

BOOK REVIEWS

AN INTRODUCTION TO GEOLOGY. by R. K. Sinha,
Vikas Publishing House, Delhi. 148 pp. Price Rs. 25/-.

The need for good text books to gain an introduction to Geology by the beginner is best served by the many excellent text books now available. The deficiency in these books, however, is the lack of Indian examples. We had hoped that this want would have been made good in the book under review. The present attempt although laudable has failed in the object of enthusing students in Indian schools to take interest in geology. A few photographs no doubt are given, but these are segregated at one end, out of context and without proper captions. The localities too are not indicated! The utility of the few photographs in acquainting the student with geological processes is completely lost.

Mathematical formulae have been introduced (p. 25) which cannot obviously be understood by a beginner. The writing is not simple. The arrangement of chapters is not satisfactory. There are many mistakes of grammar and spelling. 'Minerals and rocks are deposited underground'. 'The enormosity of the time interval'; 'The bolting of India'; 'Tethys sea got completely shallowed'; 'Peninsular India was not receptive to deposits of Cambrian'; these are a few examples selected at random from the text, which give an idea of the style of the author. There are quite a few inaccuracies. The age of Dharwar is put down as 4000 m.yr (p. 29). Line diagrams are confusing and of poor quality.

Greater attention will have to be paid to make the book really suitable for a beginner's course in geology and mining.

B.P.R.

July 29 to August 1 1976. **The carbonatite-kimberlite complexes of India.** Sponsored by the Geological Society of India and the Geological Survey of India. Group discussion will be preceded by a guided geological field trip to Sevattur-Samalpatti area. (B. P. Radhakrishna, Secretary, Geological Society of India, 16 Ali Asker Road, Bangalore 560 052).

September 13-17, 1976. **Himalayan Geology Seminar** Vigyan Bhavan, Maulana Azad Road, New Delhi. All communications to be addressed to the Chairman, Steering Committee, Himalayan Geology Seminar, Room No. 316-A Wing, Department of Mines, Shastri Bhavan, New Delhi 110 001.

December 1976. **The sixth Indian Colloquium on Micropaleontology and Stratigraphy.** Department of Geology, Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi. There will be a group discussion on 'Problems relating to Indian Quaternary'. Last date for submission of abstracts is 31st July 1976 (Convener Dr. M. S. Srinivasan, Department of Geology, Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi 221005, India).