

Feb 60

THE



ISHPEMING
ROCK and MINERAL CLUB

J A S P I L I T E

Affiliated with the Midwest Federation
of Mineralogical and Geological Societies

FEB 15 1960

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION

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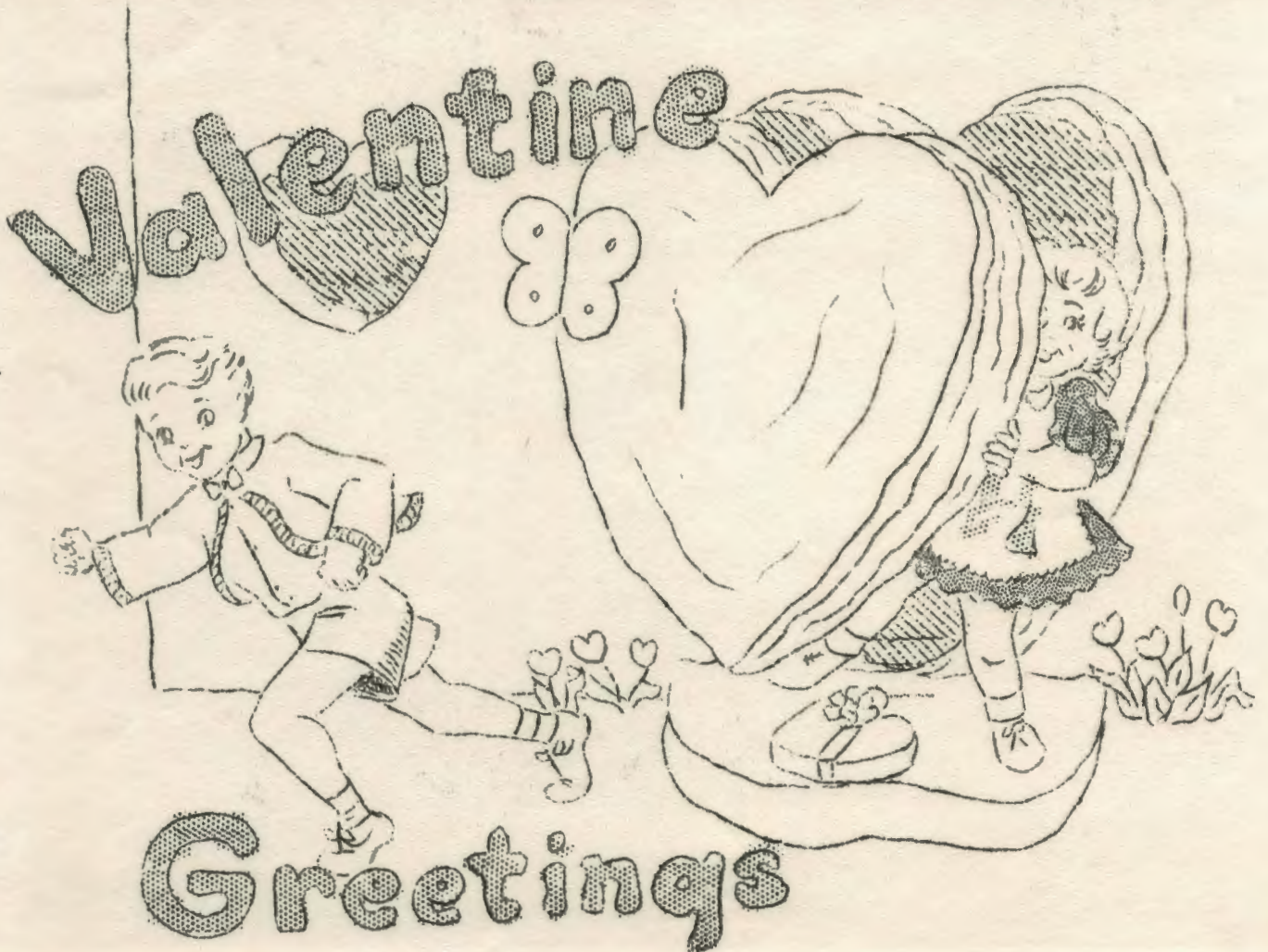
ISHPEMING ROCK & MINERAL CLUB

Published Quarterly

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"LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT"

As your newly elected president for the coming year, I hesitate to put forth on paper some of the thoughts in my mind; but I also feel that now, more than ever, is probably the best time for such thoughts to be said. What I relate to you certainly is nothing new, but yet is something which is easily forgotten or intentionally avoided.

