Mr. C. W. Lowe reports¹ that it contains many marine as well as freshwater diatoms. Its invertebrate animal life was unusually rich, both insects (hemiptera, diptera and coleoptera), worms (oligochaeta² and turbellaria), snails (Aplexa hypnorum), amphipods (Synurella johanseni) and a great number of copepods (Eurytemora sp.), ostracods,3 and cladocera (Daphnia pulex f. aestivalis, Chydorus sphaericus, and Eurycercus glacialis). Being brown and numerous the last named large cladoceron was easily the most conspicuous invertebrate inhabiting the pond; it was noticed swimming freely in the water. "rowing" with its antennae and foliaceous legs from one part of the mossy brink to another and occasionally hooking itself on to the vegetation by its large abdominal claw. In this pond male *Polyartemiella hazeni* were also secured.

The brackish character of the lake and pond may be explained thus;---

(1) The surrounding soil is a raised and augmented sea-beach still containing much saline matter: (2) the pond and lake are sufficiently deep to allow the more salty and heavier water to remain below all the year round; and (3) this bottom water does not freeze at all and later in the summer (middle or end of July) most of the melting water in the shallow places above evaporates or runs off through the swamp to Grantley harbour, and so has little influence in freshening the more salty water below. As the maximum thickness of lake-ice along this coast is about seven feet we may suppose that the deepest part of the lake in question (say more than nine feet) does not freeze to the bottom during the winter (though the ponds do); and thus the organisms found in this more salty bottom-water of the lake, can live there all year round, supposing the life-cycle of each species allows it. The reason the surface-water in the lake apparently is fresh, but that in the pond brackish is probably because of the very limited extent of the latter, its lack of outlet, and the strong influence of the saline soil surrounding it, therefore more briny character of its water.

The ponds on the higher tundra (see p. 3) had the usual character of more shallow fundra ponds with rich vegetation of mosses, Carex, Eriophorum, Hippuris, Utricularia, etc., about and in them. The invertebrate life was very rich and consisted in addition to insects, etc. (see above) of the following Crustacea: hundreds of dark brown, smaller amphipods (Synurella johanseni), the most typical and conspicuous invertebrate in them; cladocera (Daphnia pulex, and D. longispina), and branchipods (female Polyartemiella hazeni).

Regarding the influence of the seasonal weather at Port Clarence we know from the narratives by Captain Beeehey of the "Blossom" and others⁴ that the ponds and lakes at Port Clarence freeze over during September: from November on they are frozen to the bottom and the ground is covered with snow. The snow and ice then begin to melt away in May; and during the summer considerably more rain falls than on the coast north of Bering strait. The range of the average temperature during the year is from about 25° to 50° F.

II.—Coast East of Point Barrow.

The first snow in the fall comes between the middle and end of September, but on occasional mild days it may melt away in the sun at noon, so that it is often October and later before the land is well covered with snow. The ground is frozen from the surface down from the middle or end of September; new ice covers the ponds and lagoons (about one foot thick in

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The O-straeoda secured during the Canadian Arctic Expe lition have not yet been identifie I.
A. H. Brooks: Geography and Geology of Alaska, Washington, 1906 (Prof. Paper, No. 45, U.S.G.S.)