

a sample has been fixed to it for a considerable time, it will retain the "sense" of the sample for a little while after its removal, continuing as a rod for that particular object.

I cannot explain these things, having no scientific knowledge, and very small opportunity for making or checking experiments, but even these few examples chosen at random from one diviner's tests, may lead others to travel further along the paths to which these very rough-hewn steps are leading.

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## A WATER DIVINING THEORY

By Rev. H. W. LEA-WILSON, M.A.

I have been asked to write something about my experiences in water divining.

I discovered that I had the gift about ten years ago, and tried to develop it, at first with a purely practical object in view. I was living on the Deccan in Western India, in an area where water was badly needed, and I found that I was able to give a good deal of help to people who wanted to sink wells. But as I got more experience it was natural to try and form some theory that would explain the new powers of which I was conscious.

I came home in 1932, and before long got into touch with the British Society of Dowzers. In reading the Journal I have been much struck with the wider range of divining than merely finding water, that appears possible. I have some slight experience of being sensitive to metals, but the power which many diviners have of reacting to all kinds of objects is something quite new to me.

I think we must suppose that there is some kind of radio-activity in all inanimate as well as living things. As to whether a diviner can detect these rays or not, seems to depend upon a personal factor. That such rays exist is borne out by the fact that electrical instruments have been made that react to them. I was once asked to test such a machine. First, I located one or two streams in my own way, and then put the instrument over them. In each case the needle began to swing backwards and forwards.

What seems as yet to be little understood is the mechanism in the human body for picking up these rays. I do not feel at all competent to contribute anything that may be of value in establishing a scientific theory, but as I have been asked to write something, I give a theory based on my experiences for what it is worth.

It appears to me that a power resides in the brain of "pro-

jecting" some part of oneself in any desired direction. A water diviner expects to feel water immediately beneath him, so (whether consciously or unconsciously) he "looks" downwards. But it is perfectly possible to "look" forwards, and to feel water a considerable distance ahead. I have often done this, and the strange thing here is that there appear to be "belts" of influence. I feel the water for about twenty paces, and then for about ten paces feel nothing; and this can be repeated many times, the reaction getting continually stronger, until the edge of the stream is reached.

Again I find that it is possible to "project" oneself to definite depths. At first I was puzzled by the fact that I could walk over a field and feel certain streams: then later walk over the same ground and feel quite another set of streams. I came to realize that I could only feel streams *at one depth at a time*. If I look for shallow streams, I cannot feel the deeper ones, and, *vice versa*, if looking for the deeper ones, I cannot feel the shallow ones. It was these experiences that put me on to my present method of finding depth. This is, to feel a stream, then relax one's muscles, and, standing over it, "think down" in feet. At a certain depth the reaction to water is felt. I do not claim that this method is infallible, but I have had a fair amount of success with it. I do not think I have often been wrong as to the *relative* depths of streams, though I have sometimes been wrong as to the distances which separate them. I find I am more accurate when I have got familiar with a certain district. And I think that constant practice would give a good deal of accuracy with this method.

These experiences helped me to form the idea that the diviner's mind has the power of adjusting itself at will both to the depth and the direction of the object he wishes to find. Though not perhaps at first. A beginner does not have this power under control. It will be just a matter of chance whether he picks up a stream at 15 feet or 100 feet, or whether he feels one that is directly below him or one that is beyond him. He is like a man picking up a pair of field-glasses at random, and looking through them without adjusting the focus. Only those objects will be clear whose distances happen to correspond with the focus. If he wishes to look at some particular object, he must then adjust the focus. I believe that something of this sort happens in the more experienced diviner's mind. Some sort of conscious adjustment takes place. He says to himself, "I want to find shallow water"; or, "I want to find water at 200 feet," and immediately he gets the required range.

I have also made experiments with regard to very deep water, though here I have not had any results tested, and do not know

whether my estimates have been at all accurate. But I have felt water that appears to me to be as deep as 1,500 or 2,000 feet. I find this a great strain. Finding shallow water does not tire me much, but "looking down" to 1,000 feet or more I find most exhausting. This rather supports my "projection theory."

The theory I have put forward may help to explain the finding of different objects, and also the use of samples, which appear to me to be special methods of adjustment or range finding, but of this I cannot speak from any personal experience.

The point I wish most to emphasize is that in the human diviner the "mechanism" of divining is not mechanical. The diviner is not a passive machine. He is an active, self-controlled agent. I cannot make any other theory square with the facts.

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## DOWSING TEST FOR WATER IN TENERIFFE

By Captain H. I. HALLIDAY

On the 22nd October, 1935, Sr. Don Ubaldo Martinez Calderon, who is interested in water divining, suggested that he would like to put me to a comprehensive test for finding underground water and giving its depth, at a spot where both data were known to him exactly. Accordingly, a certain area was indicated to me, and I was asked to find water and give the depth of any found.

I found three streams and gave their depths, viz. :—Left-hand stream, 70-75 metres ; middle stream, 45 metres ; right-hand stream, 90-95 metres.

Sr. Calderon agreed to the locations, but stated that the depth of the middle stream was wrongly given, the other two being correct. He stated that the middle stream was flowing through a long gallery or horizontal bore, the entrance to which was situated lower down on the hill side, and about one kilometre from the spot where the tests were made. From his knowledge of this gallery and corresponding maps, which gave accurate contours, he stated that the water in the gallery was at a depth of 95 metres. I insisted that he had made a mistake in his location of the gallery stream.

To test the accuracy of this observation, it was suggested by Mr. T. H. J. Carroll, who accompanied me, that I should follow the middle stream to see whether it ended at the gallery mouth. I thereupon followed this stream for more than 600 metres, and, in addition to finding that, when the land surface was level, the depths of the stream varied considerably, the line I was following was passing a point about 200 metres to the East of the gallery