

accomplish as much as possible in a limited space of time, and partly to discover what creatures inhabit the various water-strata.

While on our way to the Azores we hoped to be able to reach the Sargasso Sea and study its peculiar animal life. Accordingly before leaving Gran Canaria we interviewed some Norwegian skippers, who had spent many years in the waters lying between the Canary Islands and the West Indies, and were advised by them not to steer direct for the Azores, but to follow a westerly course as far as the longitude of those islands and then turn northwards. We followed their sugges-

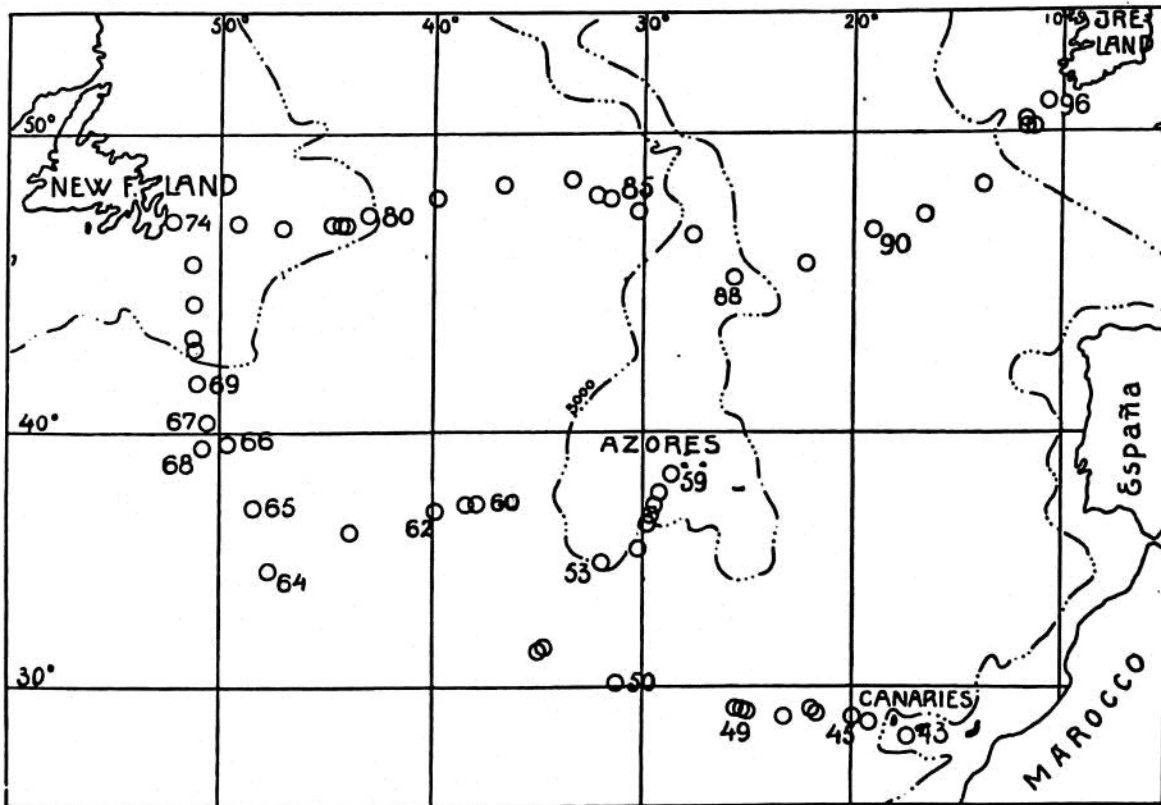


FIG. 62.—"MICHAEL SARS" STATIONS FROM CANARY ISLANDS TO THE AZORES AND NEWFOUNDLAND AND THENCE TO BRITAIN.

tion, leaving Gran Canaria on 27th May, and, as will be seen from the chart (Fig. 62), first steered westwards, making some investigations at Stations 43-52, and then northwards to Fayal, one of the Azores, occupying Stations 53-58, and arrived at Fayal on 13th June.

Hydrographical investigations were made all this time, and we took as many as fourteen water-samples at different depths at each station, from the surface down to 2000 metres, thus securing some excellent material from this area. Fig. 63 shows a section of the ocean on our westerly route. It is remarkable how uniform the hydrographical conditions proved to be. The

Uniformity of hydrographical conditions and of animal life.