the fringe. The diagram (fig. 25) shows how longitudinal zones would arise were the same process repeated throughout the length of the beach.

In fig. 26 the career of a single specimen is traced from the lee fringe of a beach in position I to its crest in position XI as the result of ten successive advances of the beach, which, as before, is travelling from right to left. The dotted lines represent the successive positions occupied by the plant. It will be appreciated that when a plant has reached the crest, the actual position from which it started (originally at the lee edge) would have to be sought on the sea face of the beach somewhat above the neap tide high-water mark. As a rule,

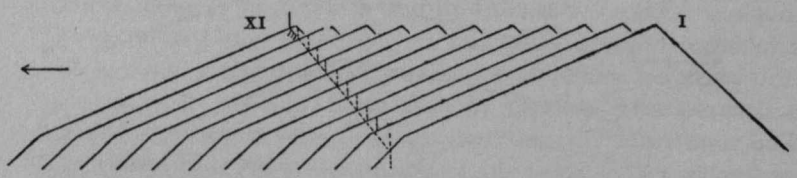

Fig. 26.—Collective Diagrams of Profiles of Beach travelling from right to left. The dotted line represents the course followed by a Suæda plant established at the foot in the first profile (I). In the last profile (XI) the plant has reached the crest.

of course, no trace is to be found, but in the case of narrow beaches travelling rapidly the old stools may sometimes be found persisting on the foreshore after the beach has passed right over them.

Two further points may be mentioned. The rejuvenescence of Suæda after shingling is accompanied by increased vigour of growth—far exceeding that of plants on stable ground. The same applies generally to all species of plants which tolerate shingling. Their green becomes more vivid and their flowering is profuse.

When a Suæda has ascended some distance up a beach it will be found on uprooting that the underground stem, or rhizome, dies out not more than 3 feet from the surface—except in the case of quickly-moving narrow beaches. This arises from the marked quality of rapid disintegration which distinguishes these rhizomes. This early mouldering into humus is probably of no little importance in the provision of food to