

Comments and Communications

Hybrid

A COMMENT seems in order on the naming of the ingenious device for measuring drinking described by Hill and Stellar (SCIENCE, 114, 43 [1951]). To graft English and Greek to form the word "drinkometer" is unworthy of scientists. If their knowledge of Greek was deficient, they could have done just as I did—consult a Greek-speaking friend. The device in question could be legitimately named "potometer." One may forgive words like "fathometer" or "ceiometer," which are essentially trade names rather than names of scientific instruments.

This brings to mind a problem with respect to artificial languages. If new words in a language like Esperanto could be imported from any language, no matter how obscure, there is nothing to prevent the importation into an artificial language of words that have no meaning to the majority of users because of the unfamiliarity of the language of origin. Likewise, there is the problem of synonymy that now arises if the same concept is named nearly simultaneously by workers with diverse native languages. What might have happened if Fermi, A. H. Compton, and Bohr had independently named the "barn" (nuclear physics) according to the appropriate similes from their own countries? There is therefore some point in the unwritten requirement that new terms should be derived from either Greek or Latin, the result being often nearly identical, and that they should not be either grafts or hybrids.

CHARLES H. BLAKE

Department of Biology
Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Zoological Nomenclature: Notice of Proposed Suspension of the Rules in Certain Cases for the Avoidance of Confusion and the Validation of Current Nomenclatorial Practice (A. (n.s.) 10)

NOTICE is hereby given that the possible use by the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature of its plenary powers is involved in applications relating to the undermentioned names included in Part 11 of Vol. 2 and Parts 1 to 4 of Vol. 6 of the *Bulletin of Zoological Nomenclature*, each of which parts was published on September 28, 1951:

- (1) *Applications in Part 11 of Vol. 2*
 - 1) *Nysius* Dallas, 1852, and *Artheneis* Spinola, 1837 (Class Insecta, Order Hemiptera) (pp. 313-18) (File 181).
 - 2) *Xiphosura* Brünnich, 1771 (Class Merostomata), proposed suppression of, and validation of *Limulus* Müller, 1785 (pp. 319-23) (File 506).

(2) *Applications in Part 1 of Vol. 6*

- 3) Trivial names *duplicatus* and *floriformis* (each published by Martin in 1809 in combination with "*Erismatolithus Madreporites*") (Class Anthozoa) (pp. 7-17) (File 461).
- 4) Trivial names *resupinatus*, *semireticulatus*, *productus*, *crumena*, *pugnus*, *trigonalis*, *subconicus*, and *striatus* (each published by Martin in 1809 in combination with "*Conchyliolithus Anomites*") (Class Brachiopoda) (pp. 7-17) (File 461).
- 5) *Martinia* McCoy, 1844 (Class Brachiopoda) (pp. 30-32) (File 535).

(3) *Applications in Part 2 of Vol. 6*

- 6) *Laternaria* Linnaeus, 1764, proposed suppression of, and validation of *Fulgora* Linnaeus, 1767 (Class Insecta, Order Hemiptera) (pp. 34-44) (File 162).
- 7) *Geotrupes* Latreille, 1796 (Class Insecta, Order Coleoptera) (pp. 49-51) (File 338).
- 8) *Lipeurus*, *Colpocephalum*, *Gyropus*, all of Nitzsch, 1818 (Class Insecta, Order Mallophaga) (pp. 54-60) (File 343).
- 9) *Eureum* Nitzsch, 1818 (Class Insecta, Order Mallophaga) (pp. 61-64) (File 532).

(4) *Applications in Part 3 of Vol. 6*

- 10) *Modiolus* Lamarck, 1799 (Class Pelecypoda) (pp. 67-71) (File 213).
- 11) *Hexarthra* Schmarda, 1854, and suppression of trivial name *polyptera* Schmarda, 1854 (as published in combination with above generic name) (Class Rotifera) (pp. 73-78) (File 340).
- 12) *Trigonia* Bruguiere, 1789 (Class Pelecypoda) (pp. 79-83) (File 499).
- 13) Trivial name *caesius* Cloquet, 1818 (as published in the combination *Coluber caesius*) (Class Reptilia, Order Squamata) (pp. 88-89) (File 531).
- (5) *Applications in Part 4 of Vol. 6*
 - 14) Trivial name *quinqueloba* Goldfuss, 1831 (as published in the combination *Asterias quinqueloba*) (Class Asteroidea) (p. 106) (File 514).
 - 15) *Hoplites* Neumayr, 1875 (Class Cephalopoda, Order Ammonoidea) (pp. 110-13) (File 533).
 - 16) *Anguina* Scopoli, 1777 (Class Nematoda), possible suppression of (pp. 125-26) (File 588).

2. The present notice is given in pursuance of decisions taken, on the recommendation of the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature, by the Thirteenth International Congress of Zoology, Paris, July 1948 (*Bull. Zool. Nomencl.*, 4, 51, 57; 5, 5, 131 [1950]).

3. Any specialist who may desire to comment on any of the foregoing applications is invited to do so in writing to the Secretary to the International Commission, 28 Park Village East, Regent's Park, N. W. 1, Eng., as soon as possible. Every such comment should be clearly marked with the commission's file number as given in the present notice.

4. If received in sufficient time before the commencement by the International Commission of voting on the applications in question, comments received in response to the present notice will be published in the *Bulletin of Zoological Nomenclature*; comments re-