

JOURNAL OF THE  
BRITISH SOCIETY OF DOWSERS

No. 6

December, 1934

NOTICES

THE Annual General Meeting was held at York House, Portugal Street, on 10th October. A report on the meeting is being sent out.

\* \* \* \* \*

A meeting was held at 12 Park Crescent on 18th October, at which the Rev. G. Glandfield described his method of detecting disease in human beings and of indicating remedial measures. About 30 members were present.

\* \* \* \* \*

Cavaliere de Vita has kindly sent us the last four copies of *Rassegna di Scienze Geofisiche e Rabdiche*, the journal on the science of geophysics and rhabdomancy of which he is Director, and eight pamphlets (five in Italian) on kindred subjects.

He has also sent us directions in French for the working of his Electrometer and a report on it in German.

We would be glad to know of anyone who would be kind enough to review the works in Italian.

\* \* \* \* \*

Further meetings will be held on **Thursday, 6th December, Thursday, 7th February, and Thursday 28th March**, at 12 Park Crescent, from 4 to 6 p.m. At the first of these meetings Mr. J. P. Le Grand has kindly consented to talk on his experience of water diviners.

\* \* \* \* \*

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

\* \* \* \* \*

Whalebone for divining rods can be procured from Messrs. Devine and Co., St. Stephen's Road, Old Ford, E.3.

\* \* \* \* \*

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

## MEETING OF DOWSERS IN ABERDEENSHIRE

By SIR GEORGE ABERCROMBY

THE North-East of Scotland has, alike with all other parts of our country, been badly hit by lack of water during the last two summers, and in consequence there has been a great increase in the interest taken in divining for water.

There is a considerable number of local diviners, but they practically all belong to the amateur class, and there are none who can compare in skill with some of the well-known professionals in England. While they have many successes, they are often badly up against the dowser's 'bugbear'—depth—and I know of only one local man who undertakes to find and sink a well on the terms 'no water, no pay'.

Still, there is great interest taken by all classes in the art of dowsing, and many members of the British Society of Dowsers come from the North-East of Scotland. Aberdeen is a long way from London, the headquarters of the Society, and in consequence members from the North-East miss the opportunity of attending the interesting discussions that often take place in London, and for many even the annual meeting will be an impossibility.

To overcome these difficulties, the question of forming a local branch of the Society has been under consideration, but for many reasons it has been felt that the time is hardly yet ripe for the formation of local branches.

Some Aberdeenshire members were able to attend the annual Conference held in June at London and Backwoods, and were so impressed with its success that it was decided to organize a Meeting on similar but less ambitious lines.

It was arranged to hold the Meeting at Forglen House, Turriff, on 4th August, and we were lucky enough to get the assistance of Miss Evelyn Penrose and Captain W. H. Trinder, who are so well known to all members of the Society.

Invitations were sent out only to those known to be interested in dowsing, and under those conditions an assembly of between 60 and 70 must be considered very satisfactory. A much larger audience could easily have been obtained, but as the Meeting was a first effort, it was felt that it should be kept small and be prevented from turning into a garden party.

The first part of the programme consisted of addresses from Miss Penrose and Captain Trinder. Miss Penrose spoke on water-divining, emphasizing the need for absolute accuracy, and drawing attention to many reasons why this accuracy is not obtained.

She gave a demonstration on the platform of a method of gauging depth by means of the pendulum and an adjustable cord, and concluded with an account of some of her experiences in divining at a distance with a special metal rod.

She was followed by Captain Trinder who gave a series of demonstrations illustrating his researches into the agricultural and horticultural side of dowsing, and wound up with a description of his method of determining the sex of eggs, which has proved very successful.

For the second part of the programme a series of tests had been provided, and the company certainly entered into the tests with great enthusiasm, though little success.

Various pieces of metal were buried and had to be found with the aid of samples. This was a test entirely new to the local dowzers, whose activities have so far been entirely confined to finding water, and was beyond their powers.

Another test was to trace the house water main. This was unfortunately spoilt by the heavy rains of the previous forty-eight hours, which caused a series of underground rivers to cross the main and draw the dowzers off on a false trail.

The test which produced most enthusiasm was the search for a bottle of the best Glenlivet whiskey, but no dowser was able to get within 3 ft. of the bottle which was the distance stipulated to confer ownership.

During the tests both Miss Penrose and Captain Trinder gave demonstrations on the ground of their methods of finding water, and these were watched with great interest by the company.

At the conclusion of the tests afternoon tea was provided and the Meeting concluded with the announcement that at least a dozen new members had been found for the Society.

---

## MEDICAL DIAGNOSIS WITH ROD AND PENDULUM.

A Lecture delivered by Dr. DUDLEY d'A. WRIGHT at the Congress on June 1st.

**T**HE use of the pendulum and rod for the purpose of diagnosing disease in man and animals is a procedure which had its inception only within the last few years.

It arose out of the discovery by certain dowzers, or, to use a better term, radiophysicists, that it was possible to estimate the percentage of salts in any specimen of water by holding in one's hand a sample containing known quantities of salts, etc., whilst testing with the rod and pendulum. This is the practice with 'samples' so well known to all water diviners.

From this it was but one step to test water for bacterial contamination by using samples of the various bacteria in culture

tubes, or solution, and then to test, in a similar manner, the bodies of men and animals for germ infection.

Since the establishment of this practice many workers, especially in France, have investigated it and exploited it for the purpose of diagnosis of disease, and, in some cases, for the selection of remedies. Amongst those whose names are foremost in this work are the Abbés Bouly and Mermet, the Vicomte Henry de France, Dr. Jules Regnault of Toulon, Dr. Leprince of Nice, Dr. Rouy of Paris, Dr. Cohan of Rouen, and Messrs. Turenne, Emile Christophe and Madame Jacqueline Chantereine of Paris.

All who can read French should consult Emile Christophe's book, *Tu Seras Sourcier*,<sup>1</sup> which is a mine of information, and those who would work with colours should possess Madame Chantereine's treatise,<sup>2</sup> for this lady has brought to bear on her investigations a scientific spirit, combined with imagination and foresight, and has developed a very delicate technique with coloured rods and screens for diagnosing diseases of the various organs and bacterial infections.

It is an interesting and important point, which should not be lost sight of, that everything these investigators have discovered through using their own particular methods in the field of diagnosis, fully confirms all that had been previously found out by Drs. Abrams and Starr-White, of San Francisco, through the study of body reflexes; and it is probably correct to say that the so-called electronic reactions of Abrams are of exactly the same nature, and act through the same physiological and psychological channels, as do those concerned in the movement of the rod and pendulum.

Amongst those who have latterly rendered great service to the cause of radio-physical diagnosis is Dr. Abel Martin. Dr. Martin had the diploma of Doctor of Veterinary Science conferred on him in 1932 by the University of Paris, the thesis by which he acquired the degree being entitled 'Radiesthetic diagnosis in Veterinary Medicine'. In this thesis (since published in book form, with illustrations<sup>3</sup>), Dr. Martin gives full details of his methods, and cites numerous examples of various diseases in horses, cattle and sheep, diagnosed by means of the pendulum.

The procedure of Dr. Martin is as follows: The pendulum is held in one hand by its cord, and the other hand is held out horizontally pointing at the animal under examination. This hand acts as an antenna or 'aerial'.

<sup>1</sup> Published by Vallot, Paris.

<sup>2</sup> *Ondes et Radiations Humaines*, Boehm, Strasbourg.

<sup>3</sup> *Diagnostic Radiesthésique en Médecine-Vétérinaire*, Librairie le François, 91 Boulevard Saint-Germain, Paris.

The pendulum will now commence to gyrate, and the following events will be observed :—

- (1) If the animal is perfectly healthy, all the parts of the organism explored by the hand, acting as an antenna, will cause the pendulum to gyrate, and to continue gyrating in an anti-clockwise direction.
- (2) In a sick animal we have a gyration in a clockwise direction for all the healthy parts, but a swinging backwards and forwards (oscillation) when the unhealthy parts are pointed at.

