

comprised about fifty-five papers, but of these not more than ten were of international or semi-international interest.

Mr. Charles Oberthur in his paper advocated the adoption of a rule that no description should be accepted as valid unless accompanied by a good figure. Such an idea could not, of course, be entertained, for, apart from the difficulty of determining what is a good figure, it would, in the absence of highly-endowed journals or expensive government publications (which would only be open to official entomologists), throw the work of describing new species into the hands of wealthy entomologists who could afford to furnish the illustrations.

The suggestion of Mr. Ernest Olivier, that the Latin language should be used in all entomological descriptions is equally impracticable; and, even if it could be adopted, would certainly not mend matters, judging from the extremely meagre and inadequate Latin descriptions of the past.

The centralization of diagnostic descriptions, advocated by Mr. E. E. Green, while a consummation devoutly to be wished, seems impossible of attainment, but certainly a great improvement over the present chaotic condition could be made by a little co-operation between the entomologists of each country.

Of the other papers of international import, the only ones which led to any action were those by Mr. A. G. L. Rogers and Messrs. Wheeler and Bethune-Baker, the latter being accompanied by a communication on nomenclature from the Entomological Society of London, which led to important action being taken, as detailed by Dr. Hewitt.

There is another point which certainly merits consideration, and that is the serious disproportion among the representatives of the different nations, the English members of the congress equalling, if not outnumbering, the representatives of all the other countries combined. This was referred to by one of the German entomologists to whom I spoke while waiting on the Tring platform for the London train, who pointed to the whole page of names of English representatives, and said there were too many.

Disproportionate representation is, of course, inevitable, as there will always be a fuller representation of the entomologists of the country in which the congress is held, but if it should ever be desired to settle any disputed point by majority vote, some scheme of proportional voting power would probably have to be adopted.

If the congress could be brought to seriously consider and decide such questions as to whether or not the law of priority should be rigidly enforced in all cases, irrespective of consequences, whether the Tentamen of Hubner should or should not be recognized, and similar troublesome questions, it would do more to justify its existence than it has yet done.