

# JOURNAL OF THE BRITISH SOCIETY OF DOWSERS

---

Vol. II. No. 7

March, 1935

---

## CONTENTS

	PAGE
Notices . . . . .	1
Experiences with Water Diviners . . . . .	3
Notes on Fissures . . . . .	10
A Horizontal Needle Detector . . . . .	11
The Single-handed Rod . . . . .	13
Correspondence . . . . .	15
Points from Letters . . . . .	16
Reviews . . . . .	18

PUBLISHED BY  
THE BRITISH SOCIETY OF DOWSERS  
BACKWOODS, LINDFIELD, SUSSEX

*Price to Non-Members, 1/-*

# BRITISH SOCIETY OF DOWSERS

## COUNCIL

### *President :*

COLONEL A. H. BELL, D.S.O., O.B.E.  
*Address :* Backwoods, Lindfield, Sussex.

### *Hon. Secretary and Treasurer :*

T. R. WHITLEY, Esq.  
*Address :* White Gates, Lindfield, Sussex.

Miss M. E. Macqueen  
Dr. Hector Munro, M.B.

Major C. A. Pogson, M.C.  
Captain W. H. Trinder.

---

## OBJECTS OF THE SOCIETY

- (a) To encourage the study of all matters connected with the perception of radiation by the human organism with or without an instrument.
- (b) To spread information amongst members, by means of a journal, lectures and other means, about the use of dowsing for geophysical, medical and agricultural and other purposes and for tracing objects animate or inanimate.
- (c) To keep a register of dowsers for water, minerals, oil, and for other purposes.

---

## RULES OF THE SOCIETY

### *I.—Membership.*

The Society is open to all persons interested in radiation-perception.  
The Council has power to appoint honorary members.

### *II.—Subscription.*

The subscription is five shillings per annum, or three guineas for a life member.

### *III.—Management.*

The Society will be managed by a Council consisting of a President, who will act as Chairman, and five members, one of whom will act as Treasurer and Secretary.

The President and members will be replaced as necessary by the Council, appointments being confirmed at a General Meeting.

All questions regarding the publication of the journal, lectures, meetings, etc., will be settled by the Council.

Decisions of the Council will be arrived at by correspondence if necessary, the facts being recorded in the Minute Book.

Decisions will be decided by a majority vote, the Chairman having a casting vote.

The Council has power to co-opt other members for special purposes.

### *IV.—Accounts.*

The financial year will be from July 1st to June 30th.

Accounts will be published annually within two months after the end of the financial year.

Accounts will be audited privately.

### *V.—General Meeting.*

A General Meeting will be held annually, and other meetings when considered necessary by the Council.

JOURNAL OF THE  
BRITISH SOCIETY OF DOWSERS  
Vol. II. No. 7 March, 1935

NOTICES

IT is regretted that it will not be possible to hold further meetings at 12 Park Crescent. If a meeting can be arranged for March 28th, a special notice will be sent out.

The Secretary would be glad to hear of anyone in London who would be kind enough to lend their drawing room for occasional meetings.

\* \* \* \* \*

In order to arrive at reliable data on the value of water divining, it is suggested that members who practise as water diviners should forward periodically to the President a record of their results as far as possible on the following heads :—

- (1) Individual or body for whom the location is made.
- (2) Purpose of survey, *e.g.*, waterworks, private supply, and quantity required.
- (3) Locality and area available for survey.
- (4) Geological formation, and available information regarding underground water in the neighbourhood.
- (5) Instrument used.
- (6) Date of location.
- (7) Forecast of depth, volume and quality.
- (8) Actual depth at which water was struck.
- (9) Supply actually obtained and works carried out, *e.g.*, well, bore hole, &c., giving depth and diameter.
- (10) Quality.
- (11) Reasons for discrepancy between forecast and result.

It is obvious that to be of any value the record must include all failures.

The President will be glad to hear from any dowsers who will co-operate in this scheme. Their names will not be revealed without their consent.

\* \* \* \* \*

Dr. Braun-Fernwald has sent us an article by Colonel of Engineers Karl Beichl extracted from the Austrian Chemical and Technical Journal 21/22 of 1934 on the photographic proof of earth rays.

First he describes the experiments of Dr. Dobler. He placed an aluminium plate, the edges of which had been scraped bright, on a photographic plate, wrapped them up in black light-proof paper and exposed them over the radiation of a subterranean substance. Another photographic plate similarly treated was kept in a dark room. On development the plate which had been exposed to the radiation was darkened, especially under the edges of the aluminium, to a much greater extent than the plate in the dark room. Experiments were carried out over a variety of substances.

Colonel Beichl's experiments were of a different kind. He used a type of plate which is "self-screening," *i.e.*, is not normally affected by radiation from underground substances, but when in contact with some other self-screening material, such as cardboard, its screening effect is neutralised and the plate becomes sensitive. Therefore a pattern cut in the cardboard in contact with the plate is revealed after exposure and development as a clear patch whilst the rest of the plate is darkened.

The article has illustrations of the results of three experiments. In the first two the plates were exposed over a granite cube of 6 cm. side and in the third over a thermal sulphur spring 160 metres deep. In each case the pattern cut in the cardboard is clearly revealed in white, the rest of the plate being blackened. In each of 307 experiments a plate similarly treated to the exposed plate was kept in the dark room and showed no effect.

Dr. Dobler has brought out a small book on his experiments and Colonel Beichl is to publish one shortly.

\* \* \* \* \*

Copies of Journals 2 3 and 4 can be obtained from the Editor by members, at 6d. each.

\* \* \* \* \*

Whalebone for divining rods can be obtained from Messrs. Devine & Co., Ltd., St. Stephen's Road, E.3.

\* \* \* \* \*

Communications for the Editor and enquiries should be sent to Colonel A. H. Bell, Backwoods, Lindfield, Sussex.

## EXPERIENCES WITH WATER DIVINERS

By J. P. LE GRAND

I am not attempting to put before you any theories with regard to water divining. I cannot really claim to be a water diviner myself, although I have the gift of divining developed to a small extent. Moreover, I can only lay claim to very limited knowledge of the many ramifications on the subject. I am, however, going to record a few interesting first-hand accounts of water divining that I have come across on the many occasions when I have met various water diviners in their attempts, successful or otherwise, to find water.

One hears so much nowadays about tracing underground water and the finding of underground springs by water diviners, but, after all, the "proof of the pudding is in the eating." Steps are not, and cannot always be, taken to prove their assertions. The only really satisfactory way to obtain proof of the diviner's deductions is to dig a well or drill a borehole, and see what quantity of water can actually be obtained, and also at what depth obtainable, and compare the results.

I have seen the results of many boreholes that have been drilled on sites selected by diviners, and that have been subsequently tested by pumping machinery, and I am therefore somewhat better placed than many people in drawing up conclusions in the matter.

By the way, one should be on one's guard when asking the water diviner with regard to the quantity of water likely to be obtained. For instance, the quantity is sometimes stated by the diviner as so many gallons per day, and at first glance a thousand gallons a day sounds quite a considerable quantity of water, but after all it is only 40 gallons an hour, or less than a gallon a minute—a mere trickle. One does not want to pump for 24 hours a day; usually three or four hours is quite sufficient; therefore the diviner should be asked to state how many gallons an hour he anticipates will be met with.

One water diviner I met used to employ a rather ingenious line of action. He always asked the client beforehand how much water he required. If it did nothing else it at least gave him a rough-and-ready starting-off point.

