

the investigation of the animal life of the sea. The appliances for capturing animals at the bottom have undergone only slight alterations, whereas many different kinds of contrivances for capturing the pelagic animals have been tried from time to time, some of them being of real practical value.

Chun has done more perhaps than any other naturalist in the way of studying the vertical distribution of organisms. Together with Petersen he constructed a vertical net that could

Closing nets for intermediate waters.

Chun and Petersen closing net.

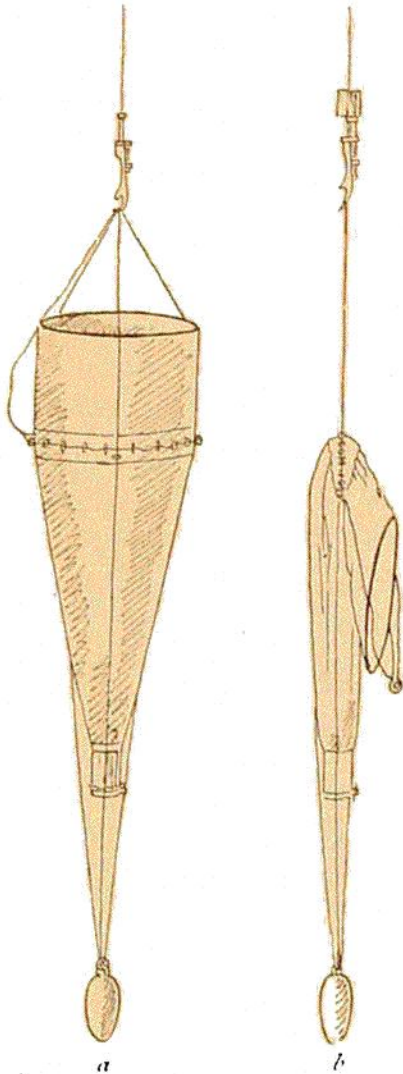


FIG. 15.—NANSEN'S CLOSING NET.

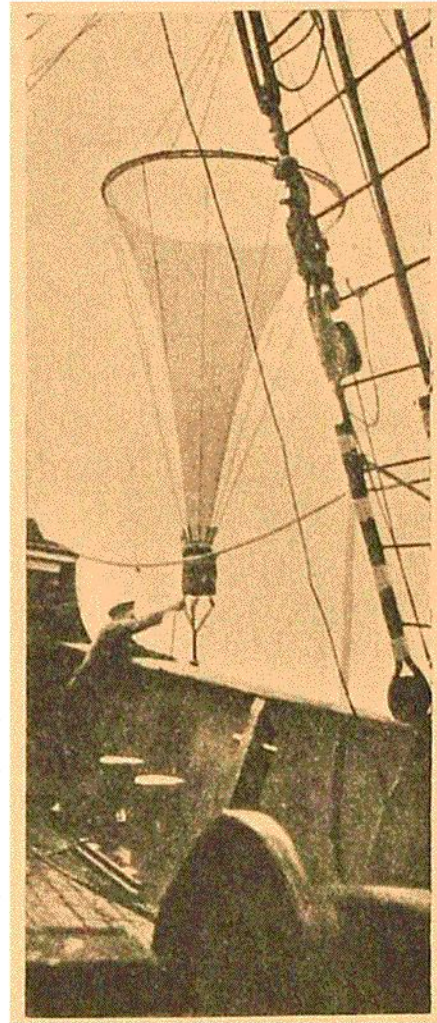


FIG. 16.—CHUN'S NET. (From Chun.)

be let down closed, then opened, and finally closed again, so as to catch the smaller organisms existing in a specified layer of water, say between 400 and 200 metres beneath the surface. Subsequently other closing nets were constructed on the principle of this invention. Fig. 15 shows Nansen's closing net open (*a*), and shut (*b*), the construction of the net itself and the closing mechanism being easily understood from the illustrations. It is extremely simple and reliable, and we have tested it in various ways during the cruises of the "Michael

Nansen closing net.