

second on the coast of New Jersey in 1889, the third at Long Island in 1933, and the fourth at Middle Key, Florida, in 1935.

The larger of the two specimens was dissected on the beach, and the internarial epiglottis, the reproductive organs, portions of the kidney and certain glandular structures were removed and fixed. The mammary glands exuded milk when cut, and the uterus appeared to be in a semi-stretched condition, which suggested that this larger specimen was a lactating female which had given birth to a calf not many weeks previously. It may have been the mother of the younger specimen; but as very little is known of the reproductive habits of these forms, it is difficult to determine this with any certainty.

Careful dissection in the area surrounding the vent did not lead to the discovery of any pelvic bones; but it was noticed that a broad band of tough fibrous tissue was present in the region where one would normally expect to find the small pelvic bones. After being partially dissected, the specimens were removed to the Zoology Department of the University College of the West Indies, where the work of preparing and mounting is still being done.

A brief description therefore follows, and details of the osteology and certain soft parts will be described in a later paper when the skeletons are fully prepared.

Colour. Both animals were black dorsally, merging into a dark grey ventrally which had a pinkish tinge in it. A slightly lighter grey area in the region of the mammary folds corresponded with that described as whitish in Raven's specimen. The pectoral fins and tail flukes were all of a uniform black colour. A number of small light-coloured scarified areas were present, probably due to rolling in the surf over boulders in the process of beaching.

Form. The body contours followed very closely those described by Raven for his Long Island specimen; and in particular the exceptional width of the flukes was noted. The two long gular grooves of the larger whale were seen, a feature which Raven did not have an opportunity of noting in his specimen. The dorsal fin was set well back on the body.

Measurements. The external measurements of the larger specimen were as follows:

Tip of snout to notch of tail fluke	426.7 cm.
Tip of snout to posterior rim of blow hole	57 cm.
Tip of snout to eye	57 cm.
Tip of snout to posterior border of base of pectoral fin	119.4 cm.
Middle of dorsal fin to notch of tail fluke	155 cm.
Length of upper jaw from tip of snout to angle of mouth (over curves)	33 cm.

A detailed comparison of the skulls of the two Bull Bay specimens with those mentioned in Raven's paper shows that the larger of the two whales compares closely in proportions with the Long Island specimen, which is also a female and probably of approximately the same age. The smaller one is apparently much younger than the Atlantic City male whale—the skull being only 460 mm. in total length in comparison with the 675 mm. of the latter specimen. This small specimen therefore represents an earlier growth-stage and is the youngest *M. europaeus* to be recorded. As Raven points out, the tendency in Odontocetes is for the females to be larger than the males, and so the difference in age between the Atlantic City and the Bull Bay specimens is probably even greater than the measurements would at first sight suggest. The bones of the skull of the latter specimen are extremely fragile, some are incompletely ossified, especially in the rostral region, and the sutures are still widely open. As this calf is

obviously not very old, it is tempting to speculate that the breeding ground of these whales may not be far away from the Caribbean.

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¹ Raven, H. C., *Amer. Mus. Novitates*, 905, 1 (1937).

An Aquatic Larva, suitable for Laboratory Work

THE larva of the caddis fly, *Setodes tineiformis* Curtis (Trichoptera, Leptoceridæ), has recently been described by me¹ from material obtained from a large artificial lake in Surrey. It was found to breed freely if the adults were confined to the top of an aquarium with muslin. It has an annual life-cycle and the larvæ construct cases entirely of a labial secretion the size and appearance of a hedgehog quill.

The larva swims well, pulling its case behind, and the movement of the body can be watched through the transparent case. It will remain alive for three or four days packed in wet waterweed (not moss) for postal transportation, or for two or three weeks with only sufficient water to cover in a Petri dish. It requires only an abundance of any of the usual water weeds with their epiphytic algæ for aeration and food.

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¹ Hickin, N. E., *Proc. Roy. Ent. Soc. Lond.*, A, 28, 74 (1953).

Occurrence of *Asparagopsis armata* Harv. on the Coast of Devon

RECORDS of the distribution of the red alga *Asparagopsis armata* Harv. have indicated a spread of the species from the southern hemisphere. The first collections in the northern hemisphere were at Saint Eugène, Algeria, in 1923, and Guéthary, France, in 1925¹; the species was reported in Ireland in 1942². The plant was first recognized on the coast of Britain in 1950, when Drew³ found numerous specimens cast up on the beaches of the Lizard Peninsula, and in 1951 Horridge⁴ reported attached specimens in the Scilly Isles.

In August and September 1953, specimens of *Asparagopsis armata* were found at Wembury Beach and Bovisand Bay, South Devon; in both places the plants were attached, bore no reproductive organs and grew above mean low-tide level. The presence of *Asparagopsis* at these points indicates an eastward spread of the species along the south coast of Britain.

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¹ Sauvageau, C., *C.R. Acad. Sci., Paris*, 180 (1925).

² de Valera, M., *Irish Nat. J.*, 8, 30 (1942).

³ Drew, K. M., *Nature*, 166, 873 (1950).

⁴ Horridge, G. A., *Nature*, 167, 732 (1951).