

## A NOTE ON MANTISPIDAE.

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On October 8, 1938, Mr. Charles Shepard, one of my students, collected a spider at Hole-in-the-Rock, near Lawrence, Kansas. The spider was placed in 95% alcohol and upon later examination proved to be carrying some ten or fifteen first stage Mantispid larvae on the pedicel of the abdomen. Dr. W. J. Gertsch of the American Museum of Natural History has identified the spider as a female of *Arctosa littoralis* (Hentz), a species which he says "is common throughout the United States and is most usually found on beaches or banks of lakes and streams, ordinarily quite near water."

It has been only within the past five years that we have had any information on the biology of any North American Mantispid. Dr. R. C. Smith (1934) recorded the emergence of *Mantispa interrupta* from the egg sac of the jumping spider *Philaeus militaris* and gave some notes on the eggs and young larvae of *M. interrupta* Say, *M. sayi* Banks, and *C. brunnea* (Say). Hungerford (1936) gave additional information on the oviposition of *M. interrupta* Say and Kaston (1938) reported the emergence of *Mantispa fusicornis* Banks from the egg sac of *Agelena naevia* Walckenaer. In Kaston's record the spider was collected near Albion, Michigan, on September 17, and taken to New Haven, Connecticut, where about September 20 it deposited an egg sac in the glass container in which it was confined. On November 8 the adult *Mantispa* was found dead in the container. It had developed in the spider egg sac. Kaston gave two possibilities as to the source of the Mantispid. Either the larva crawled into the spider's cage at New Haven or was carried from Michigan, hidden among the hairs on the spider's body. In view of the observation I am reporting, it seems likely that the larva of the Mantispid traveled with the spider from Michigan, although this species of Mantispid has never been reported from so far north. Moreover, it suggests that had I made living female spiders available to some of the 36,000 larvae I had one season, instead of trying them on spider egg cases, I might have had some success in rearing the Mantispids.

## REFERENCES.

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