# Instructions for use

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REPORT FROM THE "OSHORO MARU" ON OCEANOGRAPHIC AND BIOLOGICAL INVESTIGATIONS IN THE BERING SEA AND NORTHERN NORTH PACIFIC IN THE SUMMER OF 1955

I. Programme of Investigations and Records of Eye Observations of Sea-Birds and Marine Mammals *

Sigeru MOTODA and Takeji FUJII

Faculty of Fisheries, Hokkaido University

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I. Introduction

Participating in the North Pacific Oceanographic Expedition (Norpac Expedition) coordinated by the oceanographic institutions of Japan, Canada and the United States, the training ship "Oshoro Maru" of the Faculty of Fisheries, Hokkaido University, in Hakodate, Hokkaido, made a research and training cruise from Hakodate to Seattle and return, traversing the Bering Sea on the outward course and the northern North Pacific on the homeward course during the period from June to August, 1955. The sea area assigned to be investigated by the "Oshoro Maru" was the Bering Sea, north of the Aleutian Islands extending from off the east coast of Kamchatka in the west, to Bristol Bay in the east, and north to about latitude 60° N.

In planning the investigations by the "Oshoro Maru", as a part of the Norpac enterprise, a special research committee was organized in the University from staff members who have taken responsibility for the studies in respect to their specialities. The results of the investigations will be published in successive papers under their sponsorship. The committee comprises the following persons:

Professor Sigeru Motoda, D. Agr. (Plankton)
Professor Shin-ichi Satō, M. Sci. (Ichthyology)
Professor Naoichi Inoue, D. Sci. (Turbidity, radio-activity)

* おいしい北海道調査報告 No. 4 (1955年度)
The 1955 cruise was the third one for the "Oshoro Maru" to make to the Bering Sea since the end of World War II. Referring to the results obtained from the two preceding cruises (Mishima & Nishizawa, 1955; Motoda & Kawarada, 1955) and from data provided by other ships (ref. Watanabe, 1954) it was desired to lay stress upon research in the most interesting areas; that is, off the east coast of Kamchatka, in which severely cold water is still to be found at around 100 metre depth in summer, and also the vicinity of the Aleutian Ridge over which warm water of low salinity from the east is flowing from the Pacific side into the Bering Sea. The western front of this warm water progressively moves westward with the progress of the season from spring to summer possibly having certain relation to the reduction of the above noted severely cold water in the deep. This front is considered to have certain significance in respect to the location of salmon fishing grounds. However, in making a research cruise roughly covering the whole of the Bering Sea, there was insufficient time and fuel to permit the carrying on of observations in detail in the above interesting areas. The final plan for the cruise was nearly the same as the actual performance.

II. Ship

The "Oshoro Maru" (fig. 1) is owned by the National Government of Japan and placed under the management of the Faculty of Fisheries, Hokkaido University. She was built in 1927 as a training ship of the College of Fisheries, Hokkaido Imperial University, in Sapporo, which was the predecessor school of the Faculty of Fisheries. Her original style was that of a barquentine sailing vessel, 471.76 gross tons, installed with auxiliary Diesel engine, 450 HP, but during World War II the sailing equipment was entirely removed; the mainmast and bowsprit were...
also taken away. In 1952 she was enlarged on the occasion of reconstruction; the hull was elongated by five metres in the middle portion, and the engine was renewed. Her particulars at present are listed below:

- Gross tonnage: 616.72 tons
- Net tonnage: 213.52 tons
- Displacement: 969.01 tons
- Length: 46.79 metres
- Breadth: 9.14 metres
- Depth: 4.79 metres
- Main engine: Diesel 800 HP
- Maximum speed: 11.28 knots
- Cruising speed: 8.50 knots
- Fuel capacity: 110 tons
- Fresh-water capacity: 126 tons
- Range of cruise: 7200 miles
- Wireless transmitter: 500W, 250W, 50W
- Number of complement: 85 men

The ship was originally built for use entirely in training cadets in navigation and fisheries, having no equipment for oceanographic research, except only sounding winches, and no adequate accommodation for researchers. Such lacks were not corrected on the occasion of reconstruction. In making the present research cruise, the Captain's reception room was temporarily furnished with requisites for chemical analyses, but there was no space left to provide good accommodation for the scientists; they were compelled to use the spare cadet's berths, a berth for patient in the dispensary and a sofa in the Captain's reception room. The general arrangement of the ship is illustrated in fig. 2.

