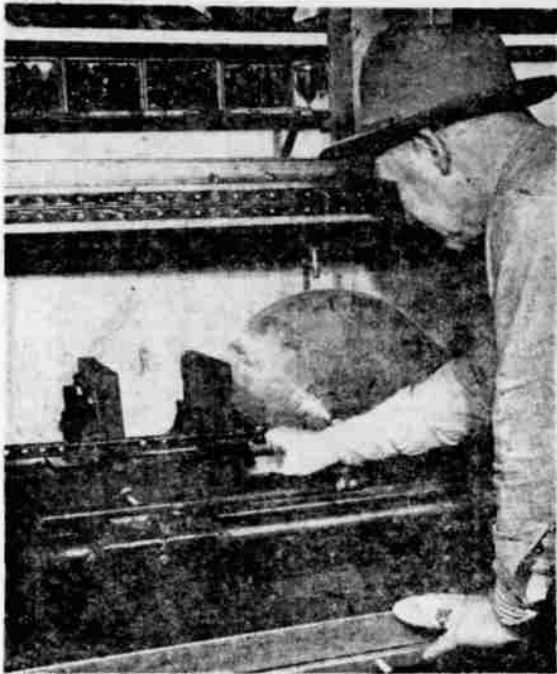




A SLABBING SAW is seen in operation here at the shop of Bill Vernon, 2126 Darrow. The saw Vernon is operating here was built by John Yaden and is typical of the equipment used by rockhounds. The blade is a special rock blade with diamond teeth which makes a smooth cut. The stone being cut is a large chunk of agate which will later be formed into various kinds of jewelry.



THE FINAL TOUCHES to a preform gemstone are put on by Clarence Cornett in his shop using a grinding stone. The gem preform is attached to the dope-stick used in holding the stone during the grinding and polishing process. Cornett is the president of the Klamath Mineral Club.

Beauty In Stone

(Continued from Page 2)

rockhound is one of the most enjoyable hobbies we have ever had. We know of no other way in which one can see some of Mother Nature's most beautiful works. One can take it as easy as he wishes or work as hard as he cares and still will marvel at what is hidden in a common looking rock.

"We have been in this hobby a little less than two years and every field trip is just a little more exciting, as one is always looking for a gem rock a little bigger and more beautiful than the last. This hobby is just as expensive as you want to make it. Just a few dollars will get you good equipment, or you can spend thousands for the very best. We have built all ours except for the grinding arbor. If you want to enjoy a wonderful hobby and at the same time hear people say you have rocks in your head, just be-

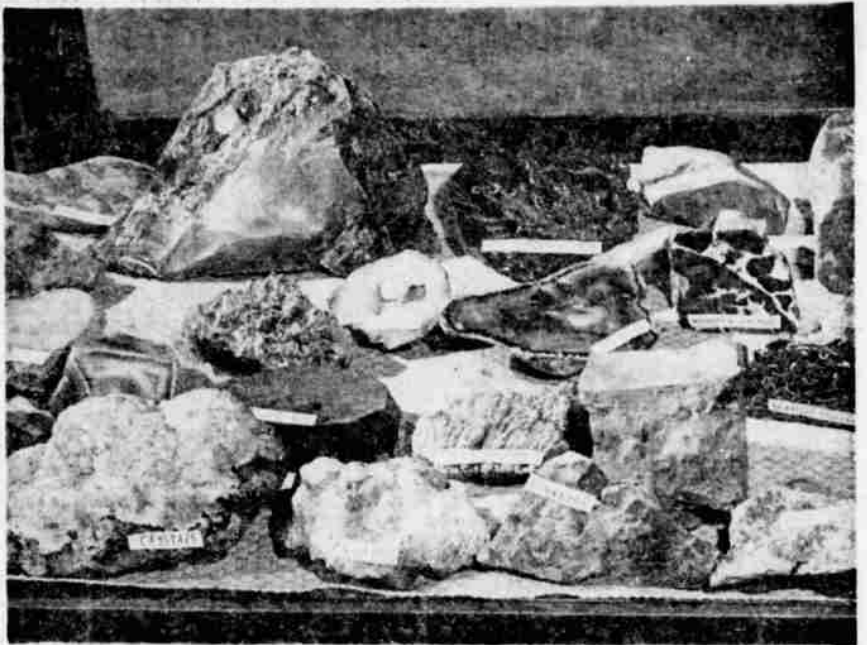
come a rockhound."

