

the species which compose it, it may be taken as certain that a distributional gap exists between these two sites, as far as *V. lobognathus* is concerned, which is imposed by the lofty heights of the continental divide. It seems extremely improbable that future collecting will demonstrate a pattern of dispersal around the southern end of the Rockies, for if such existed, the species should find itself in a much more congenial environment in the south and should have turned up as a fairly common ant in collections from such areas. The possibility of a connection across a low pass during a remote period cannot as yet be ruled out, however.

In her description of *lobognathus*, Miss Andrews includes no mention of the habitat in which the ants were found. I have found no additional ecological information upon examining the original hand-written notes. In the writer's experience, the hills and canyon walls near Glenwood Springs are covered with scrub oaks, and the river bottom, where wide enough, has meadows with some willow and cottonwood. A small amount of pinyon and cedar is also known to be present. It is not known whether the types were obtained from natural vegetation or the altered conditions in the town. The specimens collected at Owl Canyon were definitely living under natural conditions in a stand of pinyon and cedar. This is an isolated woodland (though some of the pinyons are extremely old and very large for the species), whose nearest approach of similar vegetation containing pinyons is about 160 miles south near Colorado Springs, in the Garden of the Gods. The stand is, moreover, surrounded by plains vegetation of grassland and sagebrush, and by mountain mahogany which is a foothills plant. Varying explanations have been suggested to account for the presence of these conifers near Owl Canyon in view of the fact that pinyon, while occurring far north on the west side of the divide, stops at Colorado Springs on the east. It would appear that the most plausible diagnosis is the one offered by some botanists to the effect that we are confronted with a relict stand. If this is true, the known distribution of *V. lobognathus* coincides quite well with it, for its pattern looks