Fig. 2. General arrangement of "Oshoro Maru" (from blue print)
1. Hydrographic davit (upper deck, stern)  
2. Hydrographic davit (upper deck, starboard)  
3. Hydrographic davit (main deck, starboard)  
4. Hydrographic stage (upper deck, stern)  
5. Hydrographic stage (main deck, starboard)  
6. Electromotive hydrographic winch (upper deck)  
7. Spare hand hydrographic winch (upper deck)  
8. Hand hydrographic winch (main deck)  
9. Nansen bottle carrier (upper deck, stern)  
10. Nansen bottle carrier (main deck, starboard)  
11. Gallows for turbidity-meter provisionally set  
12. Meter part of turbidity-meter  
13. Drum for cabtyre cord of turbidity-meter  
14. Trawl gallows (after)  
15. Trawl gallows (fore)  
16. Trawl winch  
17. Canning machine  
18. Chief wireless operator (1 berth)  
19. Wireless room  
20. Captain (1 berth)  
21. Chemical laboratory  
22. Store  
23. Steering engine room  
24. Store  
25. Provision store  
26. Photographic dark room  
27. W C  
28. Scientist’s store (2 berths, but not usable during ocean-going)  
29. Cold store  
30. Engine opening  
31. Coal bunker  
32. W C  
33. Lavatory  
34. Bath  
35. Galley  
36. Chief officer (1 berth)  
37. Second officer (1 berth)  
38. First officer (1 berth)  
39. Pantry  
40. Saloon  
41. Hatch  
42. Cooks and boys (4 berths)  
43. Petrol store  
44. Bath  
45. W C  
46. Lamp store  
47. Paint store  
48. Store  
49. Provision store  
50. Engine store  
51. Rice store  
52. Store  
53. Second engineer (1 berth)  
54. First engineer (1 berth)  
55. Chief engineer (1 berth)  
56. Junior wireless operator (1 berth)  
57. Purser (1 berth)  
58. Third officer and third engineer (2 berths)  
59. Gyro compass room  
60. Dispensary (1 berth for doctor and 1 berth for patient)  
61. Cadet’s dining room and lecture room  
62. Cadets (6 berths)  
63. Cadets (8 berths)  
64. Cadets (8 berths)  
65. Cadets (10 berths)  
66. Scientists (8 berths)  
67. Refrigerating machine  
68. Hatch  
69. Boatswain (1 berth)  
70. No. 1 oiler (1 berth)  
71. Chief steward (1 berth)  
72. Store  
73. Quarter masters and sailors (12 berths)  
74. Oilers and firemen (8 berths)  
75. Cordage store
III. Equipment

Fifteen Nansen bottles, twenty protected reversing thermometers and seven unprotected reversing thermometers were provided for the present cruise. One of three hydrographic winches was provided with 3 HP electric motor while the other two, one for spare, were operated by hand. On these winches twisted steel wire of 2.7 mm diameter was wound. Only the above classic instruments were available for regular hydrographic observations, no recently developed instruments, such as Geomagnetic-electro-kinetograph (G E K) and Bathy-thermograph (B T), being provided.

For measuring the turbidity of sea water in situ a turbidity-meter (fig. 3) constructed according to the design of Prof. N. Inoue of the University was prepared. This turbidity-meter was somewhat different from the original type reported in Fukuda et al. (1954).

In the chemical laboratory (figs. 4, 5) which was converted from the Captain's reception room such apparatus, as glass electrode pH meter, molecular filter assembly and phototube colorimeter, were provided in accordance with recent advances in marine chemistry. Two magnetic stirrers were provided for convenience of rapid titration aboard. The arrangement of these pieces of apparatus was made by Asst. Prof. K. Katō.

Six sorts of plankton samplers were prepared. The standard net, so called "Marutoku Net", which was standardized by Mr. Z. Nakai of the Tōkai Regional Fisheries Research Laboratory, is conical in shape, 45 cm in mouth diameter, 100 cm in length along the side of cone, and made of coarse bolting silk, GG 54, i.e., 52.5 meshes per linear inch, having
0.33 mm of approximate mesh aperture. In the present cruise use was made of a net having side length of 165 cm and the same mouth diameter as the original type. Two such nets were prepared for the cruise.

A considerably large net, being 63 cm in mouth diameter, 300 cm in total length, and made of coarse bolting silk, GG 40, i.e., 39 meshes per linear inch, in the lower 265 cm of the cone and of shrimp netting in the upper 35 cm, was prepared for deep haul.

A "Twin Net" (fig. 6), more simplified than the original type (Motoda, 1955), was prepared for making frequent deep haul. Each net of the twin has a size of 10 cm along the side of the square mouth and 50 cm in length along the tapering bag of bolting silk, GG 56, i.e., 54.5 meshes per linear inch. A piece of cloth was sewed on inside the net.

This is a device for preventing the outflow of materials.

For sampling the microplankton in shallow layers two fine mesh nets were provided, 20 cm in mouth diameter and 70 cm in length, made of fine bolting silk, XX 16, i.e., 157 meshes per linear inch.

A "Handy Underway Plankton Catcher, Model II" (fig. 7) (Motoda, 1954) was provided for this cruise. The inserted net was selected to have comparatively fine meshes of bolting silk, XX 13, i.e., 129 meshes per linear inch.

For sampling fish-larvae and large plankton animals at the surface, two fish-larva nets were provided. The net used was a standard size in Japan, that is 130 cm in mouth diameter, 450 cm in length, and made of stramin in the upper 300 cm and of coarse bolting silk,
Fig. 7. Handy underway plankton catcher, model II GG 54, in the lower 150 cm. One of these nets was lost at the first time of collection.

A diving dredge, the same type as the Scripps Dredge, but smaller in over-all, was provided for sampling comparatively large bottom animals.

All of the samples of water and chemical reagents were kept in polyethylene bottles for convenience of treatment without anxiety about breaking. Plankton specimens were usually preserved in glass vials and the specimens obtained from fish-larva net were stored in larger glass bottles. The sum total of the bottles and vials came to 2647; viz., 4 polyethylene bottles of five litre capacity, 3 of two litre capacity, 340 of one litre capacity, 200 of 250cc capacity, 1500 of 100 cc capacity (for chlorinity determination), 400 glass vials for plankton specimens and 20 larger glass bottles for specimens of larger animals. The specimens of fish were stored in tanks with formalin liquid.

