

BLOOD PARASITES OF *CORACIAS B. BENGHALENSIS*
WITH SPECIAL REMARKS ON ITS TWO TYPES OF
LEUCOCYTOZON.

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AMONG the birds of the genus *Coracias* we find in Wenyon¹: *Coracias indica* in whose blood Plimmer in 1912 and 1914 recorded a *Hæmoproteus*. *Coracias abyssinicus* in whose blood Carpano found a *Hæmoproteus* in 1913 in Eritrea, A. et M. Léger in 1914 a *Hæmoproteus* in 1925 (specimen from Abyssinia); A. et M. Léger a *Leucocytozoon* in 1914 in Senegal. *Coracias garrulus* in whose blood Danilewsky recorded *Trypanosoma avium* in 1885 in South Russia; Cardamatis a *Hæmoproteus* in 1909 in Greece; Wülker a *Hæmoproteus* in 1919 in Macedonia; Danilewsky a *Hæmoproteus* in 1889 in South Russia; Wülker a *Leucocytozoon* in Macedonia in 1919.

Our bird (one specimen shot at Corlim, department of Ilhas, identified by Dr. Baini Prasad) shows the following parasites:

(1) *Hæmoproteus*.—Sexual dimorphism shown by the tinctorial reactions of the protoplasm which stains blue in female gametocytes and is colourless or slightly yellowish blue on males. The young forms of female gametes are small and more or less ovoid. When grown up, beautiful halterides embrace the nucleus of the red cells, which is displaced at the periphery. The protoplasm of the female is alveolar and does not stain uniformly; the blue tone is more pronounced on the poles and is lighter on the centre. Some specimens show the violet rings which we have found also in some other species of this genus. The halteride forms may be pointed with a kind of tail-like appendage, but when fully grown up they are broad, regular, lodging in their concavity the nucleus of the host cell. The pigment is yellow brown collected in minute granules or big dots and showing a tendency to collect on the poles. The nucleus of the female gametocytes is either compact or more or less granular. When free, the female gametocytes are roundish or oval, blue protoplasm, nucleus compact or irregular, pigment irregularly scattered over the body in clusters or isolated granules.