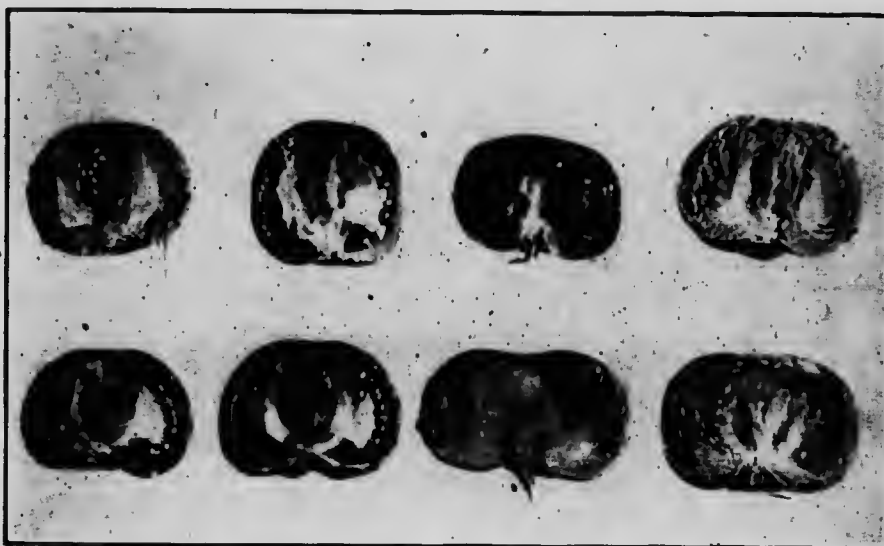


grow on. Some go a step further and take the plant, its vitality, amount and uniformity of yield into consideration. But not one grower have I met who has reserved a piece of ground exclusively for seed breeding and attempted to conduct rigid straight seed selection. The best seed selected one year is lost track of the next year. While considerable improvement in the yield, uniformity of size and smoothness of the fruits may confidently be looked forward to from proper selection, yet the greatest return which we may look for is a decided gain in early maturity, a very important factor in view of the shortness of the season. Some growers have already hastened the maturity of their crop some ten days in four or five years by a system of seed selection still open to improvement. Below will be found an outline of a system of seed selection



Greater Baltimore.
Jack Roe.

Success.
Earlianna.

Stone.
Hummer.

B.B.
Coreless.

Longitudinal Section.

aiming at improving the qualities spoken of, and which should be applicable to the case of the ordinary grower.

From the standpoints of soil, climate and market ascertain the type of plant and fruit best suited to your requirements, and keep the type clearly and constantly before you. Presuming that you have a field of tomatoes the seed of which is true to variety and reliable, go through that field and select one or more plants which in every respect approach nearest to the ideal in your mind. Mark these by staking them. Select healthy, productive vines of which the fruit is most uniformly of the desired type, for it must be remembered that the character of the seed is determined by the plant and not by the individual fruit. Thus the