

6309  
WILLIAM L. BROWN

Reprinted from *PSYCHE*, Vol. 59, No. 4, December 1952

Received April 1953

*PSEUDOMYRMEX APACHE*, A NEW SPECIES FROM  
THE SOUTHWESTERN UNITED STATES  
(HYMENOPTERA: FORMICIDAE)<sup>1</sup>

BY WILLIAM S. CREIGHTON

Department of Biology, College of the City of New York

The majority of the material on which this paper is based was secured during 1951 and 1952. At that time the writer was engaged in a field survey of the ants of the border region. This work was made possible by a fellowship from the John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation. My sincere thanks go to the Foundation for the support which made this work possible.

The taxonomy of the genus *Pseudomyrmex* presents an unusual number of difficulties. Even the generic name has not escaped the hazard of uncertainty. The name *Pseudomyrma*, which has been accepted for more than a century, has recently been challenged. Twice in the past two years Dr. M. R. Smith has introduced prior names for the genus. The latest choice is *Pseudomyrmex* Lund which, on the basis of data presented by Dr. Smith in 1952 (*Proc. Ent. Soc. Wash.*, Vol. 54, No. 2, p. 97) has a priority of thirteen years over *Pseudomyrma* Guérin. But any difficulty with the generic name is a minor matter in contrast to the deplorable incertitude which marks a large number of the species in this genus. The taxonomy of many of them is in such confusion that specific recognition is largely a matter of guess-work. With this fact in mind, the writer has hesitated for some time to describe the material treated here. It would seem, however, that we can no longer avoid dealing with this material for, whatever its taxonomic status may be, it is certain that its presence in the southwestern United States has not previously been recognized. It is probable that the older records for this ant have been attributed to *Ps. pallida*. The two insects are superficially

<sup>1</sup> Published with a grant from the Museum of Comparative Zoology at Harvard College.