

## CRUISE REPORT

F.R.S. "SCOTIA"

January 18th - February 2nd 1962

"Scotia" left Aberdeen on the morning of 18th January for the Fladen survey, which was completed by the evening of 19th when "Scotia" returned to Aberdeen.

At midnight on Saturday 20th the ship left for the comparative fishing part of the cruise. Bad weather on 21st prevented any trawling and "Scotia" went to anchor in Inganess Bay in Orkney, where she had to remain until Wednesday 24th when trawling was begun 7 miles east of Auskerry. Four trawls were done in this area, and on 25th trawling was continued off Copensay. Catches were poor in this area and it was decided to try grounds off the east coast of Shetlands.

On 26th bad weather again forced the ship to anchor in Balta Sound. Trawling was resumed off Balta on 27th and 28th, where 235 plaice were tagged. On 29th one haul was made off Fetlar, but bad weather prevented further trawling and "Scotia" sailed for Lerwick for water.

Severe gales prevented the ship from leaving Lerwick until the morning of 1st February, when she made a passage directly to Leith, arriving at mid-day 2nd February.

In all, 17 hauls were done in the two areas. Catches of all species were very low, the major species caught being haddock in very small quantities.

An analysis of the data is being made.

W. B. HALL  
22nd March, 1962.