These actions of the pendulum are made more evident if the observer stands between the animal and the sun whilst making his examination.

In this way, and by the use of samples, Dr. Martin was able to diagnose a large number of diseases including tubercule, paratuberculosis and other infections.

In several cases of food poisoning he was not only able to diagnose the disease as one of that nature, but also by testing specimens of the various foods supplied to the animals, to ascertain which particular store of hay, oats, or clover was the source of the poisoning.

In one such instance he was able to establish by means of the pendulum and a sample of fermenting sanfoin the fact that poisoning had already commenced in a horse which, in a stable of several others attacked, had so far shown no signs of sickness, and to predict that within a short time it, too, would fall a victim; a prediction which was borne out by subsequent events.

In the School of Agriculture in the Department in which he lived his method was put to the test for diagnosis of tubercule in a series of forty cows drawn from various sources. The tests were made before a jury of Veterinary Surgeons, including the Director of Veterinary Services of the district, and his results were to be compared with those obtained by subcutaneous and intradermic injections of tuberculin.

His examination showed that out of the forty cows, thirty-nine were infected. The subcutaneous tuberculin test was applied to only thirty-three of the forty animals, and out of them twenty-six proved to be positive, and two others doubtful; in five the test proved negative. The intradermic method was tried in all forty animals, and thirty-eight gave a positive result; so that there was a difference of only one, between this method and the pendulum.

When working by these methods of diagnosis it is well always to bear in mind, as Dr. Leprince has wisely pointed out,

that we are dealing with principles somewhat different from those which obtain in dowsing for water. In the latter we are concerned with the action of water on the organism, whereas with the former we have the reciprocal influence of two living beings on each other, both of which are at the same time emitters and receptors of radiations. It is therefore necessary to find out what is the normal movement of the pendulum on the healthy organ of the person or animal under examination.

For this purpose we may hold the pendulum over, or in front of, an obviously unhealthy part, such as a small wound, or an enlarged rheumatic joint, and note whether it oscillates or gyrates; or whether this latter is in a clockwise or the reverse direction. This will indicate to us the movement for this particular individual for diseased areas. Now, if we hold the pendulum over some healthy spot, or using the other hand pointing to the same, we shall find the pendulum gyrate in a direction opposite to that which it did on the diseased part. There is a point here which should be noted. In order to obtain the best reactions, it is advisable to have the patient sitting or standing facing the west; that is across the earth's magnetic meridian. This was first pointed out by Dr. Abrams in his electronic reactions work.

Another method of obtaining a good reaction is the 'Solar plane' of Abbé Bouly. The following is a translation of the words of this well-known researcher.

"You should know that between a light and an object there are always radiations. So long as the sun has not quite descended below the horizon there exist between it and all objects one or several layers of waves. In order to capture these radiations it is only necessary to utilize the solar plane by passing between the spot where the object sought for is likely to be located and the sun.

"You desire to know, for example, if there are any gold coins in a house; you take as a sample a piece of gold and pass between the house and the sun. If there is gold in the house it will send out waves towards the sun. As you pass along, your rod will be struck by these rays, and you only have to follow them as if they were a cord stretched between the sun and the gold, and they will conduct you directly to this metal.

"You see then where such a method can lead you. It is according to these principles that one finds the veins of minerals in the mountains as also the microbes in individuals."

Dr. Leprince in the book above referred to gives the following primary conditions for a successful examination of a subject for diagnosis with the pendulum:—

- (1) The observer as well as the subject should not carry any metal object such as keys, cigarette case, watch or coin.
- (2) The subject should be as far as possible clothed in black, or covered in a black cloak for examination.
- (3) The examination should be made under the conditions comprising the solar plane.
- (4) The examination should be made for preference between the hours of 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., because the solar light reinforces the short waves, and diminishes the Hertzian waves which are longer than 100 metres.

Further, he says : The diagnosis should be made both in front and behind the patient.

The procedure is as follows : The observer holding in his right hand the pendulum, regulates the length of the thread, either over the north pole of a compass or over a healthy part of the organism under examination, in order to obtain a gyration. Having completed these measures, he approaches the subject, and with his left hand explores the different organs : lung, heart, liver, etc., being careful not to touch the subject.

When commencing his examination, he should start a light horizontal oscillation of the pendulum. The finger being steadily held pointing for a few seconds, the pendulum will continue its oscillation, and may begin to gyrate or even to move transversely.

It is just here that we come on what to many students is something of a "snag". One cannot fail to notice when one has read the many books or articles written on diagnosis with the pendulum, not to mention the detection of metals and the depth of underground streams, that wide differences exist in the statements regarding both the direction of the swing and number of oscillations under identical conditions.

Thus A. will state that over healthy parts the movement is one of gyration in a clockwise direction, whilst B. will find the reverse is the case, and again C. may find oscillation is always present in such a situation. The same discrepancies often occur in the numbers given for the oscillation of the pendulum for certain diseases, and as indications of the presence of various metals, and even in some cases where colour tests are made.

It seems to me that these discrepancies are dependent upon several factors, one of the most important of which is idiosyncrasy of each observer, as well as, perhaps, differences in polarity between the examiner and examinee, though it must be admitted that any knowledge we have of these two points rests on very unstable ground.

Under these circumstances, I believe it to be a good rule for

each worker to find out what the movements are for himself personally; and having found these, to base his practice upon them without paying too much regard to the findings of other workers. For this purpose he should lose no opportunity, as Dr. Leprince suggests, of testing his personal reflexes with the pendulum over the different mineral and organic substances such as medicines, bacterial cultures, tumours, etc., and also with colours, and carefully noting the results, which he should use as a guide for his future observations.

Another matter which is of importance is to gauge the depth of the disease in the body. This can be estimated by following the rule, viz. that the further away from the body the reaction of the rod or pendulum continues to take place, the deeper seated is the diseased organ or spot; whereas if the reactions only take place close to the body surface, one may conclude that it is in proportion superficially placed.

There must be few students of radiation as applied to living beings who will deny that the latter are both emitters as well as receptors of radiations which probably vary in regard to their wave-lengths and that mankind is not only constantly sub-consciously tuning himself into them, but that he can even train himself to do so by a conscious act of the will.

Each individual differs from his neighbour in his faculty of doing this, and each person varies from time to time, even during the course of one day within certain limits. The response of the rod and pendulum is an indication of our capacity to so accommodate our nervous system, and it may be that these variations to some extent cause the differences above spoken of.

In any case, I can, from personal experience, strongly support what Emile Christophe in his book, above mentioned, states regarding what he terms 'mental orientation', which is the conscious power to tune in to any desired radiations, to the exclusion of all else. Those who wish to practice this, will find that it is possible to have a gold watch hidden in a room which contains many different kinds of metals, including metal ornaments hanging on the walls, provided there is no other gold object, and without the use of a sample, find the watch without any difficulty within a few minutes, by means of mental orientation; in other words, *strongly desiring* that only the radiations from the watch be received and registered through him by means of the rod or pendulum, and that the radiations from no other bodies shall be received by our nervous apparatus.

This same practice will be found useful by anyone diagnosing diseases, for to desire strongly that only the radiations from organs in a morbid state shall be received will cause the reactions



to occur only over these areas. In this connexion let it be borne in mind that we should be careful to guard ourselves from having any preconceived idea as to which organs are diseased.

As regards testing for bacterial infection, the method which I can recommend to those who use the rod in preference to the pendulum is as follows: First point the rod at the patient's chest or abdomen, so that it turns, and, having allowed it to do this several times, instruct the patient to hold the culture tube or other receptacle of the organisms in the closed hand. You will notice that it is the subject, not the examiner, who holds the sample.

