

and shut off from the food supply. Formations like the enlarged portions of plants, which occur in black knot, plum pocket, club root, etc., are also very common.

It now becomes necessary to briefly consider the question of the predisposition of plants towards disease. The word predisposition may not be fortunately chosen to describe the peculiar observations that may be made in the direction of resistance or susceptibility towards disease. In medicine as well as in plant pathology we often meet with typical cases of immunity in animals or plants. For some reason or other some individuals escape a disease altogether, or remain singularly resistant in recovering unhurt from an attack. Hence, modern investigators claim that the successful selecting of resistant varieties would sooner or later decide the question of treatment for disease. This expectation is undoubtedly quite reasonable, but at present we have only just begun to open our eyes and the results obtained so far have more of a scientific than a practical value. Disease resistance has been established to a certain degree in grain—considering the rust problem, but unfortunately the varieties fairly rust-proof showed other undesirable characters, or they were disease-proof only in a small locality. We must also bear in mind that the adaptation of disease-causing organisms to new conditions will play a very important role, and at present while there is every hope of improving our knowledge in this respect, our results are not established long enough to speak the last word in the breeding of disease-resistant varieties. It would, however, be quite erroneous to construe my remarks in a manner in which they were not intended. While pointing out the difficulties, yet there is every hope of making important discoveries along these lines.

Next, let us consider the resistance to disease. In medicine we are informed that living according to common, normal sense, avoiding foods or practices which lead to the weakening of the organism, we will not only reach but maintain a condition which we describe simply as health. Health, to my mind is nothing else but the keeping of body and mind sound by performing the normal functions of our organs. Thus, by following closely our needs and by living correctly we can bring our bodies into a state of great resistance and even immunity, though we may be living amidst a serious epidemic at the moment. Infectious germs, though surrounding us constantly, will have no chance of exercising their serious effect upon us if we are in a perfectly sound state of body. It is quite impossible to avoid contact with disease germs and this being the case, prevention of disease is largely dependent upon success in bringing our organism into a strong condition of resistance. This, of course,