

point of view, Astin has glossed over an extremely significant result by his treatment of the data.

It is, of course, possible that the data were erroneous, but revision should be made on the basis of a more extensive investigation, not to secure agreement with preconceived ideas of plausibility.

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If I correctly understand his comment, Squire feels that changing the estimate of the mean I.Q. score for college graduates from 121 to 115 was not justified merely in order "to secure agreement with preconceived ideas of plausibility." I would be inclined to agree with him if this were the only basis on which I made the change. But my principal authority for this decision was L. R. Harmon [*Science* 133, 679 (1961)], who found a monotonic function in the general population. I felt that my function should conform to Harmon's, not merely that it should be "plausible." I specifically refer to Harmon's findings in the reference in question (reference 11).

It might also be added that, in our longitudinal studies of Merit Finalists (who represent these extremely high levels of aptitude) we have never observed such reversals—that is, the relationships between aptitude and the probabilities of entering college, completing college, and entering graduate school have consistently turned out to be positive and monotonic.

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Fact and Fashion in Scientific Nomenclature

Needless to say, the debate over biological terminology between Souliides and Buchanan [*Science* 136, 947 (1962)] is not so much an argument over fact as an argument over fashion.

Generally speaking, 19th-century scholars preferred to latinize scientific terms of Greek origin, while 20th-century scholars prefer to preserve the Hellenic spelling of these terms.

Nonetheless, some peripheral questions of fact raised by the two disputants do merit comment. Though I think Buchanan generally stands on firmer factual ground than does Souliides, Souliides correctly insists that the

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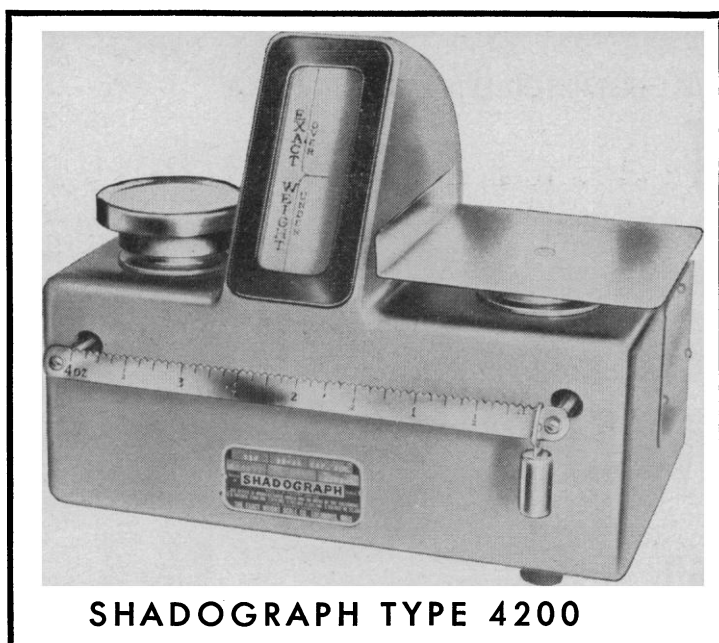
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stem of the Greek word for sulfur—from which the generic term *Thioploca* derives—is *theio-* (latinized *thio-*). The root, to be sure, is *thei-* (latinized *thi-*), while the word is *theion* (latinized *thium*); but a stem is at once more than a root and less than a word. Buchanan errs in asserting that *all* intranominal *o*'s in such compounds are "connecting vowels." Most of them are; but where the first noun is a Greek *o-* stem (as it is in *theio-/thio-*), the *-o-* is an integral part of that noun rather than a neutral compound-formative.

However, Soulides errs in declaring flatly that Greek *deiktikos*, "indicative," and Greek *dektikos*, "mordant," must be "pronounced the same." In modern Greek, *ei* and *ē* (as well as *i* and *u*) are identically pronounced; but in classical Greek (from which technical terms are preferably derived) they were differently pronounced, in non-Attic as well as in Attic dialects.

What is most needed in such questions, it seems to me, is not pontification but consensus. Yet, until the various international biological congresses make some sort of collective pronouncement on the merits and demerits of latinization as a general nomenclatural principle, such consensus will continue to be no more than a pious hope, and acrimonious debate will go on, to the edification of few and the enlightenment of none.

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Genetic Composition and Cultural Structure

I would like to take issue with the passage in G. G. Simpson's review of T. Dobzhansky's *Mankind Evolving* [*Science* 136, 142 (13 Apr. 1962)] in which Simpson asserts, "Many ethnologists follow Leslie White to the opposite extreme [from the position of C. D. Darlington], maintaining that genetic differences and changes in mankind can be completely ignored, that all normal individuals of our species are biologically identical as far as present status and future possibilities are concerned."

This statement appears to me thoroughly to misrepresent White and certainly corresponds to no opinion held by any ethnologist known to me. It is certainly contrary to what any anthropologist, ethnologist or otherwise,