sub-Saharan Africa, has metasternal spines about as long as those of *haematodus* itself [32].

Other species of the *haematodus* complex in the New World have the metasternal ridge merely convexly raised (fig. 5), or, in species such as *O. bauri,* bicuspid with a notch in the middle (fig. 6); the cusps becoming more than low, blunt projections only in some *O. yucatecus* [33].

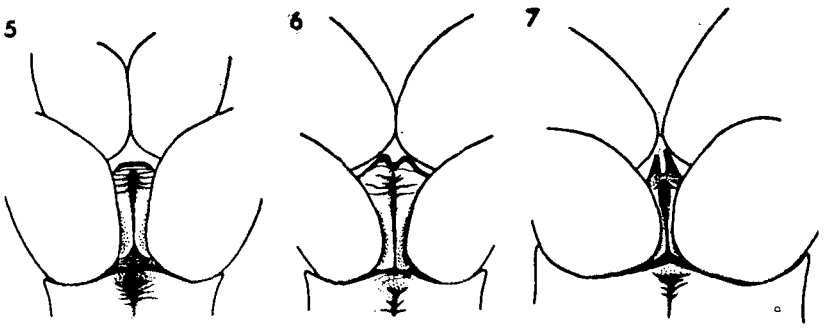

Fig. 5, *O. brunneus.* Fig. 6, *O. bauri.* Fig. 7, *O. haematodus.* Workers, all from Limoncocha, Napo, Ecuador, ventral aspect of posterior trunk viewed from underneath and looking rearward, with last two pairs of coxae, to show form of "metasternal" process.

The discovery of the metasternal character enabled us to re-evaluate the supposed intergrades between *O. haematodus* and *O. bauri.* It turned out that a few of these intergrades were only *O. haematodus* with legs darker (more brownish) than usual. But the rest lacked the slender, produced metasternal teeth, and these last samples also proved to differ from *O. haematodus* in other ways.

Analysis of this «intermediate» residue revealed that it consisted of 2 different species: first, a larger one resembling *bauri,* but with a tendency to have much finer sculpture, particularly on the petiolar node. Some variants of this species also showed various grades of finely reticulate sculpture on the gastric dorusum. In fact, this larger form intergrades completely with «more typical» *bauri,* and I have assigned it to *bauri,* thus considering it to represent only a part of the considerable variation of that species, which will be discussed separately [7].

The second species hiding in the «intermediate» residue was a smaller one with short scapes, fine cephalic sculpture, and a rather narrow petiolar node as seen from the side. In the Limoncocha samples, Kazan and Morales had already distinguis-