During the period, July 1 to 4, members of the Ishpeming Rock and Mineral Club will put into effect, what is hoped to be, one of the best Midwest Field-Trip Conventions yet. Consequently, a number of subjects come to mind which could be discussed such as registration, field trips, housing, the banquet, Bar-B-Q, silent auction, swapping, plus numerous other aspects of the convention.

However, the most important and serious thought I have in mind, which is of great concern to each of us, will be the 100% cooperation of all club members, commencing now and continuing to the climax of the Convention, then to years unlimited. With such varied phases of rockhound activity taking place nearly simultaneously, there is no doubt that each and every member will have a job to do, and in many cases two or three. Performing your duty to the best of your ability will assure a better-than-ever field-trip convention.

I regret to say, a considerable amount of laxity is being shown by local members and, as such practices continue, the burden becomes so much heavier on the ever-faithful. Attending each and every meeting during the few remaining months before Convention will familiarize ourselves with the over-all program, and can help us to help others in outlining their respective responsibilities. I might add, we are only human and there is room for error; but the better we understand our problems, and the more we apply ourselves in teaching and learning them, so much more we reduce the chance for error, and likewise contribute to our success.

Are you content with just being a member of the Ishpeming Rock and Mineral Club?...or will you wear the club badge with pride in the years before us? By taking an active part in the club, you will cherish the honor of being a member of the Ishpeming Rock and Mineral Club, knowing your contribution, no matter how big or small, plays a decisive role in its ventures.

Equally as serious, will be the courtesies we can extend to our visiting rockhounds, assisting them in anyway we can to make their visit a happy one. Many of them will be here in the Upper Peninsula, and particularly Ishpeming, for the first time, and we certainly want them to go home with a favorable impression of our North Country.

The scope of the Field-Trip Convention has gone far beyond our expectations; yet, I am happy to say, many of the pitfalls have been ironed out and the entire program is proceeding very favorably. Field trips have been planned and arranged; housing, the banquet, and Bar-B-Q are in very efficient hands; registration, entertainment, etc., are being taken care of by other equally capable groups. But I hasten to add, there is still a need for more help - someone to assist someone who is already assisting someone else. I can honestly say, breathing has become a lot easier, thanks to the experienced personnel working on convention plans. Also, along with those thanks, my respect and admiration go to the many people outside our local area who are doing such a marvelous job in helping the Ishpeming Rock and Mineral Club fulfill its obligations as host to your Midwest Field-Trip Convention.

The year, 1960, will be a big year for our club, and the entire success of its activities will again be measured by the cooperation and participation of all members. As president of the Ishpeming Rock and Mineral Club, and as a 100% rockhound, I offer you whatever talents a rockhound of my caliber possesses, knowing our combined efforts will achieve our goals for the coming year. Happy Rockhunting from
Yours truly, J. E. Kivela.

..... FROM THE PAST-PRESIDENT

As I step down from the office of Presidency of the Ishpeming Rock & Mineral Club, I sincerely wish the incoming President, Jarl Kivela, all of the best wishes possible. May you have a momentous year ahead of you, Jarl, - chuck full of cooperative efforts by all the members. This shall be the most important year of our short existance, and, though things will get rather trying at first, we know that the fine experiences will be reward enough for all your efforts.

I look back over the past, very busy year of our Club and have cause to feel proud that we have not been idle. Probably the most outstanding event was our Gem & Mineral Show held in the Ski Masoun during the week of the American Legion Convention. This show was a perfect example of cooperation of club members from the assembling of mineral cases in Elmer Jarvi's garage to setting up the many displays, dismantling them, as well as polishing up the Ski Masoun after it was all over. I think that each one of us who displayed can feel a sense of pride in the caliber of the show we put on.

Second, in prominence of happenings, was the week-end we spent with the Flint Gem & Mineral Club. Ted Engle, C.C.I. Geologist, did his best to provide the group with some knowledge of the Marquette County geology. Dr. Ben Moulton's slide and talk was the outstanding program of the year, with Al Draws' contribution a close second. We asked for pasties and we got them...all shapes and sizes. None were too big or too small to be consumed post-haste.

