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## THERMAL CONDUCTIVITY

The heat conduction of water is also a maximum among ordinary liquids, and, though very low compared with good conductors like metals, must favor the equalization of temperature within the living cells whose structure hinders the establishment of convection currents.

TABLE OF HEAT CONDUCTIVITIES

Water . . . . .	0.0125	Rubber . . . . .	0.0004
Alcohol . . . . .	0.00048	Tin . . . . .	0.15
Ether . . . . .	0.00034	Lead . . . . .	0.08
Benzene . . . . .	0.00033	Iron . . . . .	0.16
Glycerine . . . . .	0.00066	Copper . . . . .	0.72
Crown glass . . . . .	0.0016	Silver . . . . .	1.10

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## EXPANSION BEFORE FREEZING

A final thermal property of water remains to be considered; namely, its anomalous expansion when cooled at temperatures near the freezing point. The facts are illustrated by the accompanying table.

evaporation, and the rate of evaporation of water. It will be seen that eighty years ago it was already possible to make out a strong case for the fitness of water; but it should not be forgotten that at that time ideas were in some respects still very vague, and comparative data few.