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CRUISE REPORT.

F.R.S. "SCOTIA".

October, 1950.

GENERAL:

"SCOTIA" sailed from Aberdeen for Faroese waters at 18.45 hours on October 4th and arrived in Vaag after a rough passage, with boiler trouble on the seventh.

Repairs were soon carried out, but further delay ensued before another supply of fresh water could be obtained, the boiler trouble having led to considerable wastage. This necessitated a journey to Klakksvig and it was not until the morning of the tenth that "SCOTIA" was able to proceed with the programme.

Three stations were completed west of Kadlur before the weather became unsuitable for working, and "SCOTIA" returned to Fugle Fjord for shelter. Finally, with a moderation in the weather, work was recommenced on the thirteenth, and the last two days spent in haddock marking.

"SCOTIA" finally arrived in Aberdeen at 17.00 hours on the sixteenth, having partially completed twelve stations, and carried out two days haddock marking.

HYDROGRAPHY:

A line of bathythermograph stations was commenced along a line north west from Sneuk Head (Hoy) but had to be abandoned owing to bad weather while "SCOTIA" took shelter in Pierowall Roads (Westray). A fresh line was then carried out, starting from Mull Head, and extending north west towards the edge of the 100 fathom line.

At Faroe, twelve hydrographic stations were completed. Surface temperatures ranged from an average of 9.39°C at the extreme south to 9.48°C in the north west, while at a depth of 50 metres, the temperatures were almost the same, averaging 9.37°C and 9.47°C respectively.

PLANKTON:

Twelve hauls were made with the Henson, and four with the Standard vertical nets. Only three hauls were made with the 2 metre silk, as at most stations weather conditions were too bad to make its use advisable.

Plankton collections were poor, the best being obtained from the south where Calanus, Euphausiids, and Salps were taken in small numbers. To the north west, phytoplankton organisms appeared in scanty quantities, while to the north, practically no plankton was obtained. Salps were quite well represented in most hauls, however, and in the north east large numbers of Aurelia were taken in the trawl.

TRAWLING:

Twelve trawl hauls were made, principally during the last two days of/

of the cruise with the object of obtaining haddock marking. For this purpose, "SCOTIA" proceeded to grounds north north west of Kadlur where some half a dozen trawlers were fishing at the time, and carried out a series of hauls, each of half an hour's duration.

The greater part of the catches consisted of I group haddocks, averaging approximately 26 cms., which were rather small for marking, but a total of 272 larger haddocks (of 28 cms. and over) were obtained, and of these 125 were successfully marked and liberated.

Very few other fish were taken in the trawl, a total of 37 whiting, 25 lemon sole, 1 plaice, 27 cod, and a few Sebastes, comprising almost all of the remaining species caught.

R. JONES.

19th October, 1950.

CIRCULATION:

Mr. W. Russell	Mr. R.S. Wimpenny	Mr. E.H. Rae	Mr. R. Jones
Capt. C.H. Champness	M. P. Desbrosses	Dr. G. Roay	Mr. R. Lawrie
Mr. M. Graham	Dr. B. Havinga	Dr. H. Wood	Mr. J. Main
Dr. C.E. Lucas	Dr. A.R. Molander	Dr. J.B. Tait	Mr. D.D. Seaton
Dr. J.N. Carruthers	Dr. H. Thomsen	Dr. J.H. Fraser	Mr. T. Bruce
Dr. H. Blegvad	Prof. Ch. Gilis	Dr. A. Ritchie	Spare 5.
Dr. A.V. Tøning	Mr. F.S. Russell	Dr. B.B. Rae	
Dr. F. Devold	Mr. E. Ford	Capt. E.A. Bruce	