

Fish's Schizophrenia 2nd Edition. Edited by M. Hamilton. (Pp. xvi + 212; illustrated; £5.85.) John Wright and Sons: Bristol. 1976.

In 1962 the late Frank Fish produced the first edition of this excellent little book. He drew on his own extensive experience, and on his wide knowledge of the German literature, to give a masterly account of the phenomenology and psychopathology of schizophrenia. The book has long been out of print. Now Professor Max Hamilton has produced a second edition. He has scarcely altered the clinical sections, but he has drastically revised and modernised the sections on aetiology and treatment. The result is a triumph, a second edition better than the first. Frank Fish would have been proud of it.

J. L. GIBBONS

Principles of Family Psychiatry By John G. Howells. (Pp. 338; £7.00.) Pitman Medical: Tunbridge Wells. 1976.

It is a large and potentially dangerous step from a position in which meticulous attention is given to the family and social environment of a person suffering from psychological problems to one in which 'the family is the focus and the individual an adjunct; the patient is the family'. In this book, Dr Howells presses his case for the latter orientation with the enthusiasm which one might expect from a pioneer. The book's strengths, however, are also its weaknesses. Clarity and force of expression too often become blinkered dogmatism; idiosyncratic viewpoints and terminology, however arresting and rational, too often ignore the contributions of other workers, and the unquestioned value of a focus on the family too often fails to take account of significant individual complexities.

As a personal coherent but eccentric statement of one man's view the book is interesting and valuable; as an organising statement of current themes in family psychiatry it cannot be regarded as adequate.

A. C. MACFIE

Hyperactivity By D. M. Ross and S. A. Ross. (Pp. 385; illustrated; £13.75, \$23.00.) John Wiley: Chichester. 1976.

The number of books published on the common and important problem of hyperactivity rose from one in the four year period 1950-53 to 33 in the four year

period 1970-73. This new volume must rank among the best available for its comprehensiveness, usefulness, and balance. The two authors have achieved a rare level of sophisticated discussion over a wide range of topics encompassing clinical, historical, educational, and research aspects of their subject. There is a masterly summary of historical and conceptual issues, including a succinct and illuminating section on minimal brain dysfunction, and the discussion of psychotherapy provides a carefully weighted and pragmatic account of both behaviour modification and more traditional approaches.

The book is well produced, and though the price might be deemed somewhat high even in the present financial climate, the investment will be well worth while for workers in the fields of child psychiatry and paediatrics; for others it is a model of careful and thoughtful presentation.

A. C. MACFIE

Notices

Neurosurgery: a new journal

Owned and sponsored by the Congress of Neurological Surgeons, Inc. and published by the Williams & Wilkins Co., *Neurosurgery* will feature original papers from both clinical and experimental perspectives, case reports, book reviews, neurosurgical news, and solicited review articles on neurosurgical topics as well as those from related fields. Also included will be English abstracts from current foreign language journals, symposium abstracts, pertinent legislative developments, and a calendar of events of interest to the neurosurgeon. *Neurosurgery* will be published bimonthly, beginning in July 1977. For further information, contact: Dr Robert H. Wilkins, Editor, *Neurosurgery*, Box 3807, Duke University Medical Center, Durham, N.C. 27710, USA.

International congresses, 12-17 June 1977, Santiago, Chile

Eighth International Congress of Neurosurgical Nursing

International Symposium on Brain Death
Seventeenth Latin-American Congress of Neurosurgery

Secretary General: Dr L. Basauri

Tenth International Symposium on Neurological Sciences

Third Latin-American Colloquium of Paediatric Neurosurgery

Twelfth Latin-American Congress of Electroencephalography

President: Dr Nelly Chiofalo

The address of the secretariat for these congresses is: Casilla 3717, Santiago, Chile.

Eighth Latin-American Congress of Neuroradiology. President: Dr Mario Corrales. Address of secretariat: Marcoleta 347, Santiago, Chile.

International Society for Paediatric Neurosurgery

The schedule of annual meetings for the International Society for Paediatric Neurosurgery will be as follows:

1977 Guarujá, Brazil; Chairman of Annual Meeting: Machado de Almeida; Local Programme Chairmen: Raul Carreira and Luciano Basauri; 26-28 June 1977, Casa Grande Hotel, Guarujá, Brazil.

1978 Jerusalem, Israel (Hadassah Medical Organization); Committee Conference Chairman: Abraham Sahar.

1979 Chicago, Illinois (Northwestern University); Committee Conference Chairman: Anthony J. Raimond.

1980 Marseille, France; Committee Conference Chairman: Maurice Choux.

1981 New York, New York (New York University); Committee Conference Chairman: Joseph Ransohoff.

Corrections

In the abstract of a paper by J. Moha, D. J. Boullin, and C. B. T. Adams on the effect of dopamine on human cerebral arteries (Proceedings of the Society of British Neurological Surgeons, *Journal of Neurology, Neurosurgery, and Psychiatry*, 39, 933) the first word of the second paragraph should read 'dopamine' and not 'histamine'.

In the paper by Kadrie *et al.* (1976, *Journal of Neurology, Neurosurgery, and Psychiatry*, 39, 973-985, there was an error in the formula on p. 976, line 9. This should read:

$$(\text{Latency in ms} - 2.0 \text{ ms}) \times \frac{200}{d} + 2 \text{ ms}$$

= Adjusted latency

d = distance in mm from point activation to motor point