Our annual Christmas Party and Smorgasbord proved to be an eventful night. Excellent decorations of minerals adorned the home-made tree by Jarl. The silent auction was the most successful one we have yet hold.

This past year was saddened by the loss of our esteemed members, Mr. Charles Hawes and Mr. Walter Gries.

The fieldtrips were excellent, especially one jim-dandy engineered by Champ and Katherine Lemin. This trip took us to Hurley, Wisc., where we were hosted by the Range Mineral Club of Ironwood and Hurley. Friendships were made and our collections enhanced because of

this trip and the swap sessions between the two clubs.

Another grand trip took quite a number of us to the Rockland-Groenland-Maas area, where our "nosos ran and foot smolled" according to one of the fairor sox of our club.

All in all, I think that this has been a wonderful year of rockhounding for this club, so may I take this opportunity to thank all the officers and members for all their help. We wish you God Speed, Jarl, in the duties that lie ahead for you and the Club.

Bob Markert



OF LAST
MEETING...

January 30, 1960

The club met on Saturday, January 30, 1960, in the Ski Hall of Fame. The afternoon started with a work-bee. More cards of minerals were needed for the Chamber of Commerce Booth, so everyone very busily sorted and glued.

Bob Markert, President, resided at the business meeting. The Secretary's Report was accepted as read.

The Treasurer reported a balance of \$213.14 in the treasury.

A discussion was held on "What courtesies were to be extended to the Officers of the Midwest Federation. Jim White moved the decision be left to the Board of Directors; this was supported and carried. At the Board meeting, Carol Kokko moved the Club give the Midwest Officers and their wives the registration fees, Banquet and Smorgasbord tickets as a token of appreciation for their many efforts and hours of work put forth in behalf of all the clubs. That would include President Bob Markert and Marian, Vice-Pres. Harry and Dorothy Sprague, Sec. Bernice and Elmer Roxin, Treas. Orville and Mary Fother, Historian Dr. and Mrs. Ben Hur Wilson, and the four Regional Vice-Presidents and their wives.

Election of Officers followed: President, Jarl Kivela, Negaunee; Vice-President, Bob Markert, Ishpeming; Secretary, Marian Markert, Ishpeming; Treasurer, Bud Barford, Ishpeming; Curator, Elmer Jarvi,

Ishpeming; Librarian, Elizabeth Rogers, Ishpeming; Liaison Officer, R. K. Richards, Negaunee; Editor, Carol Kokko, Negaunee; Corresponding Secretary, Taine Kokko, Negaunee; Publicity Chairman, Clyde Steele, Marquette.

Bob Pape, Utica, will tumble local material for favors. Bob Markert was given permission to send the needed material to Bob.

Bob Markert and Bob Richards were to work out Registration blanks to be mailed to all clubs as soon as they are ready. Also Mamie Jarvi and her committee of Fern White, Ruth Kivola, and Edith Anderson, have their list compiled so the Chamber of Commerce can mimeograph them. They will be mailed as soon as possible.

Al DeFoe, First Aid man, has started plans for the safety of our success. Dr. Grain will be on with him when he returns from Florida next summer.

Marian Markert, Secretary

CONVENTION TIDBITS...

Requests have been made for booth space by two dealers, one a Midwest dealer and one from California. We are wondering how much to charge for a booth up on Jasper Knob.

Plans are to answer this with an invitation to come and tailgate to their hearts' content - at no extra charge - other than a donation of some excellent specimens for the Convention Silent Auction which will be held on July 4.

Requests for information on reservations are starting to come in. A club in New Jersey plans to send about ten persons. A relatively new club, The Mesabi Rock & Mineral Club, plans on turning out almost 100%. Clubs all over the Midwest will be represented with large delegations.

This presents a problem on registrations. When first taking on the plans for the 1960 Fieldtrip, an estimated number of about 700 persons was given to us, but it looks like that figure is going to be completely out of line.

The first in a series of articles on the Convention has appeared in the EARTH SCIENCE Magazine, with additional articles to follow

in subsequent issues. The next article to appear will be by Bernie Dooley, Fieldtrip Chairman. (Editor's note - Earth Science had Bob Markert and a portion of his collection pictured on the cover of this same first issue. Did you see it?)

