

Dr.H.E.Ewing reported as follows: Dr.W.A.Hoffman, of the School of Tropical Medicine of the University of Porto Rico, has recently found the dog-kangaroo louse, Heterodoxus longitarsus (Piaget), in Porto Rico. He has sent specimens to the writer for confirmation of his identification and has asked that a note of this finding be presented to the Helminthological Society of Washington. He states:

"This, I presume, constitutes the first record for this form from Porto Rico. They occurred upon several dogs from Rio Piedras, a city a few miles from San Juan. So abundant were these lice that by rubbing one's hand over the rump of an infected animal, hundreds were deposited upon paper placed beneath".

The dog-kangaroo louse is of particular interest to parasitologists because its recent maneuvers have done such violence to our ideas of host specificity. For some countless centuries, presumably, this louse lived in perfect contentment

HELMINTHOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF WASHINGTON

57

upon kangaroos in the continent of Australia. Then, following the importation and exhibition of these picturesque marsupials in our own and other countries, the louse broke out in many places as an important parasite of dogs. Today it occurs on domestic canines over much of temperate and tropical America.