

Wetter, Ladoga, Loch Katrine, Lake of Geneva, has been published; still, temperature observations in the tropical lakes are wanting, and those for the arctic lakes are unsatisfactory. The investigations made are, as a first attempt, of great interest, but they by no means exclude the necessity for further observations. If such simultaneous temperature investigations could be combined with limnographical and chemical researches at different latitudes, we should in a couple of years be able to get wide fundamental views which all researches in these vast fields of labour at this moment lack.

In the foregoing we have dealt with the cosmopolitanism of the fresh-water organisms, especially that of the plankton. We can point out many species of plankton organisms which are just as much at home in the dark, ice-cold arctic lakes as in the hot tropical lakes; e.g., amongst Rotifers we know about ten species, amongst Crustacea *Daphnia hyalina*, species of *Bosmina*, among Diatoms the *Melosiras*. It is just with regard to these species that great differences in the views of their morphology and biology prevail. What is wanted here is regular fortnightly investigations carried out simultaneously in different latitudes. From these we should get a clearer understanding of the above-mentioned different uses of digonic and monogonic reproduction in different latitudes; we should get a much more thorough knowledge of the form-series of the plankton organisms, and undoubtedly learn many more than those we now know (Diatoms, Desmids, Calanidæ, Rotifera); from these investigations much material for the great questions with regard to the origin of species might be gained.

As is well known, the different North and Central European States have joined in the great scientific co-operation, the international exploration of the sea. A corresponding international limnological exploration needs neither such great apparatus nor the enormous sums which the exploration of the sea demands. All that is necessary is to have for a period of one or two years a few scientifically educated men placed at six or seven localities arranged in almost the same longitude from the north to the equator. We should use one or two places of observation in the arctic regions (Greenland and Lake Enare), in Scotland, and in the great Swedish lakes, in the Baltic lakes, in a high alpine lake, in the Lake of Geneva, and in the great African lakes. If a similar series of observations could be carried out in America, and if a station could be founded on the Baikal Lake, these would be of great use. To carry out this plan, neither great congresses nor many committee members or great sums granted by Governments are necessary, but only a very few scientists agreeing in the main points and with relatively modest funds, which in most cases will not exceed what scientific societies or bodies interested in this kind