

## IMOGENE L. BOLLS

### *Metal Detecting*

Prowl gravel parking lots  
and country churchyards  
looking for watches, rings,  
old coins—pieces of silver  
lost from the groins  
of the past.

Grass is best, and parks,  
especially on playgrounds where grownups  
swing like pendulums,  
like children, upsidedown;

or around picnic tables  
where pockets  
have pulled out with keys  
at Sunday socials;

or in sideyards of old farms  
where laundry flags  
caught wind, unfurling  
trousers of their dimes.

“Listen to the rhythm.  
Don’t be fooled by screws and nails.  
Dig straight down,”  
the White’s Directions said.

Commotion does not mean  
a sure find.  
Keep looking.  
Earth is magnetic.  
You may turn up quarters  
from the eyes of the dead.