

THUNDER BAY FIELD NATURALIST' CLUB

FALL FIELD DAY

SEPTEMBER 20, 1947

Field Naturalist clubs all over Ontario are planning to hold Field Days this autumn. This is the season of the year when the birds, animals and plants are actively preparing for the coming winter. There are many interesting things to observe. The local Field Day will be held in the vicinity of Pass Lake, near the entrance to Sibley Provincial Park. Those wishing to attend will assemble at Central School in either Fort William or Port Arthur by 1.30 P.M. on Saturday, September 20. There will be enough cars to accommodate everyone. The Fort William group will join the Port Arthur members at Central School in Port Arthur and then drive down the Nipigon Highway to Pass Lake. Those coming should bring a picnic lunch. Coffee will be provided by the club. The leaders for the day will be L.S. Dear, A. E. Allin, and C. E. Garton. Field glasses, magnifying glasses, bird and flower guides, and notebooks will add to your enjoyment of the afternoon. Invite your friends and acquaintances to join in our outing.

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SOME GEOLOGICAL NOTES ON THE PASS LAKE AREA

Geologically the area is interesting as the zone of contact between the Animikie and Sibley series of Kaministikwan rocks. Concretions occur in a railway rock cut near Pass Lake and cone-in-cone structure is well developed in these. The oldest rocks are termed the Schist Complex; altered volcanic rocks, chlorite, hornblende, sericite and biotite schists; all of Early Precambrian age. The other rocks are Late Precambrian.

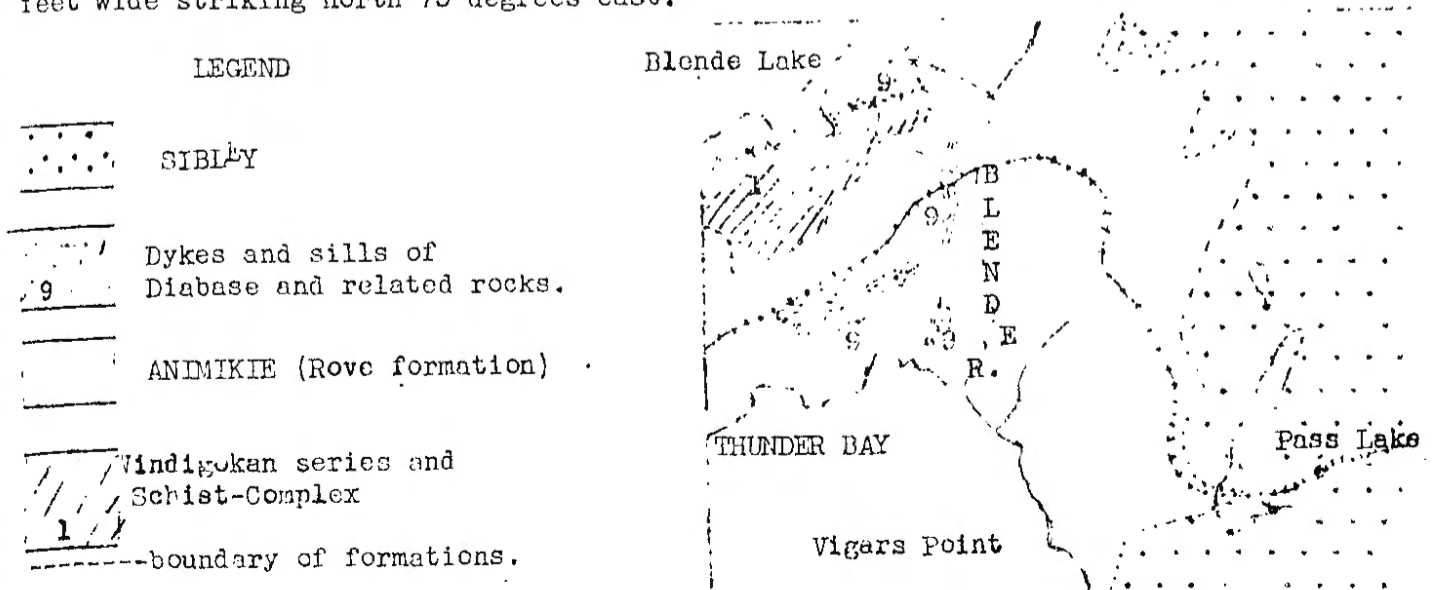
The Rove formation of the Animikie series outcrops at Pass Lake where it is 130 feet thick. Four miles north, at Silver Lake, it is about 20 feet thick, while the total thickness at Mount McKay is presumably more than 1,280 feet. The ROVE Formation is made of interlayered shales and greywackes of questionable origin. Shales make up over half the total and are black, brown, green and red in colour. Flow wrinkles have been observed in this formation, the flowage evidently originating in a southeasterly direction. Concretions are found in this formation.

