

help believing that the profoundest deep is far more poorly supplied than the intermediate layer.

If we next examine the size-distribution at the different depths, we shall see that it is perfectly clear that the smaller sizes are met with much higher up than the larger ones, which latter are mainly to be found at a depth of 1500 metres. In the northern section we find that at a depth of 500 metres the greatest number of individuals were 30 mm. in length,

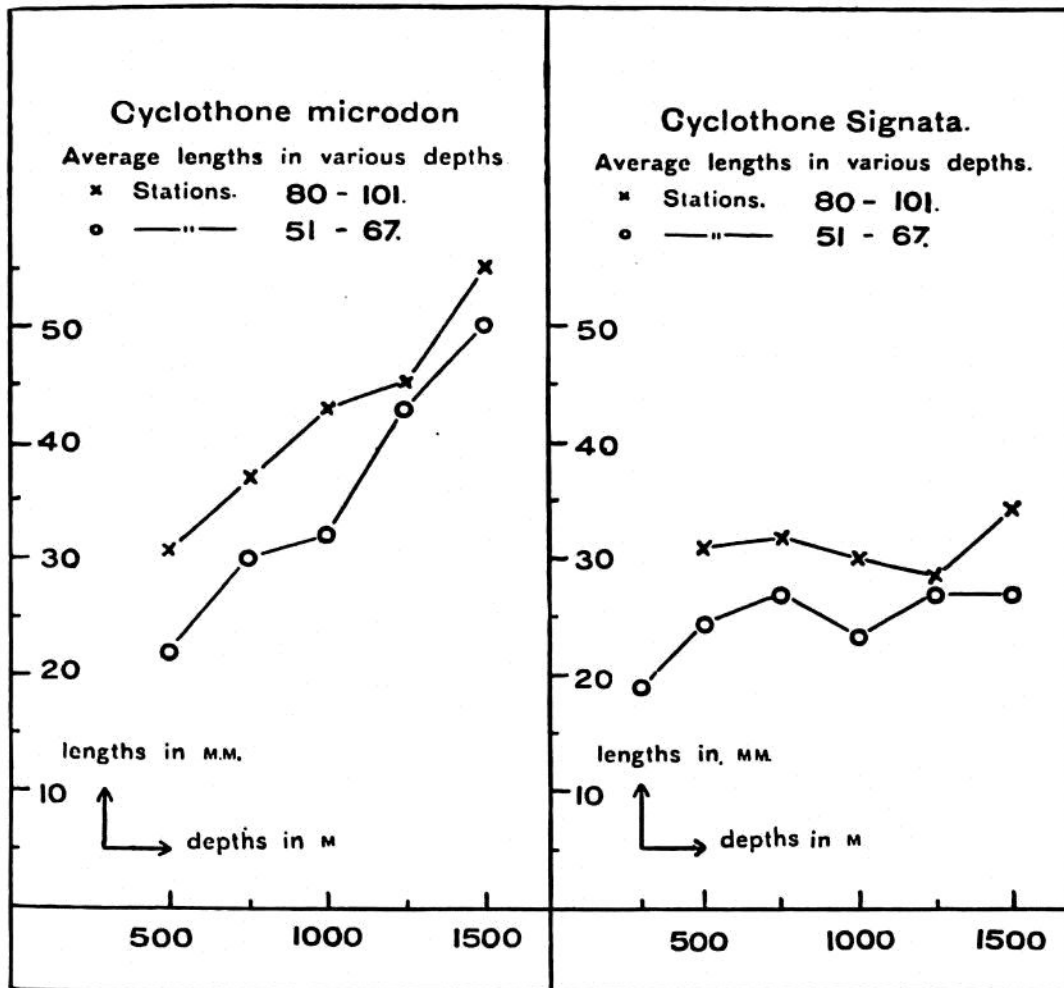


FIG. 474.

whereas at 1500 metres the majority attained 60 mm. At a depth of 500 metres we came across only two that were over 50 mm. in length. The smaller and younger individuals of a length of 20-30 mm. live, accordingly, to a preponderating extent, 1000 metres higher up in the water-layers than the majority of the largest and oldest individuals.

Another remarkable fact which strikes us when we study our catches is that the average size of the individuals is much less in the southern than in the northern section at the same