If the subject is infected with the particular germ which he is holding, the rod will remain steady without any deviation whilst it is pointed at the patient at a distance of two or three inches. A rough gauge as to the intensity of the infection can be obtained as follows: Make the subject hold the tube for a definite time, say ten seconds, timed by the watch, and at the word of command let him cease holding it. Now point the rod as before, and note the number of seconds it remains steady. In a mild case this may be from ten to twenty seconds, and then it will begin to turn in the hand as the action of the bacterial radiations pass off. In deeply infected cases it may last for forty-five seconds to one and a half minutes.

For selecting remedies we may use either the pendulum or rod. Monsieur Emile Christophe in his book, *Tu seras Sourcier*, gives the following directions: 'One should first render oneself sensitive to the radiations of the disease, by strongly desiring to become sensitive. Then hold the pendulum close to the affected organ and wait until it gives a positive (clockwise) gyration of the disease. One should then point the index finger of the left hand at the various therapeutic substances, previously placed in a line on a table close at hand. Amongst these, all that are curative for the particular malady give a positive gyration; all that are neutral, cause the pendulum to oscillate; and those which are actually harmful, produce a negative gyration.'

For those who prefer to use the rod for their work, I can recommend the following method. Cut out of thin copper sheeting a piece having the shape of the figure 8, only let the two circles, instead of being joined directly, be united by a long neck. The circles can be 3 in. in diameter, and the neck about 4 in. long. Now bend the two circular plates upon each other at their necks, so that they assume the shape of the letter Z, the two circular plates forming the top and bottom of the letter, and the neck the intervening portion. Tuck one end of the instrument into the opening of the waistcoat of the male, and of the neck of the dress of a female. It need not touch the skin. In

this way the exposed plate will be facing the examiner. In about two minutes, or even less, the apparatus will be charged with the subject's radiations, and will be emitting them, more or less strongly.

This can be demonstrated by the rod, which will rapidly turn when presented to the plate at a distance of a few inches, and will continue to turn as quickly as ever it is replaced. Those whose hands are sensitive to radiations can easily feel them coming out of the plate at a distance of several feet in some instances.

These radiations can be received by the examiner, either through the rod, or better through the hand pointed at the plate, and after having done this for about a minute, he will be thoroughly charged up with the emanations, and can now proceed to use the rod over his remedies. When the former is held over one which has similar radiations to the disease, it will immediately turn, and in this way one can rapidly select out of scores of remedies those which are appropriate to the disease in question. Be it remembered that it is as well to recharge oneself from the patient from time to time, say every four or five minutes whilst doing this selection, though the actual 'charge' will remain with one for quite fifteen minutes as a rule.

One can, then, by means of the time method above indicated for testing the severity of the infection by bacteria, ascertain which remedies are most suited for the disease, by the length of time the rod is held steady after the subject has held the phial of the remedy in the hand for a specified time.

The same procedure, slightly modified, can be carried out for the selection of suitable or unsuitable foods. For those who only use the pendulum, the following method of testing for foods is taken from Vicomte Henry de France's book, *The Modern Dowser*.

"Point at the food in question with the finger as antenna; the pendulum gyrates as soon as it is adjusted. Now hold the pendulum first over the food, and then over your left hand. Three things may happen: the pendulum may continue to gyrate in the same direction as before, which shows that the food or remedy is good for you: the pendulum may begin to oscillate, showing that the food is neutral: the pendulum may begin to gyrate in the opposite direction, which shows that the food is bad."

I have here given you only a sketch of the subject of diagnosis by rod and pendulum. Time does not allow of going into the subject radically. Each worker will have to study and make one particular method his own, so that he can get satisfactory results. The diversity of methods is perhaps one of the weak

features in all dowsing work. So much depends upon the personal element, although the results are much alike, whatever method be used. The goal to be sought is to have one established method, but this is hardly possible with our present apparatus. When we have a really reliable instrument, by which we can measure in terms of wavelength of radiations, and tune in to them in the same way as is done in wireless work, and thus avoid the personal element, we shall have the whole subject established on a physically demonstrable footing. I am of the opinion that the day is not so far distant as some believe, when this eminently desirable end will be attained.

When this has come about there will still be, if I am not mistaken, those who prefer to use the simple rod and pendulum. This need not rouse feelings of superiority in the breasts of those who have discarded them for physical appliances. We must always bear in mind that within the living body of man there exists that which ever stands superior to any mechanical contrivance, however delicate. Within our organization, as, indeed, to a greater or less extent in all living creatures, there is a sense little cultivated by present-day man, which gives us awareness of a multitude of radiations, falling on us from every direction in space, and one of the most suitable means of giving exercise to that sense and evidence of its existence is the use of those two unassuming instruments, the rod and pendulum.

---

---

## SOME NOTES ON DEPTH TESTING

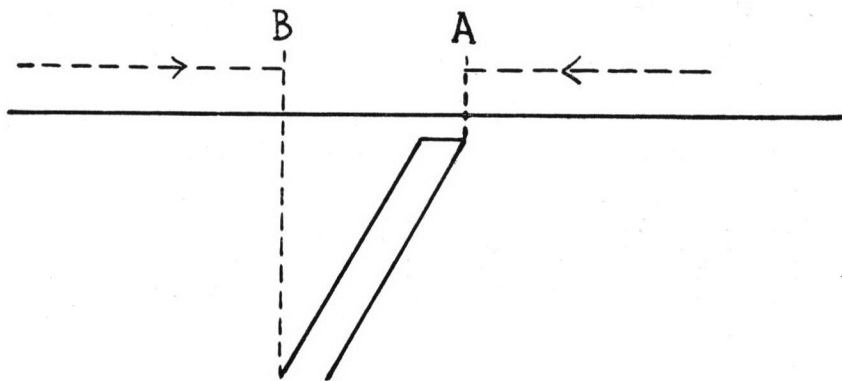
By F. H. SPROTT

HAVING been asked by our President to write a short account of a method that I have been experimenting on for estimating the depth of gold-bearing formations, I would first of all like to make my own position clear.

Whilst I have known for some years that I could 'feel' underground water and have for the last two and a half years been 'divining' somewhat spasmodically for gold-bearing formations in the new Kakamega goldfield in Kenya, nevertheless I do not pretend to more than the most superficial knowledge of divining and indeed have only in the last few weeks begun to learn of the vast ramifications and potentialities of the art. All I lay claim to is perhaps a fair degree of sensitiveness and a certain amount of rather blind endeavour. I hope therefore that readers will pardon a complete ignorance of technicalities and probably even some of the fundamentals of the art.

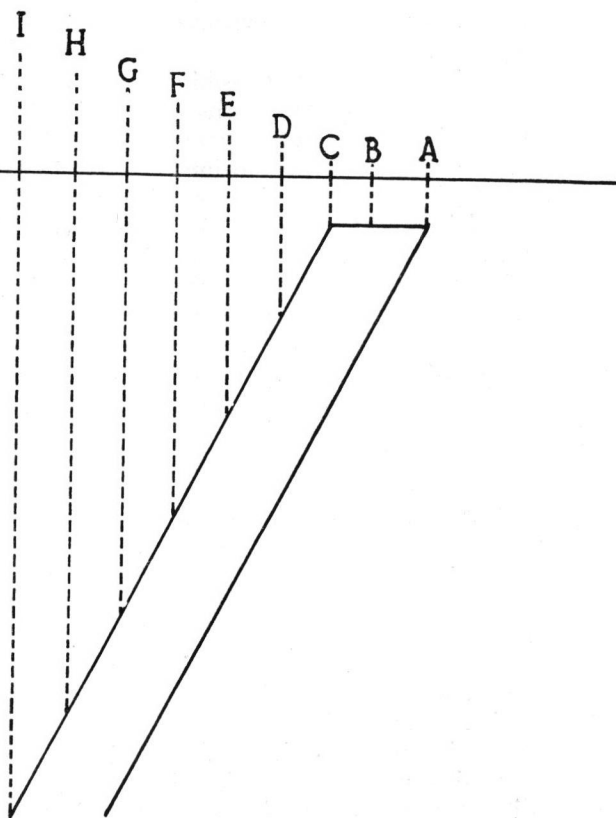
From testing over exposed reefs I have noticed that I experience the main reaction from one side immediately on the edge of the foot wall and some distance away from the reef when approaching from the other side. This, I presume, is due to the emanation being felt for some distance down owing to the dip.