Many Midwest Bulletins are reprinting all of the news that they can get on the Fieldtrip Convention. Our hearty thanks to those clubs and editors.

Still another request for information comes from Mile Post 80, north of Sault Ste. Marie, for information about the Midwest Federation's Fieldtrip. Seems like this party is going to open a Uranium Mine - 1200' drift for tourists. More about this later.

Advance registration blanks should be in the mail by the end of February. Those will be mailed to Liaison Officers of all clubs. About 25 to 30 blanks containing registration coupon, Boulder Buster Banquet coupon, Smorgasbord coupon, and bus trip coupons will be sent to each club. Those should only be passed out to persons definitely planning on using them. If you think that your club will need more than that number, write immediately to our Liaison Officer, Mr. R. K. Richards, Negaunee, requesting additional forms.

An initial inquirer asks: "How do you plan on handling the large group if you are only going to have 20 fieldtrips?" The only way that we can answer this is to say there will be 20 different groups collecting simultaneously in different locations each of the 4 days. When checking in, a person will be assigned to field trip #__. There will be one fieldtrip supervisor and as many helpers as can be obtained assigned to this group. The group will stay together for 4 days. During the 4 days each person will collect on all the better piles of this area.

Bus Trips will be arranged to outlying districts only when sufficient request and advance registrations dictate. Trips to outlying districts may also be made by car.

Banquets are being arranged on days when eating places will be at a premium. The Boulder Busters Banquet and Jr. Boulder Busters Banquet will be catered by one of the best caterers in the North Country, Jim Nancarrow. He catered the "Anatomy of a Murder" Banquet which was attended by the author, John Voalkor; the producer, Otto Preminger; and such stars as Jim Stewart, Lee Remick, Kathy Crosby, Evo Arden, Arthur O'Connell and others.

The first Rockrama show is to be held in Jackson, Michigan, on May 14 and 15. The Michigan Gem & Mineral Society is the host club. The Ishpeming Rock & Mineral Club wishes them much success in this, the very first ROCKRAMA Show held anywhere.

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Midwest President, Bob Markert, is scheduled to talk on February 11, 1960, to the Escon Club at Downers Grove. On February 12, he will talk to the Chicago Rock & Mineral Club. On March 12, the Wisconsin Geological Society will hear him. A speaking engagement for the Tri County Rock & Mineral Society of Dubuque is tentatively set for March or April. Tentative plans depending on the work schedule will put him before the Jackson Rockrama program on May 14 or 15; and then to East Lansing to the Central Michigan Lapidary & Mineral Society. What a rat-race!

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DID YOU KNOW? . . .

Labradorite - This beautiful material is temperamental. It may rival the Opal in color. Before sawing, look at the cleavage planes. If they are not long, then work for a rounded surface.

From the Pick and Lop Stick via the Template via the South Bay Agatizer.

Petrified Turtles - From an article taken from the World-Herald, Omaha, reports from Denmark indicate that petrified Sea Turtles estimated at 40 million years old, have been found on the island of Fuur, off the east coast of Jutland. These reports do not indicate the size of the turtles.

From the Roar Trunk via the South Bay Agatizer

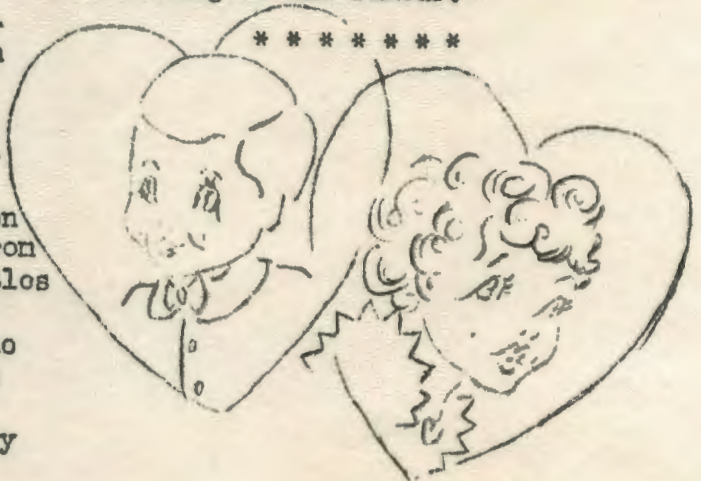
The following is taken from the Dec. '59 issue of Chip and Lick. It was written by Alice Sinkhorn and was so amusing that I just couldn't resist adding it to this issue. Hope you like it too.

