

tion of the island where the storm was somewhat less severe than in other parts, the damage to the property was still very great. A number of the buildings were unroofed, and some of the laborers' houses were so badly wrecked that they will have to be rebuilt. The office and laboratory building was not damaged to any considerable extent. The heavy rain accompanying and following the storm caused considerable injury to the contents of the unroofed buildings. Several of the smaller station buildings were utterly demolished, and the loss to the station property is estimated at \$10,000. The experimental crops and orchards of tropical fruits, forestry plantings, etc., were destroyed to a large extent, necessitating beginning them anew.

At both stations temporary repairs have been effected, and work is proceeding, although it will be some time before some projects can be resumed.

The principal damage to the station property in Florida was at the Everglades Experiment Station, situated near Belle Glade. Here, likewise, there was no loss of life, but the damage to buildings and equipment is estimated at nearly \$35,000, irrespective of breaks in the levees. On September 16 and 17 the station lands were flooded by water from Lake Okechobee to a maximum depth of about 43 inches, destroying all field plats, a citrus planting, all meteorological instruments, many supplies, etc. Many of the buildings were unroofed, twisted and moved from their foundations, and several were demolished completely. Among these was the greenhouse, aside from the service room which is practically intact. There was also extensive damage to books and laboratory equipment. Although the flood waters receded very slowly, salvage work was taken up promptly, and it is expected that the operation of the station will be continued.

#### THE PROGRAM OF RESEARCH OF THE CORN-BORER CONFERENCE

A COMPLETE program of research for controlling the European corn borer was presented and adopted at the third annual conference of corn-borer interests in Washington, D. C., on January 2. More than seventy representatives from the corn-borer infested states and the corn belt, including entomologists, administrative officials and others interested in the problem, attended the meeting.

Dr. A. F. Woods, director of scientific work, U. S. Department of Agriculture, as chairman of the conference, opened the day's session by a brief address in which he urged a free discussion of the many angles of the problem and explained the purpose of the conference was to provide for a complete co-ordination of the various research projects throughout the affected States and Canada.

The program as adopted for 1929 includes definite research work by six bureaus of the U. S. Department of Agriculture—Entomology, Plant Industry, Chemistry and Soils, Public Roads, Animal Industry and Agricultural Economics. Seven states—Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Ohio, New Hampshire, Pennsylvania and New York—also will carry on research and educational work in the numerous phases of the borer problem.

Among the thousands of major and minor lines of investigation all of which have an important bearing on the final solution of the problem will be studies by these federal bureaus and states on feeding and otherwise using cornstalks, breeding experiments to produce strains that may prove tolerant to the borer, studies of fertility treatments to hasten development of the corn plant so as to miss the maximum moth flight, and studies on the possibility of displacing the corn plant with other crops of equal value.

Investigations with insecticides, repellants and attractants will be conducted. The important projects now under way to introduce and establish parasites of the borer from foreign countries will be continued. Studies of the life habits of the pest will be carried on to furnish information necessary for a practical program in combating spread and control of the borer.

Effort will be continued to determine the value of fall and spring plowing in different types of soil, with different widths and types of plow bottoms, on different dates, and at various depths.

In fact, no line of investigation that promises to furnish useful information on the borer problem has been omitted from the 1929 program. A new committee representing the American Society of Animal Production reported at the conference and pointed out that 80 per cent. of the corn produced is fed to livestock. Therefore, the committee stated, any menace to the corn crop is of vital interest to the animal husbandman. In this connection the 1929 program includes studies on the use of other feeds and pastures in greater quantities to meet a possible shortage of corn.

#### PROGRAM OF THE AMERICAN PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETY

DR. FRANCIS X. DERECUM, president of the American Philosophical Society, has appointed a committee of forty-two members whose objectives are an "intellectual stock-taking" in order to plan a program of development for the society. In his letter to members Dr. Dereum writes:

The American Philosophical Society, having crossed the threshold of its third century, enters upon the New Year