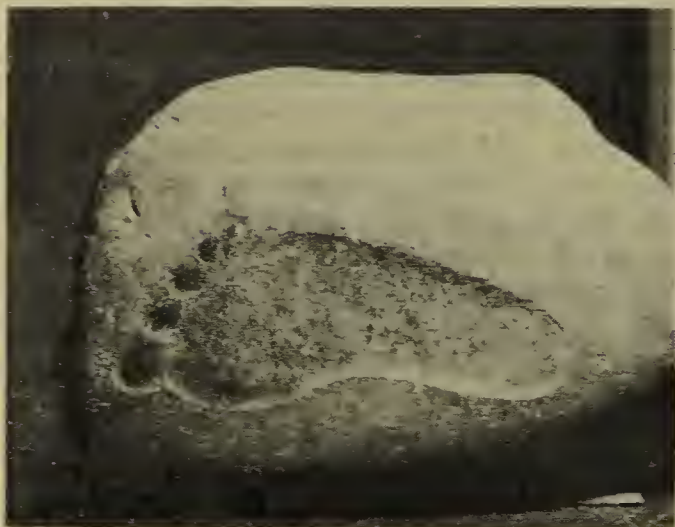


Spade and Screen

By FRED ROBINSON



Strange Impressions in Stone

The above photograph was sent in by Mr. Paul Bonneau, of Gravelbourg, Sask. This strange find, one of many stone age relics found by Mr. Bonneau, has been made for some purpose by prehistoric man. The marking in the shape of a human foot has been abraded out on a hard boulder by using another sharp stone, or many sharp stone implements, as chipping tools. Such relics are very rare and are related to the "hand" objects shown in the last issue of the Blue Jay. Only one other "Foot" specimen has been found in Saskatchewan and it is quite similar to the above and is now in the Provincial Museum. These with other effigies are a great puzzle to archaeologists the world over. What are they, — badges of authority — stone Gods — markers or just tribal treasures? The puzzle keeps the subject of archaeology a thrilling one indeed. This specimen is cut on a rock weighing 50 pounds and is nearly twice the weight of the similar specimen in the Provincial Museum. An American collector has offered Paul Bonneau \$600

for this strange relic. It is hoped that somehow the "foot" will remain in its native land.

A Worthy Exhibition

We are pleased to publish a splendid letter from Mr. A. M. Provick of the Wolverine Hobby and Historical Society which has been received for this issue.

Dear Sir:

I believe that some of the activities of our Society would be of interest to Spade and Screen readers. Our program for 1955 included a very interesting and well supported exhibition of stone age artifacts held in Spy Hill on November 1st last. The quality of the exhibits, and the enthusiasm displayed made it entirely possible that more shows of this kind would be held in the future. Those present included collectors from Welwyn, Spy Hill, Tantallon, Hazelcliffe, Yarbo and Gerald. Mr. J. Ward of Welwyn displayed a very extensive collection of artifacts mostly all from the Welwyn district. Highlight of the evening was Mr. Ward's address, followed by questions and general discussion. In connection with the "limestone artifact" described on page 27 of the last BLUE JAY, owned by J. M. Provick — this oddity was also on display at our show, and I should mention that there were at least two other authentic limestone artifacts on display, and all caused much discussion and comment. One of these was an ordinary grooved hammer of conventional type, another was a very fine moccasin last similar to one illustrated on page 23, Vol. VII, No. 1 of the TENNESSEE ARCHAEOLOGIST, 1951. The third was the oddity owned by J. M. Provick, and I should like to mention here that this artifact in no way resembles a pestle and could hardly be used as one, being hardly $\frac{1}{2}$ " in thickness and far too frail in construction. It slightly resembles some tools described as "spuds," illustrated on page 125 of PREHISTORIC ART (The Greater St. Louis Archaeological Society, 1953) but even these would be an inadequate comparison. At a Hobby show staged also at Spy Hill earlier in the year, there was another

limestone object displayed. This was a heavy rough block of limestone with a neat hole of fair diameter drilled right through it, and was found in the Rocanville district. Due to the neatness of the hole some were of the opinion that this object was the work of some early settlers rather than aborigines, and no possible use for it could readily be imagined.

It would be interesting to hear of other limestone tools in the possession of Blue Jay readers. Let's keep the "Spade and Screen" pages going, and enlarged.

A. M. Provick.

Mr. W. J. McDONALD of Yorkton has written the editor to say that the "plate" shown on page 27 of the last issue of the Blue Jay (top of picture) is from his Indian Relic collection. He is indeed fortunate to own such a rare specimen.

Mr. THOS. H. DUTTON, Gilbert Plains, Manitoba sent in the accompanying picture of several Pemican Hammers and you will notice another one of the strange stone "Plates" shown in the lower right of the picture. This also has an image and outline of a hand cut in the stone. It was found at Gladstone, Manitoba in 1889. Although these

relics are very rare, they are nevertheless widespread as they have been found here and there over the plains. Each museum seems to be able to acquire one or two.

1955 BIRD BANDING

(Continued from page 11)

Thue. The 14 new species banded this year brought the all-time total to 106 species — this apparently is the first time that 100 species have been banded in Saskatchewan. (And only because of my earlier start; Street and Matthews are close behind in number of species and probably ahead in the number of individuals).

I would appreciate learning of the locations of nesting colonies (where the actual nests have been seen) of Pelicans, Cormorants, Gulls and Herons. Write me at 416 - 11th St. Sutherland, or phone collect to Saskatoon 25736 (before July 1st).

CANADIAN NATURE

(Continued from page 23)

the starting and guiding of an **Audubon Junior Club**. Excellent material is sent to each child, who pays only 25 cents per year. The instructions to the leader are so good that any of us could lead a group. Find ten children or more and start a Junior Club now.

