

x we see that the surface temperatures of the North Atlantic change very considerably from February to August. In February the isotherm of 15° C. follows approximately the 40th degree of latitude, while in August it reaches the north-western corner of Iceland, north of the 50th degree. The isotherm of 10° C. has in February a course approximating to that of the 15° isotherm in August, when the isotherm of 10° runs far north in the Norwegian Sea, where the seasonal difference is

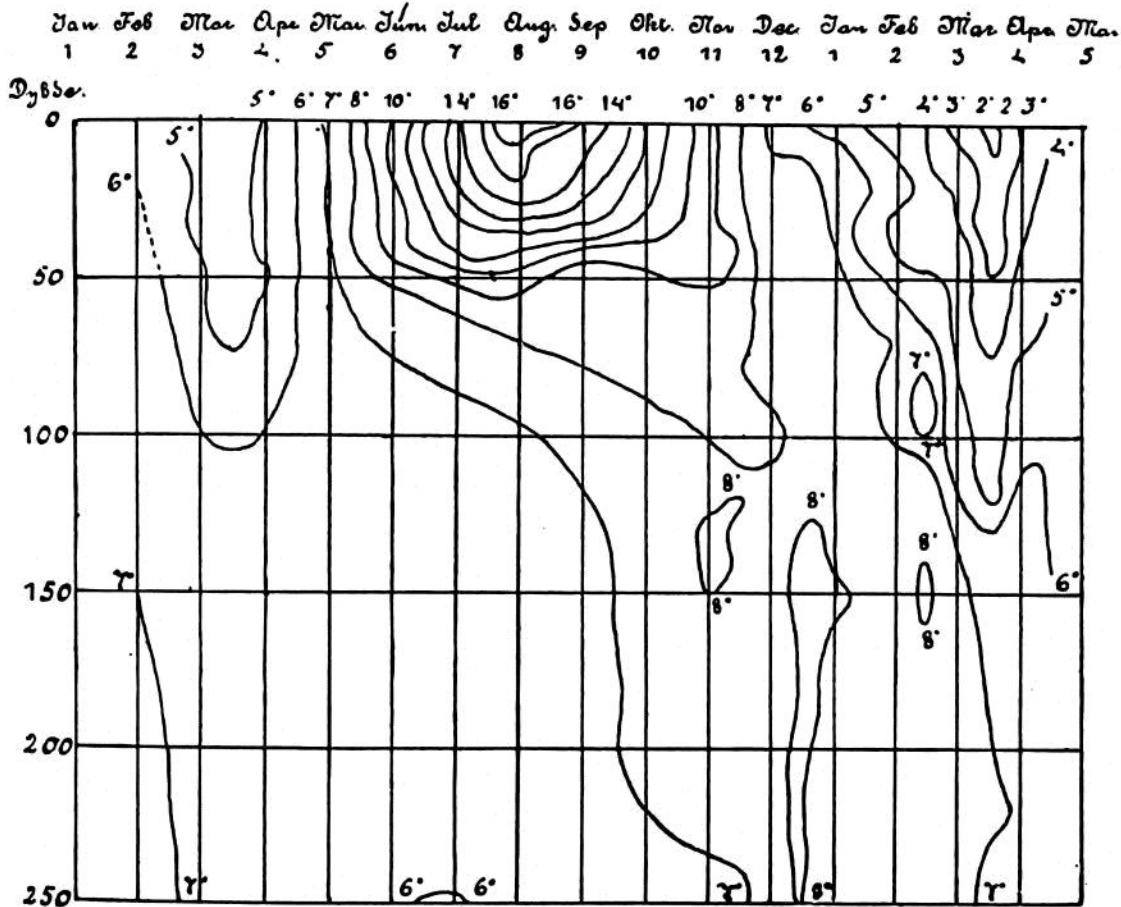


FIG. 509.—VARIATION OF TEMPERATURE ACCORDING TO DEPTH DURING DIFFERENT SEASONS, OFF THE NORWEGIAN WEST COAST.

still more pronounced. Fig. 509 shows the vertical distribution of temperature during approximately fifteen months, as observed by me in the 'nineties of last century while making repeated investigations in one locality off the west coast of Norway. We perceive that during the summer months warm temperatures occur in the upper 50 metres, temperatures which during winter we can find in the Atlantic only south of the 40th degree of latitude (see Fig. 159, p. 227). During autumn high temperatures (8° C.) pass down through the water column, so that towards the close of the year the warmest water is found at 250 metres. At the same time the surface-layers cool