

***Lasius (Acanthomyops) claviger* in Tahiti.**—Prof. C. H. Edmondson of Washburn College, Topeka, Kansas, has recently sent me, among some ants which he collected in Tahiti, a vial containing eight workers and four winged females of *Lasius (Acanthomyops) claviger*, a species hitherto known to occur only in the northern portion of the United States. Having doubts of the authenticity of the label on the specimens, I wrote Prof. Edmondson and received the following reply: "In regard to the specimens of the common ant, *Lasius claviger*, I assure you that they were also taken in Tahiti during August, 1908. I have a mental picture of the exact spot in Tahiti where I obtained them; in a broad street in the village of Papeete, under stones. I could not possibly have substituted Kansas ants, for I have never collected any ants in this state or in any other part of the United States, and there are no ants in my insect collection. Moreover, the Tahitian material was labelled in the original vial, soon after collecting." This statement leaves no doubt that *L. claviger* has been recently imported into the Society Islands and is sufficiently well established to produce queens. The only other known case of a North American ant being introduced into the islands of the Pacific is *Pogonomyrmex occidentalis* Cresson. This well-known harvester of the high plains of Wyoming, Colorado, New Mexico and the adjoining states, was recorded several years ago by Forel as occurring in Hawaii.—W. M. WHEELER.

A Desert Cockroach.—The cockroaches, so far as their habits are concerned, are commonly supposed to constitute a rather monotonous group. This is probably due to the small number and uninteresting behavior of the species that come under the observation of entomologists dwelling in temperate regions. A glance at the more recent literature, however, shows that the Blattoidea are really one of the most extraordinary groups of insects. Their immense antiquity, the diversity of their fossil forms, the probability, recently emphasized by Handlirsch, that the group produced the ancestors of the modern Termites and Hymenoptera, the gregariousness of certain species, foreshadowing the social habits of these same Termites and of many Hymenoptera, the wide dispersal of certain household species, the development of ovoviviparity in several tropical forms and of myrmecophilous and sphegophilous habits in others—all these peculiarities