Book reviews

Kranielle Computertomographie. Eds. M. NADJMI, U. PIEPGRAS, H. VOGELSANG. Pp. 474. DM.390.00. Georg Thieme Verlag: Stuttgart. 1981.

This very adequately illustrated synopsis of CT scanning of the head should be well received by anyone involved in the fields of radiology, ophthalmology, and neurology. The chapters systematically cover all aspects of neuroradiology and outline the clinical findings, anatomy, pathology, and so-called classical neuroradiology. They describe the findings in nuclear medicine scans, as well as arteriography and pneumoencephalography and go on to excellently illustrated CT scans. The major part that CT has to play in the diagnosis of intraorbital tumours is concisely commented on and there are a number of relevant references in this respect as well as the other topics dealt with.

I think that this book is a valuable addition to the literature on CT of the head. It is presented in an easily readable fashion in German by many well-known contributors.

I. B. NOCKLER

Professionalism and the Public Interest: Price and Quality in Optometry. By JAMES W. BEGUN. Pp. 140. £10.85. MIT Press: London. 1981.

In recent years there has been increasing criticism of the 'health care industry' with its self-regulating and self-perpetuating oligarchies, which are protected by law and justify their monopoly by demanding quality at any cost. For in the minds of many today professionalism has become a word that connotes elitism, exclusiveness, and exploitation rather than high-quality service to the consumer.

The author surveys the American scene in terms of political science, sociology, and economics, concentrating on the 'profession' of optometry, which he feels is most overtly geared to the power and profit of its members at the expense of the community.

In England we have already been alerted to the wind of change by the latest Reith lectures. And, although the pattern of professional practice is as yet less damaging to society, we are heading in the same direction, with ever increasing restrictions imposed by the oligarchies on top, which bear scant relationship to the national economy, the consumers' needs, or the freedom of the individual. The conclusions of this detailed analysis would be salutary reading for us all, and particularly for those who support the increasing powers sought by our own opticians and their jealously guarded monopoly in the sale of spectacles.

P. D. TREVOR-ROPER

Notes

Ultrasound

The ninth conference of SIDUO, the International Society for Ophthalmic Ultrasound, will be held in Leeds, England, on 20-23 July 1982. The Department of Ophthalmology of St James's University Hospital is organising a one-day teach-in on Ophthalmic Ultrasound on 19 July 1982 with an international panel of speakers. For further information contact Jeffrey S. Hillman, FRCS, Department of Ophthalmology, St James's University Hospital, Leeds LS9 7TF, England.

Visual field symposium

The Vth International Visual Field Symposium arranged by the International Perimetric Society will take place in Sacramento, California, on 20-23 October 1982. For information and registration contact Dr John L. Keltner, Department of Ophthalmology, School of Medicine, University of California, Davis, CA 95626, USA. Papers are invited and should be sent before 1 March, 1982 to Dr Anders Heijl, Department of Ophthalmology, Malmö General Hospital, S-214 01 Malmö, Sweden.

International Council of Ophthalmology

The International Council of Ophthalmology has created a secretariat, based at the Department of Ophthalmology, Beth Israel Medical Center, New York, New York 1003, USA. It carries on file information regarding the availability of temporary teaching posts for ophthalmologists in training who desire to gain experience and teaching during their training outside their own country. The information available includes: (1) institutions in different countries that are willing to accept trainees from another country for limited periods of time; (2) the individuals that should be corresponded with at these institutions; (3) the availability or nonavailability of accommodation and stipend; and (4) language, visa, and licensing requirements. Details are available on request in writing to the secretariat at the above address. The secretariat will also keep on file all information made available to it on training or teaching programmes in ophthalmology undertaken on an international level and sponsored by the International Council of Ophthalmology.