

"One of these peoples, the Hurri, appears to have spread over Syria and Palestine, where they mingled with Semites to form the Hebrew people. It seems that they gave to the Jews their characteristic features. Another dialect, the Azarva, spoken over western Asia Minor, is revealed to us. It included the Lycian city of Myra, mentioned in Acts, 27:5 from which St. Paul took ship to Rome."

MOSAIC DISEASE GERMS FOUND IN TOMATO PLANT

The mosaic disease of tomatoes, and probably of other plants as well, which annually causes damage aggregating tens of millions of dollars, is caused not by an ultramicroscopic organism, too small to be seen with the most powerful of optical aids, as has hitherto been supposed, but by a germ which though exceedingly tiny can yet be seen if the right technique is used.

This discovery, made by Dr. Sophia Eckerson of the Boyce Thompson Institute for Plant Research, is described in a recent issue of the Botanical Gazette. In the same journal is a discussion of the efforts of Helen A. Purdy, an associate of Dr. Eckerson, to cultivate the organism outside the plant tissues, which failed to sustain the claims made by an earlier worker that this virus could be grown in a test tube.

Dr. Eckerson found in the tissues of diseased tomato leaves swarming little organisms near the lower limit of visibility for even a high-power microscope. Their diameters ranged from two to four twenty-five thousandths of an inch. Later on, larger organisms, about twice the size of those that appeared first, were detected. These creatures were always found in the diseased areas of the leaves, and most of them possessed the power of rapid motion, swimming through the sap with rapid lashes of a whip-like "tail".

Mosaic diseases afflict a wide variety of plants and cause very serious economic losses. They are so called because leaves of the diseased plants lose their green color in angular patches, giving the tissue a pattern suggestive of a mosaic pavement. Many workers have spent years searching for the cause or causes of the disease, as a first step in the development of means for prevention or cure.

STUDIES UNEXPLORED REGION OF SPECTRUM

One of the least known sections of the spectrum has been investigated by Prof. K. T. Compton, well known physicist, and C. H. Thomas of Princeton University.

In a talk before the American Philosophical Society Prof. Compton described the methods they have used to make more accurate measurements of the spectral region that lies between ordinary X-rays and the extreme ultra-violet than have hitherto been possible. Except for a small region between radio and heat waves this is the only part of the spectrum that has not been capable of receiving close and accurate study. Prof. Compton and Mr. Thomas have shown that in this region of very soft X-rays