My first recollection of anything to do with water diviners was about 25 years ago. A site had been selected on the borders of Dartmoor, on the side of a hill, some 500ft. above sea level, and to all appearances a most unlikely spot for water. However, a 4in. borehole was drilled in solid Dartmoor granite, to a depth of 100 feet. A pump was then inserted. The supply was very disappointing—only 23 gallons an hour. However, by the aid of a small mirror some of the sun's rays were reflected down the borehole, and by this method it could be distinctly seen that water was finding its way into the bore from a small

crevice at about 30 feet below the surface. It was decided to fire off a charge of explosive; in fact, two charges were put down. After the first charge, upon pumping again, the yield was found to be 80 gallons an hour, and after the second charge the yield upon pumping was found to be no less than 200 gallons an hour.

Generally speaking, the water diviners I have met have used a twig or some sort of instrument. Some years ago, however, in South Wales, I met a diviner who used his hands only. His method was to walk over the ground with his fingers pointing downwards, and he alleged that he invariably felt a tingling in the tips of his fingers when he came upon an underground stream. I expressed the opinion that he must be extremely susceptible to earth currents, or whatever the force was, and he agreed. Further, he stated that he was extremely affected by thunderstorms, and could detect one as far as 40 miles away. I asked him what sort of experience he went through when the thunderstorm was overhead, and he hinted that his condition resembled closely that of a "chewed rag." As far as my recollection goes he was quite successful in obtaining water.

A few years ago I wore out a considerable amount of shoe-leather walking about the streets of London with a water diviner, tracing underground streams, and at the same time dodging taxicabs, &c. An ordinary V twig was used. The diviner started off by picking up two streams in the vicinity of King's Cross, which quickly joined into one large stream. This stream was followed right down south as far as Charing Cross, and eventually picked up again on the other side of the Thames. No actual boreholes had been drilled exactly on the line of this stream, but in fairness to the diviner it must be stated that there certainly were two boreholes yielding big quantities of water situated in the fork of the stream mentioned above, and, moreover, the stream certainly passed very close to two or three boreholes which were yielding considerable quantities of water on its way down from King's Cross to Charing Cross.

Whilst walking over Charing Cross Bridge spanning the Thames, the water diviner showed the effect that the Thames had on his twig. As soon as he grasped the twig the action was so violent that it flew out of his hand, over his shoulder.

A somewhat convincing case occurred near Yeovil some years ago. The water diviner stated that water could be expected at 35 feet, but that nothing would be found below this depth. The borehole was duly drilled, and water found at about 35ft. below the surface. The customer, however, was not satisfied, and thought he could obtain better and more water by boring deeper. It was therefore decided to go on boring. Drilling operations were carried on, and the boring went down to over 200 feet, but not a drop more water was met with. I must say that this is certainly a rather striking case of successful divination.

A somewhat similar case occurred in South Wales, where a borehole was put down in the Carboniferous Limestone to a depth of 200 feet. The borehole, however, was practically bone dry. The customer called in a water diviner, who stated that a stream of water was flowing within a few inches of the borehole, at a depth somewhere about 100 feet below the surface. Two shots of dynamite were fired, one at 120 feet and another at 100 feet below the surface, and the result was that a permanent yield of over 300 gallons per hour was obtained. Naturally everybody was very pleased, including the water diviner.

Another striking case was at Stockbridge Estate in Bedfordshire. From a hydro-geological point of view water was expected to be found in the Lower Greensand formation, under which the Oxford Clay, which would be expected to hold up the water, was known to be present. It was anticipated that the Oxford Clay would be reached at 150 feet below the surface. The borehole was drilled, and the Oxford Clay actually met at 140 feet. Unfortunately, however, the Lower Greensand, contrary to expectation, turned out to be entirely devoid of water. A water diviner was then instructed to make a survey of the ground, and he selected a site exactly 50 yards away from the borehole. A second borehole was therefore put down at this spot, and the beds of strata passed through were almost exactly the same as those met with in the first borehole, the only difference being that the Oxford Clay was met at 144 feet below surface instead of 140 as in the first borehole. In this case, however, water was met with, the water level being 124 feet below the surface, and upon testing with a pump a constant yield of 450 gallons an hour was obtained. It is somewhat puzzling why one borehole should have been practically dry and the other one should yield water. One would naturally have expected that in sandy strata the water would have percolated through the sand beds into the first borehole, in view of the fact that water was flowing 50 yards away, as proved by the second borehole, but possibly a hidden geological fault may have been the explanation.

One water diviner I knew always went into violent contortions whenever he met with an alleged underground stream. It was decided to employ his services at a site in Gloucester, but he came back very depressed and said he had found no water at all. Actually, however, I think he was quite correct, for from a geological point of view no water could possibly have been expected in that particular district.

I remember a case of water divining near Godalming not many years ago. The object was not to find water, but to select a spot which would give the most water. Four boreholes already existed in a field, and water was obtained from thick beds of sand, the boreholes for the main part being about 120 feet deep. Each of these boreholes yielded about 3-4,000 gallons an hour, but it should be noted that they did not all

by any means yield the same quantity of water; some were considerably better yielding than others. A site was duly chosen by a water diviner, and a fifth borehole was drilled. The result was that this bore, when tested, yielded considerably more water than any other of the older boreholes. The sceptic would say that this was again a matter of mere chance, but it is rather significant.

Here let me say that so far as water divining is concerned I have found during my travels in England and Ireland that there appear to be two sharply divided classes of people:

1. Those who believe implicitly in water divining as being almost infallible; and
2. Those who consider it mere bluff and nonsense.

Obviously they cannot both be right. My own opinion is that given a certain set of geological conditions, and given a really expert diviner, there is a 99 per cent. chance that he will be correct, but given certain other geological conditions, and/or given an inexperienced diviner, the chances are about 99 per cent. the other way.

So far as successes and failures are concerned, the results seem to depend largely upon the nature of the strata. In marlstones, sandstone, gravel and chalk the diviners have on the whole in my experience appeared to be fairly correct both with regard to the yield and the depth of the water, but I cannot say that I have ever yet met a water diviner who has really been correct when thick masses of clay are met with at or near the surface; such conditions, for instance, as are met with in the London Basin. For some reason or another, these conditions appear to upset entirely the water diviner's calculations on many occasions. To give a few instances:

In Kensington, a site was selected by two diviners independently, and 10,000 gallons an hour was the quantity predicted. A borehole 600 feet deep was drilled, but the supply was almost negligible—about 240 gallons an hour. Strenuous attempts were made to induce the flow; the lining tubes of the borehole were perforated at every likely spot that water might be expected, but all to no avail.

A somewhat similar result occurred at Wandsworth. In this case an existing 7in. bore yielded 7,000 gallons an hour. A new site was selected by the diviner, and a 16in. bore was drilled. The result, however, was that only 6,000 gallons an hour was obtained from the 16in. borehole, much less than that expected by the diviner, and less than the yield already obtained from the 7in. borehole. Efforts were made to increase the yield by means of shots of explosive, and when the pump was reinserted literally cart loads of chalk slurry were pumped out, and there must have been a considerable cavity in the chalk, but no increase in the yield occurred.

Another case happened in North London, where the diviner



stated that some 50,000 gallons an hour could be looked for, but the actual yield turned out at slightly under 9,000 gallons an hour.

In another case, also in North London, the yield was stated to be 25,000 gallons an hour by the diviner, but the most that could be obtained was 1,100 gallons and hour.

At Oxted a borehole was put down to a depth of close upon 1,000 feet. Nothing but clay was met with whilst boring, and although not less than three water diviners claimed that water would be met with, the borehole was a complete failure.

