International Committee on Nomenclature of Bacteria

Subcommittee on *Pseudomonas* and Related Organisms

Minutes of Meeting, 8 August 1971

Mexico City, Mexico

Minute 1. Call to order. The meeting was called to order by the Chairman, J. M. Shewan, on 8 August 1970.

Minute 2. Record of attendance. Present were J. M. Shewan (Chairman), P. V. Liu, R. W. H. Schubert, M. Véron, and Muriel E. Rhodes. Absent were E. G. Afrikian, H. Iizuka, J. Liston, O. Lysenko, and W. L. Sulzbacher.

Minute 3. Resignations. M. P. Starr attended the meeting briefly to submit his resignation from the Subcommittee. During the year resignations had also been received from Eve Billing and from W. C. Haynes, Secretary of the Subcommittee.

Minute 4. Election of Secretary. Muriel E. Rhodes was unanimously elected as Secretary of the Subcommittee.

Minute 5. Expression of thanks to former Subcommittee members. The Secretary will write to past members of the Subcommittee to thank them for their services, especially the previous Secretary, W. C. Haynes.

Minute 6. Election of new members. A mail vote will be taken to elect three new members to replace those who resigned.

Minute 7. Expansion of membership. It was suggested that the Subcommittee might be enlarged to include members active in the genetic and molecular fields relevant to *Pseudomonas* taxonomy. A factor in favor of an enlarged Subcommittee is that such might result in better attendance at future international meetings; it was noted that only 5 members were present at Mexico City. There was much discussion about this suggestion; some were in favor of an enlarged Subcommittee and some were not. It was pointed out that *Pseudomonas* experts could be invited to submit opinions in an advisory capacity only, and thus keep the working Subcommittee down to its present size of 13. Because only 5 members were present, it was decided that the Secretary will conduct a mail poll to ascertain the views of the members concerning the desirability of expanding the membership.

Minute 8. Progress report. The Subcommit-

tee has not been very active since the last Congress (Moscow) for a variety of reasons: some members have resigned (including the Secretary, W. C. Haynes) and others have been either actively participating in cooperative studies on *Pseudomonas* and related organisms with the United Kingdom Working Party or assisting with the preparation of the *Pseudomonas* (and other) sections of the new *Bergey's Manual*.

Minute 9. Future Activities. The future program of the Subcommittee was discussed, and it will include the following:

(1) Examination of the manuscript by Doudoroff and Weeks in connection with the revised section on *Pseudomonas* for the *Bergey's Manual* (8th ed.). Scrutiny of the proposed neotype strains of *Pseudomonas*. Laboratory study of the strains if necessary. If proposed neotype strains not acceptable, criticisms to be supported by experimental data wherever possible. Challenges of neotype strains to be reported to the Judicial Commission.

(2) A similar scrutiny and action as in item (1) for the genus *Aeromonas*.

(3) Examination of proposals for species of *Pseudomonas*, especially in connection with the phytopathogens and the marine pseudomonads.

(4) Preparation of lists of species of *Pseudomonas* under three headings: (a) A list of *Pseudomonas* species in culture collections for which an adequate description and a living culture (the type strain or a neotype strain) are available. [A complete catalogue is desirable to include the history and number(s) of each strain so that duplications of the same strain in more than one culture collection are evident.] (b) A list of organisms described as *Pseudomonas* species which do not exist in culture collections but for which an acceptable strain could probably be found and designated as a neotype strain. (c) A list of species of *Pseudomonas* for which no organisms exist and for which the descriptions are so poor that the species names should be officially rejected.

Synonyms also to be elucidated and recognized as such by formal rejection.

(5) To assess the four differing serological classifications of *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* as proposed by Habs, Verder and Evans, Lanyi, and Homma. Subcommittee members Liu and Véron were asked to assess the serological data and submit opinions concerning the four suggested schemes so that the infrasubspecific serotype classification of *P. aeruginosa* may be standardized. Members were authorized to coopt other workers in this field for full data and opinions concerning this infrasubspecific taxonomy and nomenclature.

Minute 10. *Present membership.* The present membership of the Subcommittee is as follows: J. M. Shewan (Chairman), Aberdeen, Scotland, United Kingdom; Muriel E. Rhodes (Secretary), Aberystwyth, Wales, United Kingdom; E. G. Afrikian, Everan, USSR; H. Iizuka, Tokyo, Japan; J. Liston, Seattle, Washington, USA; P. V. Liu, Louisville, Kentucky, USA; O. Lysenko, Prague, Czechoslovakia; R. W. H. Schubert, Frankfurt, Germany; W. L. Sulzbacher, Beltsville, Maryland, USA; M. Véron, Paris, France.

Muriel E. Rhodes, Secretary