

in replacing the countless thousands of young fry which are poisoned by the fish offal in the coastal waters. But there is a danger in store for the ova which may thus drift on to Newfoundland shores, and also for the ova of local schools of fish. The winter months being the period during which many schools spawn, this time may also be the season on parts of the Newfoundland Coast, or rather adjacent to it, and much of the spawn may be taken under the fringe of coast ice by tidal currents. In favourable situations the process of development goes on uninterruptedly, but according to the observations of Dr. Ranson,* oxygen is necessary for the development of the ovum, and if oxygen be absent from the water in which the ova are suspended, death ensues. This condition, as already shown, exists over wide areas beneath the ice in the neighbourhood of fish stages. The offal consumes the oxygen by its slow decomposition, and it cannot be replaced under the icy covering, until the ice breaks up in the spring or during storms, but meanwhile life in the ovum is destroyed.

According to the views here presented, some of the ova supplied by the cod shoals whose *habitat* is the Forske Bank, off Sukkertoppen, and banks lying south of those celebrated cod grounds on the coast of Greenland, floats with the ice-laden stream towards Cumberland Sound and Frobisher Bay, and is hatched on its journey, the young fish fry finding a new home in mid ocean or on the western coast of Davis Straits. Some of the ova from the schools described by Davis on that coast, floats with the ice stream in the track Davis followed towards the Labrador, and is hatched, it may be, near Cape Chudleigh. Some of the ova from the Cape Chudleigh schools,—and these are numerous,—float with the iceberg stream along the coast of Labrador and are hatched on the Southern Labrador. Southern Labrador fish supply ova which is carried by the same unfailing ice stream partly into the Gulf and partly along the north-east coast of New-

* W. H. Ranson, M.D.—*Vide Journal of Anatomy and Physiology*, Vol. I.