The method for testing the depth of a reef was first suggested to me by the method adopted by Signor Cardoni, an Italian dowser, who has been working in these areas.



I sit on the ground on the line of the reef, i.e. between A B and hold the rod in front of me almost horizontally with the apex firmly pressed on the earth. I then slowly raise the rod, keeping it as near as possible in a horizontal position. Presently the apex of the rod refuses to rise although the hands are lifted. The nearer to the surface at which the reef lies so is this point nearer to ground level. It would seem, therefore, that the distance above ground is in direct ratio to the depth below the surface at which the reef lies.

I have been trying a scale of 1 in. above ground to 7 ft. below the surface, and in one instance I found a reef at about 75 ft. depth, where I had estimated about 63 ft. on this scale. This looks as though the scale should be increased, but there are probably many factors—such as variable resistances of intervening strata—of which I know nothing. It will also be realized that the proving of a method such as this presents enormous difficulties in a young field where there are very few bodies proved to any depth. Although at this stage I cannot claim to have evolved any accurate method of estimating depth, I can, however, by the above method calculate fairly accurately the width of the reef and with certainty the direction of the dip. It would also be fairly easy to reckon the approximate angle of dip, as the following diagram shows :—



Having found the indication, I test the two sides, A and I, and find that A is the edge of the foot wall. I try at B and C and find them approximately the same as A. D is a little higher from the ground, therefore the reef is deeper at this point and so on, gradually increasing up to I. I call A—C the actual width of the reef, i.e. the edge of the foot wall to the point at which the reef starts to give an indication of increasing depth.

## A NEW GEOPHYSICAL INSTRUMENT

By Dr. J. KOPP

For several years attempts have been made by scientists to invent a geophysical instrument to take the place of the divining rod. In view of the very imperfect knowledge of the physical influences which produce the reactions of the rod,

it was only to be expected that these attempts would be unsuccessful.

Quite recently the possibility arose of estimating the physical effect of the rod's reactions by trials with an apparatus for the protection of tills and shop windows, by which a switch is released on the entry of a person into an electric field.

The inventors of this protective apparatus, M. Stehle, and the physicist, Futterknecht, discovered to their surprise that at places where the dowser obtained reactions the switch contrivance operated as well. This observation pointed the way to the construction of a geophysical instrument which could reproduce the effect of the divining rod.

Tested for many months in the presence of physicists and geologists, the reliability of the Stehle-Futterknecht instrument was thoroughly established.

In the opinion of Dr. Wagner the instrument can be used to indicate fissures, faults, subterranean water-courses and streams. It is even able to record the displacement of faults and to determine the quantity and depth of underground water. In fact, according to Professor Wagner, the Stehle-Futterknecht instrument puts the divining rod completely out of the running for hydrological purposes.

A remarkable test was carried out by the Tübinger Geological Institute when the instrument successfully indicated faults whilst in a moving motor-car: as a result, Dr. Hennig, the geologist, reported favourably on it.

Whilst many geophysical instruments are complicated and difficult to handle, this is not the case with the Stehle-Futterknecht instrument. It consists of a box easily carried on the chest, connected by a cable with a battery carried on the back. The instrument is self-registering; all disturbing influences which at first impaired its reliability can be eliminated by careful adjustment. The indications, as experience shows, can only be adequately appreciated by geologists and physicists.

The apparatus was recently exhibited at Stuttgart to members of the Press and others who were interested. As Dr. Kraft, a radiologist of repute, explained, an important problem in the investigation of subterranean 'rays', which may exert biological effects on man and beast, can be dealt with by means of this instrument. In fact, it appears to him 'a duty to investigate the earth rays as to whether and how their influence on life is favourable, indifferent, or baneful, and to take measures accordingly in the siting of dwelling-places. We may actually examine a planted area as to whether it is 'rayed'; we can observe the development of plants and animals in a tested area; we can

ascertain whether mysterious and unexplained diseases in stables, gardens and forests are caused by these geophysical influences from underground.'

Professor Kraft points to the value of the Stehle-Futterknecht instrument in connexion with building construction, high tension cables and the earthing of lightning conductors. The instrument can also be of value for testing the so-called 'deraying' apparatus, the efficacy of which it has hitherto been in no way possible to determine.

According to Professor Kraft, the old philosopher's catchword, 'everything flows', can now be changed to 'everything radiates', whilst every intelligent person with practical experience of dowsing will fully agree with his remarks, 'that a region of investigation is opened up of almost unlimited range and of a manifold nature for physicists and biologists of every kind'.

What is the nature of the physical influences which are recorded by the S.F. instrument? The inventors cannot at present give an adequate explanation. Meanwhile, the investigations of various physicists point to the fact that the influences which affect the rod and the instrument are short electro-magnetic waves in the region between the Hertzian and the infra-red. The physicist, Dr. P. Dobler, has succeeded in measuring such waves by means of a mechanical contrivance.

His lengthy experiments enabled him to confirm by photographic methods, with a simple apparatus (for the excitement of secondary radiation), the existence of short waves issuing from subterranean watercourses. At a conference of scientific members of the 'Munich Institute for the Investigation of the Divining Rod' photographs produced by Professor Kraft caused by 'water radiation' attracted well justified attention. The remarkable results obtained by Dr. Dobler, which will open up entirely new perspectives in the investigation of the divining rod, are being carefully verified by a scientific institute. At an early date important publications on this subject may be expected.

Thanks to the laborious and persevering investigation of German physicists, the problem of earth rays is considerably nearer solution.

---

## TRACING A LOST DOG

Dundry, Nr. Bristol,  
Somerset.

DEAR SIR,

June 19th, 1934.

A few weeks ago I read your article in the *News Chronicle* and at the time we were busy and the paper was destroyed, so I wrote

to the paper for the address of your Society which caused a delay of over a week.

I wonder if you could be so kind as to help me with any information re the whereabouts of my dog, we were in the habit of letting him off for a run any time between 8 o'clock and 9 a.m. and he would return later for a meal, on April 11th he was let off as usual and has never been seen or heard of since. We have walked miles and driven in the country, and made extensive enquiries, but cannot trace him round here, he was eight years old, a Black Retriever and lived here since a puppy.

I am enclosing a photograph to give you some idea of his size, although he is more massive than he appears in the photograph.

We should be so grateful if you could do anything for us, he was very affectionate, and we would like to know of his going.

This is the only snap I have of him, so would be glad of its return.

Trusting you can help me,

I am,

Yours faithfully,

(Signed) J. T—R.

On receipt of the above letter, I sent it, together with the photo, to Mr. E. Christie, who had, I knew, often been successful in making locations by means of the divining rod.

He first located the dog at Southampton, and later 'three miles up-river from Gravesend, in a yard chained to a kennel, about a mile from the river'.—A.H.B.

15th August, 1934.

DEAR SIR,

Now that the holidays are over and we have settled down again I am trying to answer your letter.

Yes, it is quite right, we have the dog home again after three months, it was hard to recognize him at first, he is so thin, his coat all plucked and tried to be made look young, he is simply mad after the fowl, a thing he never did before.

He was evidently stolen from here and taken away in a car, sold and strayed from these people, found wandering by the police at Greenhithe, Kent, where he was kept for a few days, then sold to a party in Greenhithe, this was where Mr. Christie said he was tied up in a yard, in a shed.

The few friends I have told how we traced him; think, like we do, it is wonderful. I haven't told many, because of the gang we believe know something of his going, but I don't think that would make any difference to your mentioning it in your journal.



When Mr. Christie sent to say he was near Gravesend I made all enquiries at the Library first to find the nearest Police Station, then sent a description of the dog to the Super., and instead of being eight years they said he was only two, so that made it look doubtful and when my husband went up for him at first he said, 'Oh no, that's not him', till he started fussing and had a good look at his head, a scar on the nose helped, and small ears for the size of the dog.

