

amount of the organic life in the fresh-water lochs are subject to great variation in the different lochs when compared with each other, and in the same loch at different seasons of the year. Large numbers of observations are being collected, and we may look for interesting results when these are in a state for discussion. Generally speaking, the pelagic fauna and flora are much more abundant in the warm summer months than at other times of the year, and are also more abundant in the shallow lochs than in the deep ones. In the spring months there is a great development of diatoms and other Phytoplankton, which render the water less transparent than at other times of the year.

Mr. Thomas Scott has lately been comparing the fauna in several of the Scottish lochs at different seasons of the year; some of his results for the lochs now under consideration may be noted.

In Loch Katrine the Entomostraca and other invertebrates were scarcer than in the other lochs examined. Fourteen species are recorded, *Bosmina longispina* being the only species present in all the gatherings; *Leptodora* was entirely absent from the gatherings collected during the colder months. *Cyclops strenuus* and *Polyphemus* appeared to be more frequent in the upper part of the loch, and *Bosmina* and *Leptodora* in the lower part. The sides of Loch Katrine do not generally present conditions very favourable to shore-dwellers, and an examination of the shore about Stronachlachar yielded scarcely anything that differed from the tow-net captures, while at the lower end the shore between the Trossachs pier and Ellen's isle yielded much better results. Here forty species of Crustacea were obtained, as well as one or two species of Mollusca, but they were all individually scarce. The Cladocera were more numerous in species in the warmer than in the colder months, while with the Copepoda the reverse was observed, though the difference was not so great.*

In Loch Arklet, *Holopedium gibberum*, one of the most remarkable species of the Cladocera in Britain, was moderately common in the tow-net gatherings collected in September and November, 1897, and in June, 1898, it was abundant all through the water, but when the loch was visited in March, 1898, not a trace of *Holopedium* could be seen. In June, when *Holopedium* was so abundant, other species previously observed were either very scarce or absent, as if they had been more or less crowded out by this particular cladoceran. Eleven crustacean species are recorded, *Daphnia* being the only form obtained in all the gatherings; *Bythotrephes* was observed in September and June, but not in November and March, and *Leptodora* occurred only in September. Infusoria (*Ceratium*, &c.) and micro-algæ were much less frequent in June than in the other gatherings. Forty-two species of Entomostraca were obtained by hand-net round the shores of Loch Arklet, including

* Scott, *Seventeenth Annual Report of the Fishery Board for Scotland*, pt. iii. pp. 148-151, 1899.