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to the Laboratory.

CRUISE REPORT

F.R.S. "SCOTIA"

13th February-13th March, 1958

Narrative

"Scotia" left Aberdeen on the morning tide on February 14 and commenced work on a series of positions off the east coast. Catches were poor, and various grounds from the Firth of Forth to Orkney were tried with varying success.

On the 20th, a localised outbreak of fire made it necessary to return to Aberdeen. As a result of this mishap the cruise was shortened, and scheduled to finish on March 9.

"Scotia" resumed work on the 24th February on line A of the special plankton survey. For the remainder of that week hauls for tagging purposes were made in Shetland waters. The I.G.Y. station north-west of Flugga was also successfully completed.

On March 1 "Scotia" made a short visit to Lerwick to take on water and to carry out repairs to the trawl doors that had been badly damaged on the previous day. While there, Mr. Kabata was asked to act as an interpreter for the Commodore of the Russian herring fleet which was situated to the east of Shetland at the time.

"Scotia" left Lerwick on the 2nd and resumed tagging work. On the 7th, when about to tackle line B of the plankton survey, severe gales arose and it was necessary to take shelter in Aberdeen. No further opportunity of working was possible before the 9th.

Throughout the entire cruise a good deal of time was lost through bad weather, and, under the circumstances, it was considered satisfactory to have completed 39 hauls and to have tagged 490 haddock, 807 whiting and 18 cod. Except for those fish that were able to swim actively in the fish tank, all tagged fish were lowered to a depth of 30 ft before they were released.

R. JONES.
11th March, 1958.