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It was decided to collect dues of One Dollar per adult and Fifty Cents per School Student to cover running expenses and refreshments.

Mr. Servos gave a short talk on "The Six Crystal Systems" illustrating his talk with models of the different crystal systems.

After adjournment of the meeting the ladies served cocoa, coffee and cookies.

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The fourth meeting was on March 7, 1957.

After the routine business of the meeting was concluded Field Trip Chairman, Ken Carr, gave a list of possible field trips and asked each member to sign a paper designating his choice for a trip in April.

The Constitution Committee announced that a copy of the Constitution was available for reading and a copy of this Constitution would be sent to every member so that discussion and voting could be carried on at the April Meeting.

Mr. Elmer B. Rowley then gave the first of many wonderful lectures to the Club. His subject was "Origin and Formation of Minerals Across Our Country." A question and answer period followed and the evening concluded with refreshments.

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The fifth meeting:-

On April 4, 1957, Kurt Servos, Temporary Chairman, called a meeting at which, after minutes were read and accepted, the announcement of a coming field trip to Franklin, N.J., was announced by Field Trip Chairman, Ken Carr.

It was decided to hold discussion and voting on the Constitution at the May Meeting, giving members more time for consideration.

It was then that Club members heard from Mr. Kurt Servos that he was leaving his position as Senior Curator of the New York State Geology Department and that he would teach Mineralogy at Stanford University, Stanford, California.

The Club wished him well in his new situation but deeply

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regretted his leaving. Through his efforts had been brought together a most interested and interesting group of people now numbering more than 70 members, all speaking the common language of minerals and coming from all walks of life and each anxious to learn more about the wonders of this old Earth.

Dr. John G. Broughton, New York State Geologist, then furnished a splendid program speaking on "Strata and Mineral Formation in New York State" emphasizing features that are of interest to mineral collectors.

The good ladies served refreshments for the last time since serving had proved inconvenient and the programs and increasing business matters were taking the full time allotted for the meeting. Due to Museum rules it was necessary that the rooms be vacated by ten o'clock.

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April 28, 1957, became a memorable date as that day started a long line of sometimes fruitful, sometimes not, but always congenial and enjoyable FIELD TRIPS. It is on these outings that the members become better acquainted with their fellow members as well as the minerals. The field trips are no small part of the 'Club's activities.

This first field trip is long to be remembered by all who attended. It was a good turn-out for the Club's first venture. Franklin Furnace, Franklin., N. J., was the site and the object was the search for such fluorescent material as Willemite which fluoresces a beautiful green, Calcite fluorescing from pink to a spectacular red, depending on the light used, and Calcium Larsenite which fluoresces yellow.

Many other minerals are found in this famous spot. Zincite and Franklinite, though non-fluorescent, are worth finding and if a collector is extremely lucky he may come up with one of the interesting octahedrons of Franklinite.

The day was sunny, bright and very hot, there being no leaves on the trees to give shade that early in the year. Fishermen were wading in the stream near-by and birds were singing overhead. The mineral collecting was far better than our brand-new collectors realized but many of our members now display with pride the specimens they found that day.

Two locations were visited, the old Buckwheat Dump and another on the hill-top. Then many of the group went to "Father Steve's" home to view his outstanding collection of Franklin Minerals. After this everyone returned to the cars and left for home satisfied with their first day in the Field.

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The last meeting before the Summer recess was held May 2, 1957. This was the sixth meeting and the last one to be called to order by Chairman Servos.

After the minutes were read and approved a report was given by Leo Vermann on the Franklin Field Trip.

The Constitution was changed slightly. Article II, Section 3 was changed to read "suitable" in place of "acknowledged authorities as". Article VI, Section 1, dealing with time of meeting, was tabled until the September Meeting.

