Professor Gansser has intimate knowledge of the Alps and has also worked in the Andes!

The book begins with two chapters giving the wider frame of the Himalayas. These contain a very useful summary of stratigraphy together with a description of the relation of the Himalayas to the Himalayan foreland, the Brahmaputra, Ganges and Indus alluvial plains and the northern Indian Shield.

After this, we find systematic descriptions of various regions going around the Himalayan Arc from west to east. These include the Salt Range, Karakorum, Punjab, Kumaon, Nepal, Sikkim, Bhutan and Nefa. Throughout these descriptions there are abundant beautifully drawn and well labelled sketch-maps, structural and stratigraphic sections and some magnificent photographs. The chapter on Nepal is of interest to the non-specialist with its description of the geology of Everest and photographs of its west and southwest faces.

The book concludes with a geological history and a regional structural outline of the Himalayas. Of particular interest is the description of the underthrusting of the Indian Shield beneath the Tibetan mass, the estimate of 400 km for the amount of crustal shortening and the fact that there is no direct continuation of the Himalayas either to the west or east.

Apart from a map of recent major earthquakes there is no mention of geophysics. This is a pity in view of the classical geophysical work which has been carried out in India. Estimates are given in the last chapter for Moho depths of 35 km in the west and 40 km in the eastern Himalayas. No references are given for these and they seem unlikely in view of the gravity work and compensation of the Himalayas. Finally, it would have been interesting to have had a discussion from a structural geologist of the palaeomagnetic evidence for a northward movement of India and the bearing of this on the underthrusting of India and structure of the Himalayas.

The book is beautifully produced from beginning to end and has useful bibliography and indexing and an appendix of excellent coloured geological maps and sections. It is to be hoped that the whole series will maintain this standard.

R.W. GIRDLER (Newcastle upon Tyne)

Earth-Science Reviews. International Magazine for Geo-Scientists. Elsevier, Amsterdam, Volume 1, 1966. Subscription prices: £4.10.0 or Dfl.45.00 per volume of four issues.

The explosive increase of scientific papers creates new problems for scientists, who want to keep abreast of the current developments in their own and related fields of research. For the individual worker it is practically impossible to select, read and "digest" all the papers, which are or might be of interest to his special branch.

It is evident that there is a great need of intermediate phases of compilation and coordination of the scattered observational data and the tentative views, published in wide variety of national languages. Review articles become more and more indispensable for the efficient functioning of international science.

Elsevier Publishing Company has recently started a new periodical for review articles on earth-sciences Though here again one might say that there are more pages to be read by the individual geo-scientist, such review articles are a very sound method for a restriction of haphazard, random reading. Such up-to-date review articles will be of great help in the purposeful reduction of the time spent on reading.

This new periodical will present review articles under four main heads, representing groups of major fields:

(1) Mineralogy, igneous and metamorphic petrology geochemistry.

(2) Geophysics, volcanology, geotectonics.

(3) Sedimentology, paleontology, historical geology.

(4) Economic and applied geology.

Various subjects from each of these fields will be covered in one volume consisting of four numbers. All articles will be published in English.

The first number of the first volume, which appeared in January 1966, contains four articles: on stratigraphical classification and terminology by Størmer (Oslo, Norway), on Precambrian palaeontology by Glaessner (Adelaide, Australia), on experimental structural geology by Currie (Toronto, Canada), and on earthquake seismology by Bath (Uppsala, Sweden).

The combined second/third issue, bearing the date of March 1966 already appeared in February. This issue contains seven reviews: on deltaic sedimentation by Moore (Southampton, Great Britain), on deep-sea sediments and their geological record by Emiliani and Milliman (Miami, Fla., U.S.A.), on recent advances in geodynamics by Scheidegger (Urbana, Ill., U.S.A.), on paleovolcanology by Cook (Washington, D.C., U.S.A.), on paleomagnetism and rock magnetism by Wilson (Liverpool, Great Britain), on microseisms by Donn (Palisades, N.Y., U.S.A.), and on astrogeology - lunar geology by Fielder (London, Great Britain).

The reviews are written plainly enough for all practising geoscientists to grasp the general significance of research by their colleagues And for the specialists in the field they provide a good general view of the actual situation, supplemented by an extensive and well selected list of references.

The editors are A. Brouwer (Leyden), B.C. King (London) and N. Rast (Liverpool). The publishers are to be congratulated with their initiative, and we hope that this new journal with review articles in earth science will serve its purpose.

R.W. VAN BEMMELEN (Utrecht, The Netherlands)