One of the most interesting cases I have met with occurred in North London. A borehole had been put down at a large factory, and a yield of 10,000 gallons an hour had been obtained. One of the engineers, who did not claim to be a diviner, stated that he always found that a piece of copper wire twisted in his fingers when he went near this particular borehole, and he gave a demonstration then and there. The piece of copper wire was of the orthodox V shape. He held it between his finger and thumb, and as long as he stood on a stated spot near the borehole the copper wire continued to revolve slowly round and round without any effort on his part or any movement of his finger and thumb. I held one end of the copper wire between my finger and thumb and could distinctly feel a force twisting it around. A geologist who happened to be present stated that he also had the gift, and, taking up the piece of copper wire, was able to demonstrate in exactly the same way. These two individuals then joined hands and held the piece of wire between them, and the result was the same. The actual spot at which they stood was not immediately over the borehole, but a few yards away.

I do not claim to be a water diviner myself, in the accepted sense, but about a year ago I had to admit that when holding iron angle rods in each hand an unconscious movement occurred, over which I had little or no control, when walking over underground streams. There is something to be said for using rods of this description, as little or no effort is required and there is no twisting or straining. I find that I cannot differentiate, however, between flowing water, underground pipes and electric cables.

It does not appear to be at all necessary, in a good many cases at any rate, that the borehole should be put down immediately over the line of the alleged stream. On several occasions I have noticed that where the stream passes even several yards away from the borehole an artificial or subsidiary stream appears to be set up between the natural stream and the borehole itself as soon as pumping operations are started. In fact, in one case, the stream was quite 60 yards away from the borehole, but a very distinct artificial stream could be felt passing between the natural stream and the borehole.

In one case where the borehole was put down exactly on the line of the stream, I noticed that the effect was that there appeared to be a series of streams running inwards towards the borehole, like the spokes of a cartwheel. After all, perhaps this is only what one would naturally expect.

On the other hand, I have noticed on one or two occasions when pumping from a borehole that no apparent disturbance occurs to the natural streams. Possibly in this instance more than one stream was flowing underground and the borehole was tapping a stream far below those indicated by the rods.

I once followed a water diviner through a heading in the chalk about 180 feet below the surface, and although he was able to locate two or three streams flowing under the heading, he was quite unable to detect any streams flowing above him. I believe it is an accepted fact that a diviner cannot feel the effect of water flowing above him, but only below him.

A short time ago I was talking to a medical practitioner in London, and the conversation turned to water divining. He stated that he had had some experience in Canada, and his story was certainly a strange one and required some swallowing. He claimed that he could not only detect water, but could accurately gauge the depth. His method was to hold the rod in his hands and lie at full length on the ground, face downwards. The rod then started to dip a certain number of times, say, for instance, 75 times. This, he said, indicated that the water would be met with at exactly 75 feet below surface. According to this argument, presumably a French water diviner would find that the rod dipped 15 times, indicating the water was at 15 metres.\*

As for the finding of coins and metals hidden underground, I cannot say that I have ever seen a practical demonstration successfully carried out. Not long ago I met a diviner who claimed he could always find hidden gold and silver. I there and then challenged him to find a half-crown which I hid under the carpet. The twig certainly moved, but nowhere near where the half-crown lay.

One diviner I met with claimed that he could approximately tell the depth by the height he held the twig above the ground. Thus, if he obtained the greatest pull when holding the rod (a whalebone one, by the way) above his head, then the stream was near the surface, the lower he held the twig the greater the depth to the stream. There certainly appears to be something in this, for he was correct in the three cases in which I tested him out.

In one case a borehole had been drilled in a nursery ground to the West of London. This bore had been carried to 600 feet and was practically bone dry. This particular diviner selected another spot some 250 yards away, claiming that some 4-5,000 gallons an hour could be obtained at a depth of about 250 feet.

\* The unit represented by a single reaction is an individual matter.  
—EDITOR.

A second borehole was subsequently drilled at the spot selected to a depth of 600 feet and water was met with in a thick bed of sand which was penetrated between 243 and 287 feet below the surface. This particular borehole has not yet been fully tested; it is quite certain that a yield of over 1,000 gallons an hour will be obtained. It is worth while noting that this site was also selected by another diviner, who also claimed that water would be met with at the same depth.

It has always been a mystery to me how a diviner can compute the depth merely by the way he grips the rod, but judging from results obtained, one diviner I know certainly gets good results on the whole, so far as indicating the depth is concerned.

I am inclined to think that the velocity of the flow of the underground water may have a considerable effect upon the strength of the pull on the rod and that it is quite possible that a small quantity of water travelling at a comparatively high velocity may have an effect out of all proportion to the quantity. This theory seems to have been borne out in a case of water divining not long ago.

A shallow underground stream was located in a gravel bed. The quantity of water was computed by a water diviner and given as being about 25,000 gallons per hour. When the necessary excavations had been made and the pumps inserted a prodigious quantity of water was met with. In fact, it was nothing less than a broad slowly moving underground stream, not a fissure. The yield obtained was no less than 120,000 gallons per hour, and this quantity was pumped continuously day and night for three months. Had this water been flowing through a fissure I am inclined to think the diviner would have estimated a much larger yield.

To sum up, let us be fair to the diviner. He is up against a big problem. So many things conspire to put him off the track, such as the weather, time of day, the nature of the soil, the diviner's own state of physical health, even the position of the sun may have more than a little to do with it. After all, we do not condemn the medical profession, merely because on many occasions they fail to diagnose diseases correctly. Let us always apply the same line of reasoning to the water diviner and give him his due.

[The above address was given by Mr. J. P. Le Grand at 12 Park Crescent on Thursday, December 6th.]

## NOTES ON FISSURES

in the Chalk Formation of the South Downs  
By A. B. CATHCART, M.Inst.C.E., M.I.Mech.E.  
(Waterworks Engineer, Brighton Corporation)

The chalk of the South Downs comprises the three formations—the Upper (or chalk with flints), the Middle and the Lower or Basement Chalk. Due to its more open texture, fissures are generally larger and more frequent in the Upper Chalk, the Middle Chalk is less freely fissured, but on account of the density of the rock and the presence of marl bands, fissures are not frequent in the Lower Chalk.

Water-bearing fissures in this locality may be grouped under two headings (1) "cleft" fissures, which when intersected in the headings are usually found to have an inclination varying from about  $45^{\circ}$  to perhaps  $80^{\circ}$  with the horizontal, and (2) smaller channels roughly circular in cross-section, which in the absence of a better designation are termed "pipe" fissures.

The cleft fissure is evidently a jointing plane or local fault, into which the percolating water has found its way, and in the course of time the joint has gradually been widened by erosion and the solvent effect of the free carbonic acid gas in the water. These fissures vary in width between the thickness of a knife blade and that of a cleft into which a man's shoulders may be introduced. They are of more frequent occurrence in soft chalk than in the harder variety, and if the formation is folded may generally be expected to occur near the crest of an anticline, where pressure is least, but are seldom encountered in synclinal folds. Cleft fissures sometimes communicate with swallow holes at the surface of the ground and extend to great depths, in which cases they constitute a fruitful source of pollution of the underground water.

Pipe fissures vary from 2in. to about 6in. in diameter, and usually run horizontally, although small fissures of this description have been intersected which have a steeper inclination. Pipe fissures seem peculiar to very hard chalk, and are met with much less frequently than are those of the cleft variety. It is very difficult to form an opinion as to how such fissures have been formed in the first place, but there is little doubt that they have been enlarged by the passage and rotary erosion of water, and the solvent effect of carbonic acid gas. It is, of course, possible that pipe fissures run for short distances only and function as communicating conduits between cleft fissures, but as the exposure when intersected in the headings is limited to a few feet only, it is difficult to form any definite opinion on this point.

