

continuously moist and which have rotted down to a soft, red punk. When such a log or stump has been located, usually in a woods undisturbed by stock, the collector divests himself of his collecting outfit, seats himself comfortably and prepares to cut up the punky parts of the log with a pocket knife. Otherwise the minute nest may be missed. Usually a half-hour's work will indicate the possibilities. If the ant *Proceratium*, or some other species of ponerine ant occurs and certain minute beetles are found, the chances are that a nest of *Strumigenys* occurs in the log. It is then a matter of careful and close work to locate it, as the nests of this ant are thin pockets the width of one's finger and seldom over an inch or two long. The punky material has to be split down to chips one-fourth to one-half inch in thickness. Usually about one nest out of three has been found by discovering only a stray *Strumigenys* or two and after working through the moist portion of the log and not finding the nest, then reworking the bushel or two of chips. Locating a nest of this ant is seldom a matter of hasty inspection. Usually the careful examination of a log that "looks good" takes the better part of a half day's work and more often than not yields no nest at all. About once a season the collector finds a nest on the first inspection.

In 1931, Kennedy, with a single stroke of the ax, on chopping one more stump before quitting, uncovered a nest of *pergandei* near London, Ohio, at the end of a long day's collecting. This yielded over one hundred workers, the largest nest taken in the state to date. In September, 1932, at Montvale Springs, Blount County, Tennessee, while watching his four-year old son in the hotel swimming pool he pulled a chunk out of a log near by and uncovered the nest of *dietrichi* noted below. The son was rushed into the hotel, the collecting kit procured and after four hours' work seventy-nine workers had been collected. This log had been "passed up" repeatedly on three previous ant collecting trips to Tennessee. The same log yielded a nest of *Ponera trigona opacior* Forel and another oak log near by gave over a hundred males and numerous workers of *Euponera gilva* Roger.

The species of *Strumigenys* are part of the fauna of the great mass of rotting logs that covered Ohio before the original forest was cleared away. Now these ants are extremely rare, as but a few fragments of these forests remain and such as do usually have had the logs and undergrowth cleared to make