The pale colour and weak macrochaetae of the type species *B. glabra* are hardly generic characters as similar conditions are found in certain species of *Tetracanthella* (Deharveng, 1987a). Our new species differs from the type species by its darker pigmentation and stronger macrochaetae, but shares the other characters mentioned above. In addition, it has an extra pair of spines on Abd. 4, which by itself could justify the erection of a new genus – following current taxonomic trends within the subfamily (Deharveng, 1987b). However, we want to avoid generic splitting without a firm phylogenetic background, and consequently prefer to modify the definition of *Blissia*.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS. We are indebted to V. Behan Pelletier, Ottawa, for making her samples from the Ogilvie Mts available to us, and to J. Rusek, České Budějovice, for loan of a paratype. The present study was supported with a grant from Russian Foundation of Fundamental Research to M. Potapov (93-04-20191: 1993).

REFERENCES

DEHARVENG L. 1987a: Révision taxonomique du genre Tetracanthella Schött, 1891. *Trav. Lab. Ecobiol. Arthrop. Edaph., Toulouse* **5**(3):1–151.

DEHARVENG L. 1987b: Contribution à l'étude des Anurophorinae à épines anales (Collembola, Isotomidae). *Rev. Ecol. Biol. Sol* **15**: 551–573.

RUSEK J. 1985: Blissia glabra gen. n., sp. n. (Collembola: Isotomidae) from northwestern Canada. *Can. J. Zool.* **63**: 2077–2082.

Received January 13, 1997; accepted April 28, 1997

Eur. J. Entomol. **95**: 91, 1998
ISSN 1210–5759

BOOK REVIEW

MONTEITH G.B.: REVISION OF THE AUSTRALIAN FLAT BUGS OF THE SUBFAMILY MEZIRINAE (INSECTA: HEMIPTERA: ARADIDAE). *Mem. Queensland Mus.* **41**(1), 1997: 1–169. ISSN 0079-8835.

The long-awaited monograph covers at the generic level the Mezirinae fauna of Australia, New Caledonia, and New Zealand, and at the species level that of the Australia. It is an excellent review, and includes an extensive morphological and bionomical introduction with generic distributional maps, a heavily illustrated taxonomic treatment including many whole insect illustrations of this often bizarre group (particularly true for the apterous taxa), and a discussion. The latter covers many bionomical aspects, but is particularly focussed at detailed identification and characterization of those barriers which have played an essential role in geographical speciation in the SW Pacific area. In this respect, Monteith's monograph definitely exceeds its taxonomic limits. There is no attempt of a cladistic treatment, but the precise data is made available to everybody willing to carry it out.

The book should be among the fundamentals of heteropterology, and is simultaneously a rich source of data on the biogeography of the SW Pacific area.

P. Štys