translated by the author from the original Dutch; their origin by the reaction of protoliths with a chemically active pore solution is argued in the paper by Gresens [M.A. **70**–2847]. The various genetic hypotheses for blueschists, including that of recrystallization at relatively high pressures and low temperatures, are set forth in the last paper of this section, by Ernst [M.A. **74**–743].

A short section on the evolution of metamorphic facies-types with time presents an early paper by de Roever *Some Differences between Post-Palaeozoic and Older Regional Metamorphism* (*Geol. Mijnbouw*, **18e**, 123–27, 1956) and a fairly recent paper by Ernst discussing the evolution of blueschist belts with time [M.A. **76**–1119] before the concluding summary in which it is argued that the spatial distribution of rocks representing the various metamorphic facies is clearly a function of lithospheric plate dynamics.

Once again the Benchmark Series has produced a useful and timely compendium volume with a comprehensive selection of papers, not all of which are to be readily found in departmental libraries and which enable the specialist in a narrow field to appreciate the advances that have been made on an overlapping but broader front. Since the majority of the book is a facsimile reprint of the original articles the price seems on the high side, but even those libraries fortunate enough to have all the original journals may find it convenient to have these papers bound together and readily available. R. A. HOWIE

WILSON (J. L.). *Carbonate Facies in Geologic History*. Berlin, Heidelberg, and New York (Springer-Verlag), 1975. xiv + 471 pp., 183 figs., 30 pls. Price DM 90.00 ($36.90).

This is an expensive tome on certain aspects of applied stratigraphy and basinal analysis by a former member of 'Shell'. It is therefore endowed with the usual strengths and deficiencies that ensue from this syndicate. In a panoramic sense it is good, but limited to selected well-known examples: in detail it is less good. It makes no pretence at being stratigraphically or sedimentologically up to date, while its palaeoecological aspects are almost archaic. Petrographically, despite the inclusion of 1950–60s oil company classifications, it remains reminiscent of Cayeaux's 1930s productions. Chemically its longest formula is $CaCO_3$. The strengths of the volume lie in its exposure of oil company thought processes. The twelve chapters concern good simplistic models for basinal analysis of warm-water carbonate products and their analysis under the nine customary facies headings: this is all conveniently summarized in Chapter 12, pp. 348–79. J. A. E. B. H.