Supplies of water are also obtained from horizontal jointing planes and thin bands of flints. These, however, are invariably very close on account of the superincumbent weight, and their yield is never large.

# A HORIZONTAL NEEDLE DETECTOR

By JOHN L. GILLINGTON

Particulars are given here of a coloured needle-detector which has answered well in other hands besides my own.

This is designed to turn horizontally, very much like an ordinary magnetic compass-needle, but instead of balancing on a pivot it is held under the hand by a thread or wire from the centre, or, better still, by two very small swivels fixed to the cap, one above the other, which allow the needle to turn freely and to rock a little vertically on the line of bearing.

An ordinary mariner's compass needle can indeed be used for the purposes here described, but for many reasons it is better to construct one not of steel, but cut out of stiff white cardboard, say four-and-a-half or five inches long by three-eighths of an inch wide at the centre and pointed at each end.

The positive pole is to be coloured red, the negative pole the complimentary colour, blue-green. Pure green can be used if only magnetic bearings are needed, but for more interesting and important functions to be here described, blue-green is best for the negative pole of the needle-detector.

Next cut out of a piece of white cardboard (white both sides) two exactly duplicate discs any convenient size, say six or seven inches in diameter. These should have a border half an inch or so wide. Half of this border is to be coloured red, the other half violet-blue. Place one of these discs in front of the body (on a table or stand of some sort, having a white surface preferably) red to the left, violet-blue to the right.

Suspend the needle-detector over the centre of the disc either by five inches of white thread held between finger and thumb of the right hand, or by two of the smallest brass fishing swivels attached to the centre and similarly held, so that it can turn horizontally and rock a little.

The red pole will then become the pointer away from the centre of the body, and the needle will swing and finally rest thus, having the red border on the left, and the violet-blue on the right, lying evenly between the opposite colours.

Now let some positive influence (such as a man's left eye, left finger and thumb placed together, a positive electric terminal, or north pole of a magnet) be imposed on the observer's disc; the needle will turn to the left or red-bordered side.

Or if any negative influence (such as a man's right eye, right finger and thumb, negative electric terminal, south pole of a magnet, &c.) be imposed on his disc, the needle turns to the right or blue-bordered side.

I come now to what are perhaps the most remarkable and important of all the wonderful manifestations connected with Dowsing. The only explanation seems to be that in making these changes of potential we are causing oscillations, setting

up waves of an electro-magnetic sort which traverse space, passing to and from exactly similar objects or surfaces such as the discs here described, and which can be detected and made use of by human beings.

For let another person or persons take other duplicate discs a distance (probably any terrestrial distance) away, it will be found if they use similar detectors that whatever influence is imposed on one disc is likewise recorded on all such exactly duplicate discs.

Or if one of such duplicate discs be placed on the ground over the connecting pipe from the water main to the house, the observer holding his detector over a similar disc can perceive no change whilst the water in the pipe is still. But the moment a tap is turned in the house and the water flows the needle turns to the left.

The same may be observed if the disc is placed (not held) over a syphon of mineral water: after the lever is pressed the observer's needle turns to the red or left side.

It must not be supposed that such results can be obtained in any haphazard way, and without having a definite system.

I state here some standard systematic rules to be observed when using thus detectors held under the hand when accuracy is needed.

Firstly, the stance: an easy position, with feet apart a little, arms not pressed in to the sides, palms of both hands horizontally downward, fingers slightly apart but not at all stretched or strained. The clothing: not the smallest fibre of it must touch other persons or things, and especially not the table or stand on which is the disc or other object under observation.

It is most important to realize that the detector, whether pendulum or horizontal needle, unless held between colours or things which to the faculty are opposite, is sensitive to and will be deflected by more or less single metals, certain plants and woods, colours and tints, sounds or vibrations of any sort.

Therefore all such disturbing influences should be kept away. Glasses or rings must not be worn. Socks should not be of any one colour; but while navy blue or some heather mixtures may be worn, no coloured thing should touch the wrists. Khaki or brown garments particularly avoid.

It is best always to stand on a newspaper or other white surface and to place white under the disc or other object to be observed. The base of a pendulum detector used according to this system must be negative, the top positive. This is secured by touching it down on any negative surface, the thread being held in the finger and thumb of a man's right hand, or by placing it first with the base pointing to the South. Direct sunlight or coloured or artificial light should not fall on observed or observer.

This system to which the title "Kinetic Perception" has been given, depends entirely for accurate success on the very

closest adherence to the above rules or conditions. If these are faithfully observed a very marvellous extension of our faculties may be attained.

Some of the phenomena observed I hope to describe later.

---

---

## THE SINGLE-HANDED ROD

By HANS FALKINGER

At some time or other every dowser must wonder which type of rod is to be preferred—the natural or artificial—and it is only after the experience of years that he can arrive at a more or less definite conclusion.

In the case of wooden rods the nature of the wood is not itself of any importance, but the forks should be tough, for otherwise they will break after short usage owing to the frequently powerful muscular contractions. The forks of the rod should be of equal thickness, though such rods are hard to find. In the dry state they are more serviceable than in the green.

The rod made of bent steel wire is, to be sure, not so liable to break, but it causes blisters on the fingers when used for long periods and its elasticity is impaired if it is held too tightly.

Yet when dowsing from a car and traversing fields of potash, oil, gas, coal, iron, &c., or even non-reacting country for hours together, the two-handed rod is difficult to replace as its equilibrium is not disturbed by shocks due to unevenness of the road.

Occasional rests are, however, demanded not only to obviate the dulling of the sensibilities but to enable concentration to be maintained. If the pauses are short, a speed of 20 to 30 miles per hour can be maintained, but if longer rests are required it is better to stop the car to ensure that no manifestations are overlooked.

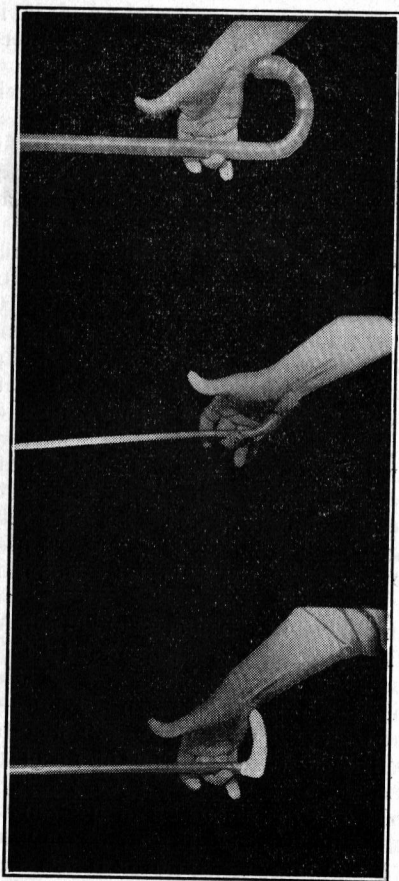
When used for hours at a time in rough, wooded or mountainous country where roads are unfit for cars, the two-handed rod is somewhat tiring. In such cases my single-handed rod—a stick with a curve at its extremity—can be used with advantage. This rod, held at the end and balanced in a state of “unstable equilibrium,” becomes a magician’s wand in the hand of an expert.

I have made a metal rod of this type about 22 inches long in three sections, which are telescopic, so that it can be shut up and carried in the pocket. I can move about for hours with this rod without cramp or strain, and can concentrate without any weariness.

