to compound the uncertainties. The evaluation of the subspecies of *sitarches* in western North America as presented here is offered not as a final solution, but as one subject to further modification with the acquisition of more information. The region of southern Texas and particularly adjacent states in northern Mexico, eventually, should yield critical data bearing on this problem. I venture to suggest that *sitarches* may turn out to be a coastal and lowland race, and that *soritis* will be seen as a subspecies of the mesas and mountain flanks of the high interior. Intergradation between the two in northern Mexico, has, so far as I know, not been demonstrated, but this may be attributed to the scarcity of records.

Pheidole sitarches littoralis Cole is quite distinct morphologically and geographically from the other forms of the species. In fact, one may suspect that *littoralis* is an independent species on the basis of the cephalic sculpture of the soldier, which is reticulate and foveolate rather than transversely striate, but until more is known about this ant, it seems best not to elevate its position.

In 1951, Smith listed all forms of *Pheidole* that up to that time had been recorded from America north of Mexico, and this included two new introductions. *Pheidole flavens sculptior* is a West Indian species that is now said to be present in Florida also. *Pheidole megacephala* is a well-known tropical tramp of considerable economic importance, and has apparently reached Florida in recent years.

The most aggravating situation with respect to our North American forms of *Pheidole* centers around certain species of the *flavens* group. In 1908, Wheeler described *Pheidole nuculiceps* from a single soldier and three workers taken at New Braunfels, Texas. I am informed by Dr. Creighton (in litt.) that the type major and a minor are now present in the collection of the American Museum, and this means that the only type of the soldier caste in existence is in the possession of that institution. According to Wheeler, *nuculiceps* is very distinct from all the described North American species of the *flavens* group. But he says it closely resembles *Ph. exigua* Mayr of South America, the main difference being that the head sculpture of *nuculiceps* is heavier and extends over the occiput, whereas in *exigua* this region is smooth and shining.