All of the above instruments and bottles were those manufactured in Japan, except the molecular filters made in Germany.

IV. Persons in Charge of Research Work at Sea

The present cruise was carried out under the command of Captain T. Fujii, carrying on board 12 officers, 23 crew members, 32 cadets and 10 scientists; total 78 persons aboard. The Captain and officers took responsibility for training of cadets in navigation, fishing operations and in general duty allotted for seaman.

The scientific party that engaged directly in the research work was composed of the following persons:

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<th>Role</th>
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<tr>
<td>Professor</td>
<td>Sigeru Motoda, D. Agr.</td>
<td>(Leader)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assistant Professor</td>
<td>Kenji Katô, M.Sci.</td>
<td>(Chemistry)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research Assistant</td>
<td>Kiyû Kobayashi, B. Fish.</td>
<td>(Fish)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research Assistant</td>
<td>Miki Oguro, B. Fish.</td>
<td>(Chemistry)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research Assistant</td>
<td>Masaaki Fukuda, M. Sci.</td>
<td>(Turbidity)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graduate Student</td>
<td>Reiichi Maeda, B. Fish.</td>
<td>(Plankton)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graduate Student</td>
<td>Tamitomo Kashiwakura, B. Sci.</td>
<td>(Chemistry)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graduate Student</td>
<td>Nobuo Yamada, B. Fish.</td>
<td>(Chemistry)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Technical Employee</td>
<td>Kenji Tamukai, B. Fish.</td>
<td>(Turbidity)</td>
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In addition, Mr. H. Fukataki, Technical Official of the Japan Sea Regional Fisheries Research Laboratory, Fisheries Agency, in Niigata, joined the scientific members in helping with the research work at sea. The Captain and deck officers also participated in the research work, particularly on the meteorological observations and gill-net...
operations. Their names are listed below:

- Captain, Assistant Professor: Takeji Fujii, B. Fish.
- Chief Officer, Research Assistant: Shigeo Abe, B. Fish.
- First Officer, Research Assistant: Shōji Saito, B. Fish.
- Second Officer, Research Assistant: Kiyoshi Masuda, B. Fish.
- Third Officer: Satoru Nishiyama, B. Fish.

Mr. Akira Togashi, ship's Purser, has also assisted in the researches by making eye observations on sea-birds. Other crew members and cadets always assisted in the research work at sea while they were on watch duty.

V. Cruise Performed

The "Oshoro Maru" departed from Hakodate on June 21, sailing northward against the Oyashiwo Current (Kurile Current) off the east of the Kurile Islands. Entering into this water of grayish green colour the seamen said that sea began to smell of salmon. It is said that skilful fishermen can distinguish a good water for salmon fishery by the particular smell different from that of other waters. Most of the days the ship was covered with heavy fog, and her wake was shimmering with the luminescence of plankton at night. From hourly measurement of the temperature remarkably low values were obtained, as low as 2.7 °C, at the surface at 47°12'N, 154°19'E, the cold water possibly coming from the Okhotsk Sea passing between the islands of Kurile Chain.

The ship arrived off the south-western coast of Kamchatka on June 26. The hydrographic casts and plankton samplings as well as salmon gill-net operations were begun from this day. The ship turned to the east along about latitude 53°N. From Attu Island she steered for the north-west, but soon had to stop for a day from noon on July 3, because an atmospheric depression (998 milibar) was approaching to the north of the ship. After the depression has passed over, the ship continued her north-westward sailing, and at St. Os 11 off Karaginskii Island an unexpected temperature as high as 6.6 °C at the surface was obtained. After sailing to the east for some time the vessel sailed southward to near Attu Island and then eastward to near Kiska Island.

When she was on this course a depression (994 milibar) passing to the north just at this time caused a westerly gale, about 15 m/sec, in the area around the ship. After carrying out the hard work of hydrographic observations at St. Os 18 and Os 19, she traversed Bower's Bank, which is located at about longitude 180°, and occupied St. Os 20. Crossing longitude 180° the date of July 10 was doubled. The bank was then traversed twice, again back westward and again eastward, four further hydrographic casts being made in the vicinity of the bank. The "Oshoro Maru" again steered for the north, going on before St. Os 27 was reached at 0810 on July 12. About this time the sea became rough; the hydrographic work at this station was very hard, angle of suspended wire reaching about 70 degrees. Heavy waves coming from south made impossible
the ship to steer for the east. At 0300 on July 13 she found herself located in a very low depression (985 milbar), and she was forced to continue southward sailing against the wind. When the wind changed to west at 1000 of this day she could steer for Bristol Bay, and was driven by the powerful stern wind, but no hydrographic observations could be carried out before St. Os 28 was reached on July 14. Sailing over to the north of the Pribilof Islands and occupying four shallow hydrographic stations the vessel reached Bristol Bay in the morning of July 16. There she met with the Japanese Crab-Fisheries Mother Ship, "Tōkei Maru," and anchored until the morning of July 19.

