COLLIGNONICERAS BREISTROFFER, 1947 (MOLLUSCA, AMMONOIDEA): APPLICATION TO PLACE ON THE OFFICIAL LIST OF GENERIC NAMES IN ZOOLOGY WITH PRIORITY FROM 1876. Z.N.(S.) 1738

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1. In 1876 Meek (: 453) established a genus *Prionotropis* (type-species by original designation *Ammonites woollgari* Mantell, 1822) for a group of ammonites widespread in the Turonian stage of the Upper Cretaceous in Europe, North America and Asia and of great stratigraphical importance. A family was subsequently based by Zittel (1895 : 430) on this generic name and came into general use. However Breistroffer (1947) recognized that the name was a homonym of *Prionotropis* Fieber, 1853 (: 127) and proposed the substitute name *Collignoniceras.* At the same time he illegitimately replaced the family name Prionotropidae Zittel by the name Prionocyclidae, based on *Prionocyclus* Meek, 1876, a close relative of *Prionotropis* Meek *non* Fieber, which had been provisionally proposed by Haas in 1946 (: 218). Wright and Wright (1951 : 30) corrected this by substituting the name Collignoniceratidae based on the new name of the type-genus.

2. In 1940, however, Warren and Stelck (: 151) had established a new genus *Selwynoceras*, type-species by original designation *Prionotropis* (?) *borealis* Warren, 1930, regarded by them as closely allied to but distinct from *Prionotropis* Meek *non* Fieber. In the Treatise on Invertebrate Paleontology Wright (1957 : L 426) treated *Selwynoceras* as only subgenerically distinct from *Collignoniceras* Breistroffer (=*Prionotropis* Meek *non* Fieber), but maintained *Collignoniceras* as the name for the combined genus, although it was proposed in 1947, on the assumption that as a replacement name for *Prionotropis* Meek, 1876, it took priority over *Selwynoceras* Warren & Stelck, 1940; this assumption was incorrect at the time.

3. Whatever may have been the effect of the Rules in 1957, Article 39 (a) (i) of the 1961 edition of the Rules laid down that the new name of the type-genus of a family, that is found to be a junior homonym, should take the date of the name replaced. It could therefore have been argued between 1961, when this clause was adopted, and 1964, when it was dropped, that *Collignoniceras* Breistroffer, 1947, should be assigned for purposes of priority the date 1876 and that it should not therefore be replaced by *Selwynoceras* when that genus was regarded as subjectively synonymous with it, at generic or subgeneric level.

4. On the other hand Powell (1963 : 1223) held that *Selwynoceras* and *Collignoniceras* were not even subgenerically distinct. He argued that *Selwynoceras* was available as a substitute name for *Prionotropis* Meek *non* Fieber and should have been adopted in 1947. He maintained Collignoniceratidae as the correct name for the family, under Article 40, but ignored the provision in Article 39 (a) (i), in force at the time and treated *Collignoniceras* as a junior synonym of *Selwynoceras*.

5. In the 1964 edition of the Rules, in accordance with the decision of Congress, the provision under Article 39 for backdating replacement generic and family names no longer appears.

6. Since its establishment in 1947 the name *Collignoniceras* has come into general use and has appeared in a large number of stratigraphical and palaeontological works, for example Bürgl, 1957: Cobban, 1951: Cobban & Reeside, 1952: Cobban, Rohrer & Erdmann, 1956: Matsumoto, 1959 a, 1959 b & 1965: Matsumoto & Miller, 1958: Müller, 1960: Wright, 1957 & 1963: Wright & Wright, 1951. To the best of our knowledge no author has yet followed Powell in substituting *Selwynoceras* for *Collignoniceras.*

7. Authors may in future hold *Selwynoceras* to be generically distinct from or subgenerically distinct from or absolutely synonymous with *Collignoniceras* Breistroffer. In the interest of stability of nomenclature of this widespread and stratigraphically important group of ammonites it is highly desirable to avoid changes of name resulting from subjective changes of opinion about the relative taxonomic status of *Selwynoceras* and *Collignoniceras.* To achieve this end it seems best that the Commission should under its plenary powers assign the original date, 1876, of *Prionotropis* Meek *non* Fieber to its replacement name *Collignoniceras.*

8. We therefore invite the Commission to:

(1) use its plenary powers to grant priority from 1876 to the generic name *Collignoniceras* Breistroffer, 1947;

(2) place the following generic names on the Official List of Generic Names in Zoology:

(a) *Collignoniceras* Breistroffer, 1947, with priority for the purposes of synonymy from 1876, being the replacement name of *Prionotropis* Meek, 1876 non Fieber, 1853 (gender : neuter) (type-species, by original designation *Ammonites woollgari* Mantell, 1822);

(b) *Selwynoceras* Warren & Stelck, 1940 (gender : neuter) (type-species, by original designation, *Prionotropis borealis* Warren, 1930);

(3) place on the Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Generic Names in Zoology the name *Prionotropis* Meek, 1876 (a junior homonym of *Prionotropis* Fieber, 1853);

(4) place the following specific names on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology:

(a) *woollgari* Mantell, 1822, as published in the binomen *Ammonites woollgari* (type-species of *Collignoniceras* Breistroffer, 1947 (1876));

(b) *borealis* Warren, 1930, as published in the binomen *Prionotropis* (?) *borealis* (type-species of *Selwynoceras* Warren & Stelck, 1940).

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