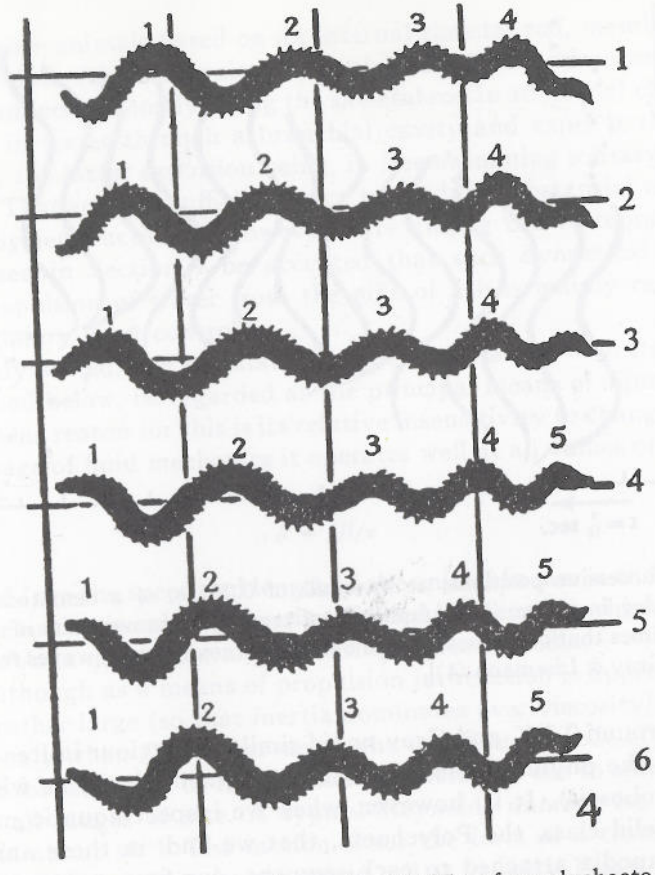

FIG. 2. Successive positions, at intervals of 0.05s, of a polychaete worm (*Nereis diversicolor*) swimming to the left. Numbers attached to moving 'crests' show that the wave travels in the same direction as the worm, although considerably faster [Gray (6)].

transverse 'compression' (that is, flattening) at the posterior end of the animal, so that the end takes the form of a broad edge at right angles both to the length of the animal and to the transverse motion which passes down it in the undulatory mode. We speak here of 'transverse' compression rather than 'lateral' compression (the form it takes in fish, amphibia and reptiles) to emphasize that the direction of flattening is necessarily that of the back-and-forth motion that is being propagated. Where that motion is dorso-ventral, that is, vertical (as in cetacean mammals and some crustacea), the posterior flattening is dorso-ventral.