That probably sums it up about as well as anyone could put it. Interested persons can get in touch with club officers. President of the Klamath Mineral Club is Clarence Cornett. Vice president is Howard Allen. Mrs. Allen serves as secretary. Bill Vernon is field chairman and O. C. Rice is federation delegate.

The club meets the last Thursday of each month in the Community Lounge, on North Seventh Street at eight in the evening. Three to five field trips are held each year in the area bounded by Bend, Lakeview, the Lava Beds and Alturas.

If you, too, want rocks in your head, we suggest you contact any of the officers or drop in on one of the meetings. I'm sure you'll be made welcome.

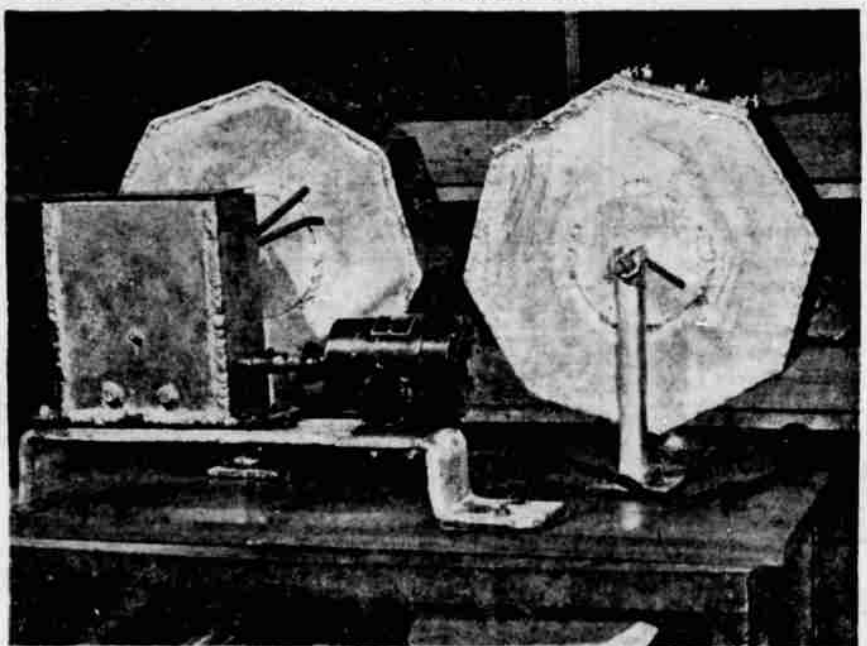
And you can learn firsthand about this business of being a rockhound.



A WIDE VARIETY OF GEMSTONES is covered in this collection belonging to Bill Vernon, field trip chairman for the Klamath Mineral Club. Included are such exotic items as jade and agate, cinnabar, petrified myrtlewood, jasper and others. Had this picture been reproduced in color the table top would have resembled a rainbow.



ONE OF THE BIGGEST. This common looking rock happens to be an agate nodule weighing somewhat over 165 pounds. It was picked up, with much heaving and grunting you can be sure, by finder Louis Pinion, left, and fellow members of the Klamath Mineral Club. Admiring the big stone with Pinion are Clarence Cornett, center, and Bill Vernon. So far Pinion hasn't decided just what disposition to make of the enormous agate. The stone was discovered in the Greensprings area.



THIS TUMBLER belonging to veteran rockhound John Yaden, and made by him, is used in polishing baroque, a beach agate. The stones are placed in the motor-driven tumbler along with substance called 80-grit silicone carbide compound and tumbled for about 300 hours. This is what gives the final high polish to the beautiful stones.