We were very pleased to have him home again. He certainly had a rough time before he was sold to the people at Greenhithe; they became very fond of him.

I hope this will help you, and that I have told you just what you require for your article.

Yours faithfully,  
(Signed) J. T—R.

Before receiving this letter I had heard from Mr. Christie that the dog had been found. I wrote to the Police at Dartford as I wanted to make sure that they had received their information through Mrs. T—r and had not obtained it by other methods.—A.H.B.

Ref. No. 1/56/34.

Kent County Constabulary,  
Police Office, Dartford.  
17th August, 1934.

SIR,

I have to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 14th instant, and with reference thereto inform you that the information supplied to the Police regarding the whereabouts of the dog belonging to Mrs. T—r, of Dundry, near Bristol, was supplied by Mr. T—r.

I am, Sir,  
Your obedient Servant,  
(Signed) W. AUSTIN,  
Superintendent.

---

## POINTS FROM LETTERS

SOME years ago a well 88 ft. deep and 10 ft. diam. was made, in the bottom of which a 12-in. borehole was sunk a further 28 ft., the first 3 ft. being in hard grey sandstone, the remainder in dark green sandstone, the borehole finishing in clay.

The yield was then 30,000 gallons per hour; this deteriorated until the yield was 14,000 gallons per hour.

A new borehole, 24 in. diam. and 28 ft. deep, was made, the centres of the boreholes being 2 ft. 1½ in. apart.

A good flow was encountered after boring 7 ft. but the boring was continued to the full depth of 28 ft. before a test was made. When completed in May 1933 the yield was 40,000 gallons per hour. This fell steadily until April of this year when it was 27,000 gallons per hour and has remained at this figure until to-day.

Could this result have been foretold by dowsing ?

\* \* \* \* \*

As regards experiments with colours, I made discs of coloured paper  $1\frac{1}{4}$  in. diam. inserting them in the fork end of the whalebone rod.

The results I obtained were that green, indigo, buff and red made no difference to the action of the twig. Brown found the spring weakly but no zones. Yellow found the spring and two zones, whereas blue and orange destroyed all action of the rod.—

A CORRESPONDENT.

\* \* \* \* \*

I had one rather interesting experience when trying for water and holding a rod in conjunction with a man who had never tried before. As we crossed the spot where I had previously found water nothing happened to the rod at all. I then found this man was able to mend electric lights, etc., without having to switch off the current. It is the only time I have found the rod quite unresponsive when holding it with another person.—MRS. HODGSON.

\* \* \* \* \*

I had a third request to locate a body supposed to be drowned in the Lune at Halton, near Lancaster. The police, as always, were willing to help in any way; a sergeant and constable accompanied me. The local boat proprietor assured me that if the body had been in the river, it would now have been carried out to sea, as the river was tidal and high tides had been experienced. That particular day he would not venture in a boat.

I walked along the bank with a cap of the person in my hand with the hazel twig. The twig went at right angles; as I went to and from that particular point the twig took an acute angle. I felt satisfied, and so, I think, did the police, that the body was in the river, and so it proved. A few days afterwards the body was seen floating down the river some distance from the point indicated by me.—REV. T. WILLIAMS.

\* \* \* \* \*

For many years I used a straight rod for estimating depth. It was just a straight piece of willow about 36 in. long from  $\frac{1}{2}$  to  $\frac{5}{8}$  in. thick at one end and from  $\frac{1}{4}$  to  $\frac{3}{8}$  at the other, the thin end being held in the hands with much the same grip as holding a golf club.

In taking depth it was better to kneel on the ground if the spring was deep, because the other method necessitated balancing in a sitting posture which was rather cramping.

The rod would work for me as follows: When held perfectly steady for a moment or two, it would begin to wig wag in a horizontal manner. This denoted surface water. Then it would commence to change from a horizontal to a vertical movement. Each stroke down, which could be felt in the hands as giving a sort of whip feeling, was counted as one foot. Generally after the rod acted vertically a number of times it would begin the horizontal movement once more. This was taken to mean the first water sand. This would determine how many sands there were if it would continue vertically again and again. I found this method quite exact but slow and tiresome.—G. G. FLEMING.

\* \* \* \* \*

Before leaving on my cart trip I secured a map of the district to be prospected, and as I had never been in this particular area I thought it a good chance to try out locating from a map. I used a small piece of gold in the same way as a pendulum. I traced the lines on the map as determined in this manner and on checking up on the ground, 250 miles away, I was amazed at the exactness, even to faults; the vein outcrops I found proved conclusively their existence, and my average assays from the surface were 60 cwts. gold. It is beyond me. What is the explanation, if any? —G. G. FLEMING.

---

---

## REVIEWS

THE CHAIN OF LIFE

By Dr. Guyon Richards. *John Bale, Sons & Danielsson, Ltd.*

The author of this book is a pioneer in the field of human radiations. He began his medical career in the Indian Army, from which he retired after the war in order to take up private practice, and then, through a train of circumstances in which chance played no part, he was led to the study of Abrams, to wit, the oscilloclast (the famous Abram's 'box') for the purpose of treatment, and his electronic methods of diagnosis.

From this starting point we can easily follow, from his writings, the course of his evolution in things pertaining to radiations, and can see the steps by which he introduced various devices culled from the science of radiophysics into his diagnosing apparatus.

But he did more than this for he extended his researches and sphere of operations beyond the usual limits of orthodox medicine. He states his standpoint in the following sentence: 'My contention is that medicine should include everything pertaining

to man's nature. Man is body, soul, and spirit, and you need to treat all three. Man's nature can be divided into more parts than three, but these are sufficient to indicate my meaning. Drugs and the knife are not enough, the psyche is more important than the body, but each part of man is woven into the other.'

The 'Divine discontent' of the author has driven him into exploring many uncharted seas, and this book is largely the record of his experiences therein. The work is largely one for the medical and scientific worker, but there are several chapters which the layman would find of interest such as those on Polarity ; the Aura ; the Nature of Cancer ; and Colour. All of these are dealt with in a fundamental way as well as from an original standpoint.

In the chapter on Cancer, especially, are some interesting pages which deal with its treatment. This is divided into several portions which include treatment by drugs or glandular extracts, and also psychological methods. The author stresses the point that the reactions of cancer are present for a long time before a tumour can be felt, and that it is during this pre-growth period that so much can be done to prevent the tumour from appearing ; this being the final stage of the whole process.

The chapter on dieting will also attract the layman's attention. In this he deals with such subjects as Alcohol, Vegetarianism, and Aluminium poisoning. Not much sympathy is shown with vegetarianism and, incidentally, he expresses the view that 50 per cent. of cancer cases are the worse for meat eating, the other moiety being the better for it.

The author prescribes almost entirely upon a homœopathic basis, and it would probably not be wrong to say that it is his study of the radiations of diseases and drugs which has inevitably led him to the conclusion that the homœopathic method of prescribing, and drug potentisation is the method which goes deepest to the root of the trouble.

We believe that the future of medicine lies along the lines which our author has travelled, and it may be that this book will not attain its due meed of appreciation until some future date when the fact of radiations of man and his diseases will have received official recognition.

D.D'A.W.

ESSAI SUR LES RAYONNEMENTS DE L'HOMME ET DES  
ETRES VIVANTS

By C. Voillaume. *Librairie scientifique de Paul Lechevalier.*

After long research the author has discovered the existence of seven different radiations given off by human beings, which

he calls nervous, sympathetic, human, sexual, personal, mental, and vital. All these radiations are in the nature of electromagnetic waves varying in length from  $9\mu 79$  for the 'nervous' wave to  $10\mu 515$  for the 'vital' wave. The study of each wave requires a careful adjustment of the pendulum.

The 'nervous' wave is emitted by the cerebro-spinal system and is revealed in the form of sheets. Its study is of value for diagnostic purposes.

