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A Group of American Halictine Bees Simulating the Old-World Genus *Nomioides*

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groups of 2 or 3 or in undulating lines at the sides of the segments. On the 3rd and 4th segments these punctures are crowded together so as to form an undulating band, leaving a smooth shining spot on each side at the base, and a wide, triangular, sparingly punctured area in the middle. Punctures in the apical segment crowded together so as to form triangular patches on each side, leaving the middle space sparingly punctured." Length: 35 mm. Width: 13 mm. Habitat: West Africa; N. Nigeria.

Var. **waterhousei** subsp. nov. "Thorax brassy. Elytra very dark brown, with blue reflections." Habitat: Damaraland. Mr. C. O. Waterhouse in Ann. Mag. Nat. Hist. No. 82, p. 248 gave this variety without a name, and I have taken the liberty of affixing one to it, the characters given seeming sufficient to warrant it.

A GROUP OF AMERICAN HALICTINE BEES SIMULATING THE OLD-WORLD GENUS NOMIOIDES.

BY T. D. A. COCKERELL, BOULDER, COLORADO.

The gaily-marked little Halictine bees of the genus *Nomioides* are widely distributed over the Old World, even extending to Australia (*N. perditellus* Ckll.). They are extraordinarily like our American species of *Perdita*, but structurally are so distinct that we can hardly suppose that there is any particular affinity. More recently, however, there has been found in South America a group of *Nomioides*-like insects which might almost be referred to the Old World genus, did they not possess a sharply pointed marginal cell as in *Halictus*. This affords another instance of similarity between neotropical and Old World insects, which may be due to common descent or to "convergent evolution," or to both. The group referred to, with ten described species, has been found in the Andean region, but it now appears that it extends northward to Panama. The following new species has been collected by Mr. Busck.

***Halictus xanthinus*, n. sp.**

♀.—Length 5 mm. or a little over; head and thorax brilliant emerald green; mandibles pale yellow; clypeus ferruginous in middle and dusky reddish apically, but above and at sides green;
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Hymenoptera -

Apidae - Halictus

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sides of face shining; inner orbits concave but not abruptly emarginate; scape long, black; flagellum dark above and ferruginous beneath; mesothorax dull and granular, with fine, very short, pale pruinose pubescence; tubercles yellow; tegulae light fulvous; wings hyaline, nervures fuscous, outer nervures not weakened; first recurrent nervure joining extreme apex of second submarginal cell; area of metathorax large, microscopically reticulate, not plicate; legs pale yellowish or fulvous, the middle and hind tibiae and tarsi fuscous, the middle tibiae pale in front; hind spur with three very long spines; abdomen broad, smooth and shining, reddish fuscous and fulvous marked with lemon yellow; first segment broadly yellow basally and at sides except apically, where it is dark brown, but otherwise the segment is pale fulvous; second and third segments with a broad, yellow basal band, widest sublaterally, the segments otherwise fulvous in middle and dark brown laterally; fourth and fifth segments reddish-fuscous, with basal yellow bands; venter pale yellow, with the last three segments fuscous.

Porto Bello, Panama, March 13, 1911. (*Aug. Busck*), U. S. Nat. Museum. Nearest to the Brazilian *H. callichroma* (Ckll.), but with entire yellow bands on abdomen. The structure of the metathoracic enclosure is quite the same, with fine reticulations, the lines mostly transverse. Of the other species of the group, I possess *H. ephelix* Vach., from Marcapata, Peru; *H. phacodes* Vach., from Mapiri, Bolivia; and a cotype of *H. maculiventris* (Crawford), described under *Augochlora*. Crawford's species seems doubtfully distinct from *H. trinax* Vach., but I have no authentic material of the latter. Crawford and I, describing species of this group, have referred them to *Augochlora*. Vachal referred all the species to *Halictus*, but he included *Augochlora* in *Halictus*. Schrottky in 1910 placed the species in his genus *Nescorynura*. They are certainly not genuine *Augochlora*, nor do they agree well with typical *Nescorynura* or *Halictus*. They may be considered a distinct subgenus of *Halictus*, or even a separate genus. I do not propose a name, because it is possible that *Ctenocarynura* Schrottky (Deutsch. Ent. Zeit., 1914) is applicable. I have not been able to procure Schrottky's description, and there is no reference to the genus in the Zoological Record.

RECENT CANADIAN PUBLICATIONS.

Under this heading we propose to present notices from time to time of entomological publications by writers residing in Canada, or such as appear in Canadian periodicals, whether by Canadians or not. Exceptions will be made in the case of papers published in the Annual Reports of the Entomological Society of Ontario and the present journal. Short articles or those of a popular character will, as a rule, be merely listed.

Authors will greatly assist the Editor by sending him copies of their publications for notice in this section.

The following papers were all published during the present year:

PROCEEDINGS OF THE ENTOMOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF NOVA SCOTIA FOR 1917. No. 3. Truro, January, 1918. Pp. 1-96.

This excellent report gives ample evidence of the vigorous condition of the youngest branch of our Society, and is a most creditable production. It contains no less than sixteen papers by ten contributors, dealing with a variety of subjects, both economic and faunistic, and these are illustrated by 15 plates, most of them half-tones of fine quality.

The following papers are mainly of economic interest:

Work of the Dominion Entomological Laboratory in Nova Scotia. By G. E. Sanders. An outline of the results of experiments testing the effects of different combinations of insecticides and fungicides in apple spraying.

Notes on the Yellow Leaf Hopper of the Birch (Oncopsis sobrius Walk.). By W. H. Brittain. The life-history is given in detail and is illustrated by two plates, showing all the stages, and the hymenopterous parasite, *Polynema striaticorne* Gir.

Miscellaneous Notes on the Apple Maggot. By W. H. Brittain.

The Zebra Caterpillar. By H. G. Payne.

The Fall Cankerworm. By H. G. Payne.

The Rusty Tussock Moth. By H. G. Payne.

The White-marked Tussock Moth. By H. G. Payne.

Detailed life-histories of these four species are given, based on original data. They are illustrated by 5 excellent photographic plates.

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