

R12/4

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CRUISE REPORT

F.R.V. "MARA"

10th-28th August 1959.

- Objectives (1) To continue comparing the total selectivity of other trawls with different mesh sizes in the forward parts.
- (2) To investigate the cod-end selectivity of light trawls.

Comparative fishing

Large hauls consisting mainly of whiting were obtained off Cruden buoy, making it necessary to cut the towing time to half an hour. The fish were well divided between the codend and cover. This was continued until the middle of the second week when it was necessary to go to the Moray Firth because of bad weather. The fish here were larger, however, and very few were escaping into the cover. Only one day's work was possible before the weather deteriorated further. The third week weather made work impossible until Wednesday and the rest of the time was devoted to camera work.

Telemeter trials

On the first day a trial was made with the telemeter transmitter. The instrument however failed to function properly and no further time was devoted to this as some delay was inevitable.

Trawl camera

On Tuesday of the first week a film was successfully exposed in the trawl camera. As a result it was considered worth while to devote two days of the third week to the operation of the trawl camera and it is hoped that some useful photographs will be produced.

M. MOWAT.

9th October, 1959