I have described this rod exactly in my book *Die Wünschelrute*. The length should be from 20 to 32 inches. Theoretically the curved part need not be at the end but could equally well be near the middle, but it is most convenient at the end. When

held in the position of unstable equilibrium, there are two points of contact; the end of the curved part pointing upwards rests against the palm of the hand near the base of the thumb, whilst the top joint of the middle finger supports the rod below. In such a position a slight impulse causes the rod to turn over to one side or the other.

With the rod so held and carried sloping forwards and downwards no attention is attracted in crowded areas—a matter of importance when a track is being followed.



The ordinary walking-stick with a crook handle makes a suitable one-handed rod. The grip in unstable equilibrium is rather hard to achieve. It is illustrated in the accompanying photographs, which show the position of the rod before reaction, *i.e.*, before it falls into its stable position. If there is a lack of sensitiveness due to the stick being too heavy, a slight agitation will facilitate its collapse.

The two-handed rod has also two points of collapse, and I always hold it in such a way that it pivots between these two points. It is essential that the dowser should be something of an expert in balance, and to this end I practise daily with a ball.

To arrive at the quantity, depth and extent of a deposit I proceed as follows:

I concentrate on my objective, ruling out every other pre-occupation, and sometimes carry a small quantity (sample) of the material sought on my person. If the material is

present its radiation causes the nerve to actuate the muscle and a reaction occurs.

An approximate estimate of quantity is obtained, in the case of coal for example, by counting 1 metre, 2 metres, 3 metres; if now a reaction occurs the thickness will correspond to three metres.



The extent is discovered by finding points vertically above the edge of the deposit.

In the case of water I take for comparison some simple standard such as a blade of straw, the little finger, the thumb, the wrist, the biceps. These dimensions represent the diameter of the stream. I propose these in turn and take the one which the rod by reacting accepts.

To arrive at the depth I first discover the direction of the stream. I then move towards it and at right angles to it and get one preliminary reaction and then a second vertically above the stream itself. The distance between the two reactions is half the depth. But for the most part I estimate the depth standing above the stream itself. The banks of the stream are found by fixing the limits of the vertical radiations.

In the case of deep deposits, such as oil, coal, &c., I estimate the depth of the general level, but now I must apply a bigger scale. For depths up to 100 metres I take 10 metres as a unit. For depths up to about 500 metres I take 50 metres, whilst for depths approximating 1,000 metres I take 100 metres as a unit.

For instance, on a deposit of oil I count, whilst thinking of the unit of measurement—100m., 200m., 300m.—if a reaction now occurs this is the approximate depth of the upper level. There is no doubt that in estimating in this manner a considerable margin of error must be allowed.

As a preliminary exercise for the successful estimation of depths it is essential that a series of estimates should be made on a horizontal plane; only after this should practice be carried out on wells and boreholes, the depth of which can be checked afterwards.

---

## CORRESPONDENCE

DEAR SIR,

In issue No. 6 a correspondent quotes an example of a well of 10ft. diameter, depth 88ft, in which a 12in. borehole to 28ft. produced a yield of 14,000 gallons per hour whereas another borehole of 24in. diameter to the same depth produced 27,000 gallons per hour. In view of the fact that the centres of the boreholes are only 25½in. apart, your correspondent enquires whether this result could have been foretold by divining.

Two explanations to account for the difference in supply can be considered. (i.) The strata from which the water is obtained is thoroughly supersaturated, hence the larger the bore diameter the greater the supply that can be withdrawn; (ii.) the strata is of a very porous nature but contains a fissure carrying a current, and the 24in. borehole happens to have been sunk closer to this fissure than the 12in. hole.

The 12in. borehole at first gave 30,000 g.p.h., then deteriorated to 14,000; the 24in. hole first gave 40,000, which yield decreased

to 27,000, at which figure it has remained since April. A decrease in supply can, of course, be due to lack of rainfall over the catchment area, but taking into consideration the history of the drought and the depth at which the supplies are obtained, the decrease is far more likely to be due to the following reasons:—When a fissure current is flowing in a fairly porous strata, the vicinity of the fissure naturally becomes permeated with water. If a borehole be sunk into this permeated zone, there will be available to be withdrawn not only the supply coming along the fissure but also all the water in the surrounding permeated zone, hence the initial yield obtained will be greater than that which will be obtained when all the water in the surrounding zone has been withdrawn by suction, when the only supply available will be that of the fissure current itself. Data of the rest level of the water is useful in this connection. If the decrease has been due to the drought alone there is no reason that the supply should have remained constant at 27,000 since April.

Again, in view of the size of the boreholes, if it was a case of thorough supersaturation, a greater yield would probably have been obtained than is the case.

Taking all the above into consideration it would appear that the green sandstone, although of a porous nature, must contain a fissure at a depth possibly of about 95ft-100ft. from ground surface and that the 24in. borehole is closer to this fissure than the 12in. hole.

In view of the fact that the circumferences of the two boreholes are only  $7\frac{1}{2}$ in. apart and the total width covered by the bores is only  $4\frac{3}{4}$ in. it is more than possible that even the 24in. borehole has not actually been sunk on the exact course of the fissure, and both holes are obtaining their supply by suction through the porous strata.

As the above is probably the condition of affairs, the reply to the query raised by your correspondent is that a reliable water diviner could certainly have pointed out the exact alignment of the fissure and have recommended boring to take place on such alignment where the maximum available supply would be obtainable.

Yours faithfully,

C. A. POGSON.

---

### POINTS FROM LETTERS

..... By the way, while in Glasgow, about the 24th of October, I asked a friend if I might sense his leg for a break which I knew (by hearsay) that he had sustained through a motoring accident a few years ago. He had no objection, and to save time, I asked him which leg it was. "The

left." I started at the top of the thigh, and, almost at once, the whalebone quietly turned down, and touched his trousers. "That's it," I said. "No," he replied, "that was a break, too, but many years ago." I was on his right side, as his wife was sitting on his left, in a chair. On getting down near his ankle the rod seemed to be trying to get over to the left side of his leg; so, instead of holding my palms uppermost, I reversed my hands, and held knuckles uppermost, and tried his left ankle. The tip turned over, but would not touch his breeks. I then gently moved the tip up the leg, and, about two or three inches above the ankle it turned in hard against his leg. "That's the exact spot," he said.—COLONEL HUGH ROSE OF KILRAVOCK.

\* \* \* \* \*

. . . . . When using a colour as a tuning agent it may be carried in the hand, or on the rod where it can be seen, and if it is a single colour it may be used in the form of spectacles. . . . . Quite recently a practical well borer and diviner came to see me and I gave him a surprise with colour; he had never heard of such a thing. I had located a pool on my property as a site for a bore; he went over the area and his findings coincided with mine, using quite different methods. I then gave him a pair of yellow tinted glasses to put on with the result that he was quite isolated from the water and could not find any sign of it, the rod would only work over a quartz formation. Then I changed the glasses to green. Now he could not find either the water or the quartz, but got a strong and well-defined reaction when he walked over the heavy steel boring tools lying on the ground. For using colour as a tuning agent or sample I have prepared a series in a convenient form, consisting of the seven spectrum colours with black and white added. I made it with colour strips on strong, thin manilla card, about two inches long and half-an-inch wide, held together by a rivet at one end, so that the series could be spread out like a miniature fan. The actual colours were taken from sample cards as supplied by paint manufacturers. To use this, the required combination is exposed and held by the free hand. It does not appear necessary to gaze fixedly at it so long as the colours are in a visible position, as they seem to act even if the centre of the vision is directed ahead. If the colour is single it can be used in glass as spectacles. . . . . I have found that certain methods which I thought that I had discovered are discussed in the "Bulletin de l'Association des Amis de la Radiesthésie." One example of that is the method of estimating the depth by counting down in feet until the rod indicates that one has arrived at the object. This demands an accurate mental estimation of a foot and therefore requires training.—H. O. BUSBY.

