

Route 1, Box 39  
Kimberly, Idaho 83341

July 18, 1968

Dear Norman and Dorothy:

We are so ashamed to be so late answering your very nice letters and acknowledging the slides. Please believe that we are not ignoring our very good friends, but have been completely bogged down with work and each day seems to increase the load.

We attended the ASA meetings in Santa Fe - then home for a week; and during this week had Mayer-Oaks down from Manitoba to do some work here. Then to Tucson to confer with Haury - then to Grasshopper to instruct the students - then to Marie's dig at Kersey. She and Joe Ben have a fine site and are finding Eden and Scottsbluff in association with bison bones. She says she is going to Japan sometime in August to attend the meeting there. I imagine that you also will be there and do hope you both get together. This circle tour was hot and tiring but most enjoyable and rewarding. We were then home for two weeks and have now just returned from Blass Butte, Oregon where ISU made a film of mining techniques and the lithic work done at the quarry site. I think it will be a good film and the viewers will enjoy seeing the locale and the lithic material being reduced to a portable preform. Hope you can see it one of these days.

I now have several paper deadlines to meet and am reviewing Wilmsen's thesis along with other University work. I do hope we will see daylight soon. This seems like a long explanation of our tardy reply, but we do want to apologize for not writing sooner. You are so very efficient and probably have your book on the Australian tribes finished by this time. Do wish I had your talents, but writing is not one of my strong points. However, I have just given three papers to Swanson for editing which I want to send you copies when they are printed. One is on the Corbiac blades (a joint paper with Francois), another on a new "edge-ground" cobble technique of bladmaking; and a short paper on a local site where I found points made of iron gleaned from the scrap left by the Oregon Trail people. I am particularly interested to have your reaction to the edge-ground cobble paper, for you might have seen similar hammerstones in Australia.

Thank you so much for the slides and we have not forgotten our promise to send you the Bordes slides. We cannot have them copied locally and they have now been sent to Los Angeles for prints. As soon as they return, you shall have them. Just in case they do not return in time to get them to you in L.A., will you please give me your terminal date there and also your address in Australia so I can send the papers and the slides.

Had a request from a Dr. Stern in Australia for my little article in Science. It occurs to me that you are the man Stern should be talking with about working wood with stone. Just in case you get to his part of the country, am giving his address for contact. W.R. Stern, Department of Agronomy, University of Western Australia, Nedlands, Western Australia, 6009. Apparently this is the type of thing he is interested in and I can think of no one who understands this work better than you.

Francois has just published the English translation of his book "The Old Stone Age" which I am sure you will want a copy of. The publisher is World University Library, McGraw-Hill Book Company, New York Toronto. This is really a fine book and I am sure you will want it for your library. If things work out, he will be at the University of Arizona sometime this

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Spring for a period of six weeks. This will be great, for I plan to visit Marie at Tempe in February and hope he will be there for the conference she has tentatively planned. Then, of course, he will come to Kimberly where we can do some work together. Brought back a 350# lump of obsidian from Burns, Oregon, so he should really make a giant tool this next time.

The Great Basin Conference will be held at Pocatello the last of August and we do hope you and Dorothy can attend. If so, don't forget our little guest house.

In October, we plan to tour the East Coast - from Peabody to Washington to Chapel Hills - to examine materials and give Wilmsen a hand with his lithic work. Should I run across anything unusual or interesting I will let you know.

Your little place in the mountains sounds so good and would imagine this has helped you catch up on your writing. Suppose you will hate to return to the hustle and bustle of the city. Please excuse me, again, for the late reply and both Evelyn and I send our best to you and Dorothy and promise to do better with the correspondence in the future.

Sincerely,

Don E. Crabtree

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