ON A STRANGE RELIGION

The exact number of followers in this cult is unknown; however, it is believed that the number is not large as compared with some other cults. One of the first strange things about this sect, and this alone makes it unique among sects, is that its members can be found in virtually every county in the United States. Ordinarily, cults tend to be regional in character but then this is a strange cult. As a whole, its members seem to be of at least average intelligence and are not striking in appearance in any way. Their mode of dress is quite ordinary; it might even seem that they consciously dress to appear unobtrusive. They do carry about their persons some very strange objects. Might we call them fetishes? Knives, bottles containing acid or water, small magnifying lenses and other unique bits of paraphernalia are seen, but more about these later.

The general appearance of the rites they perform suggest some pagan worship. One might happen onto a group of these quaint folk in a pasture or field or forest, sometimes in remote fastnesses and even sometimes very near towns and dwellings. The rites are nearly unbelievable when first observed. It seems that a hole in the ground, varying in diameter from a few inches to a few feet and in depth again from a few inches to a few feet, forms a kind of altar. Generally, this is roughly round in outline but oblong ones have been observed, particularly when the worshipers are searching for a sacred entity called Krotovina. At the beginning of the rites, one or two of the group (the group may be of any size but seldom over 12) begin by digging the hole. High priests, called correlators, designate the spot at which the altar is to be made. This hole is made with talking, laughing and joking; however, when it comes time to remove the object of worship from the hole, the group usually falls silent and stands in reverent awe. This Deity is, of all