An old prospector went to Heaven. He reached the Pearly Gates and Peter looked up his record and said, "Oh well, I think everything is in order, you can come in. But, wait a minute. What's this? Your occupation - prospector? Oh I'm sorry, old chap, but I've got too many of you old timers in here, just making a confounded nuisance of themselves--picking up the lawns and gardens and sinking shafts in the driveways. I'm sorry. You just can't come in."

The old prospector scratched his head. "Look here, Peter, you let me in and I guarantee to have all those old fossickers out of here and on their way below within a fortnight." Peter said, "Well, under these conditions, I'll give you the go." Within a few hours, there was a long line of prospectors with their gear coming out through the Pearly Gates. At the end of the line was the old prospector.

Peter was delighted and as the old man approached, congratulated him, and said, "But how did you manage it?" Replied the old timer: "Well, it's like this. I put the word around that they had struck it rich down below." And, away he went, chortling to himself. Peter called after him, "Hey, but where are you going? You can stay here now."

"Not on your life," called the old prospector. "You never know, there might be something in the rumour!"



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MIDWEST FEDERATION'S LETTER - A - MONTH

THE EARTH SCIENCE IS WORTHY OF YOUR PROUD AND ENTHUSIASTIC SUPPORT.

Does the Midwest Federation need an official magazine to help in the education of it's members and publicize it's activities? We thought so in 1952 and we formed a group of Midwest Federation members, laid our cash on the line, plus all our spare time to bring the Earth Science Digest to the Midwest.

Yes, we have had our ups and downs and more downs than ups, but we are still in business, and have run for two years in the black thanks to the help given so generously by the Midwest Federation and it's associate clubs. We are now in a good position to survey our activities, and we admit there is much room for improvement. Basically, however, we think we have a fine magazine unhampered by the limitations to any one phase of Earth Science subjects. Without sacrificing any of our previous contents, we are about to publish much more material on lapidary work and it's associated skills, with particular emphasis on creative art. The services of people skilled in art and lapidary have been obtained to write such articles and review other articles submitted to us, you are encouraged to submit original articles to us in this and in all phases of the Earth Sciences.

One of the things we must keep in mind about our Federation, however, is that an organization of our size can be a tremendous influence in the field of Earth Sciences. Hence, it can mean more than conventions and rock hunting, and club work; it can be education in a tremendous way. Possibly the Federation is doing far more than it realizes when it sponsors "Earth Science" for it represents the educational side of your Federation.

How well this is being done can be judged best by a glimpse at our subscription list. You might like to know where your magazine goes, for instance in this last year it went to the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences in Stockholm, to Johannesburg, South Africa - to France - England, Canada, Venezuela - Yugoslavia - Canal Zone - Japan - Australia - Hong Kong (18 copies) - to Thailand - plus many other countries. Could this be a good chance for international understanding and education?

It went to almost every State University in the country plus many other colleges and universities, at least 50 high schools and many museums and libraries. (The education of our youth) It went to rockhounds, new and old, and last, but not least, it went to prisons. Maybe though Earth Science, a prisoner will discover an interest that may help him find himself, and that will be the finest reward of all. These are some of the things Earth Science is doing for the Federation and we thought you should know.

The new Lapidary-Art material should have a tremendous appeal to the many Federation members who like myself are happiest when working with their hands, brain, and ingenuity to create a beautiful lapidary article. This section of the magazine should be the frosting on the cake when you begin to realize that we are not just rehashing all the old techniques of gem cutting, but are embarking on a new and more esthetic plane where the use of our imagination to create new things will be encouraged.

W. H. Allaway
President of the M. W. F. (1952-53)

\$2.00 for a subscription. (\$1.75 if your Society buys 10 or more.)

Anyone desiring this publication can send their subscription and money in to Earth Science for \$1.75 if they are a member of the Ishpeming Rock & Mineral Club.

MIDWEST FEDERATION'S LETTER - A - MONTH

Dear Federation Members:

Your Federation at the present time comprises some 80 clubs or organizations and 25 individual members. Being a member of a club, which is affiliated in the Midwest Federation, naturally makes you a member of the Midwest Federation and likewise a member of the American Federation in which the Midwest Federation is affiliated.

