Well in the tions are meeting psychiatrists, distinguished Medicine. This book would fail in seminaries. Often is sympathetic." Patient Care in Neurosurgery. Third edition. By NM OYSESUKI and AL AMACHER. (Pp 317; Price: US$ 37.50). Boston, Mass: Little, Brown & Co. 1990. ISBN 0 316 03640 0. In this book of just over 300 pages one third covers clinical and neurosurgical physiology and two thirds clinical neurosurgery. It is one of a series entitled Patient Care, written for the American Association of Neurological Surgeons. The physiology section contains a limited amount of anatomy, and sections on cerebral blood-flow, intracranial pressure and what is nicely termed "brain water" which are concisely and well presented, are based upon the classical papers in these subjects, with good appended references, and fine simple line diagrams. Furthermore there are good details of the practical procedures in patient monitoring and lists of the necessary equipment. The clinical neurosurgery section is a synopsis of the main conditions accompanied by practical plans of investigative assessment and intra-operative and post-operative management, with good references. One can easily find here basic information such as the Glasgow Coma Scale for the classification for patients with subarachnoid haemorrhage, clearly listed and referenced. The section concerned with neuroradiology does not include adequate information about MRI and CT scanning in the neurosurgery of today and would benefit from the addition of more detail on techniques, and the basic interpretation of the scans, with a few simple line diagrams as in other parts of the book. A similar criticism could be made of the information on neuropathology but it would be difficult to widen the scope of this book without either increasing the number of pages, or changing from a mildly quaint but readable style to a note form with many more tabulations. Were such changes to be accompanied by a reduction of an inch or so in size this would be a "mecum" for the resident in neurosurgery. In its present form it is strongly recommended as a good starting text for the first year registrar in neurosurgery which should be easily available on the ward, although a little large for the coat pocket. GORDON BROCKLEHURST Magnetic Resonance Imaging of the Brain and Spine. Edited by SCOTT W. ATLAS. (Pp 1137; illustrated; Price: $198.00). New York: Raven Press, 1990. ISBN 0 88167 694 2. This is a refreshingly good book. There are many authors but the editor has achieved a uniform style of presentation and ensured that each chapter is interesting, informative and relevant to current publications. As well as the obligatory account of MR pathology there are chapters describing blood flow techniques and MR angiography and also spectroscopy. Although these chapters are brief they point to an expanding role for MR. There are useful chapters on the biological effects and on safety. Artefacts in imaging of the central nervous system are well illustrated. The chapters follow the usual sequence from developmental lesions through tumours, infections, degenerative conditions, head injury etc., and also consider specific sites eg. pituitary, orbits and spine. The text in general avoids the trap of a repetitive comparison of CT and MR appearances. Each chapter describes details of the MR sequences which provide optimum images, and includes the techniques and interpretation of these. Other techniques such as angiography...