The 'sympathetic' wave derives from the sympathetic nervous system and is manifested by a general radiation from the whole body and by five horizontal sheets. It is of particular value from the medical point of view, but its study demands very careful adjustment of the pendulum which can be carried out on the back of the hand.

The 'human' wave is of great persistence and is revealed even by human remains. Its length varies slightly with race.

The 'sexual' wave can be used to distinguish the sex of all living things, gyration being positive for male and negative for female.

The 'personal' wave is peculiar to the individual and can be distinguished not only in the body itself but in all objects which have had contact with it. It accounts for the phenomenon of *r emanence*.

The 'mental' wave, peculiar to human beings, radiates from the head. It is caused by thought. It is by means of this wave that prospection on plans can be carried out. 'The mental ray goes out to seek the distant object and summons the wave of the object to the operator.'

The same wave is used in finding depth, distance and volume by the method of gradual approach, i.e., by counting, and also for finding the number of units in a collection, weight, pressure, temperature, etc.

The 'vital' wave is discernible over the whole body. It can be detected in all living things and is the same for all but gives positive or negative rotation according to sex.

The author holds that the body is radio-active as was shown by the experiment of E. K. Muller, of Zurich, who put a condenser in circuit with a battery of 100 volts and a very sensitive galvanometer. The approach of the fingers to the condenser produced ionisation of the dielectric, causing deviation in the mirror of the galvanometer. The pendulum regulated for radio-activity rotates over the joined fingers.

Furthermore, M. Voillaume discovers an electric zone surrounding the human body, strong in front and weak behind.

He discusses other interesting points such as *r emanence* (residual

effect), and suggests that the power of 'healers' may be due to their 'nervous' or 'sympathetic' waves, assisted perhaps by their radio-activity.

#### A LA RECHERCHE D'EAU

This is an account of the Congress of *Puisatiers et Sourciers* (Well-diggers and Dowsers) at Brignoles, on 4th September, 1933, arranged by a committee of which M. Jean Pérotti was president.

After an eloquent speech of welcome by M. Bourgues, Mayor of Brignoles, and opening remarks by M. Pérotti, Dr. Regnault, President of the Society, gave an address. He explained the use of various instruments :

*Radiocampimètre* of M. Larvaron, a flat board marked with a scale for measuring the radius of action of different substances.

*Emetteur d'ondes* of M. Larvaron, an apparatus for analysing specimens, consisting of a box with various electrical connections, emitting a 'beam' of the substance placed within which can be studied with the pendulum.

*Baguette à manchons* of Dr. Regnault, an ordinary divining rod with removable handles the ends of which are hollow and can be unscrewed. In one handle a sample is put and in the other a compensating weight.

*Pendule à mercure* of Dr. Regnault, in which the mercury provides weight in small volume. The thread is wound on a little whalebone roller.

*Radiocapteur* of Dr. Regnault, a somewhat complicated instrument for use in conjunction with a rod or pendulum for picking up points of manifestation from a distance, the exact position being fixed by intersection. This instrument can also be used for finding depth.

M. Armand Viré then gave an interesting lecture on the value of geology and *radiesthésie* to well-diggers and dowsers. He described how he traced the leaks in a reservoir in the Lyonne valley, located underground galleries near Artois during the War, defined coal reefs in the mines near St. Eloi (Puy-de-Dôme), discovered a hoard of silver and coins at Haute-Isle. He referred to the impossibility of geologists being able to localize fissures in lime formations.

At 11 a.m. experiments were carried out with the object of discovering the characteristics of the stream supplying a certain well.

At 12.30 there was a banquet and at 4 other researches were made on the property of M. Roman on streams passing near an electric cable, but the proceedings were stopped by rain.

During the Congress various problems were discussed :

Abbé Mermet, who could not attend, sent a note on the effect of loam, clay and marl on estimation of depth. A method of neutralizing images by means of a magnet or magnetic inductor was illustrated. Other instruments referred to were: M. Larvaron's *neutraliseur* for cancelling the noxious radiations from water and minerals; M. Laugier's apparatus for finding location, depth and volume; those of Lt.-Col. Comte de Marsay, of Commandant Costes, and of M. Jean Pérotti for depth finding (these three instruments, though varying much in detail, all seem to have a magnet or solenoid as a primary feature); the apparatus of M. Larvaron for measuring depths up to 200 metres (made by Fils d'Emile Deyrolle), consisting primarily of a sort of rheostat in a small box.

In discussions on the estimation of volume reference was made to the method of M. Darder Pericas depending on a weighted rod (see *B.S.D.J.* 3, page 67), to that of M. de France, based on a compass, to the magnetic inductor of M. Larvaron, to M. Pérotti's method of studying the intensity of the field by noting the number of reactions of the rod.

Estimates of volume made on the property of M. Roman produced varying results.

Attempts were made to locate water on plans, but do not appear to have been successful.

BULLETIN DE L'ASSOCIATION DES AMIS DE LA RADIESTHESIE  
(June, July)

An account of a lecture by Dr. Leprince on human radiations: According to Mme. Curie radiation is a universal phenomenon and the human body, a veritable radio-electric and radio-magnetic field, emits waves which the dowser can perceive and which vary with the state of health. An apparatus of Dr. Leprince measures the wavelength of a subject, another apparatus reveals the therapeutic current corresponding to the condition of the patient.

A branch has been established called 'Section du Nord et du Pas de Calais'.

There is a continuation of *Method of instruction in Radiesthésie* by Commandant de la Bastide in which he deals with the discovery of sex and of personal characteristics with the divining instrument.

(August, September)

M. Delattre, Vice-President of the A.A.R., gives extracts from recent newspapers showing the growing interest in *radiesthésie* :

an article in *Le Sud-Est*, Valence, describing how a dowser discovered the body of a murdered man; an account from *L'Echo de Paris* of the finding of the coffin and remains of Mère Alix Le Clerc, founder of the convent of Notre Dame at Nancy, by a *sourcière* of twenty on a plan at Dijon; an account in *Le Matin* of the discovery of ancient burials by a dowser on a farm 50 kilos from La Rochelle; a description in *Le Courrier de Genève* of Abbé Mermet's explanation, proved correct, of the disappearance of a child which had been carried off by an eagle.

There is a continuation of *Method of instruction in Radiesthésie* in which the author deals with dowsing from plans.

*Study of radiesthetic fields*, by Maurice Alby, describes in rather complicated detail the nature and position of fields surrounding underground water.

*Dr. Baraduc's Biometer*, by D. Lecouffe, is the result of Major Pogson's reference on p. 55 of *B.S.D.J.* 3. Information about Dr. Baraduc is given by Dr. Regnault. A short description of the biometer by M. Padovani and M. André Bost confirms Major Pogson's description of the biometer and includes a list of Dr. Baraduc's works. M. Térestchenko states that the biometer does not give as good result as the *Sthénomètre* of Dr. Joire. It appears that the biometer is one of numerous apparatus by various inventors for the study of the vital fluid.

MM. Turenne and Lemonnier describe how they located on a plan of a property near Strasbourg two points in a house where indications of cancer were discernible and how by their advice its effects were neutralized.

#### LA CHRONIQUE DES SOURCIERS

In the August number there is a review of *Les Radiations Humaines*, by M. C. Voillaume, a short article on the adjustment of the pendulum, and a note on a book, *La Matière*, by Georges Lakhovsky.

In the September number the adherence to the 'movement' is announced of two well-known scientists, MM. d'Arsonval and Claude. A case is given of a successful boring carried out six metres away from an old well that had run dry.

The October number contains remarks on the Congress at Lausanne. It was attended by Abbé Lambert, Mayor of Oran, who some time ago carried out experiments in Hyde Park. A remarkable report on agriculture was made by General Lemoine. M. Armand Viré will be President of the next Congress.



28, ALYTH ROAD

# The British Society of Dowsers.

---

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

---

In accordance with the notice in the September Journal, the General Meeting was held at 3 p.m. on Wednesday, October 10th, at York House, Portugal Street, W.C.2.

