

- Parlatore, F. 1849. *Tetrapleura*. Page 131 in P. B. Webb, *Spicilegia Gorgonea*. In: W. J. Hooker, *Niger Flora*. London.
- . 1850. Umbelliferae. In: P. B. Webb, Appendix to the "Spicilegia Gorgonea" published in the "Flora of the Niger Expedition". *Hooker's J. Bot. Kew Gard. Misc.* 2: 308–313, 345–348, 369–372.
- Shaw, H. K. A. 1973. *A dictionary of the flowering plants and ferns*. 8th ed. Cambridge.
- Trevisan, G. V. 1853. *Tornabenia et Blastinospora nova Parmeliarum genera*. Pavii. [Not seen.]

GENERAL COMMITTEE REPORT 1977–1980

Since the previous report (Taxon 25: 511–512. 1976) the General Committee has approved three reports of Special Committees, and the names recommended therein for conservation may thus be used, under Art. 15, pending final decision by the Sydney Congress:

- Committee for Spermatophyta* 20 (Taxon 27: 285–289. May 1978).
Committee for Spermatophyta 21 (Taxon 27: 543–546. Nov. 1978).
Committee for Fungi & Lichens (Taxon 27: 543. Nov. 1978).

In 1978 the General Committee was asked for an opinion under Art. 75 as to whether the generic names *Rhaponticum* Ludwig and *Rhapontica* Hill are sufficiently alike to be confused and should be treated as variants. Of the 12 members of the Committee who voted, 7 considered the names to be homonyms and 5 did not. (Both names apply to Compositae included in the broadest concept of *Centaurea*.)

The Committee was also asked in 1978 for opinions as to whether certain names for genera of Palmae should be considered homonyms. Nine of the 19 members voted with the following results:

- Butia* [Palmae] and *Butea* [Leguminosae] are not variants (6-3).
Carpentaria [Palmae] and *Carpenteria* [Saxifragaceae] are not variants (7-2).
Dictyosperma [Palmae] and *Dictyospermum* [Commelinaceae] are not variants (8-1).
Ravenea [Palmae] and *Ravenia* [Rutaceae] are not variants (5-4).
Rhaphidophyllum [Palmae] and *Raphidophyllum* (or *Rhaphidophyllum*) [Scrophulariaceae] are not variants (7-2).

By varying majorities, the members who voted thus expressed the opinion that none of these names are homonyms.

Early in 1980 the General Committee voted on whether *Lichenella* [Algae] and *Lichinella* [Lichenes] should be treated as homonyms. Seven members voted that these names are variants and 4 voted that they are not.

According to Division III Prov. 4B2 of the Code, the General Committee is responsible for final approval of the list of institutional votes eligible to be cast at the Nomenclature Section. The Committee is now reviewing the list as thoroughly revised for the Leningrad Congress (and which, it is hoped, will have been published in the Report of the Nomenclature Section in the Congress proceedings by the time this report appears in print). Anyone with suggested revisions in the list should communicate with me immediately.

The General Committee represents the Nomenclature Section between Congresses, and in July of 1979 the Rapporteur-général, F. A. Stafleu, after consulting with the chairman of the Committee, R. Ross, proposed to the Committee that the undersigned be appointed Rapporteur as of his resignation, 1 January 1980. The Committee concurred, with the understanding that the International Bureau for Plant Taxonomy and Nomenclature in Utrecht and IAPT would continue to play their essential supportive roles.

*E. G. Voss, Secretary, Herbarium, North University Bldg.,
University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI 48109, U.S.A.*