

Was die systematische Stellung betrifft, so möchte ich doch mit Steindachner und Lockington die vorliegende Art als Vertreter eines eignen Genus anerkennen, und sie nicht, entsprechend dem Vorgehen Günthers, einfach zu *Schedophilus* stellen. Die völlige Schuppenlosigkeit ist doch ein bedeutsames generisches Merkmal. Andererseits scheint es mir sehr richtig, wenn Günther das Genus *Schedophilus* unter die Coryphaeninen stellt; schon der ganze Habitus des Kopfes spricht dafür. Dann würde also auch *Icosteus* daneben zu stellen sein.

In bezug auf die Diagnose des Genus kann die von Steindachner für sein Genus *Schedophilopsis* aufgestellte nicht auf *Icosteus* übertragen werden, denn sie enthält eine unzutreffende Angabe über den Kiemen- deckel und kennzeichnet auch die vordere Grenze der Rückenflosse nicht in Übereinstimmung mit Lockington und meinem Exemplar. Man muß also auf die ältere Diagnose von Lockington zurückgreifen und dabei nur dessen Annahme, *Icosteus enigmaticus* gehöre zu den Blennio- iden, durch die richtigere Erkenntnis Günthers ersetzen.

Bremen den 2. Oktober 1905.

Literatur.

- 1) Lockington, W. N., Description of a new genus and some new species of California Fishes. Proceed. of the United States National Museum. Vol. III. 1880. p. 63—66.
- 2) Steindachner, Fr., Ichthyologische Beiträge (XI). Sitzungsber. kais. Akad. d. Wiss. Wien. Math.-naturw. Kl. Bd. LXXXIII. 1881. S. 396—397
- 3) Steindachner, Fr., Ichthyologische Beiträge (XII). Ebenda. Bd. LXXXVI. 1882. S. 82.
- 4) Günther, Report of the Challenger. Zoology. Vol. XXII. p. 46—47.
- 5) Goode, D., und Bean, M. S., Oceanic ichthyology. Special Bulletin of the Smithsonian Institution. Washington 1895. p. 215—216.
- 6) Günther, Catalogue of the Acanthopterygian Fishes. British Museum. Vol. II. p. 411.

II. Mitteilungen aus Museen, Instituten usw.

1. Linnean Society of New South Wales.

Abstract of Proceedings, August 30th, 1905. — The following papers were read: — 1) Crustacea dredged off Port Jackson in deep water. By F. E. Grant, F.L.S. — This short paper deals with a small collection of Crustacea dredged in from 250 to 300 fathoms, 28 miles east of Port Jackson Heads in March of the present year. The expedition was arranged by Mr. W. F. Petterd, and organised by Mr. C. Hedley, mainly with a view of procuring marine shells; and the dredges employed were more fitted for that purpose than for obtaining such objects as crabs. Still the results must be considered satisfactory as an addition to our knowledge of this almost unexplored region. Six species of Malacostraca were taken, of which four species referable to the genera *Hyastenus*, *Cymonomops*, *Latreillopsis*, and *Pa-*

