

1955, August 8

Dr. Frederick C. Leonard,
Dept. of Astronomy,
University of California,
Los Angeles 24, Calif.

Dear Dr. Leonard:

All I can tell you about the Crescent, Oklahoma, meteorite is that it looks exactly similar to the unaided eye and with a small hand lens to the stone from Mighei, Russia. The crust is likewise remarkably identical. The body of the meteorite on the interior is a dull black friable mass, and it is interspersed with little white flecks. The crust is thin, and threadlike or lacy. No outsiders except possibly Nininger have ever taken the trouble to come to see it and therefore I have no other authority's classification. But I feel positive it is the same as Mighei, if you will look that up. I have some of the Mighei, only a few grams, and have seen a larger sample in the U. S. National Collection.

It is my understanding that Mighei was a carbonaceous chondrite. Travis County, Texas, I believe is called a black chondrite, and it is entirely different. I think Crescent is definitely carbonaceous if Mighei is.

I should have sooner congratulated you on the retrieving of the Marlow, Okla., fall, and want to say I was very happy on reading about your identification and acquisition. You have put in much work on the subject and been very free with your efforts in trying to educate the public, and every return you get is deserved.

I will try to follow your kind suggestion and invitation to submit a paper at the meeting if I can find the time to get it worked up and sent to Lincoln soon.

Yours sincerely,