

## FOREWORD

This is the first manuscript on Dianetics, written quite some time before *DIANETICS: The Modern Science of Mental Health*. When your editor first heard that such a manuscript did in actuality exist, he begged L. Ron Hubbard to let him read it. Hubbard demurred. He felt that Dianetics had come a long way since that writing, and that the work would be better sealed and placed in the Archives, unread.

Finally, after much persuasion, Hubbard did permit it to be read. From that day on he was met with a barrage of suggestions to the effect that others would enjoy it too, and that it belonged in the library of every person who has taken a profound interest in Dianetics. Why not publish the manuscript for exactly what it is: *DIANETICS: "The Original Thesis"*. True, it may be a far cry from Dianetics as we know it today, but how fascinating it is to read and pick up from its pages the bases for the various modern techniques.

And then one day, in a moment of high good humor

## DIANETICS: THE ORIGINAL THESIS

that might easily have been tone four<sup>1</sup>, Hubbard said to go ahead and publish it. The manuscript was in the hands of a linotypist within the hour.

The reader can easily recognize the extraordinary task it must have been to evolve the science, and what was even more difficult, to communicate it to others once its effectiveness was proven.

The only editing given this manuscript was that of changing some of the words of the original terminology to those in use today; for instance, the word *engram*<sup>2</sup> was originally an "impediment". The original continuity of thought has not been altered.

This, then, is the original Dianetics. Read it, and enjoy it as much as we have enjoyed it. And may it even further deepen our respect for the man who has given us the means to be self-determined!

THE EDITOR

1951

<sup>1</sup> tone 4 : the emotional state of enthusiasm.

<sup>2</sup> *engram* : a mental picture of an experience containing pain, unconsciousness and a real or imagined threat to survival.