RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN ENTOMOLOGICAL RESEARCH ON THE CORN BORER

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When the European corn borer (Pyrausta nubilalis Hübner) was discovered in the United States during the summer of 1917, it was recognized that American agriculture was confronted with a new and important plant pest, concerning which little of a biological nature was known in the Old World. Consequently, Vinal (1) of the Massachusetts Experiment Station, who detected the presence of the corn borer in this country, promptly instituted investigations to determine the gross facts concerning the biology of the insect and the most promising methods for its control.

These investigations were continued in Massachusetts during 1918 in cooperation with the U. S. Bureau of Entomology (2). The natural spread of the corn borer soon involved additional states in New England. Also, as a result of separate introductions into New York and Ontario, Canada, it spread to include portions of the Great Lakes States. This dispersion was accompanied by the establishment of federal and state research activities in all of the important areas affected. Recognizing that fundamental information regarding the corn borer in Europe was essential for the conduct of an intelligent research program looking toward the control of the insect in America, entomological and ecological investigations were begun in Europe during 1919 and have been supplemented from time to time by additional resources and personnel.

1Contribution from the Bureau of Entomology, U. S. Dept. of Agriculture, Washington, D. C. Paper read before the joint meeting of the Society and Section O of the American Association for the Advancement of Science at Nashville, Tenn., Dec. 27, 1927.
2Entomologist, Cereal and Forage Insects.
3Reference by number is to "Literature Cited," p. 1010.