There has been a report on the occurrence of S. pleuronectis in the copepod, Eucalanus subcrassus from Waltair coast. In the present work similar larva is found in the gastropod M. trapa from the same coast. These reports confirm the view that the tetraphyllideans have life cycles comparable to the pseudophyllidean pattern implicating a crustacean as the first intermediate host and another invertebrate or a teleost fish as second intermediate host.

2. —, Ibid., 1964, 39, 329.

**RECORD OF THE ADULT BATHYPELAGIC FISH, LESTIDUM JAPONICUM TANAKA (FAMILY: PARALEPIDIIDAE), IN THE INDIAN OCEAN**

The bathypelagic zone of the tropical and temperate seas abound with shoals of swift voracious fishes that look like small needle-toothed barracudas which form an important food for tunas and other large oceanic fishes. These are paralepids or "barracudinas", a group whose adults are little known as they are rarely caught. Despite the fact that the postlarvae of several species are reported
Small, uniform teeth in upper jaw with a pair of depressible canines anteriorly; lower jaw with 8 long widely spaced depressible canines, each accompanied by a short fixed tooth. Tongue with two parallel longitudinal rows of 8 teeth, 7 depressible canines on each palatine. Gill rakers on first arch 9-26, subequal short points, teeth on rakers in a single row. Body naked with scale-like structures along lateral line. Dorsal fin origin about one eye-diameter nearer vertical from pelvic fin origin than vertical from anal fin origin; distance between dorsal and pelvic fin origins 2-4 into head length. Adipose fin over last anal rays, its base constricted. Pelvic fins with inner rays distinctly longer than outer. Caudal forked, with pointed lobes.

Colour in alcohol.—Body pale with the dorsal surface with scattered melanophores. Upper border of lateral line and mid-ventral region between pelvic and anal fins with scattered melanophores. Jaws, snout tip, upper and lower borders of eye, occiput and operculum moderately dusky. Immediately before eye is a unique finger-like fleshy protuberance pointing upwards, tip of which is solid black—a diagnostic character of the subgenus Lestrolepis Harry.

Distribution.—Japan, the Philippines and the south-west coast of India.

My thanks are due to Dr. A. P. Kapur, Director, for encouragement and Dr. A. G. K. Menon, Superintending Zoologist, Zoological Survey of India, Calcutta, for kindly reading through the manuscript critically.
