Dr. Cook informs us, was discovered 'on the cotton April 20, 1904, in Alta Vera Paz, Guatemala, and its efficiency as a destroyer of the Mexican cotton boll weevil was demonstrated the following day.' But even in his official report, which could hardly have been published before August 1, the scientific name of the ant was not given and it was several weeks later before I could ascertain it.

Dr. Cook further says that I have disregarded 'several facts which might have mitigated the confidence of the prophesy.' The first of these is a straw fact of Dr. Cook's own manufacture, namely the supposition that I am of the opinion that *Ectatomma* is very much like *Odontomachus*.* I am at a loss to

* Dr. Cook is 'ready to follow Mayr and Ashmead in assigning these genera to separate families.' In other words, the genus *Odontomachus* should be separated from the Ponerinæ (or Poneridæ as Cook and Ashmead persist in calling the group) and made the type of a distinct family, the Odontomachidæ. This was Mayr's opinion many years ago, but it is probable that he now believes with the eminent myrmecologists Emery and Forel that *Odontomachus* (together with *Anochetus* and *Champsomyrmex*) can not be separated as a distinct family, but has hardly more than tribal value. The only characters on which such a separation could be effected are the peculiar shape of the petiole and mandibles. But the very same kind of a petiole is found in certain undoubted Ponerinæ, like the South American *Leptogenys unistimulosa*, and if the shape of the jaws is such an important character, we should have to make several families out of such genera as the myrmicine *Strumigenys*, some species of which, like *S. louisianæ*, *grandidieri*, etc., have mandibles very much like *Odontomachus*. But this would be absurd, hence it is best to let well enough alone. Moreover, the shape of the mandibles in different genera of the Ponerinæ (*e. g.*, in *Harpegnathus*, *Thaumatomyrmex*, *Mystrium*, etc.) is so diverse that this subfamily would have to be resolved into a great number of