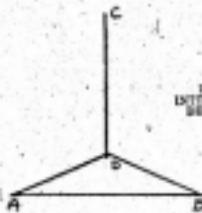


Engineering Division
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The accompanying illustration (see Skifford, J. P., 1928). In the accompanying figure the line AD looks appreciably as long as the line CD, but when you measure them the two will be found to be of quite different lengths.



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Visual stimuli originating within the eye itself also give rise to mistaken observations. Microscolerites or "floaters" are small solid particles that float about in the fluids of the eye and cast shadows on the retina. They often can be seen when you look up at the clear sky, or when you are reading. They cover your eyes over. It is sometimes possible also to see corpuscles or other objects that are circulating within the fluids in the walls of the eye.

Then, of course, everyone from time to time mistakes one more or less familiar object for another object. A probable explanation for many reports of unidentified aerial phenomena is that the object is really something quite familiar, such as an aircraft, a light, or a bird. The observer simply fails to identify it correctly. These errors arise chiefly as a result of inability to estimate speed and distance.

(2) Mistaken Identifications for Real Events. This error of observation is usually made only by children, by individuals of low intelligence (people who are very suggestible), by people who are victims, or by the mentally ill. It usually is not difficult for an

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