

Cleveland brings his argument closer to man, stating: "It has been reported that flagellates producing a disease in plants may, after passage through an invertebrate (insect) and a vertebrate host (lizard), acquire pathogenic properties for a mammal. Oxygenation will perhaps give us uninfected but susceptible hosts to work with, which will enable us to determine beyond question the possible method or methods of infection in nature."

Dr. Cleveland's earlier work on the effects of oxygen on protozoa and their insect hosts won him half of the annual prize of the American Association for the Advancement of Science at its meeting in Washington during the holiday week in 1924.

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#### SUPERSENSITIVE INDIVIDUALS GET ASTHMA FROM LIGHT

The fairy story princess who spent a miserable night because of a pea concealed under the nine mattresses in her bed was no more sensitive than some everyday human beings.

In the laboratories of Dr. W. W. Duke, hay fever and asthma are being studied, and he has shown that an individual may be sensitive to light or to certain temperatures, just as hay fever victims are sensitive to ragweed pollen or other proteins.

Dr. Duke has illustrated with human patients how weals can be produced in a very few moments on the body of a person who is sensitive to heat or cold or light, and he has shown how such exposure to a physical agent may lead to asthma or to all the symptoms of anaphylactic shock.

Persons are sometimes sensitive, Dr. Duke finds, not to many degrees of cold but only to a definite small range of temperature, as from ten to fourteen degrees above freezing. These patients showed no sensitivity to a temperature around the freezing point. Ice could be pressed against their skin without producing abnormal effects. Yet a short exposure of an area of the skin to a slightly higher temperature produced ugly weals.

This type of case has been little studied and is almost unknown to the average physician. No cure is known for it. The person who is sensitive to a protein can be treated with gradually increasing doses of the toxic substance until his tolerance is much greater, but the patient who is supersensitive to light or heat must always avoid the particular type of radiation that poisons him.

The condition, which is known to medical science as allergy, may be produced not only by pollen proteins and radiations, but also by smokes, meat and fish proteins, and fish glue. There are a number of theories as to the cause of allergy, Dr. Duke explains, but so far none has been substantiated.

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A little village in the wilds of British Columbia has a museum of Indian art and craftsmanship, founded by an Indian chief.

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