The question has been made at times—why join or belong to the Midwest or any other Federation? I believe this can be answered in a rather simple way. When two or more individuals have a similar interest in a hobby or what have you and you make known these interests, others become fascinated with the hobby and soon you have a nucleus for a club. In most cases an organization is born whose members are desirous of what is doing or taking place in other localities. To share experiences and interests, as rockhounds, or what other name you choose to call us, is fundamentally a good friendly policy to pursue. The clubs or organizations now seem to want to be united as one. This is how the Midwest Federation of Mineralogical and Geological Societies was born.

To operate an organization, be it a club or Federation, requires finances. In the Midwest these funds are raised through dues from your clubs and individual members, and a share of the profits from convention shows. NO OFFICER OR BOARD MEMBER OF YOUR MIDWEST FEDERATION IS PAID A SALARY OR IS COMPENSATED FOR ANY PERSONAL EXPENSE IN THE PERFORMANCE OF HIS OR HER WORK AS AN OFFICER OR BOARD MEMBER. The satisfaction of helping to promote the education in your hobby and mine is their reward. The monies received are used for the mimeographing minutes of meetings and other imperative matter such as Rockrama, News Letter items and Directories. Other expenses such as ads in Earth Science magazine; Midwest Stationary, membership cards, Midwest Dues to the American Federation, postage and stamps and some necessary telephone calls are paid from the treasury. For the year 1960 we estimate 4500 members in the Midwest Federation and on the basis of \$.02 per member, we will remit to the American Federation \$90.00 for our affiliated dues.

I don't know whether I would be right in saying that monetarily you or your club possibly gain very little in belonging to the Midwest Federation or any other Federation, but I believe your club and members gain a lot of satisfaction in sharing their interests with friends near and far and still have a lot of fun doing it.

Another item of interest, I believe should be brought to the attention of Midwest Members is the availability of American Federation of Mineralogical Societies (A.F.M.S.) Car emblems, men's lapel buttons and ladies' pins. The car emblems are made of a coated metal with an attractive blue and white baked enamel design, and from my experience, are quite resistant to rust. Hardware for attaching to car goes with the emblem. The ladies' pins and men's lapel buttons are of the same design and are gold-plated. These can be obtained for your club from the Midwest Federation Treasurer for \$.50 each postpaid. If necessary, make a group order from your club. This expedites the handling and mailing.

Well, happy hunting, cutting and displaying.

O. M. Fether, Treasurer
Midwest Federation

For February, 1960.

NEEDED FOR WORK PROJECTS - empty egg cartons, good 1 1/2 x 1 1/2" specimens of hard hematite, goethite, illmenite with dolomite; quartz xls; siderite, grunerite, garnets; tourmaline; micaceous iron ore, jaspilite, serpentine, specularite, magnetite, and others. Also needed - willing workers for the next work-boo to be announced by card notice.
WANTED - Your news items. Are you over visited by interesting people? Heard any good jokes lately? Pull any boners? We'd like to know what's new with you.

THE CLEANING OF MINERALS

Al Hotchkiss

A mineral collector is sooner or later faced with the necessity of cleaning his or her specimens. Much has been written in various books and hobby magazines about this subject, and the serious collector would do well to set up a catalogue system on the various methods suggested.

I have found from personal experience that most of my minerals can be safely and effectively cleaned by using one of the detergents found on the market today. Be certain that the powder, if this is the type of detergent used, is thoroughly mixed before using. Many of the liquid detergents are excellent. Always be certain that the specimen is rinsed well in running water.

There are a number of minerals that should not be cleaned in soap (detergent) and water. Generally these are the fibrous or "hairy" varieties and their very appearance suggests extreme care. These minerals may often be safely cleaned in alcohol or some cleaning fluid. (Be careful about inhaling fumes from some of these products.) Chalcotrichite, millerite, velvet malachite, mesolite, etc., are of this type.

Other specimens that should not be cleaned in water are the water-soluble minerals such as halite (salt); the earthy or "clayey" type that crumble after washing and those that might, because of their chemical composition, either disintegrate or change. Some marcasite and pyrite react in this manner. Specimens of this type may either be brushed with a soft or stiff brush (depending on texture), or may be washed in alcohol. When in doubt, try your intended method on a fragment that has no value.

