

between 500 and 750 metres in the northern section, whereas in the south they were seldom captured by the net towed at 500 metres, though present in large numbers at a depth of 1000 metres.

Bathypelagic
region.

The results of these investigations clearly show that the dark-coloured fish, the deep-red prawns, and other organisms are limited to the deep parts of the ocean beyond 500 metres. This bathypelagic region may, however, be subdivided into various layers. We thus recognise a layer varying according to geographical position between 500 and 800 metres containing the light-coloured species of *Cyclothone* and the bright-red prawn with orange-coloured eggs (*Acantheephyra purpurea*). The layer from 800 or 1000 metres downwards may require to be still further subdivided, for certain forms like the larger *Acantheephyra* with red eggs (*A. multispina*). *Notostomus* and several fishes and squids have been taken only in the deepest hauls at 1500 or 2000 metres, but we must point out that the deeper parts of the Atlantic were not investigated by us, our efforts being devoted mainly to the upper layers between 1500 metres and the surface. We shall, therefore, consider the layers below 500 metres as a whole, referring to some characteristic forms from this bathypelagic region, examining their horizontal and vertical distribution, and discussing the laws which seem to govern their occurrence.

We have seen that Haecker, in dealing with the vertical distribution of the Radiolaria, recognised a Pandora region from 400 to 1000 metres, and an abyssal region from 1500 to 5000 metres; and this division coincides very well with the two regions characterised, respectively, by the occurrence of *Cyclothone signata* and *C. microdon* and by the two species of prawns.

Among the medusæ a similar correlation is found, *Periphylla hyacinthina* being most abundant at 500 metres, and *Atolla bairdi* at 1000 metres.

No nemertines were taken in depths less than 700 or 800 metres, and the fifteen specimens belonging to the genus *Planctonemertes*, taken at five separate stations, were taken beyond 1500 metres.

The ostracod *Gigantocypris* was taken at eleven stations, but only one individual occurred at 500 metres, the remainder occurring in deeper water. *Pyrosoma spinosum* was always taken beyond 750 metres, most of the specimens coming from 1500 metres.