

fact that the posterior margin of the metapleura is nearly truncate, being only slightly sinuate. The posterior lateral angles of the metapleura are broadly rounded in these two forms, while in the other species they are more or less produced and not receding from the lateral margin of the abdomen. There are other characters, such as the transverse suture of the pronotum ending in a loop, which Hambleton gives for separating these species, but the author considers the difference in structure of the metapleura to be of the most importance. *C. viridicatus* is smaller and lighter coloured than *crassicornis*, and does not have the range of distribution that the latter has. With further biological data the writer suspects that *viridicatus* will have to be considered a variety of *crassicornis*, or may even be forced into synonymy with the latter.

C. crassicornis occurs over the entire northern portion of the United States, and in the west it is known to extend north into Canada and south into Mexico. It also occurs in Europe and Asia. *Viridicatus* has been recorded only from Iowa, Nebraska, Wyoming, Utah, Nevada, Colorado and New Mexico.

The writer disagrees with Hambleton's opinion that "the nature of the dorsal sutures between the third and fourth, and fourth and fifth segments of the abdomen is quite constant." The advisability of using this character in the separation of species is certainly risky. The characters of the genitalia should only be used in the separation of but few species.

For a full description and complete bibliography of each species reference should be made to Hambleton's paper and to Van Duzee's recently published and most excellent catalogue.

In closing the writer wishes to acknowledge the generous loan of specimens from Messrs. H. G. Barber, J. R. Bueno, C. J. Drake, R. W. Leiby, W. L. McAtee, and Rev. M. Wirtner, all of which greatly facilitated the study which in turn permits these preliminary remarks. These collections with that of the National Museum afforded long series in each species.

A NEW RACE OF *PLEBEIUS ICARIOIDES* FROM VANCOUVER ISLAND.

BY WM. BARNES, M.D., AND J. MCDUNNOUGH, PH.D., DECATUR, ILL.

This variable species seems to have developed on the southern portion of Vancouver Island into a local and very characteristic race which, on the underside, has so much similarity to *pheres* Bdv. from the San Francisco region that it has frequently passed under this name, and is probably figured by Holland in his Butterfly Book (Pl. XXX, Fig. 37) as this species.

The most characteristic feature of this new race, however, is found in the colour of the blue scaling of the upper side; this is a distinct silvery-blue, much as in *saepiolus*, and easily distinguished from the violet or lilac-blue of the other *icarioides* races; we have at various times had single specimens before us for examination, but this year through the efforts of Mr. E. H. Blackmore, of Victoria, B.C., we have secured a fine and, in general, very constant series of both sexes; we take much pleasure in dedicating this interesting form to its discoverer, and describe it in detail as follows:—

P. incarioides blackmorei var. nov.

♂. Upper side brilliant silvery-blue; primaries with a blackish border, 2 mm. broad, along outer margin; secondaries with vague dark marginal spots,