

feeding it to the young, but whether this is the case or not can be determined only by future observations.

The behavior of *Aphilanthops* stands out in an interesting light by comparison with that of the other genera of Philanthidae, *Philanthus* and *Cerceris*, which, unlike *Aphilanthops* are represented by several species in Europe as well as in North America. Fabre (1891) has given us a fascinating account of *Philanthus apivorus* (= *triangulum*), which preys on the honey bee. He shows how this wasp kills the bee outright and then gorges itself with the honey which it presses out of the body of its victim. This extraordinary behavior he explains as a necessary adaptation to the diet of the larva, as he found by experiment that the insect in this stage thrives on nitrogenous food but is poisoned if it eats honey. The great depth of the nest of *Ph. apivorus* is given as one meter. The egg is laid on a dead bee and recently killed bees are fed to the growing larva from time to time after the manner of *Bembex*. Fabre also made some observations on *Ph. coronatus* Fabr. and *venustus* Rossi (= *raptor* Lep.) and found that the former provisions its nest with larger, the latter with smaller bees of the genus *Halictus*. He believes that in these cases also the honey is expressed from the bodies of the victims, but this opinion has not been confirmed. Ferton (1905) has also studied *Ph. venustus* and enumerates 14 different species of *Halictus* and one of *Andrena* which he found in the nests. He calls attention to the depth of the burrows but says nothing about the method of feeding the larvæ;

The only American *Philanthus* whose habits have been described is *Ph. punctatus* Say. According to the Peckhams (1898) this wasp nests in very small colonies and preys on bees of the genus *Halictus*, which it kills outright, but it does not malaxate them, nor express the honey from their bodies. The main burrow of the nest reaches a length of 22 inches. The following quotation shows that the method of rearing the young is very different from that described by Fabre for *Ph. apivorus*: "We did not find distinct pockets, as the soil was very crumbly and fell in as we worked, but we came upon clumps of bees an inch or so to one side of the gallery and about three inches apart, with larvæ in different stages of development. In one nest we found 26 bees in two clumps, some of them half-eaten