

PART THREE

RADIESTHESIA IN GERMAN-OCCUPIED LUXEMBURG

BY N. MACBETH

It was said that under the late regime the German authorities did not like private people, including those of enemy-conquered countries, to go in for dowsing. There was an interesting case of a dowser who was a school teacher, M. Meier, of Esch in Luxemburg, being persecuted by the Germans.

M. Meier had certainly put himself in an awkward position, for in 1938-39 he had openly proclaimed that Hitler would make the world unhappy, as this had been known by the pendulum oscillating in zig-zags over the forehead of Hitler's photograph. This is the sign equally of the eccentric, the spiritualist medium, and also of the mentally deranged, M. Meier states.

Luxemburg was invaded on May 10th, 1944, and then M. Meier's troubles began, for his name was on the list of those wanted. Meier had been a refugee earlier, but he returned to Luxemburg in July. The Germans straightway destroyed all his books on religion, social science and matters relating to radiesthesia. Soon, there was a plan for deporting him to Germany, but this Meier avoided in an original way; he proved his powers as a radiesthetist to the Nazi in charge of the District in Luxemburg, who then protected him and allowed him to stay in his home. Operating over his watch, Meier told the Nazi by this means whether or not the man was married, had children, was suffering from any illness and, if so, where the illness was located. It was this proof of Meier's powers that caused the Nazi to cancel the deportation order, as an article in *Radiesthésie pour Tous* relates.

Meier received strict orders not to use the pendulum except in the Nazi chief's presence, and in due course the abilities of this Luxemburg school teacher were put to further tests. Here was a dowser under German protection, though under detention, while Hitler, Himmler, von Bülow (a geologist) and Conte (a physician) had formally forbidden the practice of radiesthesia by the public. One of the tests which Meier was set was at the Palace of Luxemburg, before the eyes of the German Governors. He had to locate on a map the site of seven excavations and determine their depths. His findings were correct. Yet the Germans continued to fight for Meier's body, in spite of the District Chief's protection.

The flight of Rudolf Hess was the political event which had brought about the persecution of all radiesthetists in Germany,

M. Meier explains, for Hess had "foreseen," through radiesthetic means, that Hitler was doomed to failure. One day the assistant of the District Chief, wishing to test Meier's powers, asked him to say where Hitler was at the moment. Meier at once found, by pendulum, that the Fuehrer was at Vinnitsa, in Poland. The German, on hearing Meier's reply, made no remark, but simply folded up the map which had been used. During the Nuremberg Trials it was said that Hitler had, in fact, been at Vinnitsa.

Later, Meier was accused of reading Hitler's thoughts by means of radiesthesia, and letting the British know his plans three months before an offensive. Fortunately, Liberation came before Meier's trial on this charge.

NOTES AND NEWS

The best rendering in English of *Radiesthésie* would appear to be "Radiesthesia" (though *Radiaesthesia* would be more correct), on the analogy of such words as anaesthesia, hyperaesthesia, telaesthesia, synaesthesia, and cryptaesthesia, all of which can be found in good dictionaries. Similarly, "Telerradiesthesia" is the obvious English equivalent of *Télerradiesthésie*. Suitable derivatives are "Radiesthetist" and "Radiesthetic," on the analogy of "anaesthetist" and "anaesthetic."

* * * *

In May, 1932, an official memorandum was issued by the Military Secretary Army Headquarters in India asking for the names of any military officers who possessed water-divining powers. As a result, a list of twelve names was compiled. The practice of employing military water diviners officially is still in force in India.

* * * *

In an article in *Time and Tide* of October 12th, entitled "Annus Mirabilis for One," written by a man who had become nearly blind but recovered his sight after an operation, the following interesting passage occurs:—

"Living things, especially dogs, cats and humans, have an aura in addition to their smell. Probably the aura is electromagnetic—in very favourable conditions distortions of the aura are powerful enough to move floss silk at 20 feet—but there may be more to it than that. Sometimes an aura is pleasant, sometimes without emotional effect, sometimes most unpleasant."

* * * *

According to the *Sunday Express* of August 25th, Mr. Samuel Whittaker, of Nottingham, discovered a large deposit of gypsum near the village of Kilvington in November, 1945, by means of dowsing.