The "Oshoro Maru" approached Unimak Island, which lies at the end of the Alaska Peninsula, at dawn on July 20. It was the first sight of land so near since departure from Japan. Everybody on board was impressed by the snow-capped volcanoes on this island, viz., Shishaldin, Pogloymi, etc., shining in the growing morning light in what appeared a desolate neighbourhood. The ship sailed into the Pacific passing through Unimak Pass in the afternoon of this day. Three hydrographic stations were occupied in the Pacific before the ship reached about latitude 52° N. She must have traversed the great current rip in the south of Unimak Pass, as many birds and fur seals were accompanying her and many “bull kelps,” Nereocystis Lütkeana POST. et RUPR., were drifting here and there. Small jelly-fish were also abundantly seen in the sea; probably on account of that the samples in the fish-larva net emitted a considerable luminescence.

It was nearly always misty and cold in the Bering Sea, and on only a few days was the sun bright enough to enable men on board the vessel to enjoy basking on the deck, but later, on the course from Unimak Pass to the American coast, the atmosphere became warm and comfortable, though the weather was still often misty or rainy. The "Oshoro Maru" arrived at a point off Vancouver Island at about noon on July 27 and stopped engine until the next morning to adjust the day of arrival at Seattle. She anchored in Seattle for ten days from July 29 to August 8 for refueling and laying in supplies. All of the expedition members aboard the ship greatly enjoyed the stay in this city.

On the return voyage starting August 8 the course of the ship was set to follow a more southern route than the Great Circle course of the ocean liners. The return voyage was made in haste because one of crew suffered a heart attack on August 14 at sea; the hydrographic stations originally planned in the western part of the northern North Pacific were not occupied. During the first half of the homeward course the ship suffered nearly constantly from heavy pitching because of head winds, but she arrived safely at her home port, Hakodate, on August 29.

The cruise covered 10370 miles in 60 days at sea in total; the approximate location of the track is illustrated in fig. 8.
VI. Works Performed at Sea

Regular meteorological observations at every-three-hour interval were carried out at sea covering the whole course of the outward and homeward cruises under the responsibility of ship's officers. The surface water was dipped at every hour while underway for measurement of the temperature at the sea surface, while the surface water for determination of chlorinity was dipped four times a day.

The hydrographic stations occupied were 37 in total. The stations covered nearly the whole area of the Bering Sea, though they were very widely scattered, a few of them being located out of the Bering Sea.

The position of each hydrographic station was deduced by astronomical sight and made sure by Loran operations if available. Approximate location of the stations together with the track of the ship in the area investigated is illustrated in fig. 9. The exact position by degrees of latitude and longitude with date and time of hydrographic observations including plankton samplings is given in table 1. The hydrographic and biological stations occupied by the "Oshoro Maru" in the present cruise are denoted by adding the symbol "Os" preceding the numeral of the station for distinction from the stations occupied by ships of other institutions which took part in the Norpac Expedition.

The hydrographic casts were made at standard depths in Japan down to 1500 metre depth, once to 2000 metre depth except in the shallow waters in Bristol Bay; the standard depths in Japan are, 0, 10, 25, 50, 75, 100, 150, 200, 300, 400, 500, 600, 800, 1000, 1200, 1500, 2000 metres and deeper. On the "Oshoro Maru" the casts were made by keeping
Fig. 9. Approximate location of position of hydrographic stations and gill-net set

- Hydrographic station (1–37)
- Gill-net set (I–VII)

Nansen bottles and thermometers at these depths as represented by wire length run out irrespective of inclination of wire suspended, i.e., not by vertical distance from the surface. The shallow cast was made by hand winch on the main deck in front of the bridge and the deep cast by electromotive winch on the upper deck at the stern. Ordinary Nansen bottles, which carried two protected reversing thermometers and one unprotected reversing thermometer, were employed for deep cast. In the shallow cast one or two protected thermometers were provided for each Nansen bottle and the unprotected thermometer was attached only on the deepest Nansen bottle at about 200 metre depth.

The water samples taken with Nansen bottles were employed for chemical analyses of the following matters:

- Chlorinity of the samples from every depth at every station;
- Dissolved oxygen in the samples from every depth at every station (unsuccessful at St. Os 1, 2 and 4);
Hydrogen-ion concentration of the samples from every depth at every station;
Alkalinity of the samples from every depth at 10 stations (St. Os 2, 4, 6, 8, 9, 11, 12, 13, 15, 27);
Phosphate in the samples from every depth at every station;
Silicate in the samples from every depth at 29 stations (St. Os 1-15, 21, 23, 25, 27-37);
Nitrate in the samples from every depth at 17 stations (St. Os 4-6, 8, 9, 11-14, 21, 23, 27, 30, 32, 35-37);
Suspended matters in the samples from every depth at every station;
Calcium in the samples from every depth at 7 stations (St. Os 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 11, 13);
Particulate iron in the samples from every depth at 6 stations (St. Os 8, 10, 13, 15, 27, 36);
Total iron in the samples from every depth at 14 stations (St. Os 3, 4, 6, 8, 9, 11, 13, 20, 21, 23, 25, 30, 32, 37).

