

*It's A Gem*

# Mineral Show Scheduled

The Michigan Mineralogical Society will hold its 10th annual Greater Detroit International Gem and Mineral Show at Detroit's Light Guard Armory, 4400 E. Eight Mile Road, Oct. 12, 13 and 14.

With special exhibits by the Smithsonian Institute, Cranbrook Institute of Science, Royal Ontario Museum, American Museum of Natural History, the Goddard Collection of Wayne University, and 22 leading gem and mineral dealers participat-

ing, the show is literally priceless.

Detroit's show is unique among similar shows presented throughout the country, by virtue of inviting 3,000 schoolchildren from the tri-county area for a field trip preview and giving them educational packets. The children's tour will be given during the day Friday, Oct. 12.

The show's official opening on Friday, Oct. 12, is at 6 p.m. and it runs through Sun-

day at the same time. Public admission is \$1.50 adults; children, 50 cents.

While the appeal and fascination to the beauty, history, and mystery, of all kinds of specimens taken from the earth once attracted only a few hundred people, collectors, rockhounds, and admirers now number in excess of two million persons. Michigan, alone, has some 8,000 rockhound hobbyists.

A "rockhound" — not a devotee of pop music — is by

definition a person who digs and/or collects rocks. But that seems a marginal definition because today the word embraces lapidarists, fossil buffs, lithophilists, geologists, mother earth scratchers, jewelers, collectors, and people interested in these arts.

Mel Berry, general show chairman, points out throughout the three-day presentation some of the nation's leading dealers and wholesalers will be there offering mineral specimens, lapidary material, lapidary and jewelry items, and fossils.

The scope of the Gem and Mineral Show includes: exhibits and demonstrations in lapidary, faceting, minerals, fossils, semi-precious stones, jewelry, opal crosses, silversmith; competitive and noncompetitive displays in the fields of lapidary and paleontology, as well as mineralogy; and a special feature program which daily brings to its platform renowned speakers.

The first speaker this year will be Dr. Peter Bancroft, whose talk will coincide with the introduction of his new book — entitled "The Art of Mineral Collecting." He can be heard at 8 p.m., Friday.

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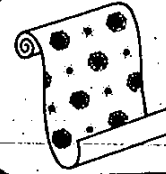
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