

at Adelaide, Australia. His diagnosis was, however, so imperfect that the insect had to be redescribed by Forel (1886). McCook (1882) has also studied and figured this species (1882, Figs. 71 and 74). According to Forel, it "has nothing to distinguish it particularly from other *Camponoti*, except the purely physiological distension of its gaster, evidently due to the enormous plenitude of the crop, as in *Myrmecocystus melliger*. This dilatation, however, is smaller than that of *melliger*."

More recently (1896) Froggatt has described the male and female of *C. inflatus* from specimens collected at Ayers Rock, Illamurta in the James Range of Central Australia. All three phases of this ant are black with paler legs and antennæ. The repletes measure 17 mm. Froggatt records the following notes sent him by Baldwin Spencer: "The black honey ant (*Camponotus inflatus* Lub.) is called 'Yarumpa' by the natives, by whom it is esteemed a great luxury; it is, *par excellence*, the honey ant of the central country, and ranges across the Murchison in Western Australia. We found them plentiful in certain districts on the hard sandy plains, and also very abundant in patches among the Mulga scrub. The ground all round Ayers Rock, to the south of Lake Amadeus, was strewn with heaps of sand where the natives had been digging them out. They construct no mounds over their nests; the entrance, which is an inch in length by a quarter of an inch in width, leads down into a vertical shaft or burrow from five to six feet in depth. About a foot below the surface horizontal passages about a foot in length lead off from the main shaft, at the end of which were three or four of the honey ants, while the bottom of the main shaft, which is excavated into a larger cavity, contained a considerable number. The 'honey ants' are quite incapable of movement and must be fed by the workers. Unlike all the other ants noticed in this country, these did not appear to collect twigs, leaves or grass to carry into their burrows."

7. *Cremastogaster inflata* F. Smith and *C. difformis* F. Smith.

As Frederick Smith's original account of these two Myrmicine ants (1857, 1858) has led to their being regarded as honey ants, we may properly include them in the present survey. Both species range from Tenasserim to Borneo through Burma, Java and Sumatra. *C. inflata* occurs also in the Philippines and *difformis* in Celebes. Of the latter species Emery has described a subspecies *physothorax* and a variety *mucronata*. In all these ants the gaster remains unmodified but the epinotum, or posterior portion of the thorax is greatly enlarged in *difformis* and even inflated in *inflata* (Fig. 28). In this species it is also of a honey-yellow color unlike the remainder of the body which is dark brown or black. Emery (1900) has also