Thirteen members were present.

The President, Colonel A. H. Bell, read the following Report:—

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

It is now about seventeen months since the meeting was held in this room at which it was decided to form this Society. On that occasion we formulated the Rules, Rule V. being to the effect that a General Meeting would be held annually. In accordance with that rule this meeting was announced in the last journal.

Between 40 and 50 people were present at that first meeting, all or nearly all of whom became members. Since then our numbers have been growing steadily, and on June 30th our membership amounted to about 250. We have representatives of the Society all over the globe, not only in the Dominions and Colonies, but in France, Switzerland, Austria, Mexico and South America.

It is inevitable that some subscribers should fall out during the current year, but I have no doubt that our numbers will be at least maintained, if not increased; we have already acquired about 60 new members since the end of June.

I will now briefly review the activities of the Society during the first year of its existence, so that we may see to what extent the objects of the Society as laid down at the original meeting have been fulfilled.

We have issued a journal every three months containing for the most part original articles by members of the Society and reviews of foreign publications, and I should like to take this opportunity of thanking all who have sent contributions, and at the same time of inviting others who have information which would be of interest to give us the benefit of their knowledge by sending in articles themselves.

Meetings were held at 12 Park Crescent by the kindness of Dr. Munro on October 3rd, December 7th, February 13th and April 5th, at which talks were given by certain members on various subjects connected with radio physics—to give it a more scientific name. And again I must thank all those who were kind enough to give us the benefit of their experience—and also Dr. Munro, who, in addition, gave us tea.

A Congress was held on June 1st and 2nd, the first day being devoted to lectures given at the rooms of the Royal Asiatic Society by Mr. Timms, Mr. Tompkins, Major Pogson, Dr. Wright and Captain Trinder; and the second day to a meeting at my house at Lindfield, in Sussex, at which members had the opportunity of trying various experiments.

Further, a meeting was arranged by Sir George Abercromby and Miss Macqueen at Forglen House, Turiff, in Aberdeenshire, at which about 70 were present. Addresses were given by Miss Penrose and Captain Trinder, and afterwards various tests were held. Very great interest was shown, and several of those present have since joined the Society.

I have been compiling a register of water diviners, not only from members of the Society, but from names which I have seen mentioned in newspapers and have heard from other sources, and have about 130 names noted down.

I have frequently been asked to supply the names of dowsers to find water in some particular locality and have often been able to give the information required without delay. Unfortunately, I have seldom been informed of the result.

Other members have received requests direct and have given the names of suitable dowsers, and, of course, many of our members who are themselves dowsers have carried out locations in various places.

Requests I have received have not only been in connection with the location of water. For instance, I was once asked whether I could recommend anyone who could find a gold ring. I did so at once, but have not been informed of the result.

On another occasion I was asked if I could help in finding a lost dog. I at once passed the information on to one of our members who had experimented in that branch of the subject, and I am glad to say that he was instrumental in the dog being found about 130 miles away from its home.

Various members of the Society have helped to dispel the general ignorance on the subject of radio physics or dowsing by giving lectures on various subjects, notably Dr. Wright, Captain Trinder and Miss Macqueen. Captain Edney gave a lecture at the Institution of Royal Engineers at Chatham, and I myself spoke at the meetings of three Rotary Societies in Sussex: as a result of one of these talks one of our members was, I believe, employed successfully to find a supply of water for a laundry at Worthing.

The Minister of Health was approached by at least two of our members and myself with a view to the employment of water diviners in connection with local supplies, but without success.

In the House of Commons on February 8th, Major Mills, Member for the New Forest, asked the Minister of Health if he was aware that offers of help in locating springs and supplies of water throughout the country had been made by the British Society of Dowsers and whether he proposed to avail himself

of any such offer in cases of local shortage of water, or to pass on to local authorities the information that such help is freely offered.

Sir Hilton Young replied that the answer to the first part of the question was in the affirmative, and that as regards the second part, local authorities were primarily responsible for the technical methods adopted and that on the information before him he did not think it would be useful that he should recommend the employment by them of dowzers.

In connection with this reply—if I may be allowed to digress—it is interesting to note the extent to which water diviners have been used by local Government bodies during the past year or so.

The most interesting case from our point of view is that of the Fifeshire County Council, where the County Engineer, at the suggestion of one of our members, employed Mr. John Clarke, the well-known water diviner of Ab Kettelby, Leicestershire, to locate positions for boreholes in different parts of the county. Borings have been made at three of the spots indicated and in two cases satisfactory supplies have been found.

According to newspaper reports water diviners have also been employed by the Kincardine County Council, and by the following District Councils, mostly Rural :—

South Molton, Braintree, Beaminster, Sherburn, Southam, Ringwood and Fordingbridge, Petersfield, Honiton, Smallburgh, Cokermonth, Monmouth, Shepton Mallet, Shipston on Stour, Truro, Oswaldtwistle, Tavistock, East Kesteven, Montrose, Harrington, Mangotsfield, Brandon, Faringdon, Dursley, Rothwell, Oswestry, Roscommon, Calne and Chippenham, Loddon and Clavering, Northampton, St. Austell, Berkhamsted, St. Ives, Crediton, Stratton.

And by the following Parish Councils :—

Acomb, Ronaldkirk, Fivehead, Middleton, Cheney, Bramshead, Tidenham.

And no doubt there are others.

It looks, therefore, as if the distrust of the Minister of Health regarding water diviners is not by any means universal amongst governing bodies, and that official opinion is more enlightened than it was in 1897, when the payment to a well-known water diviner for finding water at Portcawl was disallowed by the auditor, not because an excellent supply of water had not been found but because it had been found in an illegal manner.

Official distrust of water diviners is, I think, often inspired by geologists holding government appointments, who seem for the most part to entertain an unreasoning prejudice towards water diviners and all their works. It is therefore a noteworthy fact that a geologist holding an appointment at the University of St. Andrew's recently expressed in a lecture to a Rotary Club a limited belief in water divining, and stated that no geologist

can fix an exact site for a well or state the exact depth at which water will be encountered, and the amount of the flow.

This is a contrast to the statement of another geologist, one holding an appointment on the geological survey, who, during a discussion at a meeting of the British Association at Aberdeen, is reported to have protested against the employment of water diviners instead of geologists, classing the former with herbalists and faith-healers!

Unlike the Ministry of Health, the War Department has a very broadminded outlook on the subject.

Last year an officer of the Royal Engineers, who is a member of our Society, attended the International Congress at Paris at Government expense.

The Royal Engineer Board, whose function it is to investigate and test new ideas and inventions which might be of value from the engineering point of view, is in close touch with us, and an officer on the Board is a member of this Society. I was asked by the Board in the early summer for the names of three members who would try to locate water at Porton, on Salisbury Plain, where an increased supply was required. Eventually six members gave locations, but there was a certain lack of unanimity in the selection of points likely to give the required supply. Boring has been carried out on a spot which five members reported on unfavourably, and there is a certain melancholy satisfaction in the fact that the forecasts of these five have been realised and that the supply is inadequate.

Another mark of the interest now taken by the War Department is the fact that all young officers of the Royal Engineers are now tested for their aptitude whilst going through their course of training at the School of Military Engineering at Chatham. Last August Major Creyke and myself were present when the tests were carried out, and Major Creyke kindly assisted Captain Edney—himself an experienced dowser who was in charge of the arrangements—by giving lectures and demonstrations. Out of 24 officers tested, 19 showed more or less aptitude.

We have several members abroad who are doing investigations of value.

Mr. W. F. Fraetas, of Cape Town, well known for his study of colour emanations, has been carrying out experiments with some clay found by an old dowser near Cape Town, which several authorities consider to be radio-active. Samples have been tested at the instance of Dr. Wright, and by Dr. Richards, and by Mr. Shrapnell Smith, of our Society, and M. Mager, M. Turenne, of France, and Dr. W. N. Seymour, of Iowa. It is thought that the clay contains the missing element 87 of atomic weight 223 and that it possesses therapeutic properties.

