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Sommario/riassunto	By accident, the world-famous brewery Carlsberg became a central force in global marine science during the first three decades of the 20th century. Within a core group of scientists and managers, Johannes Schmidt (1877-1933) was the key figure combining the efforts of the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES), the Danish state and several private companies. Launching 26 oceangoing expeditions Schmidt made landmark discoveries such as the breeding

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ground for the Atlantic eel in the Sargasso Sea. The scientific frontier was pushed literally kilometres into the deep sea and across the World' s oceans. While the formal North Atlantic Empire of the small state of Denmark was in decline, an informal empire of science was erected instead. Shortlisted for the Society for Nautical Research Anderson Medal for published works on Maritime History in 2016.