

RECONSTRUCTION N THERAPY

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Reconstruction therapy by William Rush Dunton

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WILLIAM RUSH DUNTON

**RECONSTRUCTION
IN THERAPY**

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RECONSTRUCTION THERAPY

BY

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CREDO

That occupation is as necessary to life as food and drink.

That every human being should have both physical and mental occupation.

That all should have occupations which they enjoy, or hobbies. These are the more necessary when the vocation is dull or distasteful. Every individual should have at least two hobbies, one outdoor and one indoor. A greater number will create wider interests, a broader intelligence.

That sick minds, sick bodies, sick souls, may be healed thru occupation.

PREFACE

IN an endeavor to sum up the results of a number of years experience and study of a subject which is in process of growth, there is great danger that what one says may become out of date. It is only since the Great War that Reconstruction Therapy has attracted the general attention and interest that I believe it deserves. With this sudden interest it seems to me that there is a danger lest the well-meant enthusiasm of poorly informed disciples may do harm. While this book was planned and partly written before 1915 it has been necessary to broaden its scope to include certain aspects of the subject which have become more prominent since that period. The present time is one of great and sudden changes which require rapid physical and mental adjustments of the individual. As a consequence many are unable to keep their normal poise and suffer mental breakdowns. Others by a physical disability and a fear of inability to adjust themselves to living conditions may suffer with a disabling inhibition of their mental powers. It has been proved that reconstruction therapy can be used to restore both the physically and mentally sick to their normal or perhaps above it, and make them once more useful units in a community. If, therefore, I have added anything which will be helpful to those who are helping others I shall feel that I have not labored in vain.

It is extremely difficult when one has received knowledge or stimulus from so many sources, so many friends, to give proper credit. I have tried to indicate in every case where a published statement has been of assistance.

This has been impossible for the many thoughts which have followed talks with others, or a sight of some object. I must therefore run the risk of appearing ungrateful.

Acknowledgment should be made, however, to Miss Ada M. Carr, Miss Mary A. Tucker and Miss Florence E. Green for much assistance in the preparation of the manuscript.

To Dr. W. L. Russell and the Bruce Publishing Company, Judge Quentin D. Corley and the Johnston Printing and Publishing Company, Mr. Douglas C. McMurtrie and the Red Cross Institute for Crippled and Disabled Men, and Dr. Britton D. Evans I am indebted for the use of a number of blocks used for the illustrations.

My thanks are also due the publishers for their cooperative spirit.

WILLIAM RUSH DUNTON, JR.

Towson, Md.,
March, 1919.

CONTENTS

CHAPTER I

	PAGE
INTRODUCTION	17
General Tests	34
Directions Test	34

CHAPTER II

WHAT OCCUPATION IS	43
------------------------------	----

CHAPTER III

THE QUALIFICATIONS OF AN OCCUPATION DIRECTOR	50
--	----

CHAPTER IV

THE DUTIES OF THE OCCUPATION DIRECTOR	55
The State Hospital	59
Incorporated Hospitals	64
Psychiatric Clinic	66
General Hospital	67

CHAPTER V

HELPS	69
Sheppard and Enoch Pratt Hospital Handicraft Record	73

CHAPTER VI

FINANCIAL	74
---------------------	----

CHAPTER VII

TRAINING COURSES	78
----------------------------	----

CHAPTER VIII

AMUSEMENTS	89
Moving Pictures	90
Dramatics	91
Orchestra	92

	PAGE
Lectures	92
Outdoor Games	93
Basket Ball	94
Volley Ball Games	94
Field and Track Athletics	95
CHAPTER IX	
WORKSHOPS.	98
CHAPTER X	
OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY AND THE WAR	106
Invalid Occupation.	114
Occupational Therapy	117
Vocational Re-education	118
Bibliography	125
CHAPTER XI	
PROSTHETIC APPLIANCES	126
CHAPTER XII	
PHYSICAL EDUCATION	162
Gymnastics	175
Occupational Therapy	175
Feet Exercises.	179
CHAPTER XIII	
OCCUPATIONS FOR THE FEEBLEMINDED	182
CHAPTER XIV	
OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY FOR THE BLIND.	187
CHAPTER XV	
OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY AND SOCIAL SERVICE	197
CHAPTER XVI	
CONCLUSION.	203
BIBLIOGRAPHY OF OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY.	210
Amusements	212
Athletics	212
Blind.	213
Cardiac.	213