It is sometimes necessary to use various acids to remove certain deposits or stains. Extreme caution should be exercised in the handling of these caustic or corrosive chemicals. NO specimen is worth the injury and perhaps permanent harm that can result from careless or improper handling.

Iron Stains: A saturated solution of oxalic acid will remove iron oxide stains from most specimens plagued by this disfigurement. The specimen should be immersed in

the solution for a period depending on the degree of stain or deposit. An enameled pan or glass container should be used. Persistent stains may require the heating of the solution to just below a boil, plus a supplemental brushing to remove loosened iron stains or deposits. Carbonates, such as calcite, aragonite, etc., with iron stains, may be dipped in a very weak solution of hydrochloric acid. These should be rinsed quickly in running water since the HCl will dissolve the carbonate as well as remove the stain.

Sulphides, such as sphalerite, galena, chalcopyrite, pyrite, bornite, should be cleaned in a concentrated solution of hydrochloric acid. Tarnish will probably only require a dipping...be careful, once again, not to etch the mineral by allowing the specimen to remain in the acid bath too long. After the bath, wash well in running water and dry thoroughly. Some sulphides, notably marcasite and pyrites, will disintegrate if washed or rinsed in water...try a piece first. Also remember that any calcium carbonate mineral will be dissolved and may completely disappear.

A dilute acetic (vinegar) or hydrochloric acid solution is helpful in removing calcium carbonate coatings. Some very fine finds have been made by using these solutions to dissolve away a carbonate and expose desired insoluble silicates and/or oxides. Once again, try a piece of no value first. Rinse well.

A dilute ammonia solution will remove algae and lichen where encountered.

To remove annoying clay minerals (kaolin, montmorillonite, etc.), Mr. D. R. Walter, Manager and Co-Editor of Specimen Minerals (Australia) Unlimited, has found that soaking the specimen in "Coca-Cola" for periods up to 24 hours enable troublesome coatings to be chipped away. What next? Perhaps other carbonated beverages would also work?

The Aug. issue, 1959, of Gems and Minerals contains an article about a new acid known as SRL. The results of reported tests are extremely interesting. I have purchased some of this acid and will report my findings to the Society at a later date.

The Pick and Dop Stick - Jan., 1960,



Rocking Around



Hetty Hawes is spending a nice vacation in sunny Arizona. We hope she is enjoying her vacation.

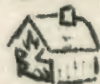
Our thanks to Joe Collick and Clem Newman for the clean-up job at the Ski Museum after our Saturday work-bee.

QUOTABLE QUOTE - Which keeps the people happiest?...coming early and waiting around for something to happen, or knowing that they're late and that it's already happened." This interested question was asked by R. K. Richards at the meeting which was held at the Mather Inn.

WORTH SEEING...Clem Newman's shop.

1. The ingenious devices that he is applying to the Lapidary Arts is something to see.

2. He has a new, unusual "House of Crystals" which he "found" gathering dust in a garage.



LATEST DIVERSIONS IN LAPIDARY WORK...Al Murray's and Bob Schenk's spheres. Bob brought some to our Saturday work-bee.

Clyde Steel is sojourning in Mexico and the south-western United States. We hear that he is having a good time - both as a vacation and as far as his hobby goes.

OTHER VACATIONISTS...

Abby Roberts and Bernie Richards are also

in the deep Southwest enjoying the sunshine and, of course, the rock collecting.

Art and Thelma Breau of Saginaw are spending their winter months in California.

The kono dolomite pit has been quite popular this winter. Several members have made field trips there including the Jenkins', Markert's, and Kokko's.

ATTENTION EDITORS!!!

Do you want a Bulletin Editors' Breakfast at the Convention?...Do you want a Bulletin Contest? Answer immediately.

Direct Answers to:

Editor Carol Kokko
P. O. Box 324
Negaunee, Michigan

CORN RIGHT FROM THE FIELD...

Sign of inflation...When a penny postcard no longer costs two cents..it costs three cents..and is going up, up, up.

If there's anything we can't stand, it's one who talks while we are interrupting.
Tomplate.

LADIES - In Simple Terms.

SYMBOL: WO

ACCEPTED ATOMIC WEIGHT: 120 pounds.

PHYSICAL PROPERTIES: Boils at nothing and freezes at any minute; melts when properly treated; very bitter if not well used.

