

synonym. We take this statement of synonymy to be correct, but insist that *K. mutica* is the *senior* synonym, as we cannot accept Azuma's statement of the publication date in the face of the evidence to the contrary. We therefore suggest the following formal synonymy:

*Kyidris mutica* Brown (Sept. 20, 1949), *Mushi*, XX, pp. 3-6, fig. 1, A, B, C, worker.

=*Polyhomoa itoi* Azuma (Jan. 10, 1950), *Hyogo Biology*, I, pp. 35-37, figs., worker. (New Synonymy.)

Azuma's behavior in this matter has been irregular, to say the least. Furthermore, in recent exchanges, he has offered "paratypes," so labelled, of Japanese Formicidae, which, when they have arrived, prove to bear labels bearing a date *after* that of the original publication of the species concerned and are from localities other than the type locality. In view of this set of irregularities on the part of Azuma, and considering his very widely propagated requests for material in the form of literature and exchanges, etc. of specimens, we consider that full exposure of his activity may prevent confusion in the future. The authors deplore the great amount of aberrant publication on ant taxonomy issued in the recent past by several authors who, in our opinion, should not have access to scientific journals under any circumstances. In our opinion, the International Commission would do well to consider possible steps to be taken in the direction of nullifying the works of authors publishing in bad faith or in extreme naiveté, and should certainly be ready to condemn the publication of those suffering strong mental aberration.

The publication of new species, genera and even tribes of ants continues to flow faster than does that of revisionary matter. While this is due partly to the "mihi too" inclinations of myrmecologists, it must also be said that many editors of entomological publications will jibe at frank criticism and new synonymy while at the same time freely and uncritically publishing impossibly diagnosed novelties from the pens of the wildest authors. The time has come to remove criticism from the realm of discreet whispers. If the work of a specialist is consistently and continuously very poor and confusing taxonomically, the facts and opinions concerning it, providing they are fair, should be published widely. In the past, entomological specimens have often continued to flow to authors long after their "eccentricity" (often amounting to sheer, indisputable dementia) had been noted and passed over in discreet silence. In consequence, very many thousands of genera and species of insects remain as little more than published names. Mental aberrants