### **PROCEEDINGS**

OF THE

## BIOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF WASHINGTON

# DESCRIPTIONS OF TWELVE NEW SPECIES OF MIRI-DAE FROM THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA AND VICINITY (HEMIPTERA).<sup>1</sup>

#### BY HARRY H. KNIGHT.

It was the writer's good fortune to spend the summer of 1926 in Washington, D. C., working over and arranging the collection of Miridae in the United States National Museum. During week ends some opportunity was had for collecting Hemiptera in that vicinity. It may be of interest to note that the season of 1926 proved to be the poorest year I have ever experienced for collecting Hemiptera. This opinion was gained after driving across the country and collecting in Iowa, Illinois, New York, Pennsylvania, Maryland, District of Columbia, and Virginia. In spite of the adverse season a few good things were taken but only by hard work in sweeping and beating. Many species, however, appeared to be entirely absent from their normal host plants, this being particularly true of those breeding on trees and shrubs. Mr. W. L. McAtee and Mr. H. G. Barber also are of the same opinion that collecting was very poor during 1926.

In working up a list of Miridae for the District of Columbia and vicinity, a few unnamed species have come to notice with the result that the following descriptions are offered now.

#### Sthenarus mcateei, n. sp.

Distinguished by the small size and bright red color, with pale antennae and legs.

Q. Length 2.7 mm., width 1.5 mm. Head: width .59 mm., vertex .37 mm. Rostrum: length 1.33 mm., extending slightly behind posterior coxae, bright red, paler on the apical half. Antennae: segment I, length

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Contribution from the Department of Zoology and Entomology, Iowa State College, Ames, Iowa.