

rust on wheat alone caused an estimated loss of \$200,000,000 in Western Canada in 1916, a year in which a very serious outbreak occurred. He estimated that the annual average loss due to stem rust during the previous twenty years was in the neighbourhood of \$25,000,000. Thus the solution of the rust problem seems to be necessary for the assurance of the future wheat production in Western Canada. This laboratory has made much progress in a better understanding of the whole problem, and in the production of varieties resistant to the rust and suitable in other respects.

Such striking figures cannot be presented in connection with the work of the other laboratories, but it would be easy to justify the money spent in this way on the basis of the economic importance of the problems dealt with in each case. It is difficult to estimate the value of the services rendered by each laboratory. There are the frequent cases of an individual grower whose crop becomes badly diseased, and such help as the laboratory can often give him means a great deal to him. This type of effort must justify the existence of the laboratories. Moreover, each laboratory is doing investigational work in an effort to solve or to be better prepared to cope with the problems of the district in which it is located.

New problems are continually arising in plant disease control and some have not been touched as yet. In Quebec a severe outbreak of a destructive disease on apples called fire-blight has been very bad for the past two years. Some work has been done in connection with this outbreak, but much more should be done in order to be in a better position to adequately meet the situation. Practically no plant pathological work has been done among the vegetable growers in this