

MY FIRST MEETING WITH HERBERT GEORGE AND RADIESTHESIA

By R. J. Roberts

It is quite a common experience that, to the individual person, no day is exactly like another, and were it not that round the corner all sorts of new experiences could still be met, all zest in living would vanish. It is the Romance, the new adventure or new experience, the unexpected and novel that gives all zest to Life.

Such were my thoughts that sunny summer afternoon as early in 1948 I had boarded a bus and was on my way to visit my old friend Brace at his friendly cottage in the Waitakeres. I had been asked for that day particularly in order that I should meet one very particular visitor. Who and what this might be I had no idea, other than that he was, as Brace had said, a “queer bloke”.

When I reached the cottage, the door was open and through the doorway came a buzz of friendly conversation. Knocking, I was invited to enter. Brace gripped my hand with no uncertain welcome, introduced me generally to the company, subsided into his chair again, and soon was once more deep in the conversation my entrance had interrupted.

I looked about me and wondered who the “queer bloke” could be. I knew many of his visitors fairly well, but the small brown man in glasses was certainly new. I waited patiently, knowing full well that “queer blokes” always were given their say here. However, it was not long before something invited comment from the “small brown man”. He launched forth happily upon his peculiar or particular view of life. According to him, all things possessed a particular radiation – a radiation more or less constant in power and quantity – which continuously characterises the particular thing.

This did not appear particularly “queer”, for such ideas are generally quite common-place today. Later he described how these radiations could be perceived (this was scarcely his word, rather his meaning) by means of a “divining rod” in the hands of a trained “diviner”. He insisted that nearly all people were trainable, given industry, the will and the inclination to learn; for, in no way was the capacity inherent along with reasonably intelligent people. He went on to talk of particular radiations –such as “Cosmic Rays”, as he called them – and how many

of these radiations are injurious to human physical health. Some small interruption made him had that these rays were also injurious to plant and animal life.

Brace immediately asked him if he could discover why one shrub alone, in his garden, refused to grow like the others. The "brown man" (his name was "George" I discovered) asked if he might be shown the shrub. We all went out. Brace pointed to a small acacia and described how it had been planted with other shrubs, but had scarcely grown, whilst its companions were nearly twice as big. George took a shining sort of divining rod from his pocket and approached the shrub. The Rod soon began to quiver and rotate between his two hands. "Yes", he said, "Cosmic Ray". Two other young men at once took out similar rods which, when held near the shrub, quivered and rotated similarly. They were two of George's pupils.

George asked if there were some iron wire about. Brace found an odd piece of fencing wire. Bending it into a rough circle with one end at right angles with the plane of the circle, George placed it about the shrub and stuck the prong into the ground. The "rod" now refused to respond to the "Cosmic Ray" and it was asserted that this shrub would now prosper like the others. A year or so later, I found that this shrub was then indeed growing naturally.

We all found seats. George now very readily was given the floor. He stated as an axiom, that all things and all forms of life possessed radiations peculiar to each; and that any "sensitive diviner" could respond to each and all of these radiations. His usual difficulty however, was that with so many kinds of radiations continually present as an environment, he could not be sure about the one radiation he might particularly wish to notice. Could, however, he condition his response to some one particular radiation, and to that one only, all the others would automatically cease to demand attention or response. He had discovered an infallible method of doing this, and it was by means of colour.