

makes them difficult to follow. Also, the organic section, presented mainly in the last two chapters of the book, is considerably brief in many respects and might well have been expanded to include more specific information on these processes, in keeping with the importance of the synthetic organic chemical industry, which is fast assuming a major proportion of the whole chemical industry. The treatment of the organic processes is much below the fine standard of the remainder of the book.

JAMES M. CHURCH

Columbia University

**War neuroses.** Roy R. Grinker and John P. Spiegel. Philadelphia: Blakiston, 1945. Pp. ix + 145. \$2.75.

This book was written in the military theater in Africa at the end of the Tunisian campaign and first published in September 1943 by the Josiah Macy, Jr. Foundation. Because of military restrictions it received limited distribution at that time—principally to medical officers in the Armed Services. In the present edition only a few deletions and minor revisions have been made.

The subject matter, facts, findings, and opinions are based on the authors' observation of patients with acute neurosis in both Ground Forces and Air Forces personnel of British and American troops. Nine clinical syndromes are described: (1) free-floating anxiety states, severe and mild; (2) somatic regressions; (3) psychosomatic visceral disturbances; (4) conversion states; (5) depressed states; (6) concussion states; (7) exhaustion states; (8) psychotic states; and (9) malingering. Each syndrome is illustrated by one case history or more. These are very brief and contain little in the way of personality evaluation. This is an understandable defect in view of the environmental situation under which the authors were working.

The types of therapy used were narcosynthesis with sodium pentothal, brief psychotherapy, convulsive shock therapy (with frenisol, a British equivalent of metrazol), continuous sleep, occupational therapy, group therapy, and general convalescent care. Emphasis is given to narcosynthesis, which is used to induce a seminarcoose state during which the patient relives his traumatic combat experiences. The authors do not mention that many workers for some years have been using this general uncovering technique with sodium amytal with some success in both military and civilian neuroses and psychoses. Credit for such work goes to Bleckwenn, Horsley (England), Broder, Palmer, Braceland, and others. No credit should be withheld from Grinker or Spiegel, for they probably are the first American psychiatrists to use this type of treatment in World War II.

*War neuroses* is a dramatic presentation of tense life-situations involving human emotions and body responses expressed in a time of unusual stress—a global war. Civilian psychiatrists and associated workers in the field should gain additional insight into the neuroses of war from this volume.

ADDISON M. DUVAL, M.D.

Saint Elizabeth's Hospital, Washington, D. C.

---

## Scientific Book Register

---

BRAYMER, DANIEL HARVEY, and ROE, A. C. *Repair-shop diagrams and connecting tables for lap-wound induction motors.* New York: McGraw-Hill, 1946. Pp. 404. (Illustrated.) \$5.00.

DELORME, JEAN. *Le present et l'avenir des matières plastiques.* Grenoble: B. Arnaud. Pp. 300.

GAMOW, GEORGE. *The birth and death of the sun; stellar evolution and subatomic energy.* New York: Penguin Books, 1946. Pp. 234. (Illustrated.) \$25.

GRANT, ROY LLEWELLYN, and TIFFANY, JOSEPH EDGAR. *Detonators: initiating efficiency by the miniature-cartridge test.* (U. S. Bur. of Mines. Tech. Pap. 677.) Washington, D. C.: Government Printing Office, 1945. Pp. 38. (Illustrated.) \$10.

MARKHAM, EDWIN C., and SMITH, SHERMAN E. *General chemistry problems: Form B.* Boston: Houghton, 1945. Pp. 196. (Illustrated.) \$1.35.

MORGAN, FRANK MILLET, and BRECKENRIDGE, W. E. *Solid geometry.* (Rev. ed.) Boston, Mass.: Houghton, 1946. Pp. 348. (Illustrated.) \$1.48.

VERSCHAFFELT, AMBROISE ALEXANDRE. *New iconography of the camellias.* (Trans. from the French by S. A. McIlhenny.) Avery Island, La.: Translator. Pp. 327. (Illustrated.) \$3.50.

WATERS, CHARLES A., et al. (Eds.) *1945 year book of radiology.* Chicago: Year Book Publishers, 1945. Pp. 464. (Illustrated.) \$5.00.

WHEAT, HARRY GROVE. *Studies in arithmetic; a summary of masters' problems and theses dealing with subject of arithmetic, West Virginia University, 1936-1944.* Morgantown: West Virginia Univ., 1945. Pp. 63. Gratis.

WOODRUFF, ASAHEL DAVIS. *The psychology of teaching.* New York: Longmans. Pp. 191. \$1.75.

YOUNG, CLARENCE BERNARD FEHRIER, and COONS, K. W. *Surface active agents.* Brooklyn, N. Y.: Chemical Publishing Co., 1945. Pp. 291. (Illustrated.) \$6.00.

ZIRKLE, CONWAY. *The early history of the idea of the inheritance of acquired characters and of pangenesis.* (Transactions, Vol. 35, Pt. 2.) Philadelphia: American Philosophical Society, 1946. Pp. 91-151. \$1.25.

ZWORYKIN, VLADIMIR KOSMA, et al. *Electron optics and the electron microscope.* New York: Wiley, 1945. Pp. 777. \$10.00.

———. *Anales del Museo Argentino de Ciencias Naturales, "Bernardino Rivadavia."* (Tomo XLI.) Buenos Aires: Imprenta de la Universidad, 1943-1945. Pp. vii + 479. (Illustrated.)

———. *Tables of food composition in terms of eleven nutrients.* Prepared by Bureau of Human Nutrition and Home Economics, U. S. Dept. of Agric., in cooperation with National Research Council. (U. S. Dept. of Agric., Misc. Publ. No. 572.) Washington, D. C.: Government Printing Office, 1945.