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The Decapod Crustacea of the Royal Society Expedition to  
Southern Chile, 1958-59\*

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*Abstract*

THE Royal Society Expedition to Southern Chile 1958-59 collected 23 species of marine decapod Crustacea in the general areas of Isla Chiloé (42° S.), Puerto Edén on Isla Wellington (49° S.), and Isla Navarino (55° S.). Included are two species of Macrura, seven species of Anomura, and 14 species of Brachyura. The 14 species from Chiloé are reported for the first time from the outer coast of that island. Protandrous hermaphroditism is recorded in the macruran genus *Chorismus*. The phenomena accompanying latitudinal change are discussed.

INTRODUCTION

DURING the period from October, 1958, to February, 1959, an expedition sponsored by the Royal Society of London made a survey of southern Chile. Although the Expedition's work was largely ecological, numerous biological specimens were collected including the decapod Crustacea which are the subject of the present report. Specimens from Isla Chiloé, one of the three principal areas visited, proved to be of particular interest; the three anomuran and 11 brachyuran species obtained there are reported for the first time from the outer coast of the island. The Expedition's work was also concentrated at Puerto Edén on Isla Wellington, and at Isla Navarino near Cape Horn.

Only two of the 10 species of intertidal and sublittoral natants recorded from the coasts of Chile were taken by the Royal Society Expedition. Neither represented extensions to a species range, but in the case of the single species taken in the Fuegian region, the Magellanic and circum-Antarctic *Chorismus antarcticus*, the collections clearly demonstrated that this hippolytid is a protandrous hermaphrodite.

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