

in comparison to a mite with similar habits which were collected by Dr. Margaret Bradbury in Polonnaruwa, Ceylon, in 1964. Professor Bradbury of San Francisco State College was a member of the Te Vega expedition in the summer and fall of 1964 in its operations in the Indian Ocean. On one of their days ashore they visited a Buddhist temple on a bright, sunny morning following a heavy rain, and saw these large red mites crawling over the lawns and pebble walks. These mites are about 15 mm in length.

***Brachinus pallidus* Erwin, a carabid beetle with an entomophagous larva.**—MR. TERRY L. ERWIN exhibited a sequence of 35 mm slides showing the complete life cycle of this beetle. The descriptions of the larvae and a complete biology will be published elsewhere, but a few of the details were given at the meeting. The first instar *Brachinus* larva seeks out the pupa of a Hydrophilid beetle (*Tropisternus ellipticus* or *Berosus punctatissimus*) and begins feeding on it ectophagously. Twenty-four hours later the fifth instar stage is reached. The fifth instar rests for 4-5 days and then pupates. The pupal stage lasts 10 days under laboratory conditions after which time the insect transforms to the adult stage. The adult overwinters and begins the new cycle the next summer by laying eggs along the side of the stream.

Correspondence files of Dr. A. L. Melander—DR. P. H. ARNAUD, JR. reported on the correspondence files of the late Dr. Axel Leonard Melander which were recently donated to the Pacific Coast Entomological Society by Mrs. Melander. These files cover a period of over 60 years, relating primarily to his Diptera correspondence. Dr. Melander was born in Chicago, Illinois in 1878. He was a student and friend of William Morton Wheeler, and actually received his M.S. degree at the University of Texas, as one of Wheeler's students. From 1904 to 1926 he was at Washington State University serving as professor and Head of the Department of Biology. He was then Head of the Department of Biology at the College of the City of New York from 1926 until his retirement in 1945. From 1945 until his death in 1962 he resided at Riverside, California. Dr. Melander built up one of the world's largest private collections of Diptera, which numbered approximately a quarter of a million specimens. His collection and library are now deposited at the United States National Museum.

The principal speaker of the evening was DR. W. E. FERGUSON, San Jose State College, and out-going President of the Society. His illustrated lecture was entitled "The Distribution of Regional Protective Coloration Patterns in Mutillid Wasps of the United States."

A social hour was held in the entomology rooms following the meeting.—C. S. KOEHLER, *Secretary*.