

1965, January 9

Dear Walter:

We both thoroughly enjoyed your Christmas card circular. Tempe was most enjoyable, and it appears that The Meteoritical Society has now pretty well been taken over by the professionals, I presume, and I suppose that is as it should be, but it makes me a little sad. What used to be a little cozy gathering of poor souls struggling to get meteorites or do research on them has now grown into a monied technical group. They are fine fellows and all very kind to me, but I gradually feel outclassed and dissatisfied.

Unluckily, I shall be in New York just the week before you, leaving here the 15th and leaving there to come home on the 23rd. We will be at the St. Moritz, Central Park South.

I have not been able to stir our Kansas friend into parting with his second meteorite, and have not solved the mystery of the possible third stone from Belle Plaine. I hesitate to write Dr. Gillerman direct, as it might just stir him into action if there is a meteorite involved he does not have and wants to get, and Phipps will not answer me about the matter. I will try him again. I do have data from Phipps on the exact point of find of two of the meteorites. I wanted to go up there all summer, but he discouraged my coming and I never got around to it.

I did make a trip to west Texas recently and finally secured, at a most liberal price, a 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ iron from Fort Stockton. It is a very interesting and many ways a most interesting specimen. beautiful
It shows fresh flow lines (threads) of melted iron on some edges, but the top as it lay on the ground was sufficiently etched by weathering to show Widmanstätten lines. In a middle zone is a deposit of whitish "caliche" (lime). The finder wanted it personally, for which I never blame an owner, and was convinced it was silver (which made the price high).

Was all set with some of my old cronies to see and even photograph the recent total lunar eclipse but we were totally clouded out, just as we were last December (1963). I am wondering if it was darker than normal. I noticed only much lessened signs of the volcanic dust this past year.

Sincerely,