

found in the district, they were never all found together in one loch, as was commonly the case elsewhere in Sutherland. The *Daphnia* in most of the lochs was the typical *D. lacustris*. In one loch this was associated with *D. galeata*, while in three lochs *D. galeata* was alone observed. *Leptodora* was only observed in Loch Skinaskink, and *Bythotrephes* was not observed at all.

While the fauna thus offers little that is remarkable, the flora, on the other hand, is notable for the great wealth of Algæ, especially of Desmids. Over fifty species of Desmids were observed, and between thirty and forty of these sometimes occurred in one loch. Messrs. West, commenting on the Desmid flora of this part of Scotland, state that the plankton is unique in the abundance of its Desmids, and that the most conspicuous of these are of a distinctly western type, being found in Europe only along the extreme north-western coasts, while in North America they are eastern species. The southern and eastern limits of this remarkably rich area in Scotland cannot yet be fixed; in Sutherland it extends right across Scotland. An examination of many hill lochs in Perthshire and in the south of Scotland showed no such rich flora there. When the distribution of the Desmid flora is worked out, it will be of interest to observe whether the area covered by those western species coincides with that occupied by the northern Calanidæ, *Diaptomus Wierzejskii* and *D. laciniatus*, which are so generally distributed in Sutherland, though they also occur in many spots further south.

*Loch Assynt.*—The plankton of this loch closely resembles that of the larger lochs in the south, only the typically pelagic Entomostraca and Rotifera being present. It is noticeable that neither *Diaptomus Wierzejskii*, *D. laciniatus*, nor *Daphnia galeata*, species widely distributed in the district and also occurring in many of the large lochs further south, was observed here. The loch further resembles many other large lochs in the presence of numerous skeletons of *Clathrulina elegans*. The only Rotifer calling for mention is *Triarthra longiseta*, a species not usual in large lakes. Unlike the other lochs of the district, there were very few Desmids in the plankton. The quantity of plankton was very small.

*Loch Lurgain.*—The fauna comprised only the usual pelagic species, among which *Cyclops strenuus* was most abundant. The *Daphnia* was *D. galeata*. *Diaphanosoma brachyurum* was present in some numbers. The flora was remarkable for the number of Desmids, especially of the genus *Staurastrum*, including the beautiful large species, *S. longispinum* and *S. arcticon*.

*Loch Bad a' Ghail.*—The somewhat meagre plankton was almost exactly of the type found in deep lochs, differing only in the greater abundance of Rotifera, among which were *Plæsoma*, *Gastropus*, and *Triarthra*. The commonest animal was *Cyclops strenuus*. About a