

we, in England, may almost ignore that possibility.

The above remarks as to location of streams and installation of pumps will naturally apply to the small village as well as to the farmer, though a certain amount of piping may be necessary in the case of the village.

In the drought of 1934 the only remedy which the Ministry of Health seemed to be able to suggest was that of connecting villages to an already overloaded Company's system at a cost which, in most cases, would have made the rates prohibitive, while for the farmer nothing seemed to be done, either by the Ministries of Health or Agriculture. The shortage of metals and labour would seem to preclude anything being done on a comprehensive scale at present, but I suggest that, when things once more become normal, some far-sighted Minister of Health, or Agriculture, should ignore the myopic views of the officials of their respective departments and seriously consider the question of water supplies to such outlying places, first, by the employment of dowsers to locate the small local supplies, and, second, by making some arrangement to advance the initial cost of boring, installation, &c., on easy terms to the small village or farmer. The cost of a windmill pump, for anything up to 400 gallons per hour, may be taken as £58 and of the well about £1 per foot, so that the installation for a comparatively shallow well would cost under £100.

In the case of the former the health of the villages would improve, while in the case of the latter the country would gain in the increase of agricultural output.

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## EXPERIMENTS AT EASTBOURNE COLLEGE: JULY, 1940

By A. Y. COLE

A friend and myself were discussing one day the subject of water divining, and he induced me to try my hand at the art. At first I was not very successful, but with a little practice I soon found that I could follow the movements of the rod and interpret them correctly.

Thereupon we decided to try a series of experiments. Several boys, ten or twelve I suppose, had been standing by at different times, watching. Some were sceptical and some seemed quite honestly interested. So one by one we induced them to try it, and even the sceptical ones were soon forced to admit that they could feel the influence. There were, however, two or three

who were quite unable to feel anything. These were from both the sceptics and the ones interested.

Then we decided to enter into more particular experiments—to test the reactions and capabilities of those who wished to carry on with us. Each first tested several kinds of rod, to find with which he was most sensitive. These varied considerably, none of them having had any biasing advice from us which might affect the selection of his own particular rod. One found that a green, strong, forked twig was most effective, while others found thick galvanised iron wire or thin springy steel wire, each bent in the shape of a V, to be best.

We then tried placing the depth of water, which ran underground in several places. With one exception, we all agreed within a few feet. We put our results down on a piece of paper, and compared them afterwards, thereby preventing any prejudicial influences on the detector. There were alternative methods for finding the depth of the subject.

The first, which some found rather hard to understand, was to imagine yourself to be going down a shaft of some kind—a lift, for instance. And as you went down, you counted the feet, metres or yards—it seemed to make no difference what the unit of measurement was, so long as the idea of it being that particular measure was in mind the whole time the depth was being estimated. The depth was found when the rod started going up or down, returning to normal as soon as the depth was passed. The exact depth could be narrowed down to within one foot in several hundred, and often it was possible to *feel* that it was nearer 97, say, than 98.

The alternative method was to place something metal on the ground just where the influence was strongest—a penknife, for instance—and then walk slowly away from it until the rod turned. Then, turning through a right angle and walking in a curve around the metal object, a circle of strong influence was traced out. Then the radius of this circle around the metal object was equal to the depth of the stream below the surface. This fact was verified by two people who obtained consistent results, finding the depth in the two ways, and not communicating their results until after the experiment.

The next experiment tried was the locating of pennies hidden in the ground, under leaves, &c. They were placed on a line between two trees so as to narrow down the field. These were found quite easily, but it was observed that the coin was found between the wrists on the ground when the strongest influence was felt, and not at the point of the rod, as might have been expected. Also, it was found necessary to *think* shallow, and not deep, otherwise the coins would be passed over. This also applied to divining subterranean streams, &c. If one thought deep, and expected to find something at a depth, it was possible

to miss quite a strong influence a few feet below the surface. Also, if looking for water, and the idea of water was well into the mind, it was found to be quite possible to walk over a large iron sewer main, and feel nothing.

Another fact was also discovered that applied both to depth finding and locating. It was found that a number of people watching one person finding something could so disturb the aether that he would go quite wrong in his findings. This was noticed, and was tried the next time purposely, without the knowledge of one who was set to look for a coin. We all willed hard that he should find the coin in a different place to where it really was. And when he said at last "I've got it" it was where we wanted him to find the coin, several feet away from its true position. On another occasion two of us had agreed on the depth of a deep stream, and while the third, a very consistent dowser, was estimating the depth, we two agreed that he should find it to be exactly twice its real depth, which he did. He said that he had felt something at the depth at which it really was, but did not think it to be anything. He tried again, without our doing anything, and agreed with us exactly.

And finally, I should mention that two boys found that they were able to dowse quite accurately without any rods at all, just going by the feelings and actions of their hands. Which points to the theory that the rod is only an indicator of what the body detects, and has no real action in itself.

It was found, in the case of those who were quite unable to detect any influences, that contact with one much practised in dowsing made the rod turn in the other's hands. It was not, however, ascertained as to under whom the subject of the dowsing lay.

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## SOME DOWSING NOTES

By J. A. CLARKE

Before carrying out any experiments in Dowsing, I would suggest that the Dowser, professional or amateur, should get rid of all ideas about inhibitions. Results can be obtained in *all* circumstances; glass-stoppered bottles will give reactions for their contents, and rubber boots or standing on glass do not prevent reactions being obtained. One should realise the vibrations picked up on rod or pendulum are in the nature of high-frequency waves, and glass, &c., merely acts as a con-