



# Occupational Therapy and Rehabilitation Volume 1

American Occupational Association



This historic book may have numerous typos and missing text. Purchasers can download a free scanned copy of the original book (without typos) from the publisher. Not indexed. Not illustrated. 1922 Excerpt: ...on the other. However, with all the stress which has been laid on work therapy in its various forms in recent years, it is quite well worth while to attempt to lay hold of the energy which this tendency contains, to examine it, and try to discover if it has any usefulness and how it may be directed to best advantage. My own opinion is that all this industrial therapy has value, is very largely indirect, that nobody is cured because he is taught to decorate a vase, but that the individualizing of the patient, the centering of attention and interest upon his specific problem, the setting up of a wholesome type of transfer between patient and teacher, the starting of a flow of interest to outside realities, the socializing of his tendencies in useful occupations, are all factors of the utmost importance not only with reference to any given patient but still more so when multiplied many times, for they help largely to make the differences between the old asylum and the modern hospital, with its entirely different atmosphere, its different attitude toward the patient and its necessarily different influence upon him. An examination of these indirect influences of work therapy it would seem to me is now in order. We should by this time have passed the period of believing that it offers anything specific in the way of treatment and come to that period where it is recognized as an important adjuvant, its real results examined into, and its use regulated by an increased understanding of what it is actually capable of accomplishing. The old asylum offered very few levels for possible adjustment. It had its violent and disturbed wards its wards for untidy and filthy patients its wards for the quiet custodial classes and its good wards. The modern hospital with ...

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