

to the land at both ends. Frequently a backwater is enclosed by it on the landward side (fig. 18).

Examples: The Chesil Bank, Slapton Beach, Pevensy Beach.

Whilst in some cases it may be that a bar is, historically speaking, a spit, the growing apex of which has become attached to a projecting point of land, it seems probable in others that the bar represents the surviving fragments of a former land extension out to sea that have been swept up by the waves, and in this consolidated form are slowly advancing landwards.

In respect of vegetation covering, however, the spit and bar present almost identical features.

4. *The Apposition Beach.*

Beach.—In this type the materials instead of continuing their course along an existing spit or other beach accumulate in front of it. With the advent of a gale oblique to the line of foreshore such accumulations may be

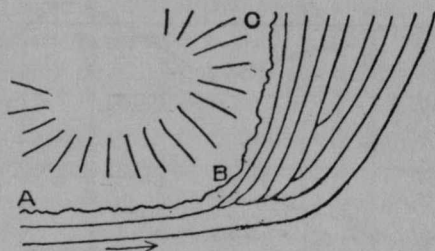


Fig. 19.—Apposition Type of Shingle Beach

ABC is a point of land; the arrow marks the direction of coastal drift; the successive beaches lie to the right of the figure. Modified from F. Drew.

raised above tidal limits to form a bank parallel to the one previously in contact with the sea. Off-shore gales often produce successive closely approximated parallel beaches. From the above causes apposition beaches come into existence (as in the accompanying fig. 19), and, if the process be continued, very extensive ribbed areas of shingle are produced.

The outstanding example of this type of accretion is Dungeness, where the area of accumulated shingle can hardly fall short of 10,000 acres. Other cases are Orfordness on the Aldeburgh bank, and Langney Point between Pevensy and Eastbourne. In both the latter the apposition beaches form as it were an excrescence, the first on a spit, the second on a bar. Complications of this kind are by no means rare.

The great feature distinguishing apposition beaches from the preceding types is that they are not mobile. Spits or bars in