If anyone here requires a specimen I will be glad to send him one.

Mr. Hawker, of S. Australia, and Mr. Busby, of N.S. Wales, are keen experimenters: so, too, is Mr. Thomas, of Tasmania.

Lieut.-Colonel Cunningham and Mr. Sprott have both done some dowsing in the new goldfields in Kenya.

Mr. Fleming, of British Columbia, has had an unusual range of experience in dowsing for oil and gold in British Columbia and Alberta. I hope to put something about his activities in the Journal.

The existence of our Society is, of course, fully recognised by similar Societies on the Continent, and we exchange journals with the large and comprehensive society called—

L'Association des Amis de la Radiesthésie,  
and also with the—

Société de Radiesthésie du Languedoc,  
La Prospection à Distance,  
La Côte d'Azur Médicale,  
La Chronique des Sourciers,  
Internationaler Verein der Wünschelrutenforscher.

Apart from the obvious activities of the Society, I think its influence can be traced in the frequency with which instances of the work of dowzers are reported in the newspapers. The very word "dowser" was seldom seen in print until recently, as few people understood what it meant. Now hardly a day passes without some reference to dowsing of one kind or another.

Apart from the use of water diviners by local Government bodies which I have already referred to, there have been numerous reports in the papers of the finding of water for private houses and properties. One frequently reads of this or that man, woman or child who has suddenly realised that he or she possesses the "gift," and imagines (quite incorrectly) that he or she is a full-fledged water diviner.

As you no doubt observed, our Congress in June was reported in many papers, and a good deal of notice was taken of the use of dowzers by the War Department on Salisbury Plain.

There seems to be a marked change too, in the manner in which the subject is referred to. Some of the more popular papers still seem to consider that the subject is a suitable one for the exercise of an inferior form of wit, but others of a more thoughtful tendency appear to realise that they are dealing with a genuine and valuable natural faculty which is worthy of serious study and consideration.

An example of this is provided by a short article in "The Morning Post" of September 25th, in which the location of the body of Mr. Reginald Smith in the River Wharfe by the Richmond water diviner, Mr. Robert Brotton, was reported as if the location of dead bodies by dowsing were a matter of established practice. A short time ago such an event would either have been ignored as being unworthy of the notice of intelligent people or the report would have been accompanied by foolish references to magic or necromancy.

This aspect of dowsing—the tracing of dead bodies—which may be looked upon as a special case of the finding of lost objects, is becoming common, and it is surprising that the Police do not take advantage of the possibilities it offers. Early last year Mr. John Clarke, one of our members, located five bodies within the space of a few weeks, as was described in our second Journal. The Rev. Thomas Williams, a member, has recently been instrumental in the recovery of three bodies, and I see from the papers that a Police Sergeant Steele, of Oakthorpe, Leicestershire, also uses a rod for the same purpose. Mr. Brotton has apparently located bodies on several previous occasions, and last year Mr. Bruton, of Cowley, located the dead body of a boy in the Cherwell.

An aspect of dowsing, better called radiophysics, in which we are interested, namely, the use of the rod and pendulum for the diagnosis of disease and selection of remedies, is but little known in this country at present, though it seems to be becoming much more widely studied in France. No doubt it will be some time before its value and possibilities are appreciated by the public here. In connection with this branch of our subject, it is interesting to note that a Congress has just been held at Venice on a newly formulated science called electro-radio-biology, which would include the study of all forms of radiation given out by a human living body.

Similarly, the use of dowsing methods for agricultural purposes seems to be little known at present, but I understand from one of our members that a crop of oats has turned out exceptionally well after the soil had been treated in accordance with indications furnished by these methods.

The field was of five acres: one-half was not manured, one-quarter was treated with fertiliser and the remaining quarter with fertiliser to which a certain quantity of Epsom Salts had been added. The crop on this portion was superior to that on the rest of the field.

We will now turn to the future.

So far as the location of water and minerals is concerned, where most diviners seem to fail sooner or later is in the estimation of depth and quantity. Those of us who have the opportunity should, I think, do all we can to discover reliable methods for arriving at these factors. Having done so, we should communicate our methods to other members by means of the Journal. It can then be discovered to what extent any particular method is generally applicable. Many of the elaborate systems which certain French dowsers have invented seem to be peculiar to themselves and are not generally workable by other dowsers.

It will also be valuable to ascertain to what extent colours used with the rod and pendulum are peculiar to individuals, and whether "samples" can be used with equal effect by all dowsers. It seems that some can derive no value from them.

Now a word about our Journal.

As our members are so widely scattered and cannot all attend meetings, our Journal is the chief means of disseminating information. It therefore behoves any member who has anything of general interest to communicate, to write an account of it and send it to the Editor, and, as our space is limited, to make it as short and clear as possible.

It is suggested that questions on points of interest should be sent to the Editor, answers to which would, if possible, be published in the Journal.

We receive a number of French publications from time to time which require reviewing, and I have just received a copy of the Italian journal. I would be glad to know of anyone who would help in this.

Now I come to the question of finance.

In accordance with Rule IV. a statement of accounts was sent out within two months of the end of our year—June 30th.

I hope you will agree that our financial position is at present satisfactory.

## THE BRITISH SOCIETY OF DOWSERS.

### STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS FOR YEAR ENDING JUNE 30TH, 1934.

RECEIPTS.			EXPENDITURE.				
	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
227 Annual Members at 5s. ...	56	15	0	Crypt House Press			
18 Life Members at £3 3s. ...	56	14	0	—Printing Jnl. 52	4	6	
Donations ...	24	9	0	Vaux & Crampton Ltd.—Engravers... ..		18	11
Subscriptions prepaid, 1934-35 ...	13	13	4	Sundry Stationery	2	12	2
Sale of Journals... ..	7	0	11	Postage Stamps...	9	0	11
Subscriptions to London Congress Expenses ...	8	17	6	Cheque Book ...		5	0
				Expenses of Congress in London	8	4	9
						73	6
				Balance Cash in Bank ... ..	94	3	6
						£167	9
	£167	9	9			£167	9

Audited and found correct.

18.7.34.

E. E. ORFORD.

You will see that the total income from *annual* subscriptions and sale of journals amounted to £63 15s. 11d., whilst the working expenses for the year amounted to £65 1s. 6d. As a few subscriptions had not been paid at the end of the year the income and expenditure for the year have just about balanced.

Receipts from the Congress amounted to £8 17s. 6d., and the expenditure to £8 4s. 9d.

There remains as a balance the sum derived from donations and life members, amounting to about £81.

This is satisfactory as far as it goes, but it ... not be possible to increase the size of the Journal or to embark on new activities till we have a larger membership or have received a few substantial legacies.

By the way, lest you should accuse the Society of undue frivolity, I should like to explain that the Christmas card sent out last Christmas was not a charge on the Society's funds.

That, Ladies and Gentlemen, is my report, and I would be glad of any suggestions regarding the Society especially regarding next year's Congress.

Two suggestions have been made during the course of the year.

One by Mr. B. S. Peake was to the effect that members of the Society should have the right to use "B.S.D." after their names when they have acquired a certain degree of skill or have made some contribution in a technical way to the science. I don't know whether there is any legal point involved in this use of initials, but I hardly think that the status of the Society is as yet sufficiently established to make it expedient for us to adopt a practice of this kind at present.

Another suggestion, made to me by Canon Crosthwait, was that local branches of the Society should be started. Something of this kind has already been done in Aberdeen, where there is a centre of interest, through the initiative of Sir G. Abercromby and Miss Macqueen. I think the idea an excellent one, but it seems to me that any local Society should originate as a result of local effort based on local interest.

---

No discussion took place on these points.

It was, at the suggestion of the President, decided to substitute the word "Council" for "Committee" as being more in keeping with the scientific nature of the Society.



13

will  
100

won  
100

100

20