

During the first cruise of the "Michael Sars" in the Norwegian Sea in 1900 I was convinced that in deep water a great quantity of food would accumulate wherever a rise in the specific gravity occurs, and where, consequently, all sinking bodies either stop or have their sinking velocity reduced, forming as it were a "bottom" in mid-water. In my report on the cruise<sup>1</sup> I mentioned the matter, and the following observations appear to confirm this hypothesis.

In the Sargasso Sea series of hauls with closing-nets were taken at Stations 50 and 63, the net employed at Station 50

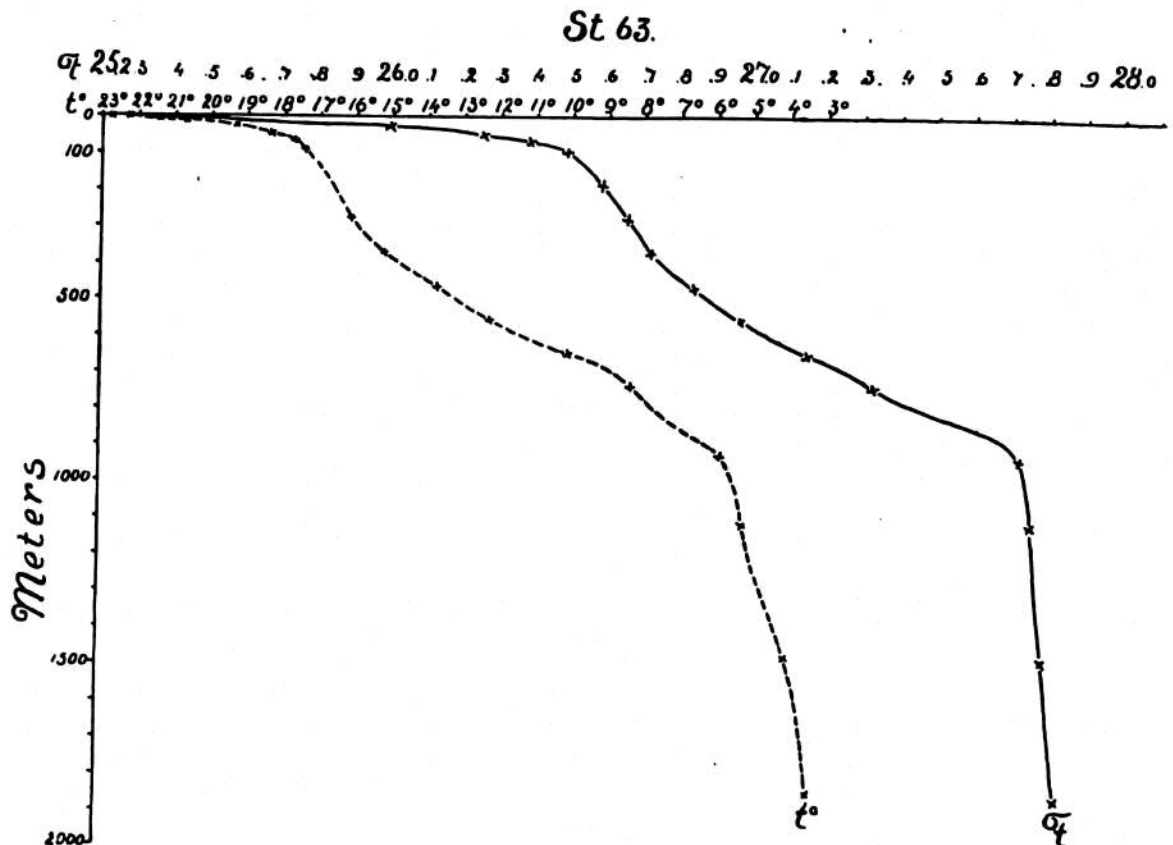


FIG. 516.—CURVES OF TEMPERATURE ( $t^{\circ}$ ) AND SPECIFIC GRAVITY ( $\sigma_t$ ), STATION 63. (Sargasso Sea.)

being 1 metre in diameter, and at Station 63 half a metre in diameter, made of very fine silk. At Station 50 hauls from

200 to	0 metres	gave	3 c.c.,	containing	22 species	of Crustaceans.
500 to	200	"	1.5	"	22	"
1000 to	500	"	6	"	51	"

At Station 63 hauls from

100 to	0 metres	gave	1.6 c.c.
200 to	100	"	0.5 "
500 to	200	"	1.6 "

<sup>1</sup> Hjort, *Die erste Nordmeerfahrt des norwegischen Fischereidampfers "Michael Sars,"* 1900, Petermann's Mitteilungen, Bd. 47, 1901.