the cold bottom water with a temperature below 0° C. is reached, where they are gradually replaced by the cold water fauna previously described.

The same laws which regulate the distribution of different species in the North Sea apply also in the main to other boreal waters where these species live. Scientific fishing experiments, and above all the mass of information gathered from the fishing industry, have in recent years vastly contributed to our knowledge on these points. If on the basis of this knowledge we want to compare the actual conditions in different boreal waters, we must compare areas of corresponding depth. In this way we may possibly form an idea as to the part played by the extent of the sea-bottom, and by physical conditions, in regard to the distribution of our northern species. Some examples may illustrate this point.

In the North Sea the shallow banks in depths less than 40 metres cover large areas, while off the coast of Norway there are hardly any such banks, the coast sloping steeply into greater depths. Shallow banks occur off the south and west coast of Iceland, and far north and east in the Barents Sea, as well as round Cape Kanin. Of the fish inhabiting the shallow areas of the North Sea, only the plaice and the cod occur in great quantities on these northern banks of Iceland and Cape Kanin. Sole, brill, and other flat-fish might also find suitable conditions of depth here, but the temperature is too low. Off the coast of Norway none of these flat-fish, neither the plaice nor the sole, occur abundantly. Thus we plainly see the important parts played by depth as well as by temperature in respect of the occurrence of various species.

While the haddock in the North Sea constitutes nearly half of the total weight of bottom-fish landed, the same species constitutes only 3 per cent off the coast of Norway. This is not because Norway is too far to the north, nor because the temperature of the water is too low, since at Iceland and in the Barents Sea, where conditions are similar, haddock amounts to 20 per cent of the catch, but because off the coast of Norway there are no great areas of suitable depth and with the soft bottom preferred by the haddock. On the contrary we here meet with great areas of "cod-bottom" (sand, stones, shingle, or rocks overgrown with kelp), and therefore the cod makes up over 80 per cent of all the bottom-fish taken off northern Norway.

Thus the extent of the area, and the captures made therein,