

MISCELLANEA

HYDROZOA.

A Short Note on *Hydra oligactis*, Pallas.

On the occasion of a recent visit to Ludhiana (Punjab) I found a few specimens of *Hydra oligactis*, Pallas, in a small pond full of the pond-weed *Potamogeton pectinatus*, Linn. One of these specimens of *Hydra* was rather peculiar in having seven tentacles. Dr. Annandale in his account (*Fauna of British India, Freshwater Sponges, Hydroids and Polyzoa*, p. 159) says that he has not seen any Indian specimen with more than six tentacles, while quite a large number of specimens that I have examined from Lahore and Ferozapore had usually four, and in exceptional cases five tentacles. The manner of capturing food was also observed, it exactly corresponds to Dr. Annandale's account (*Fauna*, p. 152) of *Hydra vulgaris* phase *orientalis*, Annandale. The food consisted of very young individuals of the Aphis *Siphocoryne nymphae* which was infesting the plant in large numbers.

BAINI PARSHAD, B.Sc.,
Alfred Patiala Research Student,
Zoological Laboratory.

Government College, }
Lahore. }

BATRACHIA.

The larva of *Rhacophorus pleurostictus*, Boul. (*Fauna*, p. 479.)

The tadpoles, which were collected in Coorg, presented some difficulty in the matter of identification. This was due to the absence of any four-legged forms in the collection; but Dr. N. Annandale, who had received a fine collection of tadpoles from Cochin, has by a process of exclusion identified them as the larvae of *Rhacophorus pleurostictus*; as he has pointed out, the character of the feet at once excludes these larvae from the genus *Rana*.

The head and body are moderately flattened above and broadly oval, ventrally convex. The snout is rounded. The length of the body is to the breadth as 7 : 5. The body is finely pitted above, perfectly smooth below; but in specimens in which the hind limbs have not sprouted it is smooth above as well as below. Two conspicuous oval parotoids are present.

The eye and nostril are both small, dorsally placed, by no means prominent. The nostril is very small, directed almost anteriorly, equidistant between the eyes and the tip of the snout. The internasal space is twice the interorbital.

The mouth is subterminal, small. Its greatest width is only slightly greater than the interorbital space (as 7 : 5). The lower