Now came the first election of Officers as follows:-

- Jerome F. Lapham - President
- Kenneth P. Carr - Vice-President
- (Mrs.) Jean Carr - Secretary
- (Mrs.) Olga Pohl - Treasurer

Robert M. Eisenhard, a student at R.P.I. made an announcement that he and some of his class-mates, members of our Club, would be graduating and leaving for other parts of the Country. He said that they would recommend that other students join the Club.

Kurt Servos now made a short fare-well speech as this was his last meeting.

Kurt Servos will never be forgotten. He helped over the rough spots and left the Club in a flourishing condition. We are proud of him and will do our best to make him proud of the Capital District Mineral Club which he founded.

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On May 18th., 1957 a Board Meeting was held at the home of Vice-President Carr in Round Lake. Present at this meeting were President Lapham, Vice-President Carr and Secretary Hean Carr.

The purpose of this meeting was to establish Committees but only two committees were formed since it was first necessary to become acquainted with the members knowledge and capabilities in different realms of our needs, as well as the amount of time each member might be able to give to the work of the Club.

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The Committees formed were:-

Program Committee

- Mr. Elmer Rowley - Chairman
- Mr. Vernon Haskins
- Mr. Mark Boyce
- Mr. Robert Rourke, Sr.

Field Trip Committee

- Mr. Kenneth P. Carr - Chairman
- Mr. Robert Ransom
- Mr. Ross Clothier
- Mr. Richard Williams
- Mr. John Schof
- Mr. George Ellrott

Later, as a result of this meeting and after due consideration, two additional Committees were formed as follows:-

Public Relations

- Dr. Arnold Pohl
- Mr. William Cotrofeld

Map Committee

- Mr. Kenneth P Carr
- Mr. Daniel Horan
- Mr. Jerome Lapham
- Mr. Anthony Satnoff

On Sunday, May 19, 1957, The Club mineral collecting group traveled to Brewster, N.Y., where the Tilly Foster Mine is located. Robert Rourke, Sr., handled this trip and many new collectors began to learn the rudiments of mineral collection.

There was a handy spot for parking all the cars and it was not too hard a walk to the dumps. The day was a little rainy and on the coolish side but that did not prevent finding some fair magnetite and a few other minerals, nothing spectacular. Quite a bit of exploring was done for much has been said of the material from this area.

Over all it was a satisfying day if not too exciting.

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Sunday, June 23rd., 1957, was the beginning of the many quests of the Club for the very beautiful "Herkimer Diamonds".

A map was prepared by the Field Trip Committee and copies given to each interested member. The map showed just how to reach the "Barker Farm" outside of the village of Fonda, N.Y. To describe briefly this area in which the Herkimer diamonds are found; a ridge of Limestone runs North and South in our collecting location. This ridge is tree-covered and the gray rock can be broken out in huge sections as it has many fissures in which are found some of the larger Xls. It is not easy collecting as the rocks must be pried out with crow-bars but the reward is great. Then too, many times excellent Xls. are found loose in the dirt where they have weathered out of the rock.

On this first trip many collectors found good "Diamonds" but many were so new to this type of collecting that it was more in the nature of learning where to look and planning on the necessary tools to take next time.

It should be recorded here, though we dislike to mention unpleasant things, that this has been one of the danger areas in our collecting. Before any club member was allowed to go into the field he was briefed on safety rules. One good rule to follow everywhere is "Keep your eyes and ears open and be careful where you step." Another is "Never place a hand above your head on a rock unless you can see what is there."

Yes, you have guessed it. The Fonda area has been known to harbor rattle-snakes. Many are the stories told of rattlers in the diamond diggings but as far as your writer knows none of us has ever heard or seen any in that location. Needless to say we are still wary.

We see very few snakes in our mineral hunts. A troop of rock-hounds arriving, laughing and shouting, at a spot, armed with picks, hammers, hoes, gem-scoops, and other lethal and noisy weapons, is very good insurance against unwelcome encounters.

Now, many years later, one of the favorite yearly Club Field Trips is still the hunt for the lovely Rock Crystal, faceted so cunningly by Nature.

