

(1934) briefly discuss this close correspondence, and conclude correctly that the resemblance is superficial and due to convergence. The ants are obviously in separate genera. They consider the possibility of mimicry, with *occidentalis* serving as the model. I have exerted the stings of both ants, and while that of *Pogonomyrmex* is much stouter and from appearances more powerful and effective as an organ of defense, it is not possible with the still meagre amount of information we have to say that mimicry is involved. The rarity of *lobognathus*, its distributional characters, and its superficial divergence from other species in its genus do conform to Wallace's Rules for Batesian Mimicry, but it would be premature to label the case as one of mimicry at this time. It may be legitimate to ask whether the weak stings of other myrmicine ants are equally ineffectual for defense, and also what reasons might be deduced to explain why the other members of *Veromessor* which occur in the same habitats as forms of *Pogonomyrmex* more pugnacious than *occidentalis* do not show a defensive convergence towards these latter species?

The distribution of *V. lobognathus* is distinctly unorthodox, almost all the rest of the species in the genus being confined to the southwestern deserts of Arizona, California (including the Central Valley), Lower California, and western Mexico. A gap of several hundred miles exists between the previously known records of *Veromessor* and Glenwood Springs, the type locality of *lobognathus*. Several years ago, Dr. M. R. Smith (1951) described a new form of this group, *V. lariversi*, which had been secured near Pyramid Lake, Nevada, and since then Dr. Creighton has found the species near Lone Pine, California, Wagner, Nevada, and Goldfield, Nevada. Thus the genus is now known to extend further east in the northern part of its range than heretofore. But this extension makes no significant change in the status of *lobognathus* whose most western station is in the upper reaches of the Colorado River Canyon at an altitude of 5,750 feet (Glenwood Springs), with its most recent occurrence now recorded from the eastern slope of the Rocky Mountains at an elevation of 6,100 feet. From the nature of the genus and