\* \* \* \* \*

. . . . . I am rather proud of my record up to date, as water has always been found where I have stated it to

be. But I must confess I have under estimated the depth when in blue and black clay. Could you give me the reason why I did? I can also tell when the spring is weak or strong, but is there a definite way of telling the gallons per hour? I have my own ideas of this, but I should like to know other people's views! . . . . . After reading the article (by Dr. Wright, in No. 6 Journal) my mind recalled a cow that was not thriving properly. As it was wet and cold I tested the cow in a loose box, and at once found the animal's tongue was unhealthy. So I know she is failing for wooden tongue.—W. T. WORRALL.

---

---

## REVIEWS

### BULLETIN DE L'ASSOCIATION DES AMIS DE LA RADIESTHESIE

(October-November, 1934)

This number begins with a brief review of the Congress at Lausanne.

In the continuation of the interesting series of articles, *Method of instruction in Radiesthésie*, Commandant de la Bastide deals with the location of individuals on a map by means of a pendulum, a practice in which M. Treyve is an adept. The author has specialised in the search for big game and describes his method of doing this.

There is the first part of an article on *The Mystery of the Pendulum* by "Erreips," in which he refers the movements of the pendulum to the magnetic field of the cells of the nerves.

A. Reynaud describes the effects of human radiations on a mimosa (*dealbata*) and on pieces of beef and pork which became mummified after 8 and 11 days respectively.

There is a note on experiments carried out by Cavaliere de Vita to test the action of radioactivity induced on the surface of bodies to which a negative potential had been artificially given. Flower pots containing young plants were stood on a glass sheet supported on lumps of paraffin wax standing on a galvanised iron wire netting. The latter rested on a wooden plank on porcelain insulators. The negative terminal of a 150-volt battery was connected to the netting of one such set by a length of lead-covered copper wire and the positive to that of another set, the positive side of the battery being earthed by means of an iron rod. A third set was unconnected. The plants used were mustard, peas and wheat. In each case the plants on the negatively charged netting showed much more vigorous growth than those on the other two nettings, and generally the plants on the earthed netting showed inferior growth to those on the unconnected netting.

In *New and Surprising application of Radiesthésie* Abbé Mermet describes his method of detecting with a pendulum the injurious radiations from the subsoil by an examination of the person exposed to them or of one of his letters, or his photo, or a photo of his house, or better still of a detailed plan of his house. He gives a case of a doctor of medicine who was living in a house where three of his predecessors had died in the past 15 years and who had sought Abbé Mermet's advice.

(December, 1934)

The Annual General Meeting was held after the Congress at the Palace of Mon Repos at Lausanne on September 22nd. It was opened by the President, M. Armand Viré, and the Report was then read by the General Secretary, M. Delattre. The number of members is now 1,050. In October the head office was moved from Lille to 105 Boulevard de Magenta, Paris, a measure fully justified by the results, and here a meeting is held every Tuesday from 2 till 6. It is intended to organise courses and a school of Radiesthésie, also special sections for research in agriculture, geology, physics and medicine.

The third International Congress opened on September 17th, under the Presidency of Honour of the two illustrious scientists, Branly and d'Arsonval. The opening speech, made by the President, M. Faillietaz, was replied to by M. de France. Doctor Morel read a note on the Palace of Mon Repos and its distinguished occupants, which included Voltaire. M. Caillère, Director of the I.M.C., then read his communication entitled *Radiesthésie from legend to science*. In the afternoon M. Delattre, the General Secretary, made his report.

An account of the lectures will appear in other numbers.

The last article of the series by Commandant de la Bastide describes the use of the dowsing instrument for results resembling those obtained by thought reading and second sight. It is to be hoped that this series of articles will appear in book form.

There is a final article on *The Mystery of the Pendulum*, by "Erreips."

The next article is of special interest in view of our meeting last year. Abbé Victor Donis, Curé of Durance, wrote to M. Viré inquiring whether a successful result could be expected to certain tests, namely:—

(1) The discovery of pieces of bronze, iron, silver and gold buried eight days before about six inches deep in a field about 30 by 60 yards.

(2) The location of a cavity partly filled up in the same field.

(3) The identification of small cardboard boxes containing pieces of lead and coal and a gold bracelet, placed on a table in a room, a fourth box being empty.

Six or seven took part in the first test, working at the same

time and in the presence of about 60 spectators, who sometimes encroached on the field. They all failed.

No one found the cavity.

In the third test two dowzers identified the box with the lead in it.

M. Viré, in his reply, stated that in his opinion all the tests were impossible, except the finding of the cavity. Small pieces of metal, even when exposed, do not always cause reactions even in the case of experienced dowzers. Buried objects have to be in position for a long period before they produce vertical radiation, but lateral radiation is produced sooner. Dowzers operating at the same time mutually affect each other to a certain extent. The presence of numerous spectators would also be a hindrance.

There are obituary notices of Frère Benoit Padey, one of the pioneers of modern dowzing, of Doctor G. Meillère and of General Felix Lemoine.

A.H.B.

### RASSEGNA DI SCIENZE GEOFISICHE E RABDICHE

(May-August, 1934)

After a short review of the work of the International Congress on electric-radio-biology at Venice, there is the first part of an article by Dr. Monaco called *Observations on the connections between engineering and the hydrometric cycles*. This discusses the question of cycles of drought and rain, and concludes that a dry period, which began in 1926, has just finished and will be followed by a wet one on the continent and in England, owing to the noted difference in solar radiation.

There follows a review by Dr. Beyer of a paper on *The riddle of the divining rod*, by Professor Walther, of Halle University. The professor believes that in particular places on the earth certain stimuli that he calls geopathic, are released, which affect the human nervous system. The dowser trains himself to react to these stimuli in a particular way. He is not to be considered as a mere automaton, nor the rod a mere piece of mechanism. It is all a matter of specific sensibility: of nerves.

Under the heading *Exploration of the sub-soil*, is begun a series of articles on the subject, from the hydrographical mineralogical and archæological points of view.

(September-October, 1934)

After a short review of a work called *Telepathy and Cerebral radio waves*, by Professor Calligaris, there follows an account of some of his experiments, entitled *How one may see plants on the moon!*

Next comes an article by Dr. Paul Dobler, of Heilbron, called *Physical proofs of the existence of terrestrial radiations and of an unknown radiation of matter*, in which he tries to show that radiations are emitted by subterranean veins of water, and gives an account of his experiments with aluminium, which has a weak radio-activity of its own.

A further abstract of the papers read at the Vienna Congress is given, and the article on *Hydrometric Cycles* is continued.

The relation between the geological constitution of the soil and thunderbolts and hail is discussed by "R.V." who finds that thunderbolts and hail are most prevalent in places where the air has a maximum conductive power due to ionization.

The number concludes with a short article called *Geological and Sanitary Observations*, by Dr. Hedwig Winzer, in the course of which she says she noted the presence of two zones of rhabdomantic stimuli in her bedroom that crossed each other at the head of her bed and prevented her from sleeping properly. She attributed these zones at first to the presence of subterranean water, but found they were caused by the induction set up by an electric current that was crossed by another in the middle of her bed. Having reversed the position of the bed, she slept well, though her head lay then to the S. instead of the N.

P.M.