Dissolved oxygen, hydrogen-ion concentration, alkalinity, phosphate, silicate and calcium were analysed aboard ship immediately after the water was sampled, and the scattering intensity against the suspended matters in the water was also soon measured by means of a nephometer; samples for nitrate were preserved by adding hydrochloric acid for analysis at the laboratory in the University. For determination of iron, the residue on the molecular filters was dried by exposing to infra-red lamp and brought to the University.

After returning from the voyage, at the request of Dr. Roger Revelle of the Scripps Institution of Oceanography, a part of the water samples remaining after chlorinity titration, was sent to the United States through the care of the Hydrographic Office for analysis of deuterium. These are samples from the following depths and stations:

St. Os 3: 0, 500, 1000, 1500 m (actually 0, 490, 977, 1455 m)
St. Os 7: 0, 500, 1000, 1500 m (actually 0, 492, 990, 1485 m)
St. Os 12: 0, 500, 1000 m (actually 0, 485, 984 m)
St. Os 19: 0, 600, 1000, 1500 m (actually 0, 443, 735, 1212 m)
St. Os 27: 0, 800, 1500 m (actually 0, 478, 1063 m)

The water samples from the following stations were put at the disposal of Prof. K. Sugawara of Nagoya University for analyses on the iodine, strontium and calcium.

St. Os 3: every depth
St. Os 13: every depth
St. Os 23: every depth
St. Os 37: every depth

For measuring the radio-activity of the sea water a litre of water was dipped from the sea surface at all stations, except St. Os 13 and 27 where the water was sampled from the surface and also from 50 metre depth.

The measurement of turbidity of sea water as it exists in nature was one of the projects in the present cruise. It was expected to find some indication of the nature of the water correlating to the amount of light obstructing substances suspended in the water. At all hydrographic stations a turbidity-meter was let down into the water to a depth of about 100 metres or more by means of cabtyre cord, and the relative value of the turbidity of sea water at various depths was recorded by the meter on the deck.
Plankton net hauls from 150 metre depth (from shallower in Bristol Bay) with a modified "Marutoku Net" were made at every station for estimating the abundance of zooplankton. As it has been experienced that net hauls made at the same place at nearly the same time often yield a considerable variation in amount of zooplankton (Motoda & Anraku, 1955), the net hauls in the present cruise were performed twice at each station; the first haul was made before beginning the hydrographic cast and the second haul after finishing that cast, about one hour and a half to two hours after the first haul.

For collecting the deep sea plankton for the sake of taxonomic interest a coarse mesh net (63 cm in mouth diameter) was once hauled at St. Os 8 by making separate vertical hauls, viz., 2000-1000 m, 1000-500 m and 500-0 m, by means of a throttling mechanism using Discovery type of single release. These hauls were hardly successful; because of the lightness of weight (10 kg), which could not be increased due to the weak electric power of the winch, there occurred many kinks in the steel wire, so that the collection with such a large net had to be abandoned thereafter.

The "Twin Net" was always used for non-divided deep hauls from 1000 or 1500 metre depths once at each and every station on the occasion of the haul of the Nansen bottles. It was hauled together with the deepest Nansen bottle, so that there was no requirement of special time and labour for the haul. The collection yielded only qualitative samples.

A fine mesh net (20 cm in mouth diameter) was hauled twice vertically from about 50 metre depth at every station principally for the purpose of sampling the phytoplankton in the shallow layer. One of the samples thus collected will be used for studies on the distribution of phytoplankton communities, and another one was put for determining the chlorophyll content of phytoplankton. Colorimetric determination by means of phototube colorimeter was made immediately aboard ship. A small fraction of these samples from all of the stations was sent to Prof. H. Okuno of the Kyoto University of Textile Fibers for study on the electron-microscopic fine structures of diatoms.

In the hauls with the "Marutoku Net" and the fine mesh net, a current meter devised by Mr. Z. Nakai was used for recording the distance actually towed. When the ship is drifted by the wind for a certain distance during the operation of vertical haul of the net, the net would be hauled for a longer distance than the actual length of wire run out, so that the volume of plankton sampled would be increased as compared with the case of a haul in calm sea. For correction of this error the current meter was attached at a distance more than one metre above the mouth of the net (fig. 10). The filtration coefficient of the net was not determined because it is known that the current meter which is held at the center of mouth ring of net does not always rotate in exact correspondence to the amount of water filtered by the net; very different counts of the rotation of the current meter are got according to the absolute size of the net (Nishizawa
More than 330 cc of the surface water were dipped at every hydrographic station and other fourteen positions while underway, but also from 0, 10, 25, 50, 75, 100, 150 and 200 metre depths at St. Os 8, Os 13, Os 23 and Os 27; these samples of water were preserved by adding formalin liquid. They have been put at the disposal of the planktologists in the Hakodate Marine Observatory for direct count of the microplankton.

During the whole cruise plankton samplings were made with the “Handy Underway Plankton Catcher, Model II” at the surface water while underway. The catcher was put out for towing just after starting from each hydrographic station in the Bering Sea, and twice a day in the morning and evening in the other sea areas. Duration of tow was kept to 20 minutes. Sum total of samples amounted to 102; these samples may be used for studies on the distribution of phytoplankton communities covering the whole area traversed.

