

The abundant plankton peculiar to boreal waters in summer (August) apparently accumulates in those layers where the highest specific gravity occurs, the volume thence decreasing in the deep uniform layers below 500 metres. A series of hauls taken close to the Wyville Thomson Ridge in the southern part of the Norwegian Sea at Station 113 gave the following results:—

100 to	0 metres gave	10 c.c. containing	...	species of Crustaceans.
300 to 100	"	5	"	21
500 to 300	"	12	"	18
1000 to 500	"	140	"	11

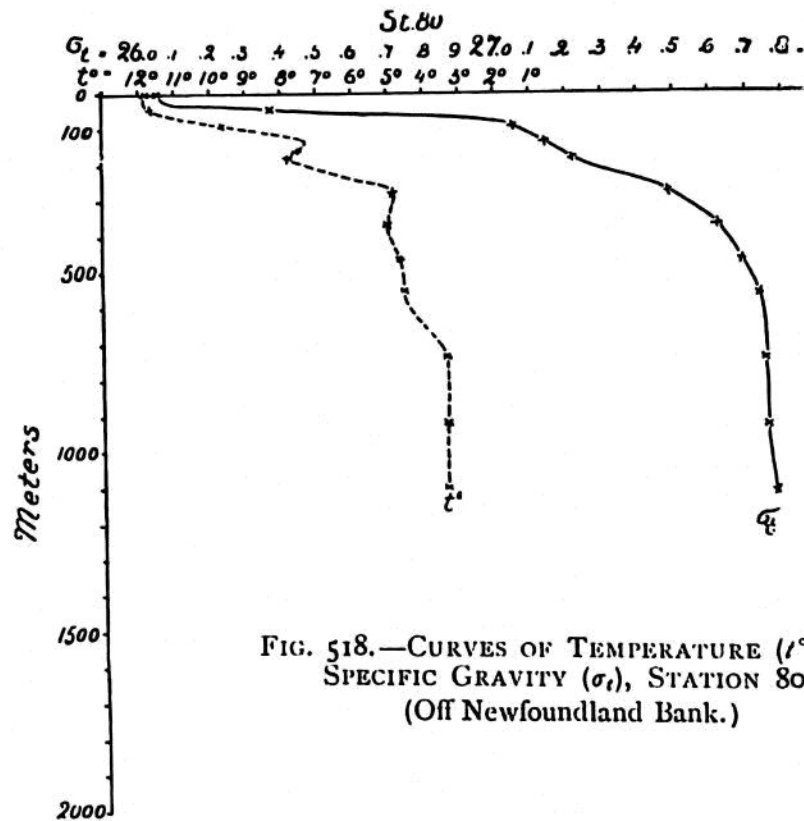


FIG. 518.—CURVES OF TEMPERATURE ( $t^{\circ}$ ) AND SPECIFIC GRAVITY ( $\sigma_t$ ), STATION 80. (Off Newfoundland Bank.)

The curve for specific gravity shows here (see Fig. 519) a rapid rise down to 100 metres, then a slow rise down to about 300 metres, and finally a rapid rise down to about 600 or 700 metres. A pronounced minimum in the volume of crustacea occurs between 300 and 100 metres, and an enormous increase is found between 1000 and 500 metres, where the volume is fifty times larger than the volume in the surface layers of the Sargasso Sea.

In my opinion these facts prove the correctness of the hypothesis that minute pelagic crustacea (and consequently nourishment suitable for larger organisms) tend to accumulate at those depths where a pronounced rise in the specific gravity