

THE SECRET SPRINGS

is compulsive and should be free. It can be prevented from expressing itself in conduct if it is felt freely and recognizably. It inevitably gets into conduct if it is repressed from conscious thought.

"I had a relative," says Doctor X, "who lived on a farm near Buffalo. It was a good farm and he liked to live there. It had only one drawback. He wanted an artesian well of deep, sweet water and he did not seem to be able to get it. He had an old-fashioned well about a hundred feet from his front door, but this did not satisfy him; and whenever he bored for an artesian well he struck water that had a bad taste and a worse smell. That annoyed him beyond endurance. It made his whole estate defective. It spoiled his happiness. Finally, in a rage, he started to drill goodness into his well by boring to the center of the earth, if necessary. His drill was suddenly blown out by a stream of natural gas. He lived, thereafter, in luxury."

According to Doctor X, our religions and our systems of morality are behaving toward the subconscious facts of life as his relative behaved toward the taste and odor of gas in his well. And not until we learn what that gas is, and free it to its proper uses, shall we be able to add to our lives