OCCURENCE: Found wherever Man exists.

CHEMICAL PROPERTIES: Possesses great affinity for Gold, Silver, Platinum, and Precious Stones. Violent reaction if left alone. Able to absorb great amount of food matter. Turns green when placed beside a better-looking specimen.

USES: Highly ornamental; useful as a tonic in acceleration of low spirits and an equalizer of the distribution of wealth. Is probably the most effective income-reducing agent known.

CAUTION: Highly explosive in inexperienced hands.

From The Technician - Southern Technical Institute ... Thanks to the "News Letter".

Our good fellow rockhound, Bud Bamford, was asked to compose a poem for this issue. This is what he gave us as an excuse...we like it very much.

Upstairs the Fire Station here I sit
Just scratching my old bald head,
Waiting for an idea to pop into it,
But the old noggin just seems dead.

It's no use Mr. Editor...
There will be nothing this time,
For I've tried and tried
But the words just won't rhyme.

So before the next issue
I might give 'er a fling
And just see if I'm able
To compose something.



I'll dust the cobwebs
Out of this skull,
And jot down some words
That make sense, but aren't dull.

(The Editor took the liberty of adding Bud's first verse to this even though it had been crossed out. Sure don't know why it had been crossed out, do you? Be sure to watch the next issue to see what has developed.)



The members of the Ishpeming Rock and Mineral Club are indebted to Attorney Edmund Thomas of Ishpeming for taking and mailing the necessary papers to incorporate our club. Many thanks, Ed. I know the members will thank you personally at the first available opportunity.

The papers have not been returned as yet, but should be along directly.

The Jarvi's were the lucky receivers of "Fairy Crosses" from Virginia. Along with them came a very interesting article which follows. Thanks for your unusual story.

"More than a century ago, in a quiet sunny glade nestled among the rugged foot-hills of the over hazy Blue Ridge Mountain of

Virginia, was by chance discovered a single treasure store of the now-famous "Fairy" or "Lucky" Stones.

These small, mysteriously formed stone crosses, ranging from one-quarter of an inch to one inch in length, bear in the most unique form the shape of a cross. Some are of the St. Andrews variety, others Roman, and still others of the Maltese shape. From this one small area of a few acres comes the world's only known supply of these natural stone crosses.

The real origin of these little gems, which have been wrought through the ages by Mother Nature, is still unsolved. Leading Scientists and Geologists have been baffled in their attempts to find a satisfactory explanation of this natural phenomenon. In that remote section where the Fairy Crosses are found they are held in more or less superstitious reverence by these simple, Christian mountain folk. There, too, is a quaint legend among them as to the origin of the crosses, which has been handed down from father to son for generations, that: "Ages before the Mighty Chief Powhatan, with his tribes of warring Braves roamed the forests of this beautiful region"—where even yet the moss laden rocks and the sighing trees softly breathe into this sylvan dell an indefinable glamour of hushed romance and mystery -- "TITANIA, with her fairy subjects, care-free and happy, was gaily dancing around a shadow-flecked pool of limpid water, in play with the Naiads and woodland Nymphs, when a strange Elfin Courier from across the sea, far, far away in the land of the dawn, arrived in their midst bearing the sad tidings of the Crucifixion of our Christ. As they listened to this terrible story, their gay little hearts filled with sorrow, and, as they wept, their tiny tear drops fell upon the earth where they eventually crystallized into these beautiful, miniature Crosses of Stone. Years and years afterward, when all the Fairies had disappeared from this enchanted spot, the ground around their bathing pool was found strewn with hundreds and hundreds of these crystallized tear drops."

It is reputed that the lovely Pocahontas wore a necklace of these Lucky Fairy Crosses, and, after her romantic and historic meeting with Captain John Smith, so interested was she in his welfare that she gave him one of her own Crosses as a future safe-guard against all evil influences.



Boulder Buster Banquet with
Junior Banquet
Smorgasbord Barbershop Singing
Barbeque Bonfire Bus trips
Four days of collecting
Swapping Silent Auction

...a few of the things which you
will be able to enjoy in the
"Rockhounds' Paradise, U.S.A."!

Make a date to be in Ishpeming,
Michigan, on July 1 through 4
for the best time of your life!

COME ONE, COME ALL!



Host Club: The Ishpeming Rock &
Mineral Club.

