

they may be too large to take into the nest without dissection. The majors are very efficient at this for they have powerful mandibles and use them effectively. But their main function seems to be to guard the nest entrance. They stand so close to the nest entrance that it is often possible to see them and they savagely attack any object thrust into the nest entrance. This attack consists of locking the jaws on the intruding object and the major will often hold on so firmly that it can be pulled out of the nest. It appears that a cluster of majors is normally present just inside the nest entrance and it is easy to appreciate why this would make the nest virtually impregnable to any intruder. For, since the walls of the nest are solid rock, the guarding majors cannot be outflanked.

Despite the fact that the minors of *clydei* occasionally bring in living victims I believe that this species is best regarded as a scavenger. This view is based on the lack of pugnacity in the minor. Experiments with this caste in artificial nests showed that the minor of *clydei* is slow to attack other insects and equally slow to defend itself when attacked by them. Since I had observed foraging minors of *clydei* entering termite passages it was a surprise to find that when termites were introduced into the artificial nests they usually killed the minors of *clydei* even when the latter outnumbered them. It seems safe to assume that most of the termites or termite remains brought back to the nests of *clydei* are dead or moribund individuals secured by stealth rather than by predation. This behavior is entirely unlike that of the species of *Pheidole* which are carnivorous and predatory. Dr. Gregg and I have shown (3) that *Ph. titanis*, which conducts well-organized forays against termite nests, has a minor that is fully as pugnacious as the major. Both castes participate in the foray and, when this is successful, both castes return to their nest with live termites in their jaws.

In conclusion I wish to point out a suggestive feature in the response of *clydei* to elevation. The insect is now known from five stations. These show little latitudinal difference since all five occur in an east-west band less than a hundred miles wide of which Lat. 33° is the approximate center. Yet the elevational range shown by these five stations is striking. It is given below:

STATION	ELEVATION
Carizozo, New Mexico	5429 feet
Windy Point, Sta. Catalina Mts., Ariz.	7100 feet
Horse Tanks, Castle Dome Mts., Ariz.	1200 feet
Deep Canyon, Sta. Rosa Mts., Calif.	1200 feet
Split Mountain, Anza Desert, Calif.	500 feet

It may be added that *clydei* is not confined to the 1200 foot level