



Voigt Hodgson, Research Associate, demonstrates the position of the cadaver in the ejection sled.

Professor Larry Patrick, Wayne State University, makes a notation on the Visicorder Oscillograph.

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the proficient and perplexes the uninstructed.” It seems that Soulides has failed quite completely to understand the classic techniques of latinization of Greek words for use in biological taxonomy.

R. E. BUCHANAN

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Use of Latin and neo-Latin nomenclature in systematic biology is a long-established practice with which I have no inclination to quarrel. My objection applies to the nomenclatural innovation which Buchanan has introduced in the current edition of *Bergey's Manual*—namely, the arbitrary latinization of the Greek nouns and adjectives from which the accepted latinized names of microorganisms originate. Let me again explain my point, with another example. On page 513 of the *Manual* we read that the species name *zooepidemicus* derives from the “Gr. noun *zōon* an animal; Gr. adj. *epidemi* prevalent” These two words are neither Greek nor Latin. They are not to be found in any Greek, Latin, English, or biological dictionary. They are personal versions of the real Greek words *zōon* and *epidemi*os. In this way hundreds of Greek words, throughout the *Manual*, have been remodeled and presented to the reader as “Greek” nouns and adjectives. In the instance of *Peptostreptococcus micros* (p. 537) the treatment was carried even farther; the phantom derivative *micrus* is given as the source of the actual Greek word *micro*s (small). In his reply Buchanan has ignored all these basic points.

The confusion resulting from this unusual procedure was adequately discussed in my original letter.

I would like to renew my plea that, in the interest of established scientific scholarship, the innovation in question be discontinued and the accepted system, used in the previous edition of the *Manual*, be restored.

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Water Conduits and Collectors

I would appreciate clarification of a point discussed in Robert Adams's informative article, “Agriculture and urban life in early Southwestern Iran” [*Science* 136, 109 (13 Apr. 1962)]. Adams writes of the “extensive use of

tunnels with periodic vent holes” both as water conduits and as ground-water collectors. Reference here is obviously to the famous *kharez*, *kanats*, or *fog-garas*. These are usually described in the literature only as collectors and conduits for ground water, not as part of a system for transporting surface runoff. For example, Tolman [*Ground Water* (1937) pp. 12–15] mentions the *kanats* of Dizful extending under the gravel bars of the Ab-i-diz River rather than diverting surface water from the river itself. It would be extremely interesting if *kanats* were integrated with systems of surface stream diversion, with some of the tunnels serving two functions, as it were. This last is the implication I read into Adams's article.

I will be grateful for confirmation or clarification of this point.

BERL GOLOMB

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Golomb's inference is partly correct. The technique extensively applied in Iran for the construction of ground-water collectors also was applied in Khuzestan for surface diversion from the larger streams. I have entered and followed long-disused sections of major supply tunnels serving the Sassanian and early Islamic irrigation systems from their inlets along the Karkheh, Diz, and Karun river banks, and from the level of their beds it seems clear that these tunnels served as direct off-takes from the rivers themselves. How they were kept from being choked with silt under such circumstances is not entirely clear; presumably their gradients were great enough to prevent this.

On the other hand, I know of no evidence that these same major supply tunnels also were fed by branching networks of smaller tunnels serving as ground-water collectors. The straight parallel rows of surviving vent holes on the air photographs suggest, instead, that they were used simply as underground conduits. Elsewhere in the area, to be sure, there were smaller systems of tunnels serving the more usual purpose of collectors. For example, one of apparent Sassanian date lay along the north slope of a low ridge north of the Shaur River (see Fig. 5 of the article).

With regard to the contemporary use of *kanats* in the area, I have no firsthand information.

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