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It covers the whole field of earth sciences and welcomes papers which, provided they are of scientific merit, are also controversial in nature. It is the policy of the editors to encourage short papers so that all readers can expect to find at least one major item of interest in each part.

A section is devoted to scientific correspondence. Book reviews are of two kinds: essay reviews either review a group of books on related subjects or enable an author to discuss a particular topic in relation to the account given in a recently published book; in addition there are shorter reviews of recent books. The list of publications received provides a useful check list which is used by many librarians.

The editors wish it to be known that authors alone are responsible for the correctness of their references. There are no page charges for papers published in the *Magazine*.

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