*ZEITSCHRIFT FÜR WUNSCHELRUTENFORSCHUNG*  
(January-March, 1934)

There is a long note by Cav. Alberto de Vita on the connexion between the electric field and physiological phenomena. According to the footnote on p. 11 this paper was a communication to the recent congress of the International Association of Dowzers, and has been substantially shortened, except in the case of the physical examples, which have been expanded by Dr. Kritzing, in order to make them more generally understandable. Lack of space probably prevents him from giving more than the bald conclusions that he draws from the results of his experiments. He certainly appears to think that in some cases he has clear proof of the connexion, but his paper would be more convincing if he published more in the way of facts and figures, and less of opinions and bald conclusions.

He has given a good account in brief of the state of present knowledge of the matter, and he has really reviewed his own paper in a paragraph at the end:—

"These illustrations, partly experimental, partly theoretical, have, therefore, shown that many factors of great weight exist, whose proper relationships to the human body are yet unknown or little investigated, although their presence is manifest."

There is a very good account, by Dr. Raoul Braun-Fernwald, of work done outside Germany.

In a very short note at the end Dr. Beyer gives an account of some positive results in the detection of oilfields, and makes a further appeal for the recognition of the dowser's art by the geologists. It is noteworthy that he makes reference to the desirability of co-operation with really skilful dowsers.

(April-June)

This number contains an interesting criticism, by Dr. Kurt Osswald, of certain investigations, carried on in Munich, on the relationship between the occurrence of diseases in animals and earth radiation. He appears to be of the opinion that the value of the experiments was rather lessened by the limited amount of material at the disposal of the investigator. He summarises his criticisms at the end, in a statement that there is little doubt, from these experiments, of the actual influence of earth radiations upon life; although it is difficult, from such material as we have at hand, to get a definite idea of the type and extent of such influence.

Frau Hedwig Th. Winzer, a doughty fighter in the cause of dowsing, takes up the cudgels for the craft against attacks made on it by various publications. Her article consists mainly in the refutation of such attacks. A glance through her article leads one to believe that both sides know the proper name of a spade! She has the courage of her convictions, and is not afraid to come back hard at the enemy.

Dr. Braun-Fernwald contributes his usual interesting summary of work done abroad.

Dr. B. has two very short, but most interesting, articles: the first gives details of the detection of water in the Balkans, in a place where there was no known geological reason for its occurrence. This is, of course, of great interest, as it eliminates one possible cause of sub-conscious influence. The second short article gives a brief description of the development of a water scheme in Silesia, after discovery of water by a dowser. In this case, again, the work of the dowser was entirely independent of that of the geologists, who were entirely doubtful of the possibility of obtaining water at this point.

(July-September)

In this is published a very interesting address by Dr. Kurt Osswald (pp. 67-78) to the General Congress which was held in Munich on 12th August, 1934. This address is well worth reading: it gives a clear account of the present position of the science as it appears to the author. The analysis of the different problems, under special headings, is particularly good; and the author has obviously tried to give a completely unbiassed judgment, mentioning pitfalls, as well as corroborations.



Dr. A. Wendler (pp. 78-83) discusses the connection between electrometry and the uses of the diviner's rod, describing effects produced in houses by walking on carpets. He suggests that dowsing without definitely strained muscles is due to what he describes as a "bio-electromagnetic" radiation from the brain.

Dr. Braun-Fernwald (pp. 83-90) gives an account of the latest developments with the diviner's rod in Italy, France and England.

The majority of the Italian review deals with the experiments, and opinions, of Cav. de Vita.

The review of work in France brings into prominence an account, by Dr. Jules Regnault, in *La Côte D'Azur Médicale*, of the use of the rod in medicine. It also gives a short, but interesting account from the same journal of work done by Professor A. L. Tchijevsky, of Moscow, on the influence of the ionisation of the air on living beings. Dr. Braun-Fernwald writes: "He comes to the conclusion that negatively ionised air, that is, air in which the negative ions preponderate, stimulates the irritability of the cell elements, the process of gas formation and metabolism, while positively ionised air acts in the contrary direction." Reference is also made to an account by Dr. Denier on work with negative ions.

Dr. Braun-Fernwald appears to approve of a suggestion, made by a geologist, that a commission should be formed to remove charlatans and careless dowsers from the body of accredited water diviners.

Two interesting supplements are given of work which came in after the review had been written. One includes a reference to a publication by Dr. Dodel of work done by him on the influence of poisons on guinea pigs, in which he found resistance to the poison to alter according to the underlying strata.

Finally, in the account of work done in England, reference is made to our own Congress, in London, and to the publications of the Society.

A communication is published (pp. 93-96) from E. H. Stettner, in which he states his belief that certain parts of the human body are specially adapted to the receipt of impulses from without. In his own case he says that the point at which these impulses are received lies in the back of the head, where is seated the centre of sight. He gives a method for determining the point for all who are susceptible to such influences, and commends the matter, for further research, to medical men who are also dowsers. This article has a footnote, from the editorial staff, in which they say that they bring forward the matter in the hope that it may be taken up in the proper quarters.

The remaining ten pages of the *Zeitschrift* are taken up by the prospectus and rules for the "Reichsverband für das Wünschelrutenwesen" which has now absorbed the former "Gesellschaft für Wünschelruten und Pendelkunde, e.V."

The forty pages of this publication begin with a short note from the editorial staff, pointing out that the new re-organisation of the National Association of Dowsers has put both fresh work and fresh expense on their hands. Certainly, to an outside reader, the last two numbers have been of great interest; the one under review is by no means dogmatic, although it is full of doctrine.

The first article of importance is a short one by Professor Johannes Walther, entitled *The secrets of the diviner's rod, and their investigation*. He repeats with emphasis the necessity for caution in the investigation of the science, and mentions that in a test of 450 beginners, and from the critical observation of a large number of dowsers, the fact emerged that mankind can be classed as unaffected, affected, and highly affected, and that about 10 per cent. of those examined reacted to the emanations which streamed from the earth.

The next article is a long one (pp. 6 to 23), a review by Dr. Kurt Osswald of a book by Messrs. Wüst and Wimmer on "*Oscillations of a new type, of the wave length 1-70 cm., in the neighbourhood of inorganic and organic substances, as well as of biological objects.*"

This article, though a long one for a review, is of great interest throughout. As Dr. Kurt Osswald says, this work "is by far the most important that has appeared up till now on the physical side of the question of the diviner's rod and earth rays." These experiments took place in the Anatomical Institution of the University of Munich, and differ from ordinary physical investigations in that the indicator used was an animate dowser instead of an inanimate machine, but "all possible care was taken that subjective momenta, autosuggestion and the influence of preconceived ideas should be removed." Nevertheless, there is little doubt that the observers would have preferred the assistance of physical apparatus had they not found (pp. 15-16) that their so-called W-rays could not be detected in this manner.

It seems of interest to note that they found that "the reaction is in the main independent of the material, form and grip of the rod, but that it is almost purely due to the field between the two shut fists and the flowing of an oscillating form of energy through the rod."

Dr. Osswald also draws attention to the finding of Wüst and Wimmer that the point most sensitive to the acting forces was the outside of the fists holding the rod. He states that at this point of the investigations the results of Wüst and Wimmer are at variance with those of other enquiries, which have not yet been published, but which indicate that the spinal cord is the place of reception of stimuli from the earth.

The observers state that they have measured the velocity of these rays, and, strangely, this velocity appears to be different

from the other rays both outside and in the ordinary spectrum, being only from 42 to 45 metres per second. They can, however, be reflected, refracted, polarised, and led through long wires. In some of their observations on the action of magnets the authors demand, for an explanation of the phenomena observed, a new type of energy which they term "magnetoid." They state "the old views of Mesmer and his school as to the natural magnetism of mankind now appear in a new light."