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Sunday, July 28, 1957, was the date on which the first mineral collecting trip to Chester, Vermont, took place. This too, has become a favorite spot for the collectors who do not mind some really heavy sledge swinging and prying out of boulders which is now necessary in order to find the excellent cubes of Pyrite, some at least one inch square.

However, on this first trip, the showy specimens of Actinolite, which are more easily obtained, took the spotlight. On subsequent field trips to Chester, Grunerite, Ankerite and Magnetite have been found. The pyrite cubes and Actinolite are most highly prized.

On that July day the crowd met at ten-thirty at Vail's Rock Shop and Motor Court and proceeded to the Quarry not far away. In those days parking was permitted in the meadow below the dump and there were many cars lined up. The group was not too well acquainted at that time, either personally or with the minerals but a few of the more experienced field-trippers helped those who were so new to the game. One of the younger boys broke open a fair size boulder and exposed a large, beautiful, radiating group of crystals of Actinolite which was probably the best find of the day. At least it was the most spectacular.

When the Club left the location in the late afternoon it was fully agreed that there would be return trips to this spot.

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On September 5th., 1957, the Club began it's Fall Meetings. The Club met at the usual time in the Geology Museum on the fifth floor of the Education Building, which was the regular meeting place until October 6, 1960, more about that date later.

After the minutes had been read and accepted and the Treasurer's report had been made and accepted (and it is interesting to note that at this time our treasury amounted to \$62.04), old business was discussed.

Dr. Worth withdrew a request he had made for a change of meeting night. Then the following proposed amendment to the Constitution, Article VI and By-Laws Article I, Section IV and Article II, Section I;-was read:-

"Resolved that, in pursuance of a discussion held at the regular meeting September 5th., 1957, and a motion made and seconded, that the Presiding President appoint a Committee of three to nominate a candidate for each office at the regular December meeting and that the election of officers take place at the January meeting following the report of the Nomination Committee. That the newly-elected officers be installed at the regular February meeting. That the beginning of the Club fiscal year be changed from the April meeting to the February meeting to coincide with such Amendment."

Miss Mary C. Reed, the new New York State Geology Curator, was introduced to the Club. Miss Reed served in this post until the Summer of 1958.

Our membership in the Eastern Federation of Mineralogical and Lapidary Societies was voted on. Mr. Leo Vermann had paid the entrance fee for the Club which was Five Dollars.

Suggestions were asked for and given regarding future programs.

Then a discussion of insurance, releases and incorporation of the Club took place. President Jerome Lapham appointed Dr. Worth and Chester Hunziker as a Committee to investigate thoroughly the matter of incorporation.

A two day Field Trip to the Gouverneur area in September was announced.

Everyone felt that we had started a new Season full of promise.

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Our good Field Trip Captain, Ken Carr, and his two Co-captains, Harold Lienemann and Jerry Lapham had decided that the Club was ready for a more ambitious venture. So a two day Field Trip, September 21st., and 22nd., was planned in and around the Gouverneur area. Mr. Harold Lienemann, who is one of our Club members, lives in Gouverneur and he did much to make our trip a success.

Reservations for most of the group were made at "Davidson's Cabins" and on this trip, as well as many trips since, we found that it is not only more fun but more advantageous to keep the group together. There are fewer misunderstandings of goals, directions and starting times.

Many were the locations visited on this trip, all interesting and some out-standing. A night trip to the talc dumps at Balmat yielded fluorescent Tremolite in really gorgeous shades of yellow through peach and light petal pink to a beautiful glowing deep rose. These colors appearing under the portable Black Lights which we carried gave many of us, who had never before seen a sight such as this, a beautiful memory.

In a stop at a road-cut at Fine, our Captains, who certainly knew their minerals, aided everyone in identifying the numerous finds there. Other productive locations were the St. Joe Lead Mine and the famous McClear pegmatite.

