

MINERALOGY

Search for Lost Meteorite

Somewhere in Nevada there is a lost meteorite. Forty-five years ago it blazed its way to earth through the evening sky. Since then repeated attempts to trace it to its final resting place have ended in failure. The latest fruitless search took place last month and has just been brought to a close with the return to New York of Dr. Chester A. Reeds, associate curator of invertebrate palaeontology in the American Museum of Natural History. Dr. Reeds headed the searching party sent out by the museum in response to a recent report that the meteorite lay buried in a haystack yard in the upper end of the Jackson Valley, Jackson Mountains, Nevada.

The original report of the meteorite's arrival on this planet came from Tuscarora, a silver mining camp in the northern part of Nevada. Several witnesses there observed its passage through the sky at twilight one evening in the fall of the year, about 1882 or 1883. All agreed that it was an unusually large meteorite and that it undoubtedly landed in Nevada. But estimates of its specific landing place have differed widely and have so far all been wrong.

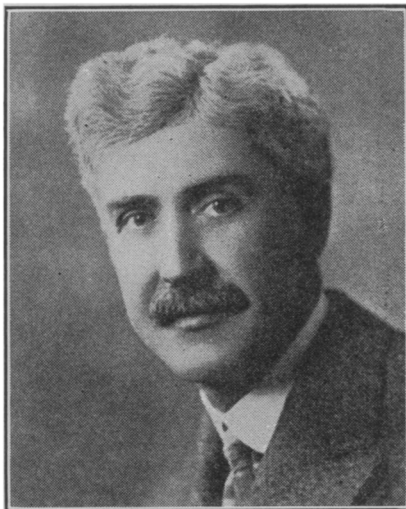
One of the eye-witnesses estimated that the meteorite fell fourteen to sixteen miles from Tuscarora and said that some persons who claimed to have dug down to it reported it to have fallen in a creek bottom where the bed-rock formation was not very near the surface, the meteorite going into the earth thirty-four feet and still remaining raised above the surrounding landscape.

Another observer, a mining engineer who was in Tuscarora at the time, gave a graphic description of what he saw.

"I remember distinctly," he said, "seeing what I presumed to be the cloud left by the passing of the meteor. I was in the open and looked up and saw what seemed to me a coil of smoke of a peculiar color, much like the fluorescent color of Willemite under the ultra violet ray, or the color of molten gold. It was not in a straight line, but seemed to have convolutions. I was very much astonished at the sight and for a moment was unable to comprehend it or to assign any cause to the phenomenon. I did not see the meteor itself, nor did I see the place where it landed. I believe the cattlemen reported it to have fallen in the country west of Mt. Blitzen. It

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PSYCHOLOGY



BIRD T. BALDWIN

Specialist in Babies

Baldwin babies are a popular brand in Iowa, where Dr. Bird Baldwin directs the Iowa Child Welfare Research Station. Parents all over the state bring up their children scientifically by Baldwin methods, and a considerable number send their babies as young as 16 months to get their earliest education in what a baby should know directly from Dr. Baldwin and his assistants.

In scientific circles, this psychologist stands out as one of the pioneers in studying the normal development of young children. His child research station, founded at the University of Iowa ten years ago, was unique when he opened it, and today it is still a well known standard for many similar institutions.

As a result of thousands of experiments and careful record taking, the station has added materially to modern knowledge of these first years of life. Records on 800 babies less than two years of age have been accumulated, and in the anatomical line alone, 659,000 X-ray plates are available showing the growth of the child. The growth curves compiled at this station have been copied widely in scientific books on child and racial development.

Dr. Baldwin, who is playing so large a part in the normal development of young Iowans, is not a native of the tall corn state. He was born in Marshalltown, Pa., in 1875. His Ph. D. degree is from Harvard, 1905. In twenty-seven years he has taught psychology and education in universities as far east as Johns Hopkins and as far west as the University of Texas.

Science News-Letter, July 16, 1927

VULCANOLOGY

Eruption Just Beginning

The awakening of Kilauea, the Hawaiian volcano which after three years quiescence is now again pouring out lava, is considered by volcanologists to be the first stage of a lengthy period during which the inner crater, Halemaumau, will gradually fill with the molten rock.

Experts do not look for a repetition of the great explosive eruption of 1924 when the crater of the inner "Pit of Everlasting Fire" was enlarged ten times. Another sort of eruption is now in progress.

Kilauea is one of the five great volcanoes which have joined in forming the Island of Hawaii. Besides Kilauea, Mauna Loa and Hualalai have been active in historic times. Kilauea consists of a low dome 4,040 feet high on the southeast side of the great dome of Mauna Loa, three times as high. On Kilauea's summit is a shallow crater, three miles long and two miles wide, and in the floor of the crater is the pit of Halemaumau, a hole about 3,500 feet across extending about 1,300 feet below the rim of the volcano. It is within this great fire pit that the lava has now reappeared.

It is estimated that there is now about 50 feet of lava in the inner pit and that it will take about a year for this great hole to fill. When filled, the lava will flow out upon the floor of the main crater.

Upon the very rim of this crater now showing renewed activity there is an observatory from which scientists keep constant watch upon the sleeping volcano. This unique institution is under the direction of Dr. Thomas A. Jaggar who at present is in Alaska investigating volcanoes there and planning similar observatories for that territory. In his absence R. M. Wilson is in charge. Each week for the past few years a letter reporting Kilauea's condition has been issued to the scientists of the world.

Kilauea's present activity is being watched with interest by two Washington scientific organizations, the U. S. Geological Survey under whose jurisdiction the Hawaiian Volcano Observatory falls, and the Geophysical Laboratory of the Carnegie Institution of Washington which has conducted investigations of volcanic explosions throughout the world.

Dr. Arthur L. Day, director of the Geophysical Laboratory, has made personal investigations at Kilauea and is waiting further re-

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