Dr. Osswald finally remarks that "the outstanding value of the work of Wüst and Wimmer in the knowledge of the diviner's art appears to the reviewer to lie in the fact that here, for the first time, has been given not only an explanatory investigation or a hypothesis, but a thorough working out of the physical side of the problem in the full light of exact science, and on the foundation of openly stated observations, which can be put to the test."

Dr. Beyer contributes a short note (p. 23) on Dr. Dobler's work on the "photographic recognition of earth rays," which he says is of such great importance to the science that it will be reviewed in the next publication of the *Zeitschrift*. He also views with sorrow (pp. 24-25) the attitude of two speakers on the subject of dowsing and earth rays. These gentlemen spoke at a meeting of the Berlin Medical Association adversely to the recognition of the scientific truth of these questions. Dr. Beyer does not mind this, taking it all in the day's work, but he resents the application of a rule which would not permit him to reply for his science.

An interesting account is given (pp. 25-29) of certain observations with the diviner's rod in cases of sick animals. The examples are given only as indications of definite occurrences, in the hope that they may lead to further research, and no definite conclusions are drawn from them.

Pages 29 to 36 contain the usual précis of foreign news of dowsing—Switzerland, France, Italy and England. It is of interest to note that Adrian's work on the activity of the nerve system has already attracted the notice of Italian workers.

A short note is given, on pp. 36-37, of work done with the help of plans.

C.S.T.

### LA COTE D'AZUR MEDICALE

In the August number there is an article, "Cosmic rays and their biological effects," by Dr. Leonid Andrenko, astronomer at Kharkov, in which he records the effect of the sun, moon, comets and planets on vegetable life.

There is a note on the Society, founded eighteen months ago by M. Remussan, which, since the general meeting of July 22nd, has been re-named "Association française des Radiotelluristes, Sourciers, Puisatiers." At the Congress at Brignolles in Sep-

tember, 1933, fifteen dowzers took part in a test; all made the same location, fourteen gave the same direction of current, thirteen gave approximately the same depth.

The new President is M. Lucien Marcel, a geologist.

The October number contains the lecture delivered by Dr. Regnault at the Lausanne Congress, "The reflexes which act as detectors of energy and of radiesthésie." Dr. Regnault started as a dowser at the age of six. For the last fifteen years he has been reproducing the experiments of Dr. Abrams, sometimes without success. He holds that there is a wide gulf between the physical and psychological sides of dowsing. He considers the case for water divining fully proved and cites the result at the Congress at Brignolles.

Dr. Brunori, of New York, and M. Larvaron, of Rennes, have obtained striking results with plants.

In the November number there is an article by Dr. Albert Leprince on *La Radiesthésie Médicale*, which, he states, should be studied from three points of view—physical, physiological and psychic.

The first comprises the study of the radiations emitted by bodies animate and inanimate, perceptible not only by the rod and pendulum, but also by such instruments as M. Larvaron's radiocampimètre and the author's radiobiomètre.

The second is based on the reflexes caused in the operator by radiations from the object.

The third depends on the effect of radiation on the mind of the operator, and includes diagnosis from handwriting, photographs, &c.

There is an article on some uses of the Radio-electrometer by Henry Copin.

In the December number is an article by Comte de Marsay on auto-suggestion and the mental ray: of the radiations postulated by M. Voillaume the writer accepts only the "mental ray."

January, 1935, has an article called *The study of gold*, by M. Larvaron. He comes to the conclusion that places where gold has been put accumulate the radiations; damp soil has a high power of accumulation and retains the radiations for a long period—this is *rémanence*. In conjunction with M. Boussingault, M. Larvaron has constructed two apparatus by which they are enabled to distinguish a genuine deposit.

In another article M. Joseph Portepan relates how, using a Bovis paradiamagnetic pendulum and a gold ring as sample, he successfully located a 40 franc gold piece which had been buried at a depth of 80cm. four hours before. Several weeks afterwards he got weaker reactions at the same spot, but several days later the radiation had ceased. M. Portepan thinks that the radiation of phosphates are about as strong as those of gold.

## LA PROSPECTION A DISTANCE

As announced in the August number, M. Emile Christophe, the "directeur" of this paper, has been awarded a silver medal by La Société Nationale d'Encouragement du Bien for his book, *Apologie du Sourcier*. He had already received a similar honour for his book, *Tu seras Sourcier*.

There is an account by Ulysse Thiebault of his method of diagnosis and treatment of tuberculosis; a note on the recurrent motor accidents on the road between Munich and Rosenheim due to the effect of strong earth radiations affecting the muscles of the drivers; a letter from L. Jacquot on the use of yellow discs to neutralize the effect of objects which would cause interference in prospecting for water; a letter from P. Heyndrickx on the strong radio-active properties of the peony.

In the September number there is an account of a marvellous case of teleprospection by Abbé Mermet who, at Lausanne, located water in Yule Island in the east of the Gulf of Papua; a letter from P. Heyndrickx telling how sex can be discovered by means of a pendulum when the operator is wearing a wide zinc ring: with the ring on the left hand gyration signifies male, on the right hand female.

The October number contains an article by M. Christophe on the necessity for recognizing the individual nature of the phenomena observed in the practice of medical *radiesthésie*. M. Ferdinand Gillet describes how a plain piece of paper, about the size of a post card, can be endowed with the qualities of a photograph or specimen of handwriting if a pendulum is held over it and the operator repeats, "I desire to receive the radiations of . . ."

In the November number there is a letter from S. Roncin, Curé of Le Sap (Orne), describing how on two occasions he traced the ownership of lost keys; also an article on the evil effects on the health of aluminium.

The December number contains a discussion of M. Voillaume's book, *Les Rayonnements de L'Homme*; an announcement of a new edition of M. Christophe's well-known book, *Tu seras Sourcier*.

In the January number there is a grateful letter from a M. Dupuis, of Chatou, whose dog, lost for a week, was correctly located on a plan by Maître Charles Brouard, Avocat à la Cour, of Paris; also a series of letters to Lieut.-Colonel Moreau, who, by indications on a plan, had enabled Capitaine Carles, of Vienne, to discover a packet of jewelry which his wife had mislaid.

## LA CHRONIQUE DES SOURCIERS

The December number contains a note on the recent books of Dr. Dobler and Herr Wimmer who, working independently, have gone a long way towards identifying the radiesthetic rays.

P. Cattelin, in a short article, describes how observations of the radioactivity of the various uranium salts in the human body can be used for therapeutic purposes.

M. de France has revised his instructional courses in "Exercices and Technique," to form a single "Cours Elementaire de Radiesthésie."

Under the heading of "Technique," H.F. suggests a simple test to be employed when a scientist meets a dowser. A third person places a lid of a cardboard box over a piece of metal. Alongside is a row of samples. The pendulum is adjusted over a sample and is then held oscillating over the lid and gradually raised. If the sample is similar to the object the pendulum will start gyrating after having been raised a short distance; otherwise it will continue to oscillate.

### LES CAPTEURS D'ONDES

No. 6 (May-June). A note by R. Beaudouin on the correct definition of the "Rayon Fondamental"; a review of M. Voillaume's book *Essai son les Rayonnements de l'homme et des Etres vivants*.

No. 7 and 8 (July-October). An article on the use of "series" as found by the rod by M. Aversenq. He states that in general the number with the rod is less than with the pendulum.

A.H.B.

