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CRUISE REPORT

F.R.S. "SCOTIA"

April, 1952.

General

"Scotia" left Aberdeen at 0830 hrs. on Thursday 3rd April, and worked three stations off the east coast of Scotland. Adverse weather delayed the ship for 42 hours in Pierowall Bay, Orkney, but when the weather moderated on April 6th a passage was made to Faroe. The Faroe survey was begun on Monday 7th April, and the southern part of the work completed by Wednesday 9th. The ship was then forced to shelter in Klaksvig from S.W. gales, and was detained there until Tuesday 15th. Work was resumed, and it was decided to omit the trawls, which were of secondary importance. The survey of hydrography and plankton was completed on Thursday 17th in fine weather, and a course was set for Lerwick, where the ship tied up on the following day. After taking water, "Scotia" left Lerwick at 0900 hrs. on Saturday 19th, and work on the Fair Isle grid was begun at noon on the same day. On 22nd the weather deteriorated and it was necessary to stop work at 1300 hrs. after working 54 of the 61 stations. In view of the short time remaining it was decided to terminate the trip, and the ship entered Aberdeen at 0015 hours on Wednesday 23rd April.

Hydrography

On the Faroe plateau, temperatures and salinity samples were taken at standard depths at all stations. The surface temperatures ranged from 5.97°C to 7.90°C, and the bottom temperatures from 5.99°C to 7.31°C. Other hydrographic work at Faroe included the collection, from 23 stations, of water samples for determination of oxygen and free phosphate content. Although it was not possible to work the Faroe-Flugga hydrographic line the drift bottles were liberated - 30 bottles, in groups of 5, at 6 stations.

In the Fair Isle area, temperatures were taken and samples of water collected for determination of salinity, free and total phosphate, from specified depths.

Plankton

Collections with the Hensen net were made at all 51 stations on the Faroe Shelf, with the standard net at 10 stations, and with the 1 m. silk (oblique tow) at 14 stations. A preliminary examination of the Hensen collections shows that eggs and fish larvae occurred in fair numbers at all stations. Appendicularians and Calanus were dominant in the zooplankton. Rich phytoplankton collections were made at many stations, and the abundance of Halosphaera was noted.

Hensen collections were also made at each station on the Fair Isle grid. Here also good samples were obtained, and phytoplankton was abundant at most stations.

Trawling

The object of trawling was to collect haddock ovaries, but since it was found that most of the fish were spent, and since time was short due to adverse weather, only five trawls were carried out. Only one of these yielded a good catch, and in this 446 haddock, 15 halibut, and 8 lemon soles were taken

General

The echosounder was run almost continuously until 21st April, when it began to give trouble, and it was decided to discontinue its use. No fish traces were observed.

A. D. McINTYRE

24th April, 1952.

CIRCULATION

Mr. W. Russell	Dr. G. Reay	Capt. G. B. McLaren
Capt. C. H. Champness	Mr. Johns	Mr. A. D. McIntyre
Mr. M. Graham	Dr. Fridriksson	Mr. J. H. Steele
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Dr. J. N. Carruthers	Dr. H. Wood	Mr. D. D. Seaton
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