guristes are described as new. Of the remaining two species, *Ebalia tuberculosa* and *Ibacus alticrenatus*, only the former has previously been recorded as belonging to our fauna. — 2) Notes on Prosobranchiata. No. 4. The Ontogenetic Stages represented by the Gastropod Protoconch. By H. Leighton Kesteven. — The present contribution is a continuation of the writer's attempts to unravel the puzzles presented by the Gastropod Protoconch. He finds that he is able to define four stages of growth represented, and supposes an "ideal" protoconch to be composed of 1) the "plug" of the primitive shell gland, 2) a portion formed by the veliger, 3) a portion formed during the nepionic stage, and finally 4) a portion formed during early neanic stages. To these component parts he gives the names 1) Phyloconch, 2) Veloconch, 3) Nepioconch, and 4) Ananeoconch. The ideal protoconch does occur in life, but only very rarely. Phyloconchs and Nepioconchs are rare, whilst Veloconchs and Ananeoconchs are common. The "naticoid" initial whorl is discussed, and the conclusion arrived at that it owes its shape to physical laws rather than to inherited characters. The value of the protoconch as a factor in classification is also canvassed, and it is concluded that, as it is a "variable," it should be only used in conjunction with other factors, and that only where the other features, conchic or anatomic, are negative or unknown is it to be used in deciding a systematic position or generic segregation. That is to say, when weighed against such a character as generic similarity of adult conchic features, only if there be a very fundamental and deep-seated difference between the protoconchs, should their evidence be considered more weighty than the very positive evidence of the adult shells. — 5) On the supposed Numerical Preponderance of the Males in Odonata. By E. J. Tillyard, B.A. — Reasons are given for concluding that the ratio of the numbers of the sexes in the Dragon-flies or Odonata is a ratio of equality. The idea of the preponderance of the males, suggested largely by the examination of collections, and voiced from time to time by naturalists, has not been confirmed by experience in rearing a large number of nymphs of *Lestes leda*. Allowance has to be made also for the following facts — The males are the more conspicuous, the more brilliantly coloured, and more frequently on the wing; and they love to congregate in marshy spots and along the borders of creeks and rivers; while the females often retire into the bush or hide themselves in the herbage; the female, too, is fond of coming out to feed at dusk. Except during oviposition, the sexes are in many instances quite separated, and only those collectors who will take the trouble to search in out of the way places, often far from water, are able to obtain a good series of females. — Mr. Froggatt shows specimens of the Vine Moth, *Phalaenoides (Agarista) glycine* Lewin, and also of a parasite, the Red-legged Ichneumon, *Pimpla intricatoria* Fabr. The pupae of the Moth were collected in an orchard at Canley Vale. Pupation ordinarily takes place in the ground; but in this particular instance the chrysalides were developed among leaves pressed against the stakes when the vines were tied up; and scarcely a single one had escaped the attention of the parasite. — On behalf of the author, Mr. Hedley exhibited the types of the deep-water Crustacea described in Mr. Grant's paper. — Mr. Hedley also exhibited, on behalf of Mr. Bassett Hull, good examples of Pearl Oyster Spat (probably *Meleagrina vulgaris* Schumacher) found on pieces of pumice washed up on the beaches north of Sydney, between 7th February and 31st March, 1904. At

the end of 1903 a submarine disturbance occurred at Tanna, New Hebrides. On the 8th January, 1904, the schooner 'Enterprise' sailed for two days through floating pumice some 200 miles west of the Banks Islands. From February to March, 1904, many tons of pumice were washed ashore on the beaches of Deewhy, Curl Curl, Freshwater and Manly. Many pieces bore pearl oyster spat from $\frac{1}{8}$ of an inch to $1\frac{1}{2}$ inch in diameter. These were all alive, and even after exposure to rain and sun for 72 hours showed signs of life. From one piece of pumice weighing about 20 oz. no less than 40 spat were taken. — Mr. H. J. Carter exhibited examples of two beetles — *Pausoptinus laticornis* Lea (Fam. Ptinidae), and *Nepharis alata* Castelnau (Fam. Colydiidae) — taken from ants' nests in North West Victoria, and described in the Proceedings of the Royal Society Victoria for 1905 by Mr. Lea. — Mr. Kesteven showed protoconchs of *Megalatractus aruanus* Linn., in illustration of his paper. — Mr. Palmer gave some additional particulars of the breeding habits of the Chestnut-eared Finch in captivity.

2. Ergänzungen und Nachträge zu dem Personalverzeichnis zoologischer Anstalten.

Der Herausgeber richtet an die Herren Fachgenossen die Bitte, ihm etwaige Ergänzungen der Personalverzeichnisse oder eingetretene Veränderungen freundlichst bald mitteilen zu wollen.

E. Korschelt.

Gießen.

Herr Privatdoz. Dr. M. Hartmann ist als Assistent am Institut für Infektionskrankheiten nach Berlin übersiedelt; seine Stellung als Assistent am Zoologischen Institut hat Herr Dr. Max Rauther übernommen.

III. Personal-Notizen.

During the winter the address of Dr. Wm. S. Marshall of the University of Wisconsin will be

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Nekrolog.

Am 2. November starb in Würzburg Albert von Kölliker, Prof. der Anatomie, Wirkl. Geheimrat, Excellenz, im Alter von 88 Jahren, durch seine ausgezeichneten Untersuchungen in gleicher Weise verdient um die Anatomie, Histologie und Entwicklungsgeschichte der Tiere.

Berichtigung.

In dem Artikel von Th. Mollison Nr. 13., S. 421, Zeile 18, muß es heißen: 22 mm statt em.

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