

THE OBSERVATORY
OF THE
UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
ANN ARBOR, MICHIGAN

October 8, 1950

Mr. Oscar E. Monnig
1010 Morningside Drive
Fort Worth 3, Texas

Dear Oscar:

I have frequently thought, since my return to Ann Arbor, of the very enjoyable trip and visit that I had in attending the meetings of the Meteoritical Society and I have especially thought of my pleasant meeting of you and your wife and the other members of the Society. I hope that I will have the opportunity of attending many of the meetings in the future.

I also wanted to write to you to confirm our conversation about the possibilities of obtaining a freshly fallen specimen of a meteorite for Dr. Hildegard Stücklen of Sweet Briar College. As I told you she is working on the problem of detecting cosmic-ray-induced radioactivity in meteorites. This work is extremely important indeed and it, of course, requires freshly fallen meteorites. She has been carrying on this work for some time and you have no doubt noticed her paper on this work in Popular Astronomy, 58, 186, 1950. The work that she has already completed looks very promising but it would be desirable for her to have a long series of activity measures on a freshly fallen meteorite so that the decay curve would be evident. If she acquired a meteorite within, say, a few months after it fell and made continuous measures for a period of one or two years the evidence would very likely be completely definite. For her work she would prefer a meteorite on which a cut could be made to expose a flat surface of several square inches against which she could place the nuclear plates. The plates are 1 x 3 inches and each exposure is for from 1 to 4 weeks.

I want to do everything that I can to help Dr. Stücklen acquire the proper meteorite for her work. Therefore, I would like you to keep this important problem in mind so that in case you find or know of the finding of a freshly fallen meteorite (she has worked mostly on stones but both metallic and stony meteorites are desirable) you will do what you can to obtain a piece for her work. Other than preparing the cut face, the meteorite is not damaged. If a loan can not be arranged than perhaps the owner would be willing to sell a small piece of the required size. I would appreciate your informing me as soon as you can if you should be so fortunate as to know of such a fall.

With best regards

Carl

Carl August Bauer

CAB/p
copy to Dr. Stücklen