

1969, April 26

Mr. Jose G. Rocha,
Inspector de Ráicia
E. del Parral,
Chihuahua, Mexico.

Dear Sir:

In your letter of the 17th of April I understood you to say that some more specimens were being offered you from the meteorite fall. While we have enough for study and exhibit, I would certainly be interested in getting more if it is not too difficult for you. It does not matter if they are small and it would be interesting to see how they hold up under the weather. I suggest if any more are offered you that you go ahead and obtain them. The let me know and I will send the necessary money.

It has been a matter of great scientific debate for the past 10 years or so whether the carbon in some meteorites is actually organic and therefore a sign of life. There are three kinds of "carbonaceous chondrites". The so-called Class I contains about 4 or 5% of carbon; the Class II contains less, about 2%. This new fall is a Class III, which contains the least amount of carbon, generally less than 1%. I understand one analysis of this one showed only 0.3%. But this is why the scientists are so very much interested in this new fall.

It is a long way from El Paso to Ft. Worth, over 600 miles, but if you have any chance to come here let me know and I will certainly do everything I can to make your visit pleasant and interesting. I thought I would write you this time on my business letter-head so you would know more about me.

Thank you for all you have done.

Yours sincerely,

