

MRS. CARL G. HINRICHS

3101 HAWTHORNE BLVD.

ST. LOUIS, MO.

April 15, '43.

Dear Mr. Manning:

It may surprise you to receive this letter from me instead of the long overdue one from Mr. Hinrichs, but I believe it is the only way you will receive the answer you requested in regard to seeing Mr. Hinrichs in your stop-over on your trip to New York.

I am writing this for my procrastinating husband, having suggested to him this morning that I do so, to which he readily agreed, (anything to escape writing a letter) for he had shown me your letter of two weeks ago, and although I reminded him several times to answer you, and he no doubt meant to do so, I'm afraid he would postpone it until too late before your trip, which would be very inconsiderate.

I feel that I should apologize for Mr. Hinrichs' neglect to correspond with you in these past months regarding the meteorite collection, but I might also

tell you that there were many reasons for the fact that he just couldn't give the matter any serious thought, or come to any decision concerning it.

When you wrote to him previously about your aunt's visit, etc., he was just recovering from a two weeks illness, and was so behind in his laboratory work, going back after dinner every night trying to catch up, that he just couldn't have done what you had suggested then, but of course he should have written you a few lines and explained.

Just at present he is again busy trying to "catch up" in the lab., for last week he spent several days and nights at St. Louis University attending a session of Missouri chemists on the study, discussions, etc. of explosives and chemical warfare, which was requested by the U.S. government of the chemists.

We have also had a number of disturbing events in our family circle in the past year, such as a death, a birth (a grandchild) and Mr. Hinrich's elderly sister in the hospital nine months as the result of a broken hip. — I am merely mentioning this, because all of these events <sup>have</sup> taken up so much of our

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time, and have been partly the reason for not giving any further thought to such things as a meteorite collection, etc. — Even though my husband is much inclined to procrastinate in business as well as personal matters, this past year has been a very disturbing and worrisome one for him, as I believe you will understand.

As to the ultimate fate of the meteorites, I frankly can't tell you just what Mr. Hinrichs intends to do about them, for on the rare occasions that he ever discussed the subject with me, he never seemed to have made up his mind as to whether he had decided to sell them or not. — It is my personal opinion that the collection should be in the hands of someone who has both the time and enthusiasm for the study, etc. of the subject, or else in a museum, and my husband has neither the time nor the interest to devote to the subject that his father had.

Anyhow, your contemplated stopover in St. Louis will be a good opportunity for the two of you for a visit, and

Mr. Hinrichs says to tell you he will be glad to see you.

As it is often difficult for Mr. H. to leave his laboratory work at a moment's notice, I'd suggest it would be best if you could let him know a day or two in advance — if possible what day and time you will be in St. Louis, so that he can arrange to be here, at home, to see you.

If you are staying over night in St. Louis, either coming or going back, we would be very glad to have you as our guest, as we are only two now in our big barn, and have more than one guest room.

With kindest regards to you and Mrs. Manning,

sincerely,

Rosa D. Hinrichs  
(Mrs. Carl G.)