

? May 1919 ?

*Difficultly
of
Synonymity*

(1) What you say I think indicates rather the capricious nature of the gap which divides species. On what does this capriciousness depend? When species are not in contact the separation between them is, I believe, purely arbitrary. Whilst when they are in contact it depends on the degree of relative unfertility.

(2) Where such a series as you suggest exists, the gap between A and D would, on my supposition solely tend to widen; that is if A E C D are in the sense a series.

(3) ~~It~~ ^{is} held that both fertility and vigour go with slight divergence of stock? They don't necessarily go hand in hand. May not cross breeding improve vigour temporarily, whilst lessening fertility?

*Superior
quality
meaning
of
Mendelian
differences*

(4) Yes, but this is not a centripetal force I rely on in the first instance.

(5) When two separate varieties meet there would, I think on my hypothesis be no diminution in the range of variability at first. There would be a very slow diminution afterwards. It might take years to prove its existence. In stage number ² ~~two~~ illustrated below ^{that} there would also be some unions continuing to take place which produce the extreme forms. These would immediately diminish in numbers, but would at first continue to exist. They would slowly die out in time.