The SIBLEY series overlies the Animikie Series, and for purposes of description are divided into six members, starting with A lying on the top of the Rove Formation.

(F) Grey grit and quartz sandstone interbedded and intermixed with red mudstone . . . . .	40 Feet
(E) Red and purple mudstone . . . . .	50 - 350
(D) Thinly interbedded grey chert and limestone . . . . .	2
(C) White quartz sandstone . . . . .	40
(B) Pink limestone, red mudstone, and white quartz sandstone . . . . .	60
(A) Basal Conglomerate (pebbles from 1 to 6 inches, mostly small) . . . . .	0 - 8

Pebbles in the conglomerate consist of granite, quartz, iron formation, and rocks of the Schist Complex. Animikie iron formation pebbles are often subangular while the others are usually rounded.

The Blende Lake Silver Vein was discovered by Peter McKellar in 1867 and Ingoll reported assays of \$14 a ton in silver. The vein cements a fault shatter zone some 20 feet wide striking north 75 degrees east.



"GAMMA TRIPLES ALONG NATURE TRAILS"

Our first indoor meeting this autumn will be near the end of October when we expect to have Dick Bird, A.R.P.S., F.Z.S., presenting his colour films of birds and other wildlife. The exact date has not been set but will be announced as soon as possible. This should be an evening of great entertainment to all nature lovers.

BIRDS OF PREY

The Federation of Ontario Naturalists have sponsored an appeal to the Legislative Assembly of the Province of Ontario for protection of the birds of prey found within this province. The appeal is based on the scientific evidence that the majority of hawks and owls perform a great service in destroying disease-carrying and crop-destroying rodents. Only the Goshawk and the Horned Owl are excepted from the list of birds of prey that require protection.

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"A person can hardly step out of doors or look through a window without seeing some aspect of geology, while on his travels geologic history is displayed everywhere". R. C. Hussey, Professor of Geology, University of Michigan.

So reads the cover message of the "MINNESOTA GEOLOGIST", official bulletin of the Geological Society of Minnesota. The society is devoted to the study of Geology and Mineralogy for their cultural value. Membership is \$1.00 a year for non-residents. Neatly mimeographed, the copy received contains articles on the society's Black Hills Field Trip, and on heat, on the Oil Geology of the African Gold Coast, and on America's Oldest Mines.

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Two books, now on the shelves of the Port Arthur Public Library, will be of interest to all Field Naturalists. "Modern Bird Study" by Ludlow Griscom, Chairman of the Board of the National Audubon Society, is a very readable book. The chapters devoted to migration are especially interesting. Among the causes listed are surplus populations, failures of food supplies, abundance of food supplies, restricted feeding habits, variations in rainy seasons, and possibly from habit caused by the Ice Ages. The author asserts "of all living creatures, birds are the most perfectly adapted to withstand extremes of temperatures"

"GAME MANAGEMENT" by Aldo Leopold, the outstanding advocate of Conservation in North America, is a book everyone should read before expressing an opinion concerned with the protection of wild life. The style is surprisingly readable for a work that contains so many facts. It charts the way to the better management of our wildlife resources. Through its pages one can gain a better understanding of Nature, for they are written by a man who has devoted his life to the betterment of Nature's children.

Many other good books on natural history have been placed on the shelves of the Public Libraries in both Lakehead cities. The librarians in either city will be glad to tell you about these new additions.

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Hoping to see you on September 20th

C. E. Garton, President  
A. E. Allin, Vice President  
K. W. Denis, Secretary.