

play of the relatively simple instinct of self-preservation, while the neuroses of civil life largely hinge upon factors connected with the far more complicated set of instincts associated with sex. Dr MacCurdy agrees with other observers that sexual factors take a comparatively small place in the production of the war neuroses, but he believes that those who have shown a lack of adaptability to the stresses dependent on sex are also liable to fail in their adaptability to the stresses of warfare.

The classification of the war neuroses adopted in the book is one which is now coming into vogue in this country, in which two main varieties are recognised. In one the various mental factors tending towards neurosis produce states of anxiety, with symptoms similar to those which accompany anxiety in its milder and non-pathological forms. Dr MacCurdy speaks of this group in general as "Anxiety states," and does not use the "Anxiety neurosis" and "Anxiety hysteria" of other writers. He does so in order to include cases, of not infrequent occurrence, which, in spite of the presence of pronounced anxiety, can hardly be regarded as examples of true neurosis. The second group in the classification of the book is formed by those cases in which the mental factors find expression in manifestations resembling in some measure those produced by a wound or other physical disability. This group is entitled "Conversion Hysterias" on the ground that the morbid psychical energy to which the neurosis is primarily due has been converted into the physical symptom or symptoms.

Dr MacCurdy shows that the direction taken by the morbid psychical energy underlying the neurosis depends largely upon the nature of the desires entertained by the soldier before his breakdown. Perhaps the most original feature of his work is the view, duly supported by evidence, that those who suffer from anxiety states have wished for death during the period of strain and fatigue preceding the final collapse, while sufferers from conversion hysteria have entertained the