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## Special Articles

### SEWAGE DISPOSAL SCHEME FOR INDEPENDENT HOUSES AND INSTITUTIONS

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A general recommendation of any particular sewage scheme, whilst undoubtedly serving a very useful purpose, always strikes me as savoring of the patent medicine style—a sure cure for all ills, no matter what their nature, and to be applied anyhow, inside or outside as may be most convenient. So with a sewage scheme, which by long experience has proved to be very good under certain conditions, but requiring modifications to suit local circumstances and even, in some instances, being entirely unsuitable.

With this proviso, as to its limits of usefulness, the following scheme, where properly installed, gives excellent results, and is a system suitable to most isolated or country houses, the quality of land available being the decisive factor as to whether this particular plant can be put into operation or not.

The question of quality of land may be settled very easily; clay, coarse gravel or

a very rocky soil are not suitable, and, except by actually preparing a distribution bed, positively prohibit the use of this scheme.

The processes involved are the time-honored septic tank, and treatment of the resultant effluent upon land.

Although the processes are generally well known, failure to obtain good results when employing them, frequently arises through some fault or faults in their application.

For the benefit of those people who are interested and may be anxious to adopt a sewage scheme suitable in general to private houses with plenty of ground around them, I propose to give a brief outline of the essential parts and the methods of working them.

This system of sewage disposal is practicable, where the conditions of soil permit, for houses and institutions containing inmates up to the number of three or four