

This great contrast in the conditions of propagation is obviously a very characteristic feature. At this point, however, we encounter the same difficulty met with in discussing the reproduction of the minute plants and food animals of the ocean, for we are ignorant as to how often these small fishes reproduce their kind during the year.

Figs. 531 and 532 represent the eggs of *Scombresox* and *Trachypterus*, and show that oceanic eggs are not all small. The large egg of *Trachypterus* (2.8 mm. in diameter) was captured at Station 52, south of the Azores, and plainly shows that the large and remarkable Trachypteridæ propagate in

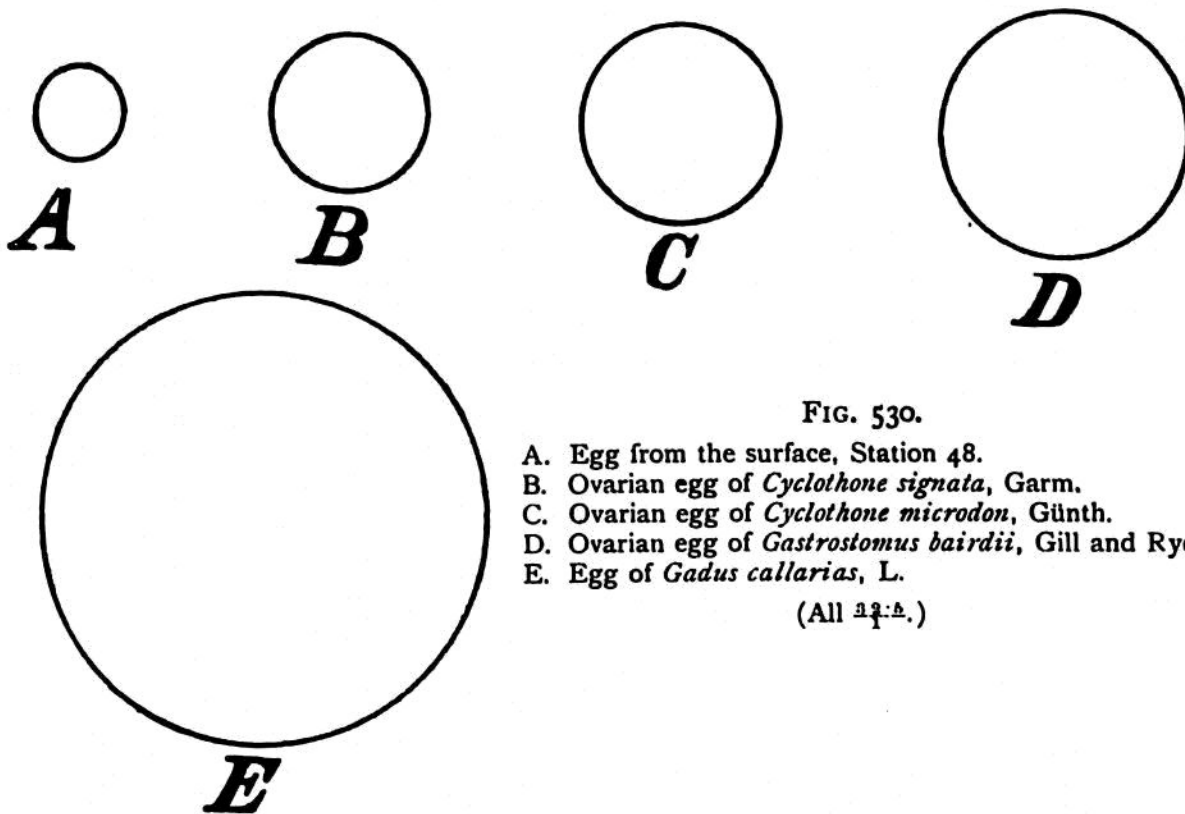


FIG. 530.

- A. Egg from the surface, Station 48.
- B. Ovarian egg of *Cyclothone signata*, Garm.
- C. Ovarian egg of *Cyclothone microdon*, Günth.
- D. Ovarian egg of *Gastrostomus bairdii*, Gill and Ryd.
- E. Egg of *Gadus callarias*, L.

(All  $\frac{1}{2}$  in.)

entirely oceanic conditions. Judging from their appearance they probably live at similar depths as *Argyropelecus* and the Stomiidæ.

During the whole of our Atlantic cruise we constantly captured young fish, in fact many thousands in all. According to their vertical distribution these young fish may be divided into two groups. Fig. 533 shows that the majority of the 3604 young fishes examined were taken in the uppermost 150 metres of the sea. Most of the young fishes taken in appliances used in deeper water have, in all probability, been taken while hauling in the gear, and nearly all the peculiar large leptocephali have also been taken in the upper layer. But there is a certain group of young fishes which show a maximum frequency about

Vertical distribution of young fish.