* Latreille, 1796, with *pedicularia* Latreille, 1805, as type, and *Spinturnix* von Heyden, 1826, with *myoti* Kolenati, 1856, as type, are hereby placed in the Official List of Generic Names.

The specific name *vespertilionis* of all authors is hereby invalidated for the following generic names: *Acarus*, *Acrocholidia*, *Celeripes*, *Dermanyssus*, *Diplostaspis*, *Gamasus*, *Hippobosca*, *Ichoronyssus*, *Liponyssus*, *Listropoda*, *Megistopoda*, *Nycteribia*, *Pediculus*, *Penicillidia*, *Periglischrus*, *Phthiridium*, *Pteroptus*, *Sarcoptes*, *Spinturnix*, *Strebla*, on the ground that the application of the Rules would produce greater confusion than uniformity.

Opinion 129.—The rules are herewith suspended in the case of *Bipinnaria* 1835 vs. *Luidia* 1839, on the ground that "the strict application of the Règles will clearly result in greater confusion than uniformity." *Luidia* Forbes, 1839, with monotype *fragilissima* 1839 (subjective synonym of *Luidia ciliaris* 1837), is hereby placed in the Official List of Generic Names. The names *Auricularia*, *Bipinnaria*, *Brachiolaria*, and *Pluteus* are hereby excluded from availability as generic names and are reserved as designations of developmental stages.

Opinion 130.—Under suspension of the Rules *Lytoceas* Suess, 1865 (genotype, *Ammonites fimbriatus* Sowerby) is hereby placed in the Official List of Generic Names.

Opinion 131.—The type species of *Tromikosoma* is *T. koehleri*.

Opinion 132.—The "Gattungsbezeichnungen" published by Sobolew, 1914, are of the same nature as the designations published by Herrera; namely, formulae, not generic names, and have no status in Nomenclature. See Opinion 72.