temperate zone species may be social parasites. Also, I believe it probable that forms of parasitism other than inquilinism will be discovered. A likely possibility is temporary social parasitism. The peculiar condition of *P. inquilina,* in which a few minor and major workers still persist, could well indicate a recent transition into a state of inquilinism from temporary social parasitism. *P. microgyna,* which has a small body size but is otherwise very little modified anatomically, might be a still active temporary social parasite.

Finally, the generic-level synonymy of the extreme species *Pheidole (= Bruchomyrma) acutidens* and *Pheidole (= Anergatides) neokohli,* which even the conservative systematist W.L. BROWN had resisted, has been proposed for the following reason. It is assumed (on sound anatomical and biogeographic evidence) that all of the nine parasitic species are derivatives of *Pheidole,* independently evolved, and owe their common character states — the "parasitic syndrome" — to parallel evolution. If all three of these inferences are correct, it is difficult to justify the separation of even the most extreme species *(acutidens, kohli,* and *parasitica)* as different genera. The three display a morphocline in the critical characters of mandibular and antennal reduction and postpetiolar widening, while various of the other 6 species possess intermediate states and combinations of states linking the three extreme forms and most free-living *Pheidole.* It would be equally incorrect to combine the extreme species into a single genus, in spite of their superficial similarity, because this entity would then of course be polyphyletic, an arrangement forbidden by modern systematic practice.

If any of the assumptions just noted proves incorrect, the generic synonymy should be reconsidered. In the meantime, the prudent course seems to be to place all of the social parasites of *Pheidole* within the genus *Pheidole,* even if it means joining some forms that are radically different in anatomical characters ordinarily used in generic classification. Such are the unavoidable complications of phylogenetic classification.

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