

similar and they occur in the same stations in the southwest. As long as it was believed that only *pallida* occurred in this area, there was little reason to suspect the existence of a second species.

The writer first encountered *Ps. apache* in 1932. In September of that year a single, dealated female was taken in Ramsey Canyon in the Huachuca Mountains of Arizona. This insect had a clear, yellow color similar to that of *Ps. pallida*, but it differed from the female of *pallida* in its much greater size and in a number of other structural features. Since no workers were associated with the above female, its status was problematical and it was not included in my 1950 monograph on North American ants. In the spring of 1949, after that paper had gone to press, Dr. L. F. Byars sent me a number of workers of a large, yellow *Pseudomyrmex* which had come from three colonies taken in southern Arizona. These seemed to be the same species as the female from Ramsey Canyon, but this was not verified until the following summer. In 1950 a colony containing all three castes was taken by the writer in Garden Canyon in the Huachuca Mountains. Since that time the writer has secured forty-five additional colonies of this ant in fifteen different stations. These stations extend from the Brownsville area of Texas to the mountains of southern California. It is clear that this ant is abundant in the southwestern United States and some cognizance must be taken of it. The difficulty is to decide how this insect should be treated.

The writer first believed that this ant represented *Ps. decipiens* or a northern race of it. Dr. W. M. Wheeler had identified as *decipiens* a series of specimens taken in Costa Rica. These specimens were similar to those coming from the southwestern United States but there were several differences, particularly in the shape of the petiole. In 1949, when the above comparison was made, there was not enough material to evaluate these differences. As a result the writer told Dr. Byars that the insect probably represented some form of *decipiens*, but that no certain statement could be made until more data was available. In the meantime the writer attempted to discover how Dr. Wheeler had identi-