

Macoun's Rose (*R. Macounii*) is perhaps our most beautiful species when in flower. Like Wood's rose it grows to a height of six feet, or more, in the wood bluffs along the Qu'Appelle and other valleys. The stem is light brown in color, and like that of the Prickly Rose, is covered with sharp lance-like thorns of varying length, up to $\frac{3}{8}$ of an inch. There are about twenty on each half inch of stem and about five of these are long dangerous weapons, circular in cross sections. The hip is spherical, without a neck and about $\frac{3}{8}$ of an inch thick.

The Pubescent Rose (*R. suffalta*) has been reported from McKague and Swift Current, and the Smooth Rose (*R. blanda*) from Indian Head and Saskatoon. Unfortunately, I have neither of these species in my collection and so am unable to give any first-hand observations as to appearance.

GENERAL NOTES

Mrs. E. C. Boon, of Tullis, Sask., reports that red lillies were quite prevalent last summer, "usually we just find the odd one; never more than three or four in one spot. It was a pleasant surprise to find them so numerous. In 1938 and 1939 there were none in the pasture which, last July, was dotted with them".

- - - - -

J. Turnquist of Wallwort, writes to say the Red Lilly is still quite plentiful in that district "largely due to much waste land.

- - - - -

This reminder may not be seasonal, but please keep it on file. The Provincial Museum wishes readers to report on snakes. Mr. Bard writes as follows: "We are anxious too, to have specimens of all snakes, exceptional sized garter snakes, hog nosed snakes, green snakes and rattle snakes. Records of occurrence, distribution and abundance are equally important, all such reports should be sent to the Provincial Museum, Normal School, Regina."

- - - - -

Mrs. John Hubbard, Jr., of Grenfell writes to say that a beaver, usually a rarity in the Grenfell district, has moved into a fairly small slough beside Number 47 highway and is evidently using the culvert in the grade for a home. Two bears were reported in the Grenfell district during early October. Mrs. Hubbard reports that frogs were plentiful in the garden at harvest time and in the strawberry patch all summer.

- - - - -

Here is an interesting report from one of our members, Mr. John Wilson of Hazel Dell, Sask. "My boys dug a well out here on the farm and 82 feet down came upon a large piece of limestone rock. With great difficulty this was hoisted to the surface, weighing perhaps six or eight hundred pounds.

We have recently chipped a corner off this rock and obtained a number of very wonderful fossilized shells of various sorts and sizes and I suppose there must be many more of them. The rock bears all the evidence of glacial action, being rounded and smooth.

I know these fossils are a common occurrence in limestone formations, but I feel very humble and somewhat stunned when I think that the whole of that 82 feet depth of earth, and who knows how much besides, has been dumped there in some prehistoric age and perhaps brought here from hundreds of miles away. It must surely be a very wonderful story for whoever can read the riddle."

- John Wilson-

"The pocket gopher is on the increase in the Wallwort district, probably due to the increased acreage seeded to alfalfa. Richardson's ground squirrel is also on the increase during our dry seasons."

J. Turnquist, Wallwort, Sask,

MUSEUM NOTES

Museum Open House:

Fred G. Bard

On Dec. 15th the Regina Natural History Society, in place of its regular monthly meeting, will attend "Open House" at the Provincial Museum, Normal School. Mr. J. Buckley the President will open with a few remarks to members and introduce the Hon. J. H. Sturdy, Minister of Reconstruction and Rehabilitation who will officially welcome the guests. The society has extended an invitation to the Archaeological Society to attend on this occasion.

The visitors will have an opportunity of viewing behind the scenes, talking with the staff members, discussing points of interest relative to the work. It is expected a better understanding will come about during this informal meeting.

Museum Observers:

Observers are welcome to send in notes relative to Natural History in Saskatchewan to the Provincial Museum, Regina.

Bradshaw, Buchanan, Furniss, Harold, Holmes, Mitchell, Pearce, Potter, Symons, are some whose names have added a great deal to faunal records for Saskatchewan: These men are no longer with us, for the most part they have moved from the Province. The standard they have set is high; it will not be easy to replace such men, but through selection, guidance and encouragement, time will again provide us with the coverage we need; therefore, anyone deeply interested, and with a fair knowledge of birds, animals etc., of Saskatchewan are invited to send their observations to the Museum. This information is needed to determine the abundance and distribution of species, and their change from year to year.

Eagles, Hawks, Owls

Too often we read in the press, accounts of eagles being shot and the proud hunter tells in detail all that leads up to the killing.

There is nothing very wonderful about killing in this day and age, with the use of smokeless powder and modern guns that will fire with great rapidity. I can understand the need for farmers, poultry raisers to take matters into their own hands to deal with the offenders when the need arises, but there is no justification in each owner of a gun, killing everything he sees.