

ing process, and you may sometime find a use for these small fragments when polished with the rest.

In constructing a tumbler it is desirable that provision be made whereby the gas generated in the tumbling process can be allowed to escape daily.

Experience will indicate the procedure that suits the individual. Experience will also indicate the types of rocks best suited for polishing. Generally, the harder the material, the better the polish. One soon learns to distinguish the harder types of rock. Among the rocks best adapted to polishing will be found petrified wood, agate and chalcedony and the harder of the fine grained quartzites, such as many of the banded quartzites found in the Cypress Hills and elsewhere.

For the person who has a quantity of rocks that are of little value for cutting with the diamond saw, the tumbler is very useful. Should the tumbling process show up specimens of especial interest, they can still be made other use of. Should there be a surplus of rocks too large for the tumbler, they can be broken up and also run through the machine. If only tumbling a small quantity of pieces, it might be advisable and desirable to rough-shape them prior to tumbling, especially if they are designed for jewellery use, such as lariat ties or other purposes. Cut slices may even be put through the tumbler with fair results, and save much hand polishing.

THE BLUE JAY INDEX

The **Blue Jay Index**, compiled by Mrs. Joyce Deutscher, S.M.N.H., covers the first 18 years of the **Blue Jay**, from 1942 to 1960. Valuable for all who have complete or even partial sets of the **Blue Jay**; for those who want to check what records have been published before consulting sets owned by others; and for all those interested in the history and work of the **Blue Jay**. Price \$2.00 plus tax. Available from the **Blue Jay**, Box 1121, Regina, Sask.

Note that special publications #1, 2, 3 are also available at the above address.

THE SASKATOON LAPIDARY AND MINERAL CLUB

Back in March, 1961, a small group of interested people gathered in the Geology Department of the University of Saskatchewan. Under the able guidance of Ernie Hedger a club was organized and named the Saskatoon Lapidary and Mineral Society. Ernie Hedger was elected president.

Since that time the membership has climbed to about fifty. Meetings are held at the University on the third Monday of each month excepting July and August. The Geology Department willingly contributes speakers whenever requested, which adds to the interest and educational value of these meetings.

Situated as we are on 3000 feet of glacial till does not make this exactly a rock hound's paradise, but it is surprising what can be found in the gravel pits. Wood is plentiful, usually as small, water-worn boulders. Jet black flint polishes beautifully and is not hard to find. Occasionally a real prize is picked up in the form of a bit of golden swirl agate, which equals California's finest.

Attendance on field trips continues to mount, and this winter should see more members' obtaining equipment and joining the "cutting fraternity."

Officers for 1962 are: Ernie Hedger, Past President; Dave Harrop, President; Tom Phenix, Vice-President; Ruby Drinkle (Mrs.), our able and hard working Secretary-Treasurer.

David Harrop, Saskatoon.

REMINDER FROM THE BLUE JAY SHOP

1. **Now in Stock** — Mrs. Alice Kehoe's **Hunters of the buried years**. Price, \$2.00 plus 10c tax.
2. **Still Available**—1962 Christmas Card (Downy Woodpecker). Price, \$1.00 plus 5c tax.