The trip ended with the never-to-be-forgotten Pierrepont locality. This is the home of Black Tourmaline of most unusual form. Ken Carr described these specimens as "Text Book Specimens". Twice slight showers warned us that we should be seeking the shelter of our cars which were a good quarter of a mile away but the shining black beauties held us there until the third shower drenched us to the skin. Since it was a warm rain and the air was warm it only added excitement and thrill and laughter to the adventure. Luckily it was a two-day Field Trip so we all had dry clothing in which to make the long ride home.

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Jean Carr, Secretary sent out notices to members for the meeting on October 3, 1957, which took place as scheduled.

After the usual business of the meeting Elmer Rowley told the Club of some of the future programs and announced that members who cared to donate specimens for sale to benefit the Club Treasury should bring them to the next meeting.

Dr. Worth gave the Committee's findings regarding incorporation of the Club. He stated that five trustees must be appointed before the incorporation could be arranged with the Regents Board. It was decided to appoint the Trustees at the November meeting.

A discussion was held on the proposed Amendment to the Constitution and By-Laws which was read at the September meeting. Chester Hunziker moved that this Amendment be adopted. Dr. Pohl seconded this motion and the motion was carried.

Elmer Rowley then gave a description of location and minerals to be found at Chandlers Mills, N. H., which was to be the last field trip of the Season.

The September Gouverneur trip was reviewed and it was suggested that this trip be repeated next Season. President Jerome Lapham gave credit to Ken Carr, Field Trip Chairman, for a job well done.

Ralph Geiser then entertained the Club showing a New York Telephone film which dealt with the manufacture of synthetic Quartz Xls. as developed in the Bell Telephone Laboratories.

The Meeting was adjourned at ten o'clock.

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The Field Trip to the Smith Mica Mine at Chandlers Mills, N.H., was planned for October 6th., 1957. The group assembled after a little mix-up as several car-loads of members arrived late at the Ascutney Bridge and had to find their way to the diggings which, like good rock-hounds, they were able to do after getting lost once or twice, also like good rock-hounds. It was a nice crowd even though it was necessary for many to get up around five o'clock on a Sunday morning and get going.

It was a pleasant day and a lot of searching and digging was done. Some of the material hoped for that day was Black Tourmaline, Columbite, Triphylite and Augelite, all Xls. of course. Tourmaline, Mica and a few other minerals were found but most of the diggers were too new at this game to know how to recognize the material or to know just where and how to look for it. However,

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the more experienced ones in the group helped the others learn and when a find was made, brought it to the newcomers, to show them exactly what it looked like.

The good nature and patience of the old-timers with the neophytes is to be praised and is certainly appreciated. Due to their efforts that day everyone went home to examine their day's collection satisfied that they were learning a lot.

All of the Club's Field Trips had been well attended in this first year. Usually about twenty to thirty-five people were there and all hated to see the field trip season come to a close but looked forward to the interesting Winter meetings.

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Jean Carr, the Secretary, notified members of a meeting November 7th., 1957, and asked each one to bring their donation for the "Rock Sale".

The meeting opened with the usual procedure and we were given a little preview of programs to come.

A rule was made regarding payment of dues it being decided to drop from the roster those who were not interested in paying their dues by the December meeting.

Dr. Worth then gave his report on the Club's incorporation. Mr. Hunziker made the necessary motion to incorporate as an Educational Institution and this motion was seconded by Dr. Pohl and the motion carried.

Dr. Worth then made the motion that President Lapham appoint five Trustees. This motion was seconded by Robert Ransom and carried. President Jerome Lapham then appointed the four officers, namely, himself, Kenneth Carr, Jean Carr and Olga Pohl and adding Dr. Worth, whom he named Chairman, as the Board of Trustees.

Then came the Auction Sale of minerals. Since the members were now studying the rocks and minerals they wanted to branch out a little and obtain specimen material which they had no opportunity to collect. Our Officers, keeping a finger on the pulse of the Club, arranged for this sale to help along the embryonic collections.

The amount of \$67.40 was realized at this auction which proves how well this sale was received. The auction has now become a yearly event.

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