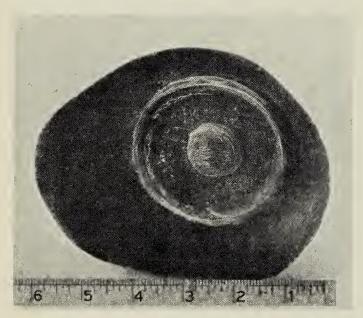
found it to contain deep rings on its top and bottom surfaces.

For years the stone remained a puzzle to all who saw it, until May 1970, when Mr. J. V. Hodges of Regina looked at it and immediately announced — "That's an excellent specimen of a concretion".

Mr. G. C. Watson of the Saskatchewan Museum of Natural History at Regina, after examining the rock in October, 1971, wrote: "The specimen is an ironstone concretion. The centre is a large clay ball and the bonding effect is produced by iron bearing material being attracted to the nucleus."



Photographs and detailed sketches of the rock were submitted to Mr. B. A. McCorquodale, Head Curator of Human History at the Provincial Museum at Edmonton, Alberta. He stated: "I am quite certain that the item is a concretion. Varying degrees of hardness of the material has accounted for the concentric grooves. Erosion has sectioned the concretion twice, accounting for the appearance of the pattern on both sides."

The finding of the specimen in the Tisdale area, while uncommon, was to be expected since its deposit on Mr. Whenham's farm was through the courtesy of a retreating glacier over 60 million years ago.

Mr. McCorquodale has authored a well written and profusely illustrated booklet entitled *Concretions and some other sedimentary structures* which is available through the Saskatchewan Museum of Natural History in Regina.

## 30 Years Ago

Thirty years ago, with the Jul August-September issue, the fir volume of the *Blue Jay* was complete and the Editor, Mrs. Priestly, to stock of the situation: "When brought out the first number last O tober, it was on a veritab 'shoestring', both as regards funds ar news. In fact there were momen when, having taken 'quarters' fro people, we wondered if we would able to make good our promise of for issues! However all that is past histor the response we have had to of bulletin is more than encouraging ar all work connected with its production has been more than repaid by the nur ber of delightful and interesting co tacts we have made with people in a corners of the province. And we si cerely hope that the Blue Jay will co tinue to convey news of happenings the outdoor world to an ever-widening circle."

Though the membership fee of cents barely covered the cost of pap and stencils, it was decided not to i crease it since the *Blue Jay* was t Yorkton club's main method of e couraging interest in native wild life

After only a year of publication t Blue Jay was becoming known and preciated outside Yorkton and ev outside Saskatchewan. When J. Dew Soper, then Chief Federal Migrato Bird Officer for the Prairie Provinc stopped in Yorkton on June 2, 194 Mrs. Priestly reported that "he h some extremely nice things to s about the Blue Jay and the work it w doing to arouse greater interest in c wild life." Dr. A. L. Rand of t National Museum of Canada also s the Blue Jay's potential as a means acquiring information about the lit known smaller animals of the prairi and sent the Museum's list of b recorded for Saskatchewan publication in the hope of obtaini further specimens.

Among the contributors to this nu ber of the *Blue Jay* was Judge L.

McKim of Melville who sent in an ineresting page of bird notes from the ocal area. He was also cited for his ribute to Judge J. M. Patrick of Moosomin (formerly of Yorkton) who lied suddenly on June 9. "He was a rue conservationist", wrote Judge Ackim in the Yorkton Enterprise, even before many of us realized the ecessity of protecting our game birds nd animals and contributed in no mall way to bringing into effect many heasures for their preservation." For ver 25 years Judge Patrick had mainained a deer park and bird sanctuary on the outskirts of Yorkton, until he hoved to Moosomin in 1935.

In this issue the Blue Jay also paid ribute to other publications featuring nature columns. Marion Nixon's

"Nature" in the Saskatchewan Farmer had been mentioned in the previous issue, and now members were also urged to read Mrs. Elizabeth Flock's delightful nature articles that appeared from time to time in the Regina Leader-Post. Another nature column was being conducted in the young people's section of the Western Producer under the heading "Do You Watch the Birds?" In this column letters were printed from "young cooperators" describing the birds they had seen and fed. "Do You Watch the Birds?" had been running for some years and Mrs. Priestly commended the column on doing good work in encouraging the younger generation to take an interest in the bird life of the province.

## ANNUAL MEETING SASKATCHEWAN NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY

The 25th Annual Meeting will be held in Saskatoon at the Saskatchewan Institute of Applied Arts and Sciences, Idylwyld Drive and 33rd Street, commencing Friday evening October 12th and continuing all day Saturday. In addition to the business sessions, there will be natural history programs and the annual supper — an opportunity to participate in Society affairs and help chart its future, and to pursue natural history interests among friends.

The Honourable Jean Chretien, Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, whose ministry includes national parks, has been invited to be our guest speaker.

Following are names and addresses of the chairmen of the key committees. If you have any suggestions please get in touch with them.

- Resolutions, Tom Gentles, 41 Langley St., Regina.
   If possible, send proposed resolutions to Tom by October 10th.
- Nominations, Frank Roy, 1702 Sommerfeld Ave., Saskatoon.
- Awards, Dr. Stuart Houston, 863 University Dr., Saskatoon.
- Annual Meeting Arrangements, Mrs. J. W. Gerrard, 809 Colony St., Saskatoon.

All members are urged to attend. On this, the occasion of the 25th Annual Meeting, a special invitation is extended to members who joined the Society in its initial year.

Further details will appear in the next issue of the Newsletter.