A fish-larva net was towed at every station just after finishing the hydrographic cast and plankton net haul, and also at sunset covering the whole course of this cruise. The net was towed at the surface layer at a speed as low as about 2 knots for ten minutes keeping the net exposed to the extent of half of mouth ring above the sea surface. The tow was always supervised by Mr. K. Kobayashi. The total number of the sample vials obtained is 70.

Salmon gill-net operations were performed at seven different places in the western region (fig. 9). Only forty-four “Tan” (approximately 1970 metres in length and 5 metres in depth, made of Amilan having 12.5 cm of mesh length when stretched) of the net were used. The gill-net was usually set adrift in the evening and hauled in the early morning. During the set in the sea the net was disconnected from the ship, but watched on the ship by means of Radar which caught the reflection from the corner reflector placed on the buoy on the net (Ishida & Suzuki, 1954).

The fish caught with gill-net mainly comprised chum salmon, Oncorhynchus keta, (Shiro-zake), pink salmon, O. gorbuscha, (Karafuto-masu) and sockeye salmon, O. nerka, (Beni-zake), but sometimes spring salmon, O. tschawytscha, (Masunosuke), dolly vardon trout, Salvelinus malma, (Oshorokoma) and Atka-mackerel, Pleurogrammus monopterygius, (Kitano-hokke) were also captured. The position, date and hour of gill-net set, and the composition of fish species captured are given in table 2. From these specimens of fish usually 20 individuals per species were put to the measurement.
of morphometric characters, observation of maturity, sampling of scales for later examination and sampling of stomachs for analysis of content. From a few specimens blood was sampled for biochemical studies of Asst. Prof. T. Kubo.

The diving dredge was twice employed on the shallow bottom in Bristol Bay and a few specimens of sea-stars, shrimps and molluscan shells were obtained. There was not enough time available to make any sufficient test with this dredge.

In the expectation of recording the offshore distribution of sea-birds, porpoises, fur seals, whales and other animals, eye observations at sea were recommended.

VII. Records of Eye Observations of Sea-Birds, Marine Mammals and Other Objects

The recording of eye observations on sea-birds and marine mammals, especially in areas rarely traversed, may be valuable for information regarding the seasonal distribution and migration routes of such creatures in the open ocean, for example, the reports by Moore (1951) are available on the oceanic birds in the western North Atlantic; otherwise only scanty data on the distribution of oceanic animals would be available. Recently J. D. Mac Donald published a report, "A sight record of Steller's albatross: Ibis," in Vol. 94, No. 3 (1952), Report of the World Voyage 1950-52 of H. M. S. Challenger.

In the present cruise every person on the upper deck or on the bridge, who became aware of sea-birds, porpoises, fur seals, whales or other objects in sight at sea, recorded his findings in the field book. Most of the members of the expedition were unacquainted with the birds and other animals inhabiting the open ocean and felt much difficulty in identifying the species of sea-birds flying at considerable distance and of whales by merely looking at their spout or a part of the body exposed above the sea surface for only a short time before they dived. The observations were of course made only haphazardly, not as systematically as, for instance, the observations at definite times on every day; likewise descriptions were often uncertain as to how many and exactly what species of birds or mammals were caught sight of.

Table 3 gives only fragmentary and rather unreliable records, which would scarcely be acceptable to ornithologists or mammalogists, but may include certain trustworthy records which may be useful when collected with data provided by other ships for this area. Mr. Togashi, ship's Purser, is an amateur ornithologist; he contributed many valuable observations on sea-birds. Sometimes he shot birds at sea, and the ship was steered to enable their bodies to be taken from the water for close examination.

Sea-birds and marine mammals observed at sea probably are:

Shearwaters:
- *Puffinus leucomelas*, Streaked shearwater, Č-mizunagi-dori
- *Puffinus griseus*, Sooty shearwater, Haiiro-mizunagi-dori
- *Puffinus tenuirostris*, Slender-billed shearwater, Hashiboso-mizunagi-dori
Storm petrels:
*Oceanodroma leucorhoa leucorhoa*, Leach's fork-tailed petrel, Koshijiro-umitsubame
*Oceanodroma furcata*, Grey fork-tailed petrel, Hairo-umitsubame

Auks:
*Aethia cristatella*, Crested auk, Etorofu-umisuzume
*Phalaris pusilla*, Least auk, Ko-umisuzume
*Synthliboramphus antiquus*, Ancient auk, Umisuzume

Guillemots:
*Uria columba columba*, Pigeon guillemot, Umibato
*Uria aalge inornata*, Bering Island guillemot, Umigarasu or Roppen-chô

Puffins:
*Lunda cirrhata*, Tufted puffin, Etoririka or Ororon-chô
*Fratercula corniculata*, Horned puffin, Tsunome-dori

Skua:
*Stercorarius parasiticus parasiticus*, Arctic skua, Kurotōzoku-kamome

Albatrosses:
*Diomedea nigripes*, Black-footed albatross, Kuroashi-ahôdori

Gulls:
*Larus crassirostris*, Japanese gull or Black-tailed gull, Umineko
*Larus occidentalis*, Western gull
*Larus schistisagus*, Slaty-backed gull, Ôseguro-kamome
*Larus argentatus vegae*, Vega herring gull, Seguro-kamome

Plovers:

Snipes:

Wild geese:

Wild ducks:

Migrant land birds:
*Phylloscopus puscatu puscatu*, Brown bush-warbler, Mujisekka

