

know how I could have given this impression, as the only time I associated these genera directly was when I considered *Odontomachus* to be more dominant, more variable and more widely distributed than other Ponerinae, *Ectatomma*, of course, included. This statement has not even been met, to say nothing of having been refuted, by Dr. Cook.*

It is, in fact, Dr. Cook himself who should be glad to have the kelep more like *Odontomachus*. At any rate, he makes a futile attempt to show that the kelep is a dominant, 'enterprising' ant, with large colonies (*i. e.*, prolific) and highly adaptable. But closer examination shows that the kelep is like the other Ponerinae in being below par in all of these respects. It is 'dominant' only in the cotton fields of Guatemala, and very rare or absent elsewhere in that country. It is 'enterprising' although 'compared with the nervous haste of many other species, its motions are slow and deliberate (*sic!*), and, like the so-called praying mantis, it stands for long periods quite motionless, with the antennae and mandibles extended, ready for something to come that way and be caught.' This must be 'enterprise' as understood by the Jewish tailor of the comic papers who stands in the doorway of his shop waiting for customers.

It seems that I was mistaken in supposing that the colonies of the kelep contain only

families, if we were to follow Cook's example with *Odontomachus*. Undoubtedly this would give a fine opportunity for a display of the *mihi* itch, but the cause of science would be little furthered thereby.

* The larva of *Ectatomma* is much more primitive in its characters than that of many other Ponerinae, whereas the larva of *Odontomachus* is much like that of the typical genus *Ponera*. This fact, too, has an important bearing on the taxonomic position of *Odontomachus* discussed in the preceding foot-note.