

Calling all Rockhounds and Pebble Pups

by **Watson Crossley**, R.R. #4, Grandview, Manitoba

During the June 15, 16, 17, 1962, Summer Meeting of the Saskatchewan Natural History Society much interest was shown in the archeological display and in the activities of rockhounds. Many members also indicated that they would like to see more space in the **Blue Jay** devoted to the interests of the rockhounds.

Speaking on this point the editor said, "If there has been a shortage of such items in the **Blue Jay** it is only because those interested in these things have not supplied the editor with material." It appears then that it is up to the rockhounds. Articles are needed telling of the experiences, the activities and the problems of rockhounds. Interest in rock collecting and polishing is probably the most rapidly growing hobby today. We, rockhounds in the Prairie Provinces, can get acquainted and learn what others are doing by publishing items in the **Blue Jay**.

I have, for the past several years, been keenly interested in furthering knowledge and activity in lapidary and archeology. Increased use of the pages of the **Blue Jay** is one more way in which this objective may be achieved. At the same time I hope that the society will gain many new

members. With this in mind I am prepared to sponsor a few articles on lapidary that might be of interest and assistance to beginners. I realize that there are others in western Canada better qualified to give such information. I hope, however, that they, too, will contribute to these pages. My personal experience has shown me that no two persons will have identical procedures in getting desired results in bringing out the hidden beauty in a stone. The beginner, therefore, should experiment with various methods and decide which is best for him.

Probably many beginners have questions they would like to ask, such as: how do I start collecting and polishing pretty stones? Where can I get the necessary equipment and what will it cost? Et cetera. Would you like to have a question and answer column in the **Blue Jay**?

How about it, fellow rockhounds and pebble pups (junior rockhounds)? May we hear from you, either direct or through the editor of the **Blue Jay**? How about getting other rockhounds interested in subscribing to the **Blue Jay** and becoming members of the Saskatchewan Natural History Society? The editor says it's up to us!



Photo by E. I. Syverud, Dagmar, Montana.

The picture of this petroglyph, deeply incised on a rock, just north of Sleeping Buffalo Monument, between Saco and Malta, Montana, was sent in by A. J. Hruska, Gerald. Petroglyphs should be protected and preserved, please write if you know of any petroglyphs.