

WILLIAM L. BROWN

Reprinted from ENTOMOLOGICAL NEWS, Vol. LXI, No. 4, July, 1950
Printed in U. S. A.

Ants from Saipan, Marianas Islands

By NEAL A. WEBER, Swarthmore College,
Swarthmore, Pennsylvania

Professor R. K. Enders kindly collected for me ants on Saipan during the summer of 1949 while he was engaged in mammal studies for the Pacific Science Board under the auspices of the Office of Naval Research. These ants were principally those species coming to his mammal skinning tables and therefore represent a sampling of the scavenging, adaptable species.

The records are also of interest in representing one of the far-flung Pacific Islands, comparatively few of which have been explored from an entomological point of view until recent years. From Guam, some 125 miles south southwest, Wheeler (1912) listed 21 species of ants. From Bikini Atoll, about 1200 miles east, Cole (1949) enumerates 13 species taken in 1947. There are doubtless numerous collections made in the 1940's whose records are not presently available from this and other islands of the area.

The ants of these three islands reflect the general nature of ant distribution in the Pacific. Each contains tropicopolitan species as the chief element of the fauna. All three contain the large *Odontomachus haematoda*, the sole tropicopolitan species of the primitive ant subfamily, the Ponerinae, although a second species taken by Dr. Enders may represent another ponerine