

The Article 30 (g) of the International Rules of Zoological Nomenclature.

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The two opposing camps in type-determination may be designated as the adherents of „elimination“ and those of the „first species“ rule. Every effort has been made for years to bring these two camps together, but the attempts have failed. Immediately prior to and at the Boston Congress, the status of the difference of opinion was nothing less than acute, and it looked very much as if there would be a serious rupture among zoologists on the subject. This condition induced me to propose to both sides that the Law of Priority be applied to type designations, so that that species first designated as type should be accepted as such, regardless of the fact whether it was designated by elimination, by the first species rule, by the rule of type by inclusion, or by any other rule. Several caucuses were held with both factions prior to the meeting of the Commission at which this subject was brought up for discussion, and both sides expressed themselves as satisfied with the proposition and agreed to abide by it. Upon receiving assurances from the leaders of both factions that they would unite on this solution, although neither side would surrender to the other, I brought the matter up for discussion in the Commission and Article 30 (g) was adopted as the safest plan that could be devised.

To my mind it is the logical and most objective plan. Those who differ with me on this point have their reasons for doing so, as I have mine for supporting the plan. We are at liberty to retain our different ideas, but the fact remains that the rule is now in the code, that the struggle between the two factions which has lasted for years is now rapidly becoming a matter of past history, and that the Commission has received assurances from many sources that we followed the only course open to us which promised ultimate harmony.

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