Whales:
*Balaeonoptera physalus*, Common rorqual or Finback, Nagasu-kujira
*Balaeonoptera musculus*, Sulphur bottom or Blue whale, Shironagasu-kujira
*Physacatodon*, Sperm whale or Cachalot, Makkô-kujira

Marine mammals other than whales:
*Eumetopias jubatus*, Northern sea lion, Todo
*Callorhinus ursinus*, Northern fur seal, Ottosei
*Phocaenoides dallii*, Northern porpoise, Kita-iruka

On the basis of experience in two preceding cruises in this area, though it is not apparent from table 3, Mr. Togashi is of the opinion that tufted puffins are more common to the south of the Aleutian Islands than to the north, in summer, while the distribution of Bering Island guillemots seems to be the contrary. Slender-billed shearwaters are common in the Kuriles, while sooty shearwaters are common in the Bering sea in summer.

The appearance of storm petrels round a ship is regarded by superstitious mariners as foreboding a storm, and it is said that this is probably because the passage of a ship commonly leaves an area of calmer water in which it is easier for them to obtain food.
In the present cruise the appearance of fork-tailed petrels had no particular connection with stormy weather.

Black-footed albatrosses which are a common species in the North Pacific made their appearance when the "Oshoro Maru" sailed for the American coast along latitude 52°N — 48°N after passing out of the Bering Sea. A flock of them were playing around the ship very near, feeding on galley refuse. It is said that albatrosses are generally silent birds, but one day when the purser shot one of them to obtain its skin, the bird that was shot made grunting noises and other birds soon gathered together to escort it. It is a common belief that albatrosses follow a ship day after day for thousands of miles. After the departure from Seattle several individuals, varying in number day by day, of black-footed albatrosses did follow after the "Oshoro Maru" as far as about longitude 180° on August 19, about 2500 miles from Seattle; thereafter they began to fly at a distance from the ship for a few days and then disappeared. Alexander (1928) stated that the personnel of the albatrosses which follow a ship is constantly changing; steadily increased during the day till evening. Kuroda (1933) stated that the number of black-footed albatrosses following the ship was largest from the seventh to the tenth day after departure from Yokohama and that the number of birds was decreased between Honolulu and San Francisco, with increase in bad weather and decrease in calm sea. Such systematic observations in detail on the number of individuals and composition of personnel of albatrosses in sight were not performed on the present cruise.

Very lovely white gulls (western gull?) followed the ship from Seattle. They often rested on the hand rail on the deck, without timidity for approaching man, but soon, on the third day after departure, they started back to their home land.

Northern fur seals and sometimes northern sea lions were coming near to the ship when the gill-net was hauled, to devour the salmon entangled in the net. While underway members of the staff were sometimes able to see them, especially often off the Pribilof Islands and in and the southern portion of Unimak Pass.

Acknowledgement

In behalf of all of the members participating in the present research cruise, the writers wish to express sincere gratitude to the staff of the University who have supported them from the beginning of the plan and encouraged them thereafter through the entire course of investigations. They deeply thank Dr. Y. Takenouti, Director of the Hakodate Marine Observatory, Ministry of Transportation, and Asst. Prof. H. Kotô, Asst. Prof. S. Mishima, the former Captain of the "Oshoro Maru", and Instructor S. Nishizawa of the University for their kindness in giving valuable advices as decisions were being made regarding the course of the cruise in the Bering Sea.

Thanks are also due to the Hydrographic Office, Maritime Safety Board, Ministry
Table 1. Position, date and hour of hydrographic observations and plankton samplings and depth of cast

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No. of station</th>
<th>Ship's time</th>
<th>Greenwich time</th>
<th>Latitude</th>
<th>Longitude</th>
<th>Depth of sea bottom determined by echo-sounding (m)</th>
<th>Maximum depth of observation (m)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Os 1</td>
<td>June 26</td>
<td>1920~1930</td>
<td>51°-43’N</td>
<td>160°-30’ E</td>
<td>--</td>
<td>1440</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Os 2</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>1420~1630</td>
<td>52°-52’N</td>
<td>161°-50’ E</td>
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<td>1270</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Os 3</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>1040~1300</td>
<td>53°-00’N</td>
<td>164°-00’ E</td>
<td>--</td>
<td>1455</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Os 4</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>0724~0917</td>
<td>53°-01’N</td>
<td>166°-00’ E</td>
<td>--</td>
<td>1447</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Os 5</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>1723~1927</td>
<td>53°-00’N</td>
<td>168°-00’ E</td>
<td>--</td>
<td>1431</td>
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<td>31</td>
<td>1352~1530</td>
<td>53°-02’N</td>
<td>170°-00’ E</td>
<td>--</td>
<td>1482</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Os 7</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>0930~0910</td>
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<td>172°-00’ E</td>
<td>--</td>
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<td>1989</td>
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<td>1321</td>
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<td>984</td>
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<td>173°-17’ E</td>
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<tr>
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<td>52°-28’N</td>
<td>178°-40’ E</td>
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<tr>
<td>Os 18</td>
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<td>2355~0155</td>
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<td>178°-54’ W</td>
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<tr>
<td>Os 19</td>
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<td>178°-40’ E</td>
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<td>Os 20</td>
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<td>0020~0138</td>
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<td>178°-40’ E</td>
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<td>1837</td>
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<td>Os 21</td>
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<td>1220~1303</td>
<td>53°-03’N</td>
<td>178°-52’ W</td>
<td>--</td>
<td>1465</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Os 22</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>1920~2100</td>
<td>53°-50’N</td>
<td>178°-52’ W</td>
<td>--</td>
<td>1474</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Os 23</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>0830~0900</td>
<td>55°-34’N</td>
<td>178°-48’ W</td>
<td>--</td>
<td>1329</td>
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<tr>
<td>Os 24</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>1915~2042</td>
<td>57°-00’N</td>
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<tr>
<td>Os 25</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>0810~1115</td>
<td>58°-49’N</td>
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<tr>
<td>Os 26</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>1005~1030</td>
<td>57°-16’N</td>
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<td>105</td>
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<tr>
<td>Os 27</td>
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<td>57°-27’N</td>
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<td>62</td>
<td>50</td>
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<tr>
<td>Os 28</td>
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<td>57°-28’N</td>
<td>167°-05’ W</td>
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<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Os 29</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>1720~1735</td>
<td>57°-23’N</td>
<td>163°-58’ W</td>
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<tr>
<td>Os 30</td>
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<td>0500~0500</td>
<td>56°-16’N</td>
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<td>54</td>
<td>50</td>
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<td>Os 31</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>1945~2015</td>
<td>56°-04’N</td>
<td>163°-15’ W</td>
<td>82</td>
<td>75</td>
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<td>1482</td>
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<td>1470</td>
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<tr>
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<td>1430~1620</td>
<td>52°-15’N</td>
<td>161°-09’ W</td>
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<td>1492</td>
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</table>

Table 2. Position, date and hour of gill-net set and number of fish captured

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No. of gill-net set</th>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Date and hour in ship's time</th>
<th>No. of individuals of fish captured</th>
<th>Dolly vardin</th>
<th>Atka-mackerel</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Net set</td>
<td>Net haul</td>
<td>Chum salmon</td>
<td>Pink salmon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F 1</td>
<td>51-43N</td>
<td>160-31E</td>
<td>June 26 1851</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>14</td>
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<tr>
<td>F 2</td>
<td>52-36N</td>
<td>162-28E</td>
<td>27 1951</td>
<td>79</td>
<td>85</td>
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<tr>
<td>F 3</td>
<td>53-01N</td>
<td>165-14E</td>
<td>28 1921</td>
<td>101</td>
<td>43</td>
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<tr>
<td>F 4</td>
<td>53-02N</td>
<td>168-00E</td>
<td>29 1964</td>
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<td>30 1921 July 1</td>
<td>71</td>
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<td>F 6</td>
<td>55-51N</td>
<td>169-10E</td>
<td>July 2 1925</td>
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<td>70</td>
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<td>58-49N</td>
<td>171-12E</td>
<td>5 2042</td>
<td>88</td>
<td>125</td>
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### Table 3: Sight records on sea-birds, marine mammals, etc.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Object in sight</th>
<th>Observation</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>30 0500</td>
<td>23· 0800</td>
<td>42-57N, 171-04E</td>
<td>5-8 b. Jack-footed albatrosses</td>
<td>S. Motoda</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>05 0500</td>
<td>23· 0800</td>
<td>42-51N, 171-04E</td>
<td>5-8 b. Jack-footed albatrosses</td>
<td>S. Motoda</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>05 0500</td>
<td>22- 1600</td>
<td>48-31 N, 169-03W</td>
<td>0 16.6 19.4 Black-footed albatrosses follow the ship</td>
<td>S. Motoda</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>05 0500</td>
<td>22- 1600</td>
<td>48-13N, 169-43W</td>
<td>0 16.0 18.1 Black-footed albatrosses follow the ship</td>
<td>S. Motoda</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>05 0500</td>
<td>24· 0500</td>
<td>49-56N, 128-16W</td>
<td>0 16.0 18.1 Black-footed albatrosses follow the ship</td>
<td>S. Motoda</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>05 0500</td>
<td>24· 0500</td>
<td>47-65N, 146-10W</td>
<td>0 16.0 18.1 Black-footed albatrosses follow the ship</td>
<td>S. Motoda</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Symbols of weather: 4. (blue sky) 5. (cloudy) 6. (foggy / cloudy) 7. (fog) 8. (gale) 9. (mixture of rain)
of Transportation, and to the Fisheries Agency, Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, for financial support for a part of the expense of the cruise, and to the Division of Oceanography, Central Meteorological Observatory, Ministry of Transportation, for approval of the reversing thermometers.

The writers are also very grateful to the people in Seattle for hospitality shown to the expedition members during the stay there; thanks to that warm welcome they were able to refresh themselves after the long misty voyage in the Bering Sea. The untiring collaboration in hard work at sea given by the scientists, crew and cadets aboard the “Oshoro Maru” is sincerely appreciated.

Meteorological and hydrographic data of the present cruise were published in separate papers by the Faculty of Fisheries, Hokkaido University, in January 1956 for presentation to the Conference of Pacific Oceanography held in Honolulu 13 to 17 February 1956. It is titled: Hydrographic data obtained principally in the Bering